



October 2023 AAUW - Madison Area Branch Newsletter

Message from the President



Dear Members,

We had two amazing programs in September. You can read about our Field Trip to Sustainable Haus elsewhere in this newsletter. Here, I want to profusely thank our program chairs, Ruth Zowader and Susan Mennella, and the panelists for the Panel Discussion on Gun Violence. It was co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters, Morristown Area, whose president Nancy Hedinger led the information sharing session. We also heard from Theresa Piliero, a volunteer leader with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and from Raisa Rubin-Stankiewicz, New Jersey Policy Advocate from March of Our Lives, currently a Senior at Rutgers University, and clearly a leader for the next generation. Even Chatham Borough Police Chief Gibbons joined the panel along with Captain Colatrella. They were all a big hit.

The photos are directly from the evening's program. As you can see from the photos, we had a marvelous turnout of members of the sponsoring organizations and the public. The questions were deep and probing, leading to learning by all who were there.

Remember, it was not intended to be a debate but an opportunity to learn what is being done to protect the community. Most importantly, it was an opportunity to discuss the present epidemic of gun violence in a non-confrontational setting. Did you know that if you know of anyone at risk of harm to himself or others, you can contact the Police to investigate and remove any weapons in much the same way as a Domestic Violence Restraining Order?

If you couldn't make it, please take the time to review a recording of the evening on our website: MadisonAreaAAUW.org.

Finally, we ask that you send healing energy and prayers to Eileen Ryan, our corresponding secretary, who is recovering from heart surgery. Eileen, our prayers are with you.

Sincerely,

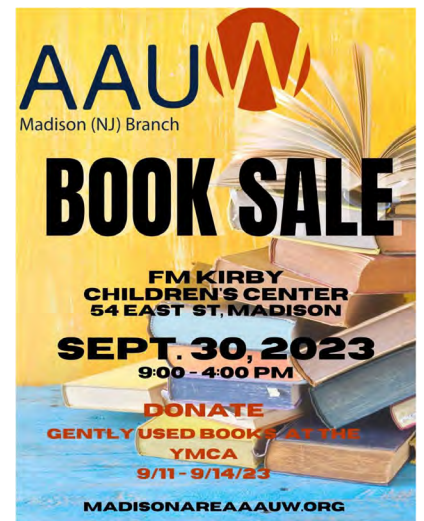
Ann Huber



BOOK SALE THIS WEEKEND - Sept. 30

Get a great deal on books while supporting an awesome cause. The biannual used book sale will be taking place this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the F.M. Kirby Children's Center at 54 East St. in Madison NJ. Please make sure to visit or volunteer - this is one of our biggest fundraisers, and raises money for the Mature Woman's Grant Program and other educational projects supporting girls.

Last-minute volunteers are welcome and encouraged! Please sign up here: Volunteersignup.org/9XBXL. Your help is much appreciated!



Join us for Meet and Greet Oct. 2 - Next Week!

Please plan to attend our October 2 meeting at the Madison Community House at 6:30 p.m. to meet 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.

Reservations and payment (\$15 pp) are needed prior to the event. Please RSVP by Sept. 28th. You can register and pay online at <https://aauwmadisonnj.square.site/dessert-meet-and-greet>.

For those that do not wish to pay by credit card, this site also allows you to RSVP only online and then you can mail a check to our Treasurer, Becky Moody. You can also register guests for free at this site. When you are on the site it will ask if you wish to create an account. You DO NOT have to create an account as there is an option to pay by as a guest. To use your credit card, click on the black pay button.



Olga Dyakova

Cassandra Sledge



Faith Gatwiri

Pyeonghwa Lim



Sign up to Volunteer for Bottle Hill Day

Bottle Hill Day is just around the corner on October 7, and we need your help representing our amazing organization! Please sign up for a shift to greet visitors in the AAUW booth here:

volunteersignup.org/RL4JH

Next Board Meeting October 16

Please plan to join us for our next AAUW board meeting October 16, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Please use this Zoom link to access the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8160906836?pwd=WU10bVpMekF0RzJDVUhNdldMZnpZUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 090 6836

Passcode: 807319



Madison AAUW Members Enjoy Field Trip to Sustainable Haus

This month, AAUW-Madison kicked off its new program-year with a visit to the aptly named Sustainable Haus in Summit.

Janette Spiezio, owner of the business, who is also a seamstress, greeted us in a cotton dress she made herself with cotton thread and in Birkenstocks because, on untreated grass, she would rather be barefoot. So would I. Janette is passionate about removing all toxins from our food, clothing and environment.

After a brief but very informative presentation about her history and her business, Janette taught us to make our own organic cleaning solution in our very own glass spray bottle. It was fun. We took our newly made solution home and it works great!

We also took a tour of the shop where we found lots of not-so-exotic products like a rock deodorant, cotton instead of paper towels, and salon quality bars of shampoo or conditioner, for a plastic-free existence, to name just a few of her products. If we each only eliminated one shampoo bottle, we would be contributing hundreds fewer plastic bottles to the landfill every year. Did you know that only 9% of what we try to recycle actually gets recycled? It may be a baby step but it all adds up. Can't wait to see where the next field trip takes us.



AAUW Madison Area Book Group - October Meeting and Future Book Selections

Date: October 11, 2023

Time: 12:30 p.m. brown bag lunch, 1 p.m. Discussion

Location: Susan Mennella's home - 156 Leeds Court, Madison, NJ

Book: "The Ocean at the End of the Lane" by Neil Gaiman

Please note: It has not been determined yet if we will meet at the Madison Common Clubhouse or Susan's townhouse. Participants will be notified closer to the meeting date on the location. The Zoom link will also be sent closer to the meeting.

Looking ahead:

November's book is: "The Last Rose of Shanghai" by Weina Dai Randel

December's book is: "The Maid" by Nita Pose

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 women's education.

[Register here.](#)



AAUW Madison NJ Branch | aauwmadisonnj@gmail.com | madisonareaaaauw.org

See what's happening on our social sites:

