

April Meeting:

Wisconsin

History and Travel

Presenter: Jerry Apps

When: Saturday, April 14, 2012

Where: Ward Room,
Cartwright Center, UW-L

Breakfast Cost: \$10.00

Menu: Scrambled eggs, Bacon, Fresh cut fruit, Sweet breads & muffins, Coffee, Tea, Orange Juice

As always, members who do not wish to join the group for brunch, are welcome to attend the program portion of the meeting at no charge.

Registration..... 9:30am
Breakfast..... 10:00am
Program..... 10:30am

For cancellations or late reservations contact Jan Eriksen at 608-796-3398 (office); 608-787-5946 (home); or jperiksen@viterbo.edu. by noon on Wednesday, April 11, 2012.

Our speaker is Jerry Apps. Jerry has been a rural historian and environmental writer for more than 40 years. He has published books on many rural topics, including

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AAUW

The Current

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APRIL 2012



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE: Bursting Into Spring

by Marilyn Hempstead, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

How did it happen that only two meetings remain of our year? We are heading for a great and activity packed finish. April 14th will be our annual business meeting with the election of officers followed by the presentation of a distinguished author.

Besides Easter, Passover and the primary election, April is filled with an array of activities supported by our branch. Details in this issue include a program featuring two state Supreme Court Justices, a presentation by PolitiFact's Bill Adair, the YWCA Circle of Friends luncheon, the Cyber Bullying workshop, Herberger's Community Days fundraiser, and to top it off the AAUW state convention. And, of course, there are the study group activities. Additionally, the scholarship committee is now conscientiously going through applications. The winners will be honored at the scholarship brunch in May.

Before rushing into April's whirl, recognition is in order for the good things members did for Women's History Month: Lois Gilbert for the series of quotes by women in the Tribune, AAUW in Action for the "25 Books for 25 Years" project, Betty Kruck and Erica Koonmen for organizing a noon women's history presentation for County Human Services workers.

Our branch has been and is bursting with possibilities.



Next Board Meeting

Monday, April 9th at 6:30 pm
River Place Apartments. #1 River Place Drive

Meetings are open to any member who is interested in attending.

Contact Marilyn at: marizah@yahoo.com or 784-8763 to place items on the agenda.

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

Rescheduled-New Date

Wisconsin Women: Celebrating Their Contributions

by Betty Kruck, Co-Chair

Two Wisconsin Supreme Court justices will lead a program at UW-L that will focus on the state's women leaders.

Who: Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson and Justice Ann Walsh Bradley

What: "Wisconsin Women: Celebrating Their Contributions"

When: **7 p.m. Tuesday, April 10**

Where: 1309 Centennial Hall, UW-La Crosse

Parking is available in the C-10 lot, 16th and Vine streets.

Admission: Free and open to the public.

The presentation will last about 30 minutes, followed by questions.



Chief Justice Abrahamson



Justice Bradley

Sponsors of the program are UW-La Crosse, La Crosse Tribune, League of Women Voters, AAUW, YWCA and La Crosse County Bar Association.

Bill Adair Programs

by Betty Kruck



AAUW is joining the LWV, UW-L Political Science Dept. and UW-L Joint Committee on Legislative Relations in bringing Bill Adair to La Crosse. Bill Adair is the Editor of PolitiFact, www.politifact.com, and the Washington D.C. Bureau Chief for the Tampa Bay Times. The PolitiFact won a Pulitzer Prize in 2009.

Mr. Adair will present a program for LWV and AAUW members on Thursday, April 12. He will speak on "***Death Panels, the Government Takeover of Healthcare & Grannies Pushed Over Cliffs: How the 'Talking Point' is Harming Political Discourse.***" There will be limited seating at the Radisson Iowa Room.

Please make reservations by contacting Carolyn Mahlum Jenkins at 608-782-5727 or cgjenks@earthlink.net. Lunch (\$12) 12:30-1:00. Program- 1:00-2:00.

Mr. Adair will record an interview to be aired on WLSU's Newsmakers Show at 5:00. He will speak at UW-L Centennial Hall, Hall of Nations at 7:00 PM on April 12th. That program is free and open to the public. His topic will be "***The Truth-O-Meter, Half Truths & Pants on Fire: Hyperbole and Facts in American Politics.***"

April Meeting (cont.)

Every Farm Tells a Story, Living a Country Year, Horse-Drawn Days, Barns of Wisconsin, and Old Farm. He is a former county extension agent and professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and a lifelong vegetable gardener. Jerry and his wife Ruth reside in the Madison area.



Jerry will speak about his most recent book, *Garden Wisdom: Lessons Learned from 60 Years of Gardening*, published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press. In this treasure trove of tips, recollections and recipes he combines his hard-earned advice for garden success with a discussion of how tending a garden leads to a deeper understanding of nature and the land.

WI AAUW Convention

The State Convention will be held on April 27-28 in Janesville. See the Spring BADGER BRIEFS for details. A few board members are planning on attending.

Study Group	Meeting day/time	Contact person
Bookfellows	3rd Wednesday of month at 2:00pm	Pat Sheehan, 788-3808
Scholarship Bridge/Card Games	TBA	Sharon DeCicco, 788-5356
Contemporary Authors	3rd Tuesday of month at 2:00pm	Alice Ross, 788-4206
Hearth & Home	3rd Wednesday of month, evenings	Pat Staupe, 788-7439
AAUW in Action	1st Thursday of month at 6:00pm	Erica Koonmen, 366-1509

Study Group News

Hearth & Home

Miniature Gardening

Date: Wed., April 18
Place: Rockwood Gardens



128 Theatre Road
Onalaska (behind the new Goodwill Store)

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 Make your own miniature garden
6:30 - ??? Appetizers at Manny's Mexican Cocina
301 Hampton Ct, Onalaska

All are welcome to join us at Rockwood Gardens. We will each create some type of miniature garden: fairy garden, succulent garden, terrarium, whatever you choose.

Cost is dependent on the plants and accessories you wish to purchase for your garden. Although containers are available for purchase, bringing your own would help to alleviate the expense.

This is your chance to be creative!

Reservations are due by Monday, April 16 to:
Bev Bodine 781-3849 pbbodine@centurytel.net
or Lori Kaufmann 780-4980 lorik456@msn.com

AAUW in Action

*Next Meeting: Thursday, April 5th
6:00 pm, River Place Apts, 1 River Place Dr.*

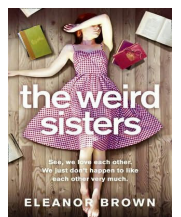
April's collection of items at the general meeting will be for first aid kit supplies and small toiletry bags to make the kits. We will happily accept toiletries any month. Thank you!

For more information as we wrap up the 25 Books for 25 Years initiative, please see pg. 5. We're having a reception and you're invited!

Next up is the **Bullies and the Internet: The Impact of Cyberbullying on Our Children** presentation by Dr. Troy Harcey on April 26th. Please see pg. 4 for details.

Contemporary Authors

Our next book will be:
THE WEIRD SISTERS
by Eleanor Brown



Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 2:00 PM

Contemporary Authors has met for many years on the 4th Tuesday of the month. This year we are meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. For meeting places and any further information contact either Alice Ross at 608-788-4206 or Mary Hall at 608-783-3483.

Cyberbullying Program

by Betty Kruck & Erica Koonmen

Bullies and the Internet: The Impact of Cyberbullying on Our Children

Presented By: Dr. Troy D. Harcey, Associate Superintendent of Instruction, School District of La Crosse.

In our technologically advanced contemporary world much is changing, including the way children interact with one another. The internet offers yet another way for bullies to impact the lives of our youth. Cyberbullying, the use of technology to bully, tease, and harass, has become a growing problem throughout the country. Come learn how the inappropriate use of computers and cell phones are changing the face of bullying in today's society.

When: Thursday, April 26, 2012

Time: 6:30-7:30 pm

Where: Myrick Hixon EcoPark

789 Myrick Park Dr.

La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601

Cost: Free, open to public

Sponsored by: AAUW La Crosse, Myrick Hixon EcoPark, Girls Scouts of Badgerland Council



Refreshments will be provided. *AAUW La Crosse members are invited to contribute cookies, fruits, veggies or juice.*

Please contact Erica, Betty, Carol or Lois for more info.



Title IX turns 40!

The equal opportunity to learn, taken for granted by most young women today, owes much to Title IX of the Education Codes of the Higher Education Act Amendments.

This legislation, passed in 1972 and enacted in 1977, prohibited gender discrimination by federally funded institutions. It has become the primary tool for women's fuller participation in all aspects of education from scholarships, to facilities, to classes formerly closed to women. Indeed, it transformed the educational landscape of the United States within the span of a generation. Many advances have been made for girls and women in sport, but equity has yet to be achieved.

AAUW strongly supports Title IX and opposes any efforts that would weaken its effectiveness or undermine its enforcement.

Public Policy

By Carlene Roberts, Chair

Support the Women's Bureau

The economy is improving, but many American women still struggle due to pay and employment inequity. The Dept. of Labor's Women's Bureau has helped represent and protect the needs of women in the workforce since 1920. In recent years the Women's Bureau has helped obtain employment in high-growth and nontraditional occupations. The proposed federal budget for 2013 slashes funding for the Bureau by 20% and full time employees by 40%.

Tell Rep. Ron Kind that the Women's Bureau should not be undermined while women still face substantial and systemic inequalities at work. Visit the AAUW Two Minute Activist, call 608-782-2558 or send a letter to 205 5th Ave. S., Suite 400, LaCrosse, 54601

Voting Records

Follow the voting records of our US Representatives and Senators on issues voted by AAUW members as priorities in June 2011: education, economic security and civil rights. Visit the AAUW Action Fund, Congressional Voting Record for the 112th Congress. 5 of our 8 Wisconsin Representatives receive a score of 0. Rep. Ron Kind gets an 83, Sen. Kohl rates a 67, Sen. Ron Johnson scores a 0. In this important election year watch the response of our state and local officials to issues important to education and women, and share the information with friends and family. It's our right and responsibility as AAUW members, as citizens in a democracy and as women.

YWCA Circle of Friends Luncheon

APRIL 17, 11:30am, Radisson Hotel Ballroom

\$10.00

RSVP by April 9 to 608-781-2783

For more information, go to <http://www.nwhm.org>

Join us for lunch to recognize Samanth Keck and Coulee Region Women Magazine.

From the Treasurer
Michele Strange

Financial Report as of March 20, 2012

Checking Account\$ 7,178.29

CD's

matures May 2012\$ 5,133.01

Scholarship Bridge.....\$617.77

LAF Community Days

by Bev Bodine, Chair

Community Days are April 27 & 28. Most of you will have received your coupon books by now. Please send your checks to me for this worthwhile project supporting LAF.

Remember: If you will not be in town the dates of the sale, **PRE-SELL begins on Sunday April 22.** Most of the coupons may be used during that week (exceptions are Super Bonus Buys and 30% off early bird coupons). Select your items for purchase, have them rung up with the applicable sale prices, and the purchases may then be picked up anytime between Friday, April 27 and Monday, April 30.

If anyone needs extra coupon books, please let me know at 781-3849 or pbbodine@centurytel.net

Thanks for your support.

25 BOOKS for 25 YEARS

Please join us for a "book donating" reception on Monday, March 26th from 4-5 pm at Pearl Street Books.

Representatives from all 5 organizations will receive the books our branch members and community members have generously donated. Refreshments will be served!

There is still time to contribute! A list of 25 books for each adults and children is available on our website: www.aauwlacrosse.org. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please send your check to:

AAUW La Crosse
25 Books for 25 Years
PO Box 2112 La Crosse, WI 54601

Checks should be made out to: AAUW La Crosse. Thank you for your support of this initiative. Erica Koonmen, Lois Gilbert, Carol Robertson and Betty Kruck

Membership News

by Carol Robertson, VP Membership

Welcome to two new members! They are:

Kathleen Doescher

W7649 Fieldstone Court
Holmen, WI 54636
608-526-2274

Email: basket56@gmail.com

Graduate of Sioux Falls College and Masters from Univ. of South Dakota (English)



Barbara Trane

1575 Selke Rd
LaCrescent, MN 55947
507-895-4351

Email: Barbaratrane@acegroup.cc

Graduate of Stephans College and Masters from UW-Madison (sociology)

We are glad to have them join us as AAUW members.

Nominating Committee Report

by Carol Robertson, Chair

The slate of candidates for the 2012-1013 board:

President: Carol Robertson

President Elect: Open

Vice President, Membership: Marilyn Hempstead

Co-Vice President, Program: Marla French

Secretary: Jean Petri

This slate will be presented and voted on at the April General Meeting. Nominations may be taken from the floor during the election process with the agreement of the nominee.



American Association of University Women

La Crosse Branch

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



THE CURRENT *a publication of the La Crosse, WI AAUW Branch*

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 Design.....Tegan 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?

If you are on the email list to receive *The Current* and are having problems, please check your virus and/or spyware software to see if that software is putting the message into the Spam/Junk folder. If you know that the e-newsletter has been sent out and you did not receive it, please contact Erica.

