

November Meeting:

Options Clinic- Serving Women, Families and Our Communities for 40 Years

Presenter: Beth Hartung

Executive Director, Options Clinic

When: Saturday, Nov.10, 2012

Where: Ward Room,
Cartwright Center, UW-L

Breakfast Cost: \$10.00

Menu: *fruit, bread/scones, eggs,
bacon, juice and coffee.*

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

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

For cancellations or late reservations contact Pat Markos at pmarkos@uwlax.edu or 780-8623 or to Marla French at mfrench000@centurytel.net by noon on Wednesday, Nov 7, 2012.

Women's access has been threatened in many ways this past year. We have witnessed promises to cut funding of Title X programs, calls for personhood amendments that would limit access to a full range of birth control, and arguments as

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AAUW



The Current

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Thanks For All You Do

by Carol Robertson, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

As the season of Thanksgiving approaches, I am reminded of what I am thankful for in our branch: volunteers who are willing to take on projects, lead committees, and give of their time and skills to enrich our experiences and lives of others. Without volunteers, we would not be able to raise money, have an Art Fair, or award scholarships. I am continually amazed that with everyone's busy schedules, whenever there is a need, someone is there to take on the vacant spot and step right in to fulfill the duties. Thank you, members, for your willingness to participate.



November is also election time and maybe by the time you are reading this, it will all be over. (And yes, I am thankful that along with the election being over, that means the ads will be over, too!) But we do live in a democracy and as messy as it gets, we are fortunate to have the process.

I am thankful for the speakers we have enjoyed for the Sept and Oct meetings. Dr. Pat Markos and Prof. Joe Heim provided us with much information to digest. I am thankful I heard Dr. Darryle Clott speak at the Annual Women's Fund Luncheon. Her topic "Think Big – Ordinary People, Extraordinary Results" reminded me of the projects we undertake as AAUW members. In response to "what can one person do?" Darryle's response is whatever one does in one's own

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Next Board Meeting

Monday, November 5th 6:30 pm

River Place Apartments
1 River Place Dr.

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

Contact Carol at: 519-0548 or cfr Robertson@charter.net to place items on the agenda

Get all the CURRENT news at our website: www.aauw-wi.org/lacrosse

Thanks For All You Do *(continued from pg. 1)*

area of influence makes it better.

I am also thankful for the role models that we have in our area. Every day mentors are willing to give of their time so that another's life is influenced in a positive way. We have been gratified to watch the response to Jennifer Livingston at WKBT as she addressed the issue of bullying.

Thank you to all of you for what you do. The LaCrosse area is better for what we as an organization contribute.

Nominations Needed

by Betty Kruck

Our La Crosse AAUW Branch has the opportunity to nominate one college woman student leader to receive a \$500 state scholarship to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders.



The conference will be May 30-June 1, 2012, at the University of Maryland, in College Park. Young women from across the country and around the world will participate in a wide variety of workshops and networking opportunities. This year the state is offering only one \$500 scholarship.

If you know of a young college woman student leader you would like to nominate, please send the name to **Carol Robertson by December 1**. 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 or contact Betty Kruck.

November Meeting (cont.)

to whether insurance should cover birth control costs or not. Such headlines can grow tiring and leave one feeling hopeless and frustrated. This month we will hear about a more promising story - the story of Options Clinic - our neighborhood family planning clinic.

Did you know that Options Clinic has been providing caring, confidential reproductive health care services to our region for 40 years and that they have four clinics which serve five counties? In 2011, there were 17,000 visits to these four clinics. Did you also know that between 5,000 and 10,000 community members receive information on sexual health through their community education program?

Executive Director, Beth Hartung, will be presenting on all of the programs and services offered. Be prepared to be impressed and inspired by the critical work being done by the Options Clinic staff!



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	3rd Thursday of month at 6:00pm	Erica Koonmen, 366-1509

Study Group News

Hearth & Home

Movie Night!

WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 28th (*Please note date change!*)

WHERE: River Place Apartments
1 River Place Dr.

TIME: 7:00 P.M.



Movie: *The Red Violin*

A perfect red-colored violin inspires passion, making its way through three centuries over several owners and countries, eventually ending up at an auction where it may find a new owner.

CONTACT: Marion Jackson at 608-895-2492
for reservations or more information.

Contemporary Authors



Our next book will be:

Driftless
by David Rhodes

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2012 2:00 PM

We meet 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.

AAUW in Action

*Next Meeting: Thursday, November 15th
6:00 pm, River Place Apts, 1 River Place Dr.*

At our October meeting, we decided to move our meeting day to the third Thursday.

We also decided to change up the monthly collections we've been doing the last couple of years by doing just 3 this year: *November* will be calendars, holiday cards, gift wrap, ribbon and bows; *January* will be sheets and towels and *March* is paper goods. We'll always take toiletries!

The 25 Books for 25 Years initiative was a success and we'd like to do it again for March 2013. Look for more info in future issues of *The Current*.

We'd love to do some "Profiles of Women" presentations this year so please contact us if you know of an organization interested in this.

Lastly, we have a couple of new single event ideas we're working on for next spring: a "Salary Negotiation Skills" workshop and an International Women's cultural program for the general public. Sound Interesting? Come be a part of it!

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

*Questions? Contact Erica at moogs56@hotmail.com
608-366-1509*

Public Policy

By Carlene Roberts, Chair

Where does Governor Romney stand on closing the pay gap? Where does President Obama stand on college affordability? Where do the presidential candidates stand on a woman's right to access affordable contraception without asking her boss's permission? Are you sure you know their positions?

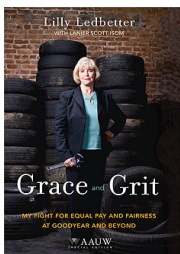
All these answers and more can be found on the AAUW Action Fund's 2012 Presidential Voter Guide. The Action Fund has thoroughly researched the candidates' records and public positions to assess where they stand on AAUW's priority issues.

Use these guides to educate yourself and others. Share it with your friends and family. Take it to town halls to ask candidates why they hold that position. Speak up and make your voice heard!

Voter guides are part of the AAUW Action Fund's VoteHER Toolkit, which also includes voter guides for key Senate races, the Congressional Voting Record for the 112th Congress, and a report on the Obama administration's first term. The VoteHER Toolkit is a component of the It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard campaign to educate and mobilize women voters, especially young women of the millennial generation. Learn more on the AAUW Action Fund website.

The email version of this month's *The Current* has these guides attached for your convenience. Please feel free to print out the page and share it with others.

LIMITED EDITION OF *GRACE AND GRIT*



AAUW members who give \$130 or more to AAUW will receive a special, limited-edition copy of Lilly Ledbetter's book that includes a special letter from Lilly.



CONVENTION WITH A CAUSE JUNE 9-12, 2013, NEW ORLEANS

Join us as we explore Leading across Generations. AAUW's 2013 convention will offer engaging speakers and panels, skill-building sessions, networking opportunities, and much more.

- * Exciting keynote speeches from inspiring women leaders to energize you, your branch, and your community
- * Panel discussions from experts on volunteerism, women's leadership, activism, and many other topics to rejuvenate your commitment to breaking through barriers
- * Interactive workshops focusing on leadership, membership, research, education, advocacy, equality, and the rich and inspiring history of women and AAUW
- * More skill-building and leadership sessions than ever before to give you renewed energy and focus for the AAUW of tomorrow
- * In-depth information on AAUW programs and resources to help you grow our nationwide AAUW community
- * Successful branch programs and models from across the country to get your creative programming gears moving
- * Networking opportunities to reconnect with friends and make many more
- * The chance to celebrate 125 years of fellowships and grants and to see the real and tangible legacy they provide

Log onto:

<http://www.aauw.org/convention/index.cfm> for the complete conference schedule and for travel discount codes. Register between Dec. 4, 2012–Feb. 3, 2013 for the “Best Value” rates.

From the Treasurer
Michele Strange

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

Checking Account\$11,717.16

CD's

none at this time

Scholarship Bridge.....\$1,156.02

*November Highlights in
US Women's History*

Nov 1, 1848 - First medical school for women, the New England Female Medical School, opens; in 1874 it merges with Boston University to become one of the world's first coed medical schools

Nov 8, 1910 - The state of Washington passes a constitutional amendment to permit woman suffrage

Nov 14, 1889 - Journalist Elizabeth Cochran, aka Nellie Bly, sails around the world in 72 days, 6 hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds, beating the fictional record set by Phileas Fogg in Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*

Nov 28, 1881 - The first organizational meeting is held for the predecessor group to the American Association of University Women (AAUW)

Membership News

by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership

At the October meeting we welcomed the guests of Marla French and Joanie Gunderson. We will be happy to welcome your guest at future programs with thanks.

Our jewelry artist Ruth Ann Knapp is selling her beautiful handcrafted earrings at the November and December meetings with the proceeds going to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Members have already bought several pairs.



On October 19 WEAU-TV aired an interview with our UW-L Liaison Pat Markos on the gender pay gap in the La Crosse - Eau Claire area. Pat is also our program co-chair and the director of the Institute for Professional Studies in Education at UW-L.

Scholarship Breakfast

The **Self-Sufficiency Program** invites you to join other "Ordinary Heroes" at the **Locally-Grown Scholarship Breakfast, 8-9:00 am** on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at the Cleary Center, 615 East Ave. N, La Crosse.

The Scholarship Breakfast highlights the stories of SSP graduates who are now enrolled students actively shaping their futures and the lives of their children through higher education. The annual breakfast also gathers the community heroes who encourage these students with their support of SSP and contributions to the Locally-Grown Scholarship Fund. You will meet our speaker, student-parent Susan Fabian, who is building her family's future and strengthening tenacity, courage and gratitude.

Inspiring stories.

Hopeful people.

Delicious (and free) breakfast.

Is there a better way to start a new day?





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

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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.