

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
MADISON BRANCH**

President: Ann Huber Editor: Judy Vernon

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Website: <http://AAUWMadisonnj.org>



A Message from our President

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Dear AAUW Madison Members

After several years of bad news starting with a pandemic, it's nice to be able to let out a sigh of relief. Life is slowly returning to a new normal. We are wearing a mask less and less. Even some medical offices no longer require masks. We can go to a movie, a Broadway show and out dinner like in the old days. Most importantly, AAUW's Tech Trek Camp will proceed in person again. The Madison Branch has interviewed seven young women interested in STEM who we hope will be participating. They represent Madison and Passaic counties.

Ah! Well, other great things are happening in the Branch, too. For one thing, we had a wonderful monthly program in March about Francis Perkins, who served as President Roosevelt's Labor Secretary and the first female cabinet member. The program, a joint one with the Summit College Club, was interesting, informative and beautifully presented on Zoom to a group of at least 30 AAUW members. Kudos to c Dr. Mary Seeger.

I look forward to reading her biography, "The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life of Francis Perkins." We are now planning a joint luncheon with the members of the Summit College Club as we close out our program year in May.

For another thing, AAUW – NJ has awarded our nominee, Renee Samuel, a scholarship to the 3-day Leadership Conference in Maryland coming up in July. We are very proud that our submission was favorably received and justifiably so. Renee is an impressive young woman and graduate student at Seton Hall University interested in taking on a leadership role.

For a last thing, we would like to welcome four new members to our Branch - in alphabetical order, Nicole Bearce, Denise Katz, Maria Slabaugh and Jodi Zwain. We are so happy you see the value in supporting and improving the lives of girls and women through education. I hope you will have an opportunity to meet many of our other members in the months to come. Jodi and Maria's information was in our last newsletter. Find Nicole and Denise on page 2.

Ann

Notes from the Editor

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Book Group
04/18/23
- Board Meeting
04/17/23

Catch up on members...

Margery VanCourt
Apt. 212
66 Sherman Street
Cambridge, MA 02140

Send information including directory updates to jpvnon@yahoo.com. Input for the newsletter is due the day after the board meeting.

👉👈 Announcements and Events 👉👈



The Book Group

All are welcome to join us. Lots of conversation and sharing ideas on the book, author, and its reviews. Come and join us bringing your suggestions for future reads. Contact Kathleen Magill or Susan Mennella for more information and to be put on the list for the Zoom link. **NEW MEMBERS welcome!**

Contact Susan Mennella or Kathleen Magill to learn more or to be added to the email list.

AAUW Madison Book group has changed its meeting day to the third Tuesday of the month. The April hybrid meeting is scheduled for **April 18, 2023**. Location TBD: Brown bag lunch at 12:30PM with discussion to follow at 1PM.

The April book is: *Migrations* by Charlotte McConaghy

New participants welcome. To receive the Zoom link or the meeting location contact Susan Mennella or Kathleen Magill.



Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg group is resuming its schedule playing on the second and fourth Monday of the month. We meet at Eileen Ryan's home 11:30 am. Bring lunch. **NEW MEMBERS welcome! We will teach you to play.**

Notes from the Editor Continued from page 1

Welcome New Members

Nicole Bearce

154 Chateau Thierry Ave
Madison, NJ 07940
nicole@bearce.us
mobile: 848-459-2677

Drew University BA 1994
Harvard JD 1997

Interested in Advocacy, Education issues, Pay equity, Book group, Status of women, Social/cultural activities

Denise Katz

24 Parkside Ave
Madison, NJ 07940
denicekatz@gmail.com
mobile: 973-901-1450

Rutgers BS 1991

Interested in Education issues, Pay equity

Board Meeting

Board meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. We will continue to use ZOOM and links will be communicated to board members. Members are welcome to participate and should request login information from President. Since we are using Zoom, no snow days are planned. Check the newsletter & e-mails for changes.

2023: Apr. 17 May 15 Jun. 19

Programs / Special Events

Various Programs / Special Events are in the planning stage. Co-VPs of Programming are working on In person events, events using ZOOM and some in partnership with the Summit College Club. Detailed description along with time and location will be shared during the summer. At this time we suggest you reserve the following dates on your calendar:

2023: Apr. 3 May 1

Up Coming Events

April 3rd, 2023 – 7PM – Florham Park Library, Akhoury Room

Speaker Dr. Karen Bloom Gevirtz, Assistant Professor of English, Seton Hall University

Program: *Force = mass * acceleration: Women's Changing Place in STEM*

The Spring Fling Luncheon will now be on **Monday, May 1st**. We are looking forward to this joint event with the Summit College Club. The owner of Harvest Bistro in downtown Madison will close the restaurant that day so we will be the only people in there. Lunch will be served buffet style, send your \$35 (all inclusive) reservation to Becky Moody by April 20. (15 Page Street, Madison 07940)

AAUW sponsors an annual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

This year the conference will take place from **May 31 - June 3, 2023** at the University of Maryland. It is open to both undergraduate and graduate female student leaders.

AAUW NJ offers grants to attend this conference. Our branch promoted this opportunity and we received an application from Renee Samuel, a graduate student at Seton Hall University. The AAUW Madison Board approved submitting Renee's name for consideration for a grant to attend the conference. We are excited to announce that Renee was selected as one of the candidates to receive a grant!

A little more about Renee:

She received her Bachelor of Science: Major in Biology and Minor in English Literature in the spring of 2022 from Seton Hall University. Renee graduated with Honors, Magna Cum Laude. She is a current graduate student at Seton Hall University majoring in English Literature with a goal of attaining her Masters of Arts in the Spring of 2024.

As an undergraduate she volunteered and served as an officer in organizations that worked on maintaining physical and mental health for students. Renee is the current co-editor of the *Corner Pocket* - the student literary magazine. She is also currently completing an internship as the Lead Editor for *Glitter Magazine*.

We hope to meet Renee in the fall and have her speak to the branch about her experience attending the student leadership conference.

The Board is working on the following events:

- April 29th we will hold a one-day Book Sale. Books can be brought to the Madison YMCA between March 1 – April 10. We will do a one-day sale on the same day as the boroughwide garage sale (April 29, 9AM to 4PM). **We need help sorting books on March 30 9:30 and noon, April 22, 10:00 – 4pm sorting is at Ann Huber's home, pls let her know when you plan to come. In addition, here is a link to sign up for helping at the sale itself** volunteersignup.org/994D3
- On May 10th we will repeat our very successful Mah Jongg Tournament. If you wanted to sign up the last time but needed some lessons, come to our Semi-Monthly game and we will teach you. Call Eileen Ryan for details.

We are accepting application through March 31st for the **Mature Woman's Grant**. If you know of any woman who might be eligible, please direct them to our website: <http://aauwmadisonnj.com/> for the application. Women must be age 25 or older and live in designated area towns. Grants may be awarded for Certificates and/or Undergraduate or Graduate degrees.

Please direct any questions to Peggy Philp 973-476-2104.

A Note from one of our Mature Woman's Grant recipients:

Poetry of Witness: Translations of New Poetry from Writers in Ukraine | Yana Kane | March 29 2023 | 7:30 pm

Yana Kane-Esrig was one of our Grant winners last year. She will be reading some of her translations of Ukrainian "poets of witness" at the Madison Community Arts Center. She will also talk about what this work means to her, how she came to do it, her relationship to the poets, and the process she goes through in making the translations. Yana is a student in Fairleigh Dickinson University's MFA program in Creative Writing.

Let them know you are coming at Ticketleap.com. Suggested donation is \$5.00.