

Madison Foursquare

14

This issue of *Madison Foursquare* is brought to you by Scott Custis and Jeanne Gomoll (layout/design and occasional contributor), who live at 2825 Union Street, Madison, WI 53704. Scott@unionstreetdesign.com
Jeanne@unionstreetdesign.com

This is *Madison Foursquare* #14, created using a Mac Pro with InDesign, Illustrator and Photoshop, all CC 2017, and printed on a Ricoh Aficio CL7200 color printer. All contents ©2017 by Scott Custis and Jeanne Gomoll, May 2017 for *Turbo-Charged Party Animal* #371.

It has been a busy couple of months. I meant to get a zine into *Turbo* last month and take May off, but life did not work out as expected. After getting many questions answered and filling out numerous forms, I can say with confidence that my last day at work will be July 7, 2017. In the time I have left at work, I have a bunch of training to do, a manual to extensively update, some policies to work out, a project purging electronic database files, and my own paper files to clean out. Time suddenly feels like it is moving at light speed.

It has not helped that the national news has gotten to be a major distraction as profound new revelations in the Trump saga emerge almost daily. Jeanne and I frequently find ourselves absorbed by the barrage of developments as we try to keep up with *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and MSMBC coverage.

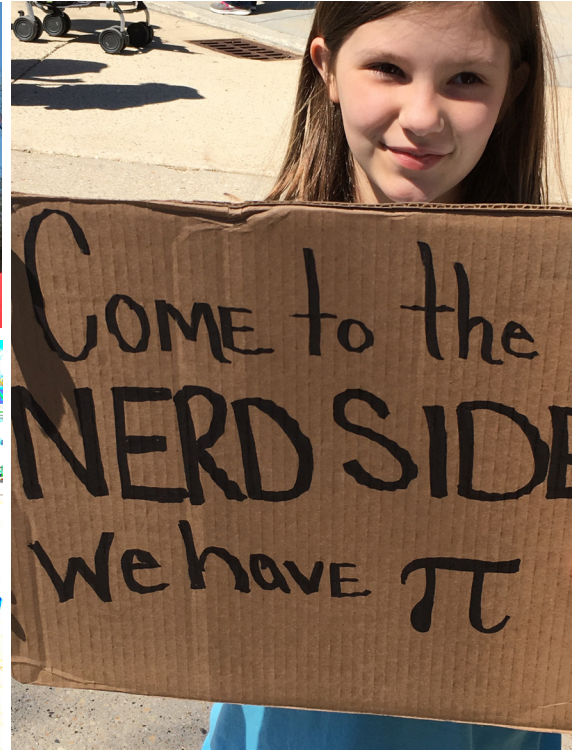
On April 22, Jeanne and I did the public protest thing once again by participating in Madison's March for Science on a beautiful Saturday afternoon. We were joined by Jeanne's brother Dan, his wife Kelly and daughter Rachel (who is attending college locally at Edgewood.) The protest march scene in Madison was a little confused that weekend because Madison was actually hosting two marches at almost the same time. On one side of the Capital Square was the Science March, on the other side of the Square was a Climate March. The Science March was timed to coincide with Science Marches in Washington D.C. and other cities that same day. The coinciding Climate March events in Washington and the rest of country were actually scheduled for the next weekend, April 29, but they could not hold a Climate March



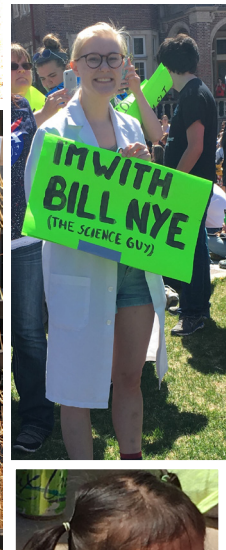
in Madison on the 29th because that weekend was already booked for the enormous annual Crazy Legs run downtown. They could not get a permit for the Climate March on the 29th, they had to hold it a week early. So Madison residents had their choice of marches to attend. The good news was that the 22nd was a really beautiful day and the following week the weather was less perfect.



We all met up at our house and I drove us all downtown. We found fairly convenient parking and strolled over to the march gathering area at James Madison park along Lake Mendota. We were joined there by Jim Hudson. Initially turnout looked to be only around 1000 people, but once the march got going, the crowd swelled to around 5000. Our path did not take us to the Square; instead we wound through the old mansions of the Capital Hill district, eventually turning onto Langdon Street to be met by a major weekend blowout party in full swing at one of the fraternity houses. Music was blasting, kids partying and waving at us good-naturedly. A small group of them came up to the sidewalk and Jeanne handed them Trump-buster pins. They were still pleased, even though they initially thought she was giving out mints.



It was a beautiful day and, as we marched down Langdon to Library Mall, our crowd was pretty upbeat, even joyful, but also awfully well behaved. Only a few chants were shouted during the course of the march and there were few fists shaking or shouts of frustration. Most folks just seemed to be smiling and enjoying the walk and the weather. Yay science. There was some lingering construction on Library Mall, so there was some aimless milling around for a bit, but eventually folks made it over to the part of the Mall set aside for the speeches. We stayed around and listened to some of the speeches including a kickoff speech by Gaylord Nelson's (former WI governor and founder of Earth Day) daughter. Subsequent speakers included UW professors and other science professionals talking about the importance of science and scientific research. We eventually drifted off to State Street Brats for refreshment and headed home.



Our other recent adventure was our first trip to the St. Croix Valley Pottery Tour just north of Minneapolis on the

weekend of May 12-14. We received a brochure in the mail about this event and decided to invite our friends Karen and Allen Moore, who are skilled amateur potters. We drove up on Friday morning stopping in the picturesque town of Osceola for lunch. The tour featured seven stops scattered around the St. Croix River Valley near the towns of North Branch and Lindstrom. The stops were all at

personal homes/studios. Many of the hosts were potters themselves. We often got the impression that the hosts and their particular potters were friends who got together each year for the Tour, possibly for many years. Each host displayed the work of up to 9 potters who came from all around the country and one from England. Most of the work was displayed outside although the different hosts had different accommodations. Some had all the work spread out on tables in the yard, some had tents for all the artists, and some had work displayed both inside buildings and other work outside. The weekend weather was perfect for this event, warm, sunny and not windy but you could easily see that some dicey weather would have had a huge impact on attendance and sales. Food and snacks varied, some places had cookies, coffee and lemonade while others had pizza and beer. One host simply turned the food issue over to a food truck he brought in, probably from Minneapolis.

On Friday afternoon we managed to sample three of the stops and did the other four on Saturday. The quality of the work varied a lot from merely okay to outstanding. Jeanne and I were mostly looking for utilitarian pieces. There were times when we were concerned that pieces that appeared to have a food-related purpose were not really food safe. Other pieces were clearly art pieces we found interesting but unlikely purchases. We ended up buying four pieces we are very happy with. We returned on Sunday.



A few comments on #369

Greg Rihn

As usual, I appreciated all your reviews of activities. I have seen other reviews of *The Red Turtle* and I am intrigued. Your comments have further drawn me in.

I always enjoy your restaurant reviews and I'm impressed by your recall of details. Do you write these up when you get home, or do you take notes? I know I would be hard pressed to remember that level of detail about a really nice restaurant meal even the next day.

Georgie Schnobrich

I enjoyed your reflections on Easter from a baker's point of view. Which prompts me to ask if you don't have a short list of favorite bakeries in Milwaukee?

Jim Hudson and Diane Martin

Sorry to read about Cassius' passing. He was always a mellow and familiar presence at your house and I will miss him not being there.

Thanks for joining us on the Science March. It was fun.

Andy Hooper

Interesting research piece on your family history, but it is your weaving together the story that made it come alive for me. Very nicely done.



