

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

MADISON AREA BRANCH

Ann Huber, President

February 2024

empowering women since 1881.....



President's Message

Very special program planned in February, teaching us about the life and times of Madam CJ Walker thanks to the sponsorship of AAUW-NJ. They planned ahead for a Winter program by planning a State-wide virtual program so that everyone could participate, regardless of the weather. Such forward thinking!!

Next up, is another terrific program on diversity in STEM. Read later in this letter about our Guest Speaker, Cyndi D. Wilson.

These two STEM inspired programs will be followed by our very own STEM Meetup for Teen girls with STEM Professionals on March 12, 2024 at the Community House in Madison. We would be remiss if we did not mention that we are the lucky recipients of a generous grant from the AAUW-NJ Charitable Trust which is funding our workshop.

But the most exciting news, is a follow up to my last President's Message. Thanks to an article by Java Composting, a private composter servicing a number of communities in NJ



MadisonAreaAAUW.org/women-in-stem-event

STEM UP your teens with STEM professionals to participate in the Women in Stem Event - March 12, 2024

ATTRACTING WOMEN AND MINORITIES TO STEM CAREERS

including Madison, we've learned about an international effort to reuse plastic.

The Ocean Cleanup, Netherlands: The Ocean Cleanup

while it focuses on not producing any waste, what about the waste that's already produced? What is the best, most sustainable way to deal with removing existing waste? One organization has figured out a creative way to do just that.

They traveled to the oceans, specifically the Pacific Ocean, where The Ocean Cleanup began its first plastic clean-up operations in 2019. While the organization is headquartered in the Netherlands, its operations are actually in the seas and rivers all over the world. The Ocean Cleanup is on a mission to remove 90% of all ocean plastic by 2040. But how?

The majority of ocean plastic actually ends up in 5 key areas where the natural ocean currents create 5 gyres (massive whirlpools). Using a "U" shape funnel they have created, they are able to guide and capture plastic pieces at these gyres. The plastics are then collected, sorted, and processed for recycling into new products like Sunglasses, including hard cases, and fabric bags. To learn more about their projects and what they're doing, check out this short video from

<https://nowthisnews.com/videos/can-ocean-cleanups-save-the-planet>

Thank the gods for man's & woman's ingenuity! Maybe that will save us now that we survived the warmest January in history.

Ann Huber



AAUW Madison Area Branch Mature Women Grant Apps

A poster for the AAUW Madison (NJ) Branch. At the top is the AAUW logo with the text "AAUW Madison (NJ) Branch". Below that is the title "Attracting Women & Minorities to STEM Careers". The speaker is identified as "CYNDI D. WILSON, B.S., M.S., MBA Accomplished Toastmasters Speaker". The event date is "March 4, 2024" from "7:00 pm - 8:00 pm" at "Florham Park Library, 107 Ridgedale Ave, Florham Park, NJ". There is a small photo of Cyndi D. Wilson. At the bottom right, it says "For more info, go to madisonareaAAUW.org/noteworthy". There is also a small photo of a person in a lab coat at the bottom left.

Join us for March 5th program which will be presented by an accomplished Toastmasters, Speaker **Cyndi D. Wilson, BS, MS, MBA.**

Ms. Wilson is a graduate of NJIT and holds a BS in Chemical Engineering, a MS in Management and an MBA in Technology Management. She also holds a Master's Certificate in Commercial Project Management from George Washington University and a certificate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from Cornell University. She is a member of the NJIT Board of Visitors for the Women in Engineering Group and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Who better to discuss this topic.

Program is open to all.
Park. Ample parking is free and available.

AAUW Madison Area Mahjong Game

The next games of the mahjong special interest group will be held at the home of Shirley Mutchler. All are welcome even those who need to improve their game or learn how to play. Games on March 12th and March 26th. Bring your lunch at 11:30 and play from 12:00 to 2:30. RSVP rentalLBI@optonline.net

Sign up open now for MAHJONG TOURNAMENT- MAY 16, 2024

Now Available

The AAUW Madison Branch is again offering small Grants to women over age 25 who are pursuing their education. Last year - 2022-23 - four grants were awarded. An application for a 2024 Mature Woman Grant may be download at our website MadisonAreaAAUW.org

Each applicant MUST meet ALL of the **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1 - be a woman.
- 2 - be age 25 or over.
- 3 - be a resident of one of the following NJ towns: Chatham Borough or Chatham Township, East Hanover Township, Botough of Florham Park, Harding Township, Borough of Madison, Town of Morristown, Morris Township, Borough of Morris Plains, or Randolph Township.
- 4 - use the grant for education-related expenses incurred in pursuit of a degree or certification.

Grant application must be received by **Monday, April 1, 2024.** Please direct questions to the Committee at: aauwgrant@hotmail.com



AAUW Madison Area Book Group,

Our next hybrid meeting is **Wednesday, March 13th, 2024.** Email smennella@verizon.net for address and Zoom link to be sent closer to the meeting.

March's book selection:
Still Life by Sarah Winman

*4 rounds of play - lunch - prizes -raffles
All proceeds benefit Girls' and Women's Education*

<https://aauwmadisonnj.square.site/mah-jongg-tournament-may-2024>



**APRIL 13, 2024 -
9:00 to 4:00 pm**

BOOK SALE

**FM Kirby Childcare
Center
54 East St.**

Donate Gently Used Books
March 26-29 at the Y.

NO RIPS, NO STAINS, NO
MAGAZINES-Thanks!



IN THE NEWS...

Brown bag lunch at 12:30PM with a discussion following at 1PM.

Susan and Kathleen

Let us know if you have news to announce in our Newsletter by sending to: ahuberesq@gmail.com

THANK YOU to the AAUW NJ CHARITABLE TRUST for funding our March 12th WOMEN-IN-STEM Event!!