

February Meeting:

Social Action Theater

Presenter: Robert Krajewski
University of Wisconsin- La Crosse
Professor of Educational Studies

When: Saturday, February 11, 2012
Where: UW-L Cartwright
Center, Ward Room

Breakfast Cost: \$10.00

Menu: Scrambled eggs, bacon,
breakfast breads, fresh fruit, orange
juice, coffee, and tea.

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, (608) 787-5946, or jperiksen@viterbo.edu by noon on Wednesday, February 8.

Dr. Robert Krajewski has taught and /or served as an administrator at nine universities in United States and abroad. For the past 13 years, he has taught and been the advisor for Social Action Theatre, a student

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The Current

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Organizing

by Marilyn Hempstead, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

Do you have papers in piles and accumulations of stuff stashed kind of in order? Maybe not, but I do. In organizing my mind for this article I gratefully looked at my piles and developed a mental organization. It is complex and reaches from the past into the future.

We are saving newsletters and other materials documenting our footprint to be added eventually to the UW-L archives. Current short-term projects are the nominations for the board and for the named grant. The fine work of committees such as scholarship, art fair, of the board and of the study groups, to name a few, shows how organized you all are. The directory attests to all the activities organized for the rest of this year.

Organization involves establishing priorities and sometimes eliminating

(as we reluctantly gave up Mobile Meals). We do have our guidelines of promoting education and equity to keep us on track. In our choices we focus on and strive to continue making a difference for our members and for our community.

Keep on reading to see what an organization our branch is!



Next Board Meeting

Monday, February 6th 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

Scholarship News

by Betty Kruck, Co-Chair

Karen Wilson Scholarship

AAUW members are invited to nominate a woman to receive the Karen Wilson Scholarship. The scholarship was first available in 1981 in memory of Karen Wilson, a former branch member. The following rules for eligibility apply.

1. Applicant must be a female sponsored by an AAUW La Crosse Branch member.
2. Applicant must be age 30 or older.
3. Credits earned with the help of this scholarship must be towards a specific goal. A person taking courses in order to update or change careers or a person taking graduate courses towards a Master's Degree would be eligible.
4. Applicant must be enrolled in a nonprofit regional school of her choice.
5. Applicant must submit a one-page essay defining her goals and objectives.
6. Applicant must provide a signed letter of reference from
 - a. AAUW sponsor
 - b. Faculty advisor, teacher or employer
7. A personal interview with the scholarship committee or AAUW may be judged necessary.
8. Financial need will be a consideration.
9. Recipient shall use this scholarship for tuition during the summer school or academic year following its award.

Applications, essays and letters of reference must be sent to Betty Kruck, P.O.Box 27, Genoa, WI 54632 or krux@mwt.net by March 25, 2012. The Scholarship Selection Committee shall determine each year's Karen Wilson Scholarship winner before the

Membership News

by Carol Robertson, VP Membership



Congratulations!

Congratulations to member Maureen Freedland for being presented the Martin Luther King Leadership Award at the annual MLK celebration on Monday, Jan. 16 in LaCrosse.

Reminder that new members can join after March 1 and their dues will not expire until June of 2013, essentially giving 15 months for 12 months of dues.

February Meeting (cont.)

interactive skit presentation/audience participation activity. His group has performed in 17 states, at national conventions, etc. They perform in schools at varied levels, social agencies, churches, for various youth groups and on-campus too. They have a wide range of topics, and the topic they will focus on for us "bullying." This will be an exciting real-life program that you will not want to miss. You'll have the opportunity to interact, ask questions, and learn from Bob's students--as they are the ones who have been or are close to that bully action.

Bob received a B.S and M.S. in mathematics/mathematics education from the University of Illinois, and a doctorate from Duke in Leadership and Supervision. He is an internationally recognized scholar, having written six books, and more than 130 articles, chapters. He has also guest edited various professional journals.



Dr. Robert Kajewski

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

AAUW in Action

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 2nd
6:00 pm, River Place Apts, 1 River Place Dr.

February's collection of items at the general meeting will be for paper goods--toilet paper, paper towels, feminine hygiene products; cleaning supplies and laundry detergent. Also small items the YWCA Teen program can use as incentives--nail polish, fragrances, lip gloss, jewelry, etc... We will happily accept toiletries any month as well as small kitchen appliances. The YWCA and other recipient groups would like to express their appreciation for your generosity in the past!

For more information on the "25 Books for 25 Years" initiative, please see the article on page 5.

The cyber-bullying workshop for the community will be April 26, 2012. We are partnering with the Girl Scouts (providing childcare) and the Myrick Hixon EcoPark to present Dr. Troy Harcey speaking on this topic.

Our group is available to do a "Profiles Of Women" presentation for other groups or organizations. This is a first-person program of notable women in history. It's appropriate not only for Women's History Month in March but any time during the year!

For more information on any of the above, contact Erica at moogs56@hotmail.com.

Hearth & Home

Annual Valentine's Party

Wed., Feb. 15, 6 p.m.

Patt Boge's house, 219 21st. So., La Crosse
608-784-3952



Please bring a food item that's red, heart shaped, or in a heart container. Also a small gift (under \$10) to exchange.

Anyone is welcome, whether you're a member or Hearth and Home or not. Come and see why we have so much fun!

Hearth & Home is a study group for exploring new ideas or old favorites while enjoying friendly camaraderie with fellow AAUW members. Each month, members take turns providing a program. In past months, we've learned a new skill, toured a business and met for dinner at a new restaurant.

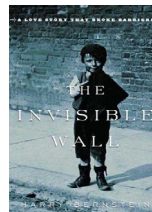
Contemporary Authors

Our next book will be:

**THE INVISIBLE WALL: A LOVE STORY
THAT BROKE BARRIERS** by Harry Bernstein

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 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.

Healthiest County 2015: La Crosse – Making the Healthy Choice Together

Contributed by Marilyn Hempstead

In an effort to make La Crosse County the healthiest county in the state by 2015, health care leaders launched a plan in 2009. Coordinated by the La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium, involved are representatives from the health centers Gunderson and Mayo, UWL, Viterbo, Western and the La Crosse County Health Department. The issues targeted include four categories: chronic diseases, mental health, injury and violence and infectious disease.



The consortium project specialist requested notice of the endeavor in newsletters for wider awareness of this effort, thus this public service announcement for our AAUW members.

For more information:

http://www.lacrosseconsortium.org/content/healthiest_county

AAUW Art Fair on the Green

By Pat Staupe, Chair

July 28-29, 2012

Did you know that our art fair has a new name? We are now officially known as AAUW ART FAIR ON THE GREEN. This is due to IRS and banking rules. We were just recently made aware of this new requirement.

Mary Hall and her husband have volunteered to be in charge of Hospitality. Our committee is now complete.

We have had our first meeting of the year. We have a large number of new artists requesting information packets so it appears that we will once again have a lot of new talent on display. We are considering adding one more concession stand.

We also are looking for someone who would be able to update our art fair website. Please contact Erica Koonmen or Pat Staupe if you would be able to help with this project.

Public Policy

By Carlene Roberts, Public Policy Chair

VAWA Up For Reauthorization

Ask your Senators to Co-sponsor the
Violence Against Women Act

Since the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was passed in 1994, it has played an enormous role in strengthening anti-violence efforts and helping to protect women nationwide. States' laws are stronger, reporting of domestic violence has increased, legal options for victims are improved, state and federal government are saving billions of dollars.



Now VAWA is due for reauthorization. Tell our senators to co-sponsor the bill. This reauthorization is also an opportunity to strengthen, enhance and streamline the existing provisions in VAWA. We are excited that the bipartisan version that will be introduced in the Senate in days to come

includes improvements, including some aimed at ending sexual violence on campus. This includes many provisions of the Campus SaVE Act (S.834) which AAUW worked hard to advance.

Send a message asking our senators to cosponsor the bill to reauthorize VAWA. It is easy to do by visiting AAUW Action Network. You will find headings for Learn, Act, and Connect. Click on Act and you will find Two Minute Activist. It's interesting, easy and quick to use - a wonderful resource in addition to your phone calls or letters to those who represent you.

Tax deductible donations to AAUW's Public Policy Fund are also needed.

*From the Treasurer
Michele Strange*

**Financial Report as of
January 20, 2012**

Checking Account\$ 7,138.20

CD's

matures May 2012 \$ 5,110.50

Scholarship Bridge.....\$617.77

Community Days

by Bev Bodine, Chair

SAVE THE DATE:

Herberger's Community Days will be April 27th & 28th this. This is a change from previous years when the event has been held in February. Watch for further information.

***Silent Art Auction a
Success!***

The silent art auction held at the December 2011 branch meeting was a lot of fun but more than that-- it raised \$455 for the branch!

Thanks to all who donated artwork for the auction and to those who purchased the wonderful deals that day.

25 Books for 25 Years

by Erica Koonmen, AAUW In Action study group

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Women's History Month, the La Crosse Branch of AAUW is sponsoring **25 Books for 25 Years**...a program that will provide books related to women and women's history to local organizations such as CouleeCap, Hope School for Teen Moms, Family & Children's Center, YWCA and Brighter Tomorrows. Our goal is to furnish books to women and children in these programs who might not otherwise have access to them.

We are asking community members and organizations to help by either purchasing a book (or books) or donating funds toward the purchase of the books. A bookplate will be placed in each book with the donor's name.

A list of 25 books for each adults and children is attached to this newsletter and is available on our website: aauwlacrosse.org. If you would like to purchase one or more of the books, you can do so through Pearl Street Books or amazon.com. Pearl Street Books is offering a 20% discount (this discounted price is on the lists). Books purchased there can be left at the store where we'll be collecting them. Books purchased through amazon.com can be given to any of the committee members below.

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. Please let us know if you'd like your funds to purchase a specific book. Purchases or donations should be made by March 1.

We're planning an afternoon reception in mid-March at Pearl Street Books to present the books to the organizations. More information on that in future newsletters!

Thank you for your support of this initiative! If you have any questions, please contact us.

Erica Koonmen

Lois Gilbert

Carol Robertson

Betty Kruck

Named Grant Nominations Needed

By Katie Webster, Chair

It's time for Name Grant Nominations! Our scholarship and Awards Brunch will be here before we know it. At that time, we traditionally recognize a member of our La Crosse Branch who has given outstanding service to the organization. Our branch donates money to the AAUW Educational Foundation in that person's name. Please send me your nominations for this honor by March 25, 2012. It would be helpful if you would send along some information in support of your nomination. Thank you for helping us honor our special members!

Katie Webster N2062 Wedgewood Dr. E La Crosse, WI 54601

skwebster@centurytel.net

608-788-7232



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

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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.