



Current

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<http://www.aauw-wi.org>

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



What an inspiring presentation of the history of AAUW by Pam Theil, Great Lakes Regional Director and member of the La Crosse Branch, at the February 10th general meeting. It gave us an opportunity to revisit AAUW's mission and revel in all the accomplishments AAUW can claim throughout the last 125 years. On a more current note, check out our national website and peruse the AAUW Action Network that lists and explains achievements for 2006.

From the February "Message from Marge" (state President), the Strategic Process Update was clearly explained. The Educational Foundation and AAUW have formed a single mission statement and vision statement for both corporations. These historic changes are as follows:

Mission Statement for AAUW and EF: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

More information on the Strategic Process is available on the National website in its own section, which includes:

- the proposed Bylaws amendments and restructuring proposals for the Phoenix Convention,
- a summary of the proposed changes in chart form,
- a copy of the October 2006 Joint Boards' Report, and
- other helpful documents and articles.

Equal Pay Day is April 24

In 2005, the most recent year for which U.S. Department of Labor data is available, working women as a whole continue to earn only 77 cents on the dollar to their male counterparts. To match men's earnings for 2005, women have to work from January 2006 to April 2007—an extra four months. To bring awareness to this inequity, AAUW and coalition allies across the country will recognize EQUAL PAY DAY on **April 24, 2007**.

And lastly, it is that time of year where the Nomination Committee is busy filling positions on the Executive Board, elected officers as well as appointed members. We continue to thrive as a local branch, due to the dedication of those branch members who have so graciously shared their talents with us and served unselfishly on our board. However, some of our members have served their two terms and are (according to our Bylaws) unable to continue. This allows other members to step forward and share talents and commitment. Two positions are in need of being filled, Vice President of Finance and President Elect. Both of these positions are very important to our branch, but also allow for a tremendous amount of just plain “learning about AAUW-La Crosse Branch” experience. I can give testimony to this since three years ago I committed to President Elect after having been a member for only two years. Learning by doing is what I have experienced and I highly recommend it to other members in our branch. To find out more about these two positions, contact Sheri Schneider (783-7003) about Vice President of Finance, Betty Kruck (689-2222) about President elect or contact me (783-1247). Thank you to those members who have stepped forward already.

In summary, I present our slate of officers for 2007-2008 and if any of you would like to step forward and volunteer for either vacancy, Betty Kruck and I would be grateful.

2006-2007 Nominations

Elected Officers	Name	Term expires
President (annually)	BETTY KRUCK	'08
President-Elect (annually)	open	'08
Vice-President Program (even years)	SHARON DeCICCO	'08
Co-chair (odd years)	ERICA KOONMEN	'09
Vice-President Finance (odd years)	open	'09
Vice-President of Membership (even years)	Pat Staupe	'08 – 2 nd term
Secretary (even years)	Polly Smith	'08 – 2 nd term
Foundation Secretary/Treasurer (even years)	Janet Rosseter	'08

*Nominees denoted in all capital letters.

Rosemary Burnett-Branch President

“Fight for education and equity for all women and girls.”

The Upper Mississippi River.....

Marc Schultz (husband of our own Sue) will be presenting the program this month on the history of the upper Mississippi River. Marc is retired from the University of Wisconsin Extension and currently is chairman of the La Crosse County Harbor Commission. He'll be sharing information with us about how the use of the river has evolved over the years.



Location: Courtyard by Marriott

Date: March 10

Registration: 9:30

Breakfast Buffet: 10:00

Cost: \$9.75

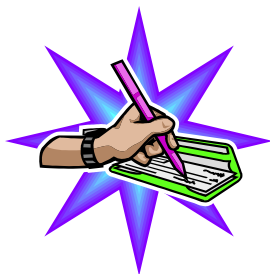
Please call Marla French at 782-6589 no later than Wed., March 7th with any late reservations or cancellations.

Spotlight on members!



If you have news of a special event in your life or the life of other members please submit it to the Current. This could be a milestone of some kind: wedding anniversary, birth, death, award, graduation; anything memorable about your family or the family of a member.

Dottie Dedo's husband, Lewis Joseph, died January 11 at Gunmdersn Luthetheran Medical Center. A memorial service was held January 17 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Onalaska. Our sympathy goes out to you, Dottie.



Financial Report as of 02-05-07

▪ Certificate of Deposit	\$8690.71
▪ Checking	\$3181.38
▪ Investment Account	\$3865.24
▪ Scholarship Bridge	\$2070.53

Anyone wanting the AAUW YEARBOOK (Memembrship Directory) for 2007-2008 in larger print, please call Rosemary at 783-1247 or email me at: jr67burnett@charter.net.

Turtle Dessert (recipe compliments of Patt Boge, as served at the Hearth & Home Valentine's party)

17 ice cream sandwiches

1 (12.25 oz) jar caramel topping

1 1/4 cups chopped pecans, toasted and divided

1 (12 oz) container frozen whipped topping

3/4 cup hot fudge topping, heated

Place 8 1/2 ice-cream sandwiches in a 13 x 9 inch baking dish. Spread evenly with caramel topping and sprinkle with 1 cup pecans. Top with 2 cups whipped topping. Top with remaining ice-cream sandwiches. Spread remaining whipped topping evenly over sandwiches. Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 cup pecans. Cover and freeze at least 2 hours. Let stand 5 minutes before serving; cut in squares. Drizzle with fudge topping.



Greeting Cards

You all remember the beautiful, creative name tags we used to have provided by member Julie Noll. Now Julie has been putting her creative efforts into making greeting cards. She will have some for sale at our February meeting. Julie has generously offered to contribute a portion of her sales to our **Plaquemines Parish Library Project**. \$20.00 was raised at the February general meeting. Julie sent “ A brief not of thanks to all the members who purchased or checked out my collage cards. Your interest truly warmed my heart.”

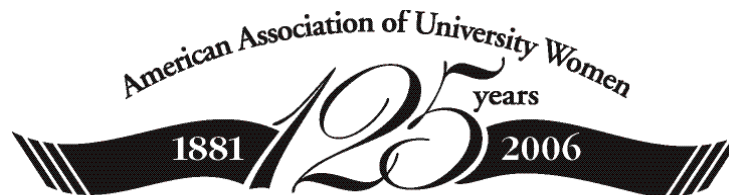
Dental Care for the Needy

Dr. John Mueller, dentist, spoke about the above topic at the January branch meeting. One of the questions for him was the availability of toothbrushes at the food pantries in La Crosse. Considering the question, Dr. Mueller matched the speaking stipend from AAUW La Crosse, and worked with his supplier to provide 300 toothbrushes to the food pantries in town.



The La Crosse Dental Advocacy Coalition supplied fact sheets and the names and phone numbers of the Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee members who will be considering this issue. These will be available at the March meeting, or you can contact Betty Kruck for a copy. It will also be helpful to express your concern to State Representatives Jennifer Shilling 608-266-5490 and Mike Huebsch 608-786-3512, and Senator Dan. Kapanke 608-266-5490. Among the facts from the La Crosse Dental Advocacy Coalition are the following.

- Tooth decay is the most common chronic childhood disease in America, affecting 50% of first graders and 80% of 17-year-olds.
- Half of all cavities in low-income children go untreated.
- Over 51 million school hours are lost each year due to dental-related problems.
- Wisconsin is ranked in the bottom five states in the nation for percentage of Medicaid funds allotted for dental care.
- There are no dentists in La Crosse County accepting new Medicaid clients over the age of six.



A Legacy of Leadership

AAUW 125th ANNIVERSARY HISTORY REPORT

1955-1960

The AAUW Educational Foundation was established at the 1955 National Convention. The two-fold purpose was to raise funds for fellowship grants for women seeking postgraduate degrees and for the financing of a new office building to serve as national headquarters. Later in the decade work continued toward improving educational opportunities for women in relationship to admittance policies and financing and toward developing more opportunities for women as professors and administrators.

Equal pay for equal work was also promoted with AAUW's support of the first federal legislative proposal for pay equity for women. Land was purchased in Washington D.C. and the new eight story headquarters building was constructed. It opened in July of 1960.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The 1960's began with AAUW establishing the African Educator Program, which helped women from emerging African nations study in the U.S. As racial tension rose throughout the decade attention was turned to African-American citizens. AAUW strongly supported passage of the Civil Right Act and the Voting Rights Act.

The Board of Directors initiated a program "Action for a Unified Society" encouraging communities involvement in promoting civil rights. The Coretta Scott King Foundation was established to provide black women outlets to study their African heritage and to work for social change and peace.

Plaquemines Parish Library Project

Thank you to all of the members who donated envelopes, stamps and money to help with the printing and mailing expenses for this project. The library committee now has plenty of envelopes, but we still need stamps and we will still accept cash donations for stamps and printing. A small number of brochures and flyers were printed for the February AAUW program meeting and for distribution at the Western Wisconsin Education Conference. Brochures and flyers will be available at the membership meeting March 10th. Please take some copies and share them with organizations, businesses or people who may want to contribute to this project.



The Library Committee will meet March 13th at 10:00 at the Washburn on the Park Community Room, 801 Main Street, to address and stamp envelopes. A letter and brochure will be sent to book clubs and service organizations in the La Crosse area. We welcome your help in preparing this mailing. We also welcome a list of organizations or clubs that we could add to our mailing list. Please bring the list to the March meeting, or send to Betty Kruck, email address: kruk@mwt.net or P.O. Box 27, Genoa.

The main emphasis of our campaign to raise funds for the Plaquemines Parish Libraries will be April 15-21 during National Library Week. Specific information on activities during that week will be published in the next Current. A PowerPoint presentation, the brochure, flyer, and information on making contributions to the Plaquemines Parish Libraries, are available at the following site: http://webpages.charter.net/library_project.htm

Committee members: Mary Reiman, Patricia Boge, Sue Schultz, Sue Heuer, Carlene Roberts, Erica Koonmen, Betty Kruck

Wanted: Name Grant Nominations

It's hard to believe with snow on the ground that it is already time to think about our Scholarship and Awards Brunch, but it is. Traditionally our branch donates a name grant to the Educational Foundation as a way of recognizing a member for outstanding service to our organization. If you would like to nominate a branch member for this honor, please send your nomination to me or Kathy Reiman by March 15th. It would be helpful if you would send along some information in support of your nomination. Thank you!

Sue Heuer

Educational Foundation Co-Chair

LAF Tidbits ...

- Thanks to all who have sent in monies for Community Day coupon booklets. I should have any unsold coupon booklets by March 2nd and any additional money by March 8th.
- **NO BASKETS FOR CONVENTION THIS YEAR!** We decided last fall that we would not participate in the basket silent auction at our state convention this year. However if anyone is interested in donating a single item such as a piece of art work or jewelry, or a coffee table book, feel free to contact me. We would be asking for minimum bids on these items. Julie Noll is thinking of sending some of her beautiful hand made cards to the convention.

Sue Heuer 526-9397

LAF Co-Chair



Judicial Candidates Forum

A Judicial Candidates Forum will be held on March 26 at the Port 'O Call in the Cartwright Center at 7:00 p.m.



Study Groups

Study Groups

Study Groups

Hearth and Home

Date:

Event:

Where:

Time:

Questions:

Contemporary Authors New members welcome.

Meets 4th Tues at 2:00PM

Date: March 27

Hostess: Ruth Hawkins

Author: Eric Hawkins The Devil in the White City

Inquiries: Pat Sheehan: 788-3808

World Problems New members welcome

Meets on 3rd Friday 2:00PM

No meeting in March

Hostess:

Speaker:

Inquiries:: Mary Sullivan 785-7095

Bookfellows Meets 2nd and 4th Wed. New members welcome.

Hostess:

Date: March 21

Program: Liz Wing

Topic: **The Mitford sisters**

Bridge, Card games Times and places to be announced.

Inquiries: Sharon DiCicco: 788-5356

Vital People Contact: Marilyn Ondell: 788-4843

AAUW-La Crosse Branch Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email (for directory) _____

Dues: \$65.00 includes:

Association	47.00
State	10.00
Branch	8.00

Dues	<u>65.00</u>
Education Foundation (EF)/ Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)	_____
La Crosse Branch Endowment Fund	_____
Total Enclosed	_____

Make check payable to: AAUW – La Crosse Branch

Send form and payment to: Sheri Schneider, Finance VP
2908 Heather Court
Onalaska, WI 54650

Address and email changes will appear in 2007-2008 yearbooks.



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

AAUW
La Crosse Branch
P. O. Box 2112
La Crosse, WI 54602 – 2112

The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change. AMERICAN FELLOWSHIPS FUND the American Fellowships Fund supports both the flagship American Fellowships program and the Selected Professions Fellowships program.

