

# The Raging Grannies of Madison 2017

## Active Grannies

Rebecca Alwin, Barbara Arnold, Paula Benton, Susan Bickley, Bonnie Block, Susan Broad, Lee Burkholder, Carol Carstensen, Evelyn Kain, Rose Marie Lester, Kathy Liska, Donna Lillethun, Deborah Lofgren, Gerrie Martini, Marie Martini, Marjorie Matthews, Bev Mazur, Kathleen McQuade, Kathy Miner, Kate Morand, Joy Morgen, Andrea Musher, Barb Park, Sheila Plotkin, Linda Roberson, Mary Sanderson, Gail Shearer, Carol Tyler, Nadine Wright

## New grannies

We were delighted to welcome six new grannies (included in the list above): Susan Broad, Carol Carstensen, Evelyn Kain, Donna Lillethun, Kathy Liska and Gail Shearer.

We rehearsed twice a month alternating meeting at the Beth Israel Center and at the First Methodist Church.

## Performances

- Muslim women's brunch - FUMC Madison January 7
- Out in the Cold: Homeless Evictions - Madison January 10
- Women's March on Madison - Madison January 21
- Poetry Gig - Madison January 29

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- Pipeline Fighters Benefit - Wil-Mar Center - Madison February 4
- Janesville-Beloit League of Women Voters Susan B. Anthony Birthday brunch - Beloit February 12

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- Interfaith event - Madison/Capitol March 19
- WI Grassroots Festival - Mazomanie March 25

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- WILPF (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom) /Climate March - Madison April 22

- Presentation: Listen to Your Grandmothers: Madison WI Raging Grannies Sing for Peace, Social Justice, Public Education, and Environmental Protection, UW Madison Women and Gender Studies Conference - Madison April 29

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- Day without Immigrants and Refugees - Madison May 1
- Listen to Your Grandmothers Book Gala, Central Library - Madison May 7
- Nan Cheney Award Event, Monona Terrace - Madison May 25

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- Make Music Madison broadcast on WIDE-LP 99.1 FM - June 21
- Book readings and singing at E.D. Locke Library - McFarland June 27
- Ken Lonquist's birthday party - Madison June 30

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- Protest Paul Ryan's acceptance of Scout award - Madison July 7
- Democratic Party of Sauk County - Fire up for Tammy Baldwin - Baraboo July 8

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- 23rd Annual Marygold Melli Award to Linda Roberson - Madison August 3

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- Sun Prairie Library also broadcast on WIDE-LP 99.1 FM - September 13
- Willy Street Parade - Madison September 17
- Naturalization Ceremony by Open Doors for Refugees - Madison September 19
- Wild Hog in the Woods - Madison September 29

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- Backyard Mosaic Fundraiser - Madison October 1
- Wausau Grassroots Festival - October 7
- Old Schoolhouse Mt Horeb - October 11
- Farley Center - October 15
- The Heritage - Monona October 21

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- Gray Panthers Fundraiser - Madison November 18

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- Fair Trade Holiday Festival - Madison December 2

And we sang at the Dane County Farmers' Market on May 13 & 20, June 10 & 24, July 15 & 29, August 12 & 26, September 9 & 23, and October 7.

We held granny gatherings on January 28th and September 23rd and had a holiday pot luck on December 11th.

### **Major event this year**

*Listen to Your Grandmothers* compiled and edited by Granny Marie Martini was published! The book includes autobiographies from the members of the Raging Grannies of Madison, WI, compiled in a volume which chronicles women's lives covering a span of about seven decades. A CD of the Grannies singing their original songs is included.

We were featured in articles in local newspapers.

- "Raging Grannies Make Statements Through Song," Cathy Kozlowicz, The Herald-Independent and McFarland Thistle, August 11, 2017.
- "Not Your Typical Grannies: Madison's Raging Grannies Sing a Progressive Tune," Meghan Chua, The Sun Prairie Star, September 9, 2017.

### **Songs added to library**

- 147 The People or the Pipeline
- 148 Trump's Blind Trust
- 149 Put Your Finger in the Air
- 150 Get On Board With Black Lives Matter
- 151 Lincoln's Legacy
- 152 Blame It on the First Amendment
- 153 Gerrymandering
- 154 Down at the Polling Place

### **Group process agreements reached**

We agreed to take a few minutes at rehearsals to focus on group discussions and decision making. We reached agreement on:

- respectful listening during rehearsal discussions

- fostering participation by all
- how a song is added to our library
- how songs are selected for gigs
- how we approach and agree on revision of songs by past grannies and non-granny song authors

## **Social Media and Communication**

- Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Raging-Grannies-of-Madison/312723415445021?ref=hl>
- Website <http://raginggrannies.madisonwi.us>
- Google group forum [https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en\\_US#!forum/allgrannies](https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en_US#!forum/allgrannies)
- Group mailing list [allgrannies@googlegroups.com](mailto:allgrannies@googlegroups.com)