



Issue 6

February 2009

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

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

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President's Perspective

I'm amazed to find out that AAUW is such a mystery when I talk to people in La Crosse. Many people who are very involved in community activities have absolutely no clue, or an erroneous idea, of AAUW. Many think that AAUW is part of the university and that it exists only in university towns to support education. Although a major purpose of AAUW and a purpose of our branch is to support and encourage higher education, our organization offers so much more. Education is a major way to break down barriers for women and girls. However, there are other barriers such as pay equity, sexual harassment, and cultural traditions. AAUW research, LAF and legislative lobbying are some ways that AAUW works to break down these barriers. The La Crosse AAUW Scholarship Review Committee is proposing some scholarships and grants this year that expand opportunities for women in our community. Please don't miss a chance to share with others the mission and purpose of AAUW. Pass out AAUW brochures and bookmarks, and encourage those interested to check out our local, state and national website to learn what AAUW offers.

The theme of the AAUW state convention in Wisconsin Rapids is Breaking Through Barriers. As you read in *Badger Briefs*, the convention will have segments on the following topics; Breaking Through Barriers Between People, Breaking Through Barriers to Educational Equity, Breaking Through Barriers to Economic Equity and Breaking Through Barriers to Equal Access to Services. Our branch has been asked to participate in the last segment on equal access to services because of our involvement in the La Crosse Dental Advocacy Coalition. Some members of the coalition will be traveling to the convention to share information on the need for access to dental care, the value of broad based coalitions in tackling problems, and the accomplishments of the coalition. This session will be Sunday, May 3. All Wisconsin AAUW members are encouraged to attend the convention.

The proposed changes to the Association bylaws are now posted on the national website, www.aauw.org. To read the proposed changes, click on the Member Center, and then click on the bylaws on the left side. These proposed changes will also be printed in the spring issue of *Outlook*. In the last Current, I reported that there would be a proposal to change the name of our organization to simply AAUW. Although the name will remain the same, a transition to priority use of the acronym has begun. Notice the change in the logo that has been used on the Current this year. The logo was changed to include the acronym rather than writing out the full name American Association of University Women. All branches are urged to minimize usage of the full name in favor of the acronym AAUW.

The program arranged by Erica and Jane on February 7 sounds fascinating. I hope you can attend with a guest.

Betty

AAUW General Meeting
Saturday, February 7, 2009

Place: Ward Room, Cartwright Center, UW-L campus

Registration: 9:30AM

Brunch: 10:00 AM

Cost: \$9.25

Menu: Ham, egg & cheese scramble, hash browns, fruit, bakery items, juice, coffee.

Program: 10:30 AM "The Problem of Creating a Feminine War Hero"
Dr. Deborah Bluffton, UW-L Dept of History

This slide presentation parallels popular perceptions of women arrested for espionage in France in WW I and US female combatants in the current war in Iraq to examine the larger questions of women's perceived and actual roles within war and why society has such a hard time with them.

For cancellations or late reservations after Feb. 4th, please contact Erica (608-366-1509, moogs56@hotmail.com) or Jane 608-534-6330.

PLEASE NOTE: The date of the April program has been changed from April 11th to April 18th to avoid conflict with the Easter weekend!

Year Book Errata, Changes, and Additions

(In order to be included in the Year Book, dues must be paid by June 15th, please see Article VI, section 3 of the Branch By-Laws. Dues are sent to the Vice-President of Finance.)

Here is a listing of changes as of 1/10/2009:

Changes:

Jan Davenport's new phone number is: **608-790-4459.**

Please phone me at 783-1247 or email me at jr67burnett@charter.net with any errors,

Rosemary Burnett, Year Book Coordinator



Thank You Notes from May 2008 Scholarship Recipients

Dear Mrs. Betty Kruck and AAUW Association,

My family and I would like to say Thank You for your scholarship that you gave toward my education. Your Association is a great and caring group to help people in need of help. Your money will better my credit and make it possible to have a lower pay off on my loan for my education. We really appreciate your help.

With love,
Charlotte and Kids

(Charlotte is a young mother of 4 children who was recommended for this scholarship by YWCA staff. Charlotte was in the YWCA Transitional Housing Program, and is now moving out of Transitional Housing and will be on her own working as a licensed beautician. AAUW made it possible for her to finish her training.)

Dear Ms. Ross,

I would like to personally thank you for giving me a chance to succeed in my future by awarding the American Association of University Women Scholarships for Entering Freshman. The scholarship means a great deal to me because it shows me that there are people in this world who are willing to give others a chance to succeed in life.

A little information about me is I am currently a senior at Logan High School here in La Crosse, where I have succeeded in many activities. I have participated in volleyball, basketball, and softball for the past four years. I have also been in the high school band for the past four years and this year was honored to lead the marching band through parades as the drum major. Not only have I succeeded through extra-curricular activities, but I have received many academic honors such as being on the High Honor Roll and receiving many academic letters throughout my four years at Logan.

I chose University of Wisconsin-La Crosse because I believe they have a great science program and they have the best opportunities for me as a student. UW-L will also allow me to be close to home, but still be on my own. I would like to major in Biology at UW-L and hopefully minor in chemistry.

Thank you again for the opportunity to succeed in my future. Also thanks for taking the time to read not only my scholarship application, but for taking the time to get to learn a little bit about me and my plans for the future.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth M. Lubinski

Pay Equity

Our January general meeting on the 10th was a joint meeting with the League of Women Voter's. We enjoyed their company as we learned about a topic that is of interest to both organizations. Dr. Deb Hoskins, from the UW-L Dept. of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, discussed the history of women's pay inequities and what can be done to address it. The AAUW website has very comprehensive information about their initiative on pay equity along with suggestions on actions to be taken. Please check this link out for more:

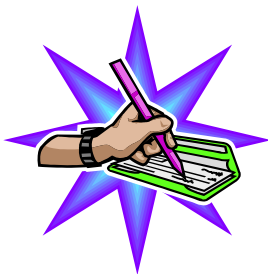
http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy//actionpages/payequity.cfm. Both AAUW and LWV members agreed that we'd like to do something pro-active in the La Crosse community, especially on Pay Equity Day, April 28, 2009. If you would like to be involved in planning an implementing activities, please let Betty know.

Keep the change until women have real change.

Foundation Donations

Please keep our La Crosse AAUW Foundation in mind when considering donations, memorial gifts and your will. If you write a check to the La Crosse AAUW Foundation, please designate in the memo space if you want to donate to the Endowment Fund, the Karen Wilson Endowment or the Discretionary (undesignated) Fund. Only the interest from the endowment accounts is spent on scholarships each year. The difference in the endowment funds is that the Karen Wilson Fund has specific criteria to fund nontraditional students, and was established in memory of past member Karen Wilson. The general Endowment Fund was established as a perpetual source of income without specific criteria.

Financial Report as of 12/31/08



▪ Checking account	\$4,966.34	
▪ CD's	5,000.00	(matures 5/09)
	5,000.00	(matures 11/09)
▪ Bridge	732.811	



Fundraisers Update

In the past several months we have had two fundraisers.
The jewelry sale netted \$29.70 for LAF.
The nut sale gives us an extra \$231.20 for the general budget.
Thanks to all who contributed in any way to the success of these fundraisers.

Herbergers Community Day



Herbergers Community Day is set for February 28th. We again have the opportunity to participate to raise funds for our organization. You have probably already received your coupon books. Remember the entire \$5 for each of the books we sell goes into our treasury. We are asked to sell coupon books at Herbergers sometime between now and the 28th. If you are willing to give 2 hours of your time to meet this requirement please give me a call or send me an email. I am also looking for a few individuals who are willing to sell coupon books at the store the day of the sale. Thanks in advance for your participation in this important fund raiser.
Sue Heuer Community Day Coordinator

Fredsueret@charter.net 526-9397

February Craft Group

We will meet with women from Ruth House and Transitional Housing for a second time on Tuesday Feb. 3rd, for an evening of creativity and conversation. Both groups will meet on the same evening this time. We plan to make Valentine cards, rosebuds fashioned from Hershey kisses, and a drink mix that is pink, frothy and warm. We are expecting 12 or 13 women from the YWCA programs, so need 10-12 of our members to pair up for crafts and conversation. Can you join in for this event? It's a great opportunity for us to role model, mentor, learn, relax and have fun. Please RSVP to me or Erica Koonmen. Julie Noll is joining us and has lots of Valentine supplies. Erica is purchasing ingredients for the drink mix and rosebuds. (Many thanks to those who donated money for this at our last meeting.) If you have anything you would like to share for making Valentine cards feel free to bring it along.

Peace, Carlene



Study Groups

Study Groups

Hearth and Home New members welcome.

Date: Feb.11

Program: Valentine party

Cost: Bring a dish to pass and a small Valentine gift to 'trade'.

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Pat Boge's

Reservations: 789-7127(work), 784-3952(home)
or email: p.boge@lacrosse.lib.wi.us

Contemporary Authors New members welcome.

Meets: 4th Tues at 2:00 PM

Date: Feb. 24

Hostess: Ruth Davy

Author: Greg Mortenson
Three Cups of Tea

Inquiries: Alice Ross, 788-4206

Bookfellows New members welcome.

Meets: 3rd Wednesday at 2:30 PM

Date: Feb.18

Speaker: Marian Ramlow

Hostess: Marilyn Hempstead

Inquiries: Pat Sheehan, 788-3808

Bridge, Card games Times and places to be announced.

Inquiries: Sharon DeCicco, 788-5356

Vital People

Meets: 1st Wednesday, 1:00 PM

Inquiries: Katie Webster, 788-7232

American Association of University Women
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 through advocacy, education and research. The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change. The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination

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