

# October Meeting: National History Day

**When:** Sat., October 12, 2013

**Where:** Viterbo Univ, Rm 195  
School of Nursing.

Street parking is available as well as a parking lot across the street from the nursing building.

**Breakfast Cost:** \$10.00

**Menu:** Egg Bakes in Pastry Shells, Assorted Cut Up Fruit, Assorted Fruit and Nut Breads/Butter, Orange Juice, Hot Tea 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 Marla French at [mfrench000@centurytel.net](mailto:mfrench000@centurytel.net) or 782-6589 by noon on Wednesday, October 9, 2013.*

Speakers will be La Crosse area students whose entries advanced to the national level of the History Day competition in Washington, D. C. last June.

National History Day (NHD) is an opportunity for teachers and students to engage in real historical research. National History Day is

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# The Current

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

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## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

### Autumn

*by Carol Robertson, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President*

I've always enjoyed this time of year for the cooler temperatures and the ever changing spectrum of colors. The change of seasons reminds me that the reset button is on and we get the opportunity to experience something different. For our Branch, it gives us new programs, new books to read for Book Clubs, new projects in which to become involved, or new forums to attend. The beauty of AAUW is that there are a variety of activities going on that give you the opportunity to choose which one is best for your talents and interests.



me know if you are interested.

Another opportunity is Legislative Day, Oct 16 to be held in Madison. Carlene Roberts is arranging the day and you can let her know if you would like to attend.

Also, it's not too early to be thinking of potential nominees for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Last year our Branch sponsored Karin Johnson, UW-L student,

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One opportunity that I would call to your attention is the Women's Fund Annual Fall Luncheon which will be held Thursday, October 17, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at UW-L, Valhalla Hall. The speaker is Alexis Jones, author and public speaker. Our Branch will not be sponsoring a table but if you would like to attend, we can all sit at the same table. Tickets are \$40.00 and you can let

## Next Board Meeting

**Monday, October 7th, 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](mailto:cfr Robertson@charter.net) to place items on the agenda

Get all the CURRENT news at our website: [www.aauwlacrosse.org](http://www.aauwlacrosse.org)

## Autumn... *(continued from pg. 1)*

who was awarded a \$500.00 scholarship from AAUW-WI. This award is for a student currently enrolled in a program leading to an Associate, Bachelor's or Master's degree. More details can be found in the latest edition of Badger Briefs. I will be happy to answer any questions you have.

## Membership News

*by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership*

It was great to see such a good turnout at our September meeting, especially several members who joined in the past year. Help me spread the word about our vibrant branch. National has sent new membership brochures which I will be happy to give to out if you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested in knowing about AAUW.



**Keep our Art Fair Chair Pat Staupe in your thoughts.** She has had a recurrence of the health condition for which she underwent treatments two years ago.

**Correction:** Marcia Wine's zip code got attached to her email address in the new directory. The correct address is: [mrswineiii@charter.net](mailto:mrswineiii@charter.net)

**Didn't receive your 2013-2014 Directory yet?** They will be available at the October general meeting. All unclaimed directories after that meeting will be mailed out.

## AAUW La Crosse Volunteers Needed

*By Carlene Roberts, Public Policy Chair*

Dr. Mary Nelson and Kathy Serres of LaCrosse County Health and Human Services are organizing volunteers to help people sign up for coverage in the insurance market place from Oct. through Dec. 15th.



Thousands of people are being pushed off of Medicaid, and many of these are the most vulnerable in trying to navigate the new system.

Mary is looking for people to help out. There is an on line training to qualify as a Certified Application Counselor. Dates, times and locations will be determined by Mary and Kathy in conjunction with local organizations.

Please call Mary Nelson with questions at 781-1401.

## October Meeting *continued...*

not a predetermined by-the-book program but an innovative curriculum framework in which students learn history by selecting topics of interest and launching into a year-long research project.

The purpose of National History Day is to improve the teaching and learning of history in middle and high schools. NHD is a meaningful way for students to study historical issues, ideas, people and events by engaging in historical research. When studying history through historical research, students and teachers practice critical inquiry: asking questions of significance, time and place. Through careful questioning, history students are immersed in a detective story too engaging to stop reading.

There were four girls from this area among the 17 that represented Wisconsin, which is quite impressive for our area. These young women have put a lot of effort into their projects, and should be most interesting presentors.



*2013 Wisconsin History Day finalists*

Study Group	Meeting day/time	Contact person
AAUW in Action	2nd Saturday of month, after the general meeting	Erica Koonmen, 366-1509
Hearth & Home	3rd Wednesday of month, evenings	Pat Staupe, 788-7439
Contemporary Authors	3rd Tuesday of month at 2:00pm	Alice Ross, 788-4206
Scholarship Bridge/Card Games	TBA	Sharon DeCicco, 788-5356
Bookfellows	3rd Wednesday of month at 2:00pm	Liz Wing, 782-7963

## Study Group News

### Hearth & Home

#### SNOW WHITE SURPRISE

Date: Wednesday, October 16

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: 224 So. 20th St

La Crosse



Come and see Marilyn's little Snow White museum, enjoy Grace's yummy dessert and share your Snow White fairy tale memories.

RSVP by October 10th to Grace Nicholson-Maly  
gracenicholsonmaly@gmail.com; 608-534-7434 Or  
Marilyn Hempstead marizah@yahoo.com;  
608-784-8763

### Bookfellows

*Next meeting:* October 9, 2pm  
*Hostess:* Ruth Nixon-Davy  
*For more information, contact:*  
Liz Wing msebwing@aol.com  
782-7063



### AAUW in Action

*Next Meeting:* Saturday, October 11  
Right after the general meeting at Viterbo

Some plans for the upcoming year:

*-We'll only be doing one collection this year--*please bring holiday cards, gift wrap and calendars to the October and November general meetings. These items will be donated to YWCA and other local organizations serving women. Of course, toiletries such as shampoo, toothpaste and feminine hygiene products are always welcome!

*- 25 Books for 25 Years:* we've greatly appreciated your support for this program the last 2 years but decided that we'd find other ways to celebrate Women's History Month this year. Look for an exciting display in the window of Pearl Street Books in March! And Lois Gilbert will again contribute daily bits of women's history in the March issues of the La Crosse Tribune.

*- International Women's Day Program:* our panel of 4 culturally different women last year was so inspiring that we've decided to do it again. More info to follow but save Thurs, March 6, 5:30-7pm for this presentaion.

*-But wait...there's more!* We have more activities & ideas. Please come to a meeting or watch this space to see what's happening and feel free to jump in!

New members are always welcome.

## Scholarship Committee

By Robert Richardson, Co-Chair

The entire scholarship committee will meet at **9am on November 9 in Room 103 at the School of Nursing** on the Viterbo campus. We will meet just prior to the November branch meeting. Please mark your calendars.



Any AAUW member wanting to join this committee, please let either Robert or Sharon De Cicco know.

## ARE YOU READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Come share the morning with Susan Schmidt retired teacher, humanitarian, and philanthropist speaking on the topic...

### ***THE POWER OF ONE! YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!***

You are invited to attend a special presentation by Susan Schmidt, retired Onalaska educator, who will discuss how each one of us can change the lives of others, one woman at a time! Learn how you can be empowered and empower others to pay it forward! Susan has been inspired by La Crosse's own June Kjome, and been very involved in Habitat for Humanity both locally and overseas.

Saturday October 19, 2013  
10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.  
Irving Pertzsch School  
Community Room (Door B)  
524 Main Street  
Onalaska, WI

Parking in the First Lutheran Church parking lot.



## Public Policy

From [aauw.org](http://aauw.org)

### New Wage Gap Numbers Aren't So New

September 17, 2013

Today the U.S. Census Bureau released the 2012 gender wage gap numbers. And guess what? The wage gap still stands at 23 cents. That means a woman working full time, year-round still typically takes home 77 cents for every dollar a man takes home. The gap is even worse for women of color. Since 2002, the gap has stubbornly hovered right around 23 cents.

When you account for all measurable decisions that might influence a person's paycheck — college, major, occupation, industry, work hours, you name it — the wage gap is still there.

We should know. Last year, we did a study that looked at the earnings of women and men just one year out of college, a time when few women or men are making choices about having children, taking care of elderly parents, or working fewer hours. The report found that women are paid an unexplained 6.6 percent less than men doing the exact same work.

If you do the math, you'll find that 6.6 percent of an average man's earnings one year out of college comes to just over \$2,800. That amount of money could buy you:

- Nearly a year's worth of groceries
- More than 750 gallons of gas
- 1,400 tall Starbucks coffees

Whether they are one year out of college or 40 years in the workplace, women can work as hard as they want. The research shows they are still likely to be paid less just because they're women.

Of course, there is something we can do about the wage gap. For two years, the U.S. Department of Labor has been saying it will develop a new tool to collect information on salaries, wages, and other benefits for employees of federal contractors. This tool is essential to giving workers and employers the information they need to end pay discrimination, and it will give the Department of Labor the information it needs to make sure companies that are receiving our tax dollars are following the law. Urge the Department of Labor to speed up its work on this data collection tool today!

*From the Treasurer*  
Michele Strange

**Financial Report as of  
September 20, 2013**

Checking Account .....\$ 11,661.57

CD's

none at this time

Scholarship Bridge .....\$572.02

**More from the  
Treasurer...**

\$  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PAY YOUR  
DUES**

Please remember that now is the time for renewing your AAUW dues.

Dues are \$70; of which \$46 is tax deductible.

Please either give it to me at the general meeting on Oct. 12th or mail it to me at:

Michele Strange, Finance VP  
2442 Redwing Rd.  
La Crosse, WI 54601

**AAUW News**

***Teachers: Register for AAUW's Gender Studies Symposium***

Our Crossing the Line research report shows that teaching gender studies in high school can reduce the incidence of sexual harassment. But teachers who currently do so are operating in a vacuum and need a network to exchange best practices. And those who want to teach gender studies need information on how to introduce this game-changing topic into their curriculum. Join us in St. Louis on October 26 as we bring together educators, administrators, and resource providers to discuss how we can create classrooms of justice.

***Sign Up for the AAUW Effect: India***

Do not miss this opportunity to travel to India with AAUW November 2–16. You will volunteer in New Delhi and meet



AAUW fellows and grantees to learn about the difference they have made in their country, thanks to your philanthropy. This is a travel and learn program where you will leave with a deeper understanding of women's issues in India. If you want to experience AAUW's international efforts at first hand and immerse yourself in a new culture, this trip is for you. Trips run either one or two weeks, November 2–16, 2013. For more information, go to <http://www.crossculturalsolutions.org/discover-what-you-can-do/volunteer-india-aauw-and-ccs?s=aauw>.

***Hone Your Advocacy Skills with New How-Tos***

Interested in enhancing your advocacy skills? AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations Department has compiled resources just for you! Find out more by checking out our new how-tos, which provide a variety of tactics and actions to make you a more effective advocate for women and girls. Get the scoop at: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/advocacy-how-tos-guides/>

***Speaking Out for Family Issues in Wisconsin***

AAUW Vice President of Government Relations Lisa Maatz recently traveled to Madison, Wisconsin, to speak about the need for pay equity and paid family leave at the Fighting Bob Fest. She also met with members in Milwaukee and Madison about recent updates from Capitol Hill. Sign up for the Action Network to learn more about AAUW's advocacy efforts.

***Need Funding for Grad School or a Community Project?***



This year, AAUW is awarding \$3.7 million in fellowships for graduate students and grants for grassroots projects. Spread the word to women in your community, and let them know that they could be eligible for funding. Applications, deadlines, and eligibility info are now online for 2014–15 at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/>



**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 Editor** .....Erica 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? LET US KNOW AT:**

**[aauwlacrosse@hotmail.com](mailto:aauwlacrosse@hotmail.com)**