

JANUARY MEETING

La Crosse Neighborhood Response Program

Presenter: SGT Andrew Dittman
La Crosse Police Dept.

When: Saturday, January 9, 2016

Where: Viterbo University School
of Nursing Room 195

Breakfast Cost: \$10

Breakfast Menu:

Scrambled eggs,bacon, fruit, coffee
and hot tea

*Please note: Anyone with dietary
restrictions should notify the
person taking reservations. The
food service will do their best to
accommodate.*

Members who do not wish to come
to the brunch are welcome to attend
the program portion at no charge.

Registration9:30 AM
Breakfast10:00AM
Program10:30AM

RSVP DEADLINE:

For cancellations or late
reservations please call Sue Heuer
at 608-526-9397 by NOON on
MONDAY January 4

Sgt. Andy Dittman will be the
speaker for our Jan. 9th meeting.
He will be focusing on the
Neighborhood Response Program.
Sgt. Dittman has a degree in

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The Current

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JANUARY 2016



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Happy New Year...2016

by Carol Robertson, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

As we say good-bye to 2015 and
celebrate 2016, our Branch turns to
the planning of various projects and
activities. Art Fair Committee will
begin preparations for the 58th Art
Fair on the Green. Letters to artists
will be sent the end of January so
if you have an artist in mind that
you think would be a good addition
to the art fair, email
Erica Koonmen with
the artist's contact
information and we
will add them to the
list.

award recipients. In fact, because of
some timing issues, several committee
members have already reviewed
applicants for the scholarships at
WTC. Each year we are privileged
to be involved in the lives of these
students who work so hard to achieve
their goals.



Be sure to review
how to nominate
a deserving young
woman to attend the
National Conference
of College women
Student Leaders

International Women's
Day program will be held on
March 10th, Centennial Hall,
UW-L. This is the 5th year we will
collaborate with other groups in the
university and local communities
to celebrate the contribution of
women throughout the world. Save
the date!

The Scholarship Committee has
begun the process of accepting
nominations for the scholarship

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NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, Jan. 4, 2016

January will be an email meeting.
Carol will send out the agenda and
board members can respond with their
reports which will be compiled into
one report after the meeting.

Contact Carol at:

399-1751 or cfrobertson@charter.net
to place items on the agenda.

Get all the CURRENT news at our website: www.aauwlacrosse.org

Happy New Year...2016 *(continued from page 1)*

(NCCWSL). The details on submitting nominations can be found in a separate article in this month's edition of the newsletter.

As you plan ahead in the year, I would call to your attention AAUW-WI's State Convention. It will be held April 22-23 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison. Our Branch will be participating in the planning. More details to follow. We'd like to get a group together to attend some or all of the activities.

Happy 2016!

Membership News

by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership

Here is more information to add to the directory. We are not a static branch!

NEW MEMBERS

Two women joined in December; please add their info to your directory.

Ann Brice
211 29th St S. La Crosse, WI 54601
608 796 9103
Winona State Psych MA
BriceA@westernnc.edu



Ann is the Program Chair for IT Web & Software at Western Technical College. She has agreed to be the liaison for our branch with WTC.

Nancy Lafferty FSPA
701 Franciscan Way #453 La Crosse, WI 54601
608 397 4861
Washington University PhD Education Sociology
nlafferty@fspa.org

Nancy is retired from a successful and varied academic career. She is now living at St. Rose Convent and joined at the December meeting.

We heartily welcome these two accomplished women.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Marla French has changed internet servers. Her new email address is mmfrench1959@gmail.com

Sheri Schneider and her husband downsized to a new home recently. Their address: 939 Charles Court, Onalaska, WI 54650.

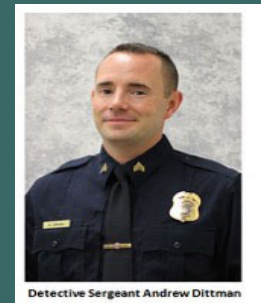


JANUARY MEETING

(continued from Page 1)

Criminal Justice from UW-Eau Claire and has been a law enforcement officer in WI since 2001. He joined the La Crosse Police Department 8 years ago.

As part of his duties he supervises the four officers working in the Washburn Neighborhood and the Lower Depot Neighborhood: Daniel Ulrich, Andrew Tolvstad, Tyler Pond and Dale Gerbig. He will be providing information on how the neighborhood resource officer program started and what kind of role it is playing in the community.



Coulee Region RSVP

Help Needed

Coulee Region RSVP is responsible for Mobile Meal delivery the week of January 17th, 2016 – January 23rd, 2016. Please call RSVP to sign up!

Coulee Region RSVP invites adults age 55 and better to share their life experience and skills to make a positive impact on meeting the needs of the community. For more info, go to <http://www.rsvplax.org/>.

STUDY GROUP	MEETING DAY/TIME	CONTACT PERSON
Bookfellows	3rd Wednesday of month at 2:00pm	Liz Wing, 782-7963
Scholarship Bridge/Card Games	TBA	Sharon DeCicco, 788-5356
Contemporary Authors	3rd Tuesday of month at 2:00pm	Alice Ross, 788-4206
Hearth & Home	meeting occasionally, see below for details	Sharon DeCicco, 788-5356
AAUW in Action	Various times & locations; please see below for current one	Erica Koonmen, 366-1509

Study Group News

HEARTH & HOME

Hearth & Home study group meets periodically to explore new ideas, culinary experiences, fun activities and our area through visits to local businesses or in-home happenings. If you are interested in planning a program for the group or if you would like to head it up, please contact Sharon.

INTERESTED IN STARTING A NEW STUDY GROUP?

Study groups provide an opportunity for members to grow intellectually and creatively, broaden their involvement in topics of interest, become agents for intelligent community action and meet people who share similar interests. Please note that anyone is always welcome to attend any of these groups – no strings attached! Drop in, and bring a friend, to experience fellowship and the pleasures of lifelong learning.

We are always open to starting new groups! The Contemporary Authors book group is full so a new book group would be great. Other ideas include Walkers and Talkers, Out to Lunch Bunch, Gourmet Cooking or Money Smart. Let others know what your interests are and perhaps there will be enough people to get a group going!

AAUW IN ACTION

Next Meeting: email meeting in January 2016.



AAUW in Action is a study group that serves as a springboard for community service activities for our branch that promote AAUW's mission.

Ardus Cleveland took the holiday cards, personal items, etc... donated at our last 2 general branch meetings and a plate of her toffee bars to Ruth House on Tuesday, 15 - and did the same for Ophelia House on Wednesday, 16. They were so grateful for these gifts.

Peg from Ruth House and Melanie from Ophelia House like the idea of having hor d' oeuvres and an activity around Valentine's Day. We are looking at Wednesday, February 10, 2016 around 5:30pm. We'll combine the two groups and all meet at Ophelia House. If you are interested in helping with the planning or participating in the evening event, please let Erica know.

We welcome new members and suggestions for events and programs.

Your Every Question Answered: Advocacy How-to Guides

From www.aauw.org; Public Policy

From a young age, we're taught that most of what we need to know can be found by answering the five W's (who, what, when, where, and why). But the most important, and often the most elusive, question to answer is the H — the how. That's why AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations Department has compiled a set of resources to guide you in advocating for women and girls through a variety of tactics and actions.

These resources are available at: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/advocacy-how-tos-guides>. Simply click on the links on that page to get full information. Don't see a resource on here that you think would be helpful? Let us know!

Organizing:

- How to Build a Phone Tree
- How to Host a House Meeting
- Binder Full of Organizers: How to Build Coalitions beyond the Usual Suspects
- Say Yes to the Ask: How to Talk the Advocacy Talk
- I Have a Dream: Moving People to Action with Your Personal Story

Advocacy:

- How to Hold a Meeting with an Elected Official
- How to Put Together an Issue Forum, Town Hall, or Tele-Town Hall
- Tabling: There's More to It Than Meets the Eye
- A Strong Showing: Making a Rally Uber Effective
- Special Delivery! Get Your Elected Official's Attention
- How to Get the Whole World to Sign Your Petition

Media:

- How to Work with the Media
- How to Write an Op-ed
- How to Write a Letter to the Editor (LTE)

Social Media:

- How to Use Social Media for Advocacy

Get Out the Vote:

- How to Organize a Voter Registration Drive
- How to Put Together a Candidate Forum

Nominations Needed for NCCWSL

Our La Crosse AAUW Branch has the opportunity to nominate college woman student leaders to receive a \$500 state scholarship to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders. This conference focuses on leadership and career development for college women. AAUW –WI is offering two \$500 scholarships but we can submit only one name from our Branch.

We have sponsored attendees for the last several years and feedback from them has been overwhelmingly positive.

This year's conference will be June 2-4, 2016, at the University of Maryland College Park. Young women from across the country and around the world will participate in a wide variety of workshops and networking opportunities.

If you know of a young college woman student leader you would like to nominate, please send the name to Carol Robertson by **January 30, 2016**. Eligible nominees must be enrolled in a program leading to an Associate degree (or equivalent), Bachelors degree, or Master's degree at a technical school or other 2-4 year public or private college/university.

Please include the following:

- Name, educational institution attending, and enrollment status of nominee
- Awards, recognition, or honors received by the nominee
- Major area of study being pursued by nominee and why
- How attendance at the conference would further the nominee's goals

For more information on the conference, please check the website [AAUW.org](http://www.AAUW.org) or contact



FROM THE TREASURER

Kristin Foehner

Financial Report as of December 21, 2015

Checking Account\$10,805.94

CD'snone at this time

Scholarship Bridge.....\$650.02

Brighter Tomorrows Job Opening

Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Advocate

Fulltime position with benefits. Typical workday from 8-430pm, but requires on-call and some evening work. Also requires some hours in the Tomah Outreach office.

Provide sexual assault and domestic violence education and awareness to organizations and general public. Provide direct services to victims and families.

Must be a self-starter and be willing to accept new challenges.

Send resume to:
Brighter Tomorrows, PO box 161
Sparta, Wi. by January 15th.

You may also email a resume to
mocosheltercare@gmail.com

Being a National Director

by Pam Thiel, La Crosse Branch member; AAUW National Director

I was re-elected to the national AAUW Board at convention last summer in San Diego for another two-year term. I want to again thank my La Crosse friends for your continued support!



The national Board is comprised of a Chair, Vice Chair, Finance Vice Chair, Secretary, and nine Directors. We have two face-to-face meetings in Washington DC each year at the national headquarters and one at another location. Between meetings, we communicate regularly with conference calls and e-mails.

The most important responsibility of the Board is to oversee the fiscal health and development of AAUW. We have a very professional and talented staff in Washington, and the Board works in partnership with them to implement our mission. My favorite activity of the Board is strategic visioning to keep moving us forward as a relevant and the most important women's organization in the world.

Serving on the national Board provides me with many ways to communicate with members. Here are just a few: connect with the state presidents of Massachusetts, Tennessee, Texas & Kentucky; present at state conventions; and participate on the national Membership Committee as a liaison to the Board.

One of the best things about being on the Board is making connections with wonderful, bright, engaging, and committed members across the country. As an AAUW volunteer, you donate your time and effort to something you are passionate about, but you reap so much more in return.

I highly recommend that you consider volunteering for AAUW at the branch, state, or national level. You won't regret it! I will be more than happy to help you find the right niche that fits your time and talents.

Remove the Crime of Sexual Assault from the Military Chain of Command

26,000.

No, that's not what the Dow closed at yesterday. It's how many service members, male and female, that a recent Pentagon study estimated were sexually assaulted in 2012. That figure is up from 19,000 in 2010. Other surveys of female veterans have found that close to one-third were victims of rape or assault while they were serving, which is double the rate in the civilian population. This problem is even worse in conflict zones, with half of the women serving in Iraq or Afghanistan reporting sexual harassment and nearly one in four reporting sexual assault. This is unacceptable and must change.

The Pentagon has been aware of this problem for decades, yet it persists. It's time for Congress to act and take the crime of military sexual assault out of the chain of command and give this authority to an independent body.

Contact your representative and senators today and tell them to remove sexual assault from the chain of command.



American Association of University Women

La Crosse Branch

P.O. BOX 2112 • LA CROSSE, WI 54602-2112



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AAUW’s Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

For 130 years, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day: educational, social, economic, and political. Our commitment to our mission is reflected in all aspects of our work.

Newsletter Contact & Deadlines

Newsletter EditorErica Koonmen (moogs56@hotmail.com)
Webminder*Position Open!*
Newsletter DesignTegan Jerde-Koonmen (jerdet@gmail.com)

Newsletter content submission deadline:

Please send all content for *The Current* to Erica by the 20th of the month.

Problems receiving the CURRENT? Let us know at:

aauwlacrosse@hotmail.com