



Issue 8

April 2009

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

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President's Perspective

I'm looking forward to the April meeting and tour of Marilyn Pedretti's home. This should spark our attention and creativity to ways we can be good stewards of our environment. Thanks to Jane Wernecke and Erica Koonmen for a year of interesting and varied programs!

Our May scholarship meeting will be a mere two (2) weeks after our April program on May 2. An effort was made to avoid conflicts with Easter and spring breaks and Mother's Day. Scholarship recipients will be introduced at the May Brunch followed by the election and installation of branch officers.

Two AAUW scholarships will be awarded this year to winners of area high schools Extra Effort Awards. The Extra Effort Award program is sponsored by the La Crosse Tribune, and the winners have been profiled weekly in the Tribune. The Tribune will announce the winners and the scholarships at the Tribune's Extra Effort Awards Reception on **Wednesday, May 6**. All AAUW members are invited to attend this reception. Because the Tribune's Reception is after our AAUW Scholarship Brunch, the winners of the AAUW Extra Effort Award Scholarships will not be able to be announced and introduced at our brunch on May 2. The Tribune's reception will be at the UW-L Cleary Center at 7:00 PM. Information on reservations for the reception will be in the May Current. All other scholarship recipients will be announced at the May brunch.

Betty Kruck



SLATE OF OFFICERS 2009 – 2010 BOARD POSITIONS

Four positions are up for election and have the following nominations, which will be voted on at the May Scholarship Brunch Meeting. This is a call for any further nominations from the branch.

- President - Marilyn Hempstead
- President-Elect – open
- Co-Chair Vice President Program – open
- Vice-President Finance – Bev Bodine (2nd Term)

There are a few appointed board positions that require filling. If you are interested in being part of this august body, please contact Marilyn Hempstead 784-8763 or she might contact you. Thank you...The Nominating Committee (Betty, Rosemary, Marilyn)



La Crosse Branch Scholarship Thank You

December 2008

Dear Members of AAUW,

Thank you so much for the Karen Wilson scholarship. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support. As one of this year's recipients, I am grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. Lacking the support of my spouse, I rely on financial aid and grants to help finance my education. Receiving this scholarship will help reduce my financial burdens and provide assistance for me as I continue pursuing my education.

This scholarship is something that not only helped me economically, but raised my self-esteem knowing that people care for others. It touched my heart deeply.

As anyone attending college knows, the cost of fees and materials and living expenses are daunting. The scholarship money I received from the Karen Wilson scholarship is essential in helping me to achieve my goal.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Respectfully,
Sarah Koehler

(Sarah is now a student affiliate member of AAUW. She is serving on the AAUW Art Fair on the Green Committee.)

Student Leadership News

Last year the La Crosse AAUW Branch recommended Kelly Johnson, a UW-L student, for a state AAUW and a CMG La Crosse Community Fund scholarship to attend the 2008 Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington DC. Kelly reported that the conference was the experience of a lifetime. Sandra Krajewski, professor in the Department of Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies at UW-L, reports that Kelly was just accepted into a library science graduate program at the University of Wales at Aberystwyth. Dr. Krajewski wants AAUW members to know that the leadership conference sparked a *can do* attitude and *the sky is the limit* attitude. Megan Gokey, a student at UW-L, is applying for a scholarship from the state AAUW to attend the 2009 conference.

April General Meeting April 18

Go Green!

Place: Town of Holland Town Hall
W7937 County Rd. MH
Holmen

In keeping with our **green** theme, please try to carpool.

Registration: 9:30-9:45

Allow time for displays of green cleaning and sustainability.

Potluck: 9:45-10:15

Bring a dish to share. Coffee and orange juice will be available.

Bring your own **disposable** placemat, utensils, cup/mug and napkin.

Prizes will be given for:

1. “greenest” place setting (most recycled or best use of reused item)
2. “springiest” place setting }pay your own homage to spring)
3. Place setting best reflecting cultural/ethnic heritage
4. Potluck dish made with the most local items

Program: Marilyn Pedretti will show slides about the construction of her house.

After two years of building strawbale houses in the Southwest, Marilyn Pedretti returned to the Coulee Region to make her own off-grid strawbale home on her family farm in Holmen. The home was completed in 2007. Marilyn’s goal was to use renewable products whenever possible. She did most of the work herself with the help of friends and family. Marilyn will give a slide show presentation detailing the process of building her environmentally home. A guided tour of her home (N27079 County Rd. X) will follow her presentation just down the road from our meeting place.

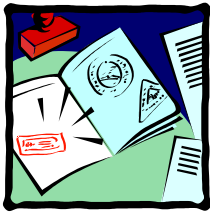
Marilyn’s home was featured in Aug./Sept. 2008 issue of Coulee Region Women magazine.

House tour 11:00 – 11:45 Allows time to move to her house, within a mile of Town Hall.



Reservations are not required but please let you caller know if you are coming so we can have enough tables and chairs set up as well as coffee and orange juice. Please come even if you decide at the last minute to attend. Just remember to bring your own place setting.

Call Erica: 608-368-1509 or Jane: 608-534-6330



Immigration Revisited: Postville - Then and Now
April 16, 2009 7:00 PM
Southside Neighborhood Center

The League of Women Voters is sponsoring the above program that may be of interest to AAUW members. The community is invited to attend.

Mr. David Strudthoff, current District Administrator of the De Soto School District, was the Superintendent of Schools in Postville, Iowa for nine years prior to September 2008. Mr. Strudthoff witnessed the rapid rise of immigrants in Postville; 10-12% of the elementary school population to 45% of the elementary school population at the time of the ICE raid on Agriprocessors in Postville. Mr. Strudthoff was an important voice for the community following that raid. He will present a picture of Postville before, during and following the arrest of undocumented workers at the meat-packing plant. Mr. Strudthoff will discuss U.S. Immigration policies, and he will have some suggestions that would have a more positive impact on communities such as Postville.

THIS AND THAT

- Name Grant nominations are due by April 15th
- Thanks to all your efforts \$700 was earned through the sale of Community Day coupon books and donations. We will still be receiving some funds from Herbergers.

Sue Heuer
LAF/EF Chairperson



Searching for Auction Items

State convention will be held May 1-3 and we will be sending items for the LAF Silent Auction. We are working on several themed baskets. **If anyone has items to contribute please contact me ASAP.** We are looking for some snowman items to compliment a set of snowman mugs. We are also looking for a good bottle of wine and garden related items to go into other planned baskets.

Ruth Ann Knapp has again contributed jewelry she has made. If you have any other pieces of jewelry or pieces of art work we would gratefully accept them.

Sue Heuer 526-9397 fredsueret@charter.net

LAF/EF Chairperson

NEW MEMBERS!

Now is a great time to recruit new members. Anyone who joins after March 15 actually gets 15 months of membership for the price of one year. We have two new members who are receiving this benefit. We welcome Theresa Moore and Kristin Foehner who both joined in March. Thanks to Silvana Richardson for introducing them to AAUW. Also, thank you to Sue Heuer who is a faithful recruiter year after year.

Theresa Moore:

Director of Faculty Development at Viterbo University. She also teaches management courses in the MBA and School of Adult Learning. She can be reached at trmoore@viterbo.edu or 796-3392.

Kristin Foehner:

Recently moved to Onalaska from the Denver area. She plans to eventually resume her career in nursing. She can be reached at 519-0617.



Don't forget about:
Give-A-Grad-A-Gift
Student Affiliate memberships.

Art Fair
July 25-26

Contact Pat Staube at pstaube@centurytel.net or 788-7439 for more information.

From your Treasurer:

Dues for 2009-2010 are now payable. A Membership Renewal Form is included with this newsletter. Please complete the information and return it with your check. The information on this form helps confirm that your yearbook information will be correct.

There are two bits of good news regarding next year's dues:

1. There is no increase in dues, which has not been the case for quite a number of years. The amount remains at \$67.00.
2. \$46 of the \$49 Association dues will be tax deductible for the first time. Neither state nor local dues are tax deductible, but know that \$46 of the total \$67 dues can be deducted.



Study Groups

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Hearth and Home New members welcome.

Date: April 15

Program: Tour quilt shop

.Cost:

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Place: A Stitch in Time

258 County Rd. PH, Onalaska

Reservation: Pat Staupe, 608-788-7439, Gloria Brennan

Contemporary Authors New members welcome.

Meets: 4th Tues at 2:00PM

Date: April 28. 24

Hostess: Pat Sheehan 788-3808

Author: Jhampa ahiri, The Namesake

Inquiries: Alice Ross, 788-4206

Bookfellows New members welcome.

Meets: on 3rd Wed. at 2:30.

Date: April 15

Speaker: Rosalind Richards

Hostess: Rosalind Richards, WTC cafe

Inquiries: Pat Sheehan: 788-3808

Bridge, Card games Times and places to be announced.

Inquiries: Sharon DeCicco: 788-5356

Vital People

Meets: 1st Wednesday, 1:00pm

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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