

August 2023 AAUW - Madison Area Branch Newsletter

Message from the President



Dear Members,

For years we have been hearing about Climate Change while some people denied there was any such thing. I think the heat and tremendous rains we have endured this summer make believers of most of us. Madison Borough Council and Mayor have adopted a Climate Action Plan, intended to bring us into compliance with most of the goals set by the State Climate Action Plan. Still, we each need to do our part to help reverse the trend.

Our Program Chairs, Susan Mennella and Ruth Zowader, have done a marvelous job by attacking this subject matter head on. Last Fall, we began our monthly programming with a Panel Discussion on “Women Taking the Lead on Climate Change.” This Fall we begin again, with the same subject matter, by planning a field trip to Sustainable Haus Mercantile in Summit.

What is Sustainable Haus? It is a woman-owned business that has been doing an amazing job in educating many of its customers on sustainability, the available ways and products out there which allow us to do our share. As part of their education mission, they will be teaching us how to make an at-home cleaning solution. We will then not only avoid harsh, harmful chemicals found in many cleaning products, but we will also be reducing plastic containers and waste going into the landfill.

I urge you to register for the Field Trip as soon as possible. We have reserved members-only spots for now. We will open it up to the rest of the Madison-area community, shortly. So, grab your spot before it's too late by going to volunteersignup.org/CEEMB.

I also want to thank and congratulate Susan and Ruth on the great programming we have enjoyed this past year and look forward to in the coming months. See the list of goings on in this newsletter or go to our NEW website, MadisonAreaAAUW.org Thank you Beth!

Sincerely,

Ann Huber

Congratulations to 2023 Mature Women Grant Recipients - Hold Date for October 2 Dessert Meet and Greet

Please SAVE THE DATE for our October 2 meeting. It will be held at the Madison Community House at 6:30 PM and will feature our 2023 Grant Recipients! Enjoy a light dessert as you learn a little more about each of them. As a bonus, you will hear some STEM Tech Trek participants.

Meet these four impressive women:



Olga Dyakova is an undergraduate student at Community College of Morris. She plans to complete all classes in Engineering Science and then transfer to NJIT with the goal of becoming a Civil Engineer.



Cassandra Sledge is a graduate student attending The George Washington University with a course of study in Public Health. She is looking forward to pairing course work with local civic engagement.



Faith Gatwiri is pursuing a Master's of Divinity at Drew University concentrating on Advocacy for Social Justice within United Methodist Ministry.



Pyeonghwa Lim is also enrolled in the Master's of Divinity program with a Theology course of study. She hopes to one day be a chaplain in a Christian school.



Sustainable Haus Field Trip: September 12

Visit a small woman-owned business with a vision to educate and offer better choices for ourselves and our planet. We will learn to make a healthy cleaning product.

Limited to 10 people (advance registration) with priority given to members. Reserve a spot by 9/1/23 by signing up at <https://volunteersignup.org/CEEBM>

Gun Violence Panel To Be Held September 18

Join us for a free and open-to-the-public discussion on gun violence on Monday, September 18 at 7 p.m. at the Library of the Chathams. The following topics will be covered:

- How gun violence impacts our community and what local organizations are doing to address the issue
- NJ response to recent SCOTUS decision
- NY Rifle & Pistol Assoc v. Bruen
- Impacts on children's physical and mental health
- Improving community safety and well-being
- Respond to audience questions

Speakers include a representative from March for Our Lives, Moms Demand Action on Gun Sense, local police and local School Board.

The panel is hosted AAUW Madison Area & LWV Morristown Area.



Book Sale: Call for Teen Volunteers

Know any awesome teenagers who might like to volunteer for the AAUW book sale on September 30, 2023 (and earn community service hours while they're at it)? Encourage them to [sign up to volunteer here](#). For more information about the book sale, please [visit the AAUW website](#).

Mahjongg Tournament

The mahjongg tournament will be held November 15, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Madison Community Arts Center. The cost is \$55 per person. Lunch will be served; there will also be a door prize and a 50/50. All proceeds benefit girls' and womens' education.

[Register here.](#)



AAUW Madison Area Book Group - September Meeting

Date: Wed Sept 13, 2023

Time: 12:30PM lunch, 1PM Discussion

Location: Kathleen Magill's home & via Zoom - 135 Longwood Avenue, Chatham

Book: *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult

New members are always welcome in person or via Zoom. If you work during the day and can take a lunch break please join us on Zoom for all or part of the discussion. Discussion runs approximately 45 - 60 minutes. Contact Susan Mennella at smennella@verizon.net for more information.