

## September Meeting:

# Poverty and Women in Wisconsin

**Presenter: Dr. Pat Markos**

*Director of the Institute for Professional Studies in Education at UW-La Crosse; AAUW - La Crosse branch member*

**When:** Saturday, Sept. 15 2012

**Where:** Ward Room, Cartwright Center, UW-L

**Breakfast Cost:** \$10.00

**Menu:** Fruit, breads and scones, scrambled eggs, bacon, coffee & juice.

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, Sept. 12, 2012.*

This program will explore the demographic and prevalence data for women living in poverty and homelessness in Wisconsin. Additionally, Dr. Markos will talk about the effects of poverty and homelessness on women and will

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# The Current

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## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

# New Beginnings

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

As we say good bye to summer vacations and the extreme hot weather, we look forward to a new year of activities for our branch. But before we move ahead, I want to acknowledge that once again, the efforts of many members contributed to a successful Art Fair on the Green. Headed by Pat Staube, the committee put in hours of work to ensure everything ran smoothly. Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted. See Pat's report in this issue for more details.



Marla French and Pat Markos, Program VP's, have worked to put together a list of programs for the coming year and we anticipate another year of interesting and informative speakers.

Robert Richardson has taken on the task of compiling the new directory which should be available for the

Sept 15th meeting. Thanks, Robert, for volunteering for this project.

Finance VP, Michele Strange, with assistance from Marilyn Hempstead, Membership VP, has been collecting membership dues over the summer as well as chairing the Budget Committee to present the 2012/2013 budget at the Sept 10th Board meeting.

I hope to see you at our first general meeting which is the

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## Next Board Meeting

**Monday, September 10th 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 [cfrobertson@charter.net](mailto:cfrobertson@charter.net) to place items on the agenda

Get all the CURRENT news at our website: [www.aauw-wi.org/lacrosse](http://www.aauw-wi.org/lacrosse)

## New Beginnings *(continued from pg. 1)*

third Saturday of September. The meeting date was changed to the 15th so as not to interfere with Steppin' Out in Pink scheduled for Sept 8th. Be sure to check out the details for the meeting elsewhere in this issue.

As I transition into my new role as President, I am grateful for all the work that so many of you do to ensure that AAUW, La Crosse, continues to be a vital part of our community. I look forward to serving with all of our members as we work to further AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

## 2012-2013 La Crosse Board

### *Elected Officers:*

President.....	Carol Robertson	cfrobertson@charter.net
President Elect	open	
VP Membership	Marilyn Hempstead	marizah@yahoo.com
VP Finance	Michele Strange	strange.mich@uwlax.edu
Co-VP Programs	Pat Markos	markos.pat@uwlax.edu
	Marla French	mfrench000@centurytel.net
Secretary	Jean Petrie	petri@westerntc.edu

### *Appointed Board:*

Co-Scholarship Chair	Robert Richardson	rlkrichardson@hotmail.com
	Sharon De Cicco	sharon.decicco@gmail.com
Publicity	Linda Eppelheimer	eppel@charter.net
Public Policy	Carlene Roberts	camcar5@earthlink.net
LAF	Bev Bodine	bevbodine@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Mary Hall	mhm548@charter.net
Historiam	Marilyn Hempstead	marizah@yahoo.com
By Laws	Dottie Kruse	dottie.kruse@gmail.com
Named Grant	Katie Webster	skwebster@centurytel.net
College/University Relations:		
UWL	Pat Markos	markos.pat@uwlax.edu
Viterbo	Silvana Richardson	sfrichardson@viterbo.edu
WTC	Jean Petri	petri@westerntc.edu
Newsletter	Erica Koonmen	moogs56@hotmail.com
Diversity	Sarah Koehler	koehler_sarah@yahoo.com
Callers	Sarah Stuber	sjz212@charter.net
Webminder	open	

### *Project Coordinators:*

Art Fair on the Green	Pat Staube	pstaube@centurytel.net
Directory	Robert Richardson	rlkrichardson@hotmail.com
Schoarship Bridge	Sharon De Cicco	sharon.decicco@gmail.com

## September Meeting *(cont.)*

talk about what can be done to help these women be successful.

Dr. Markos is the Director of the Institute for Professional Studies in Education at UW-La Crosse.

She graduated from UW-La Crosse with a B.S. degree in Recreation Leadership and received her M.S.,



and Ph.D., from UW-Madison in the Department of Studies in Behavioral Disabilities. She is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. Dr. Markos' research has focused heavily on the area of homelessness with the mission "to advance significant scholarship through the ongoing development of an applied research program..." Her other special areas of focus include: Professional Learning Communities, RTI, addictions and mental health, and best practices in education. Dr. Markos has been awarded over \$1 million in grants for her research in the area of homelessness and has received numerous university awards for her distinguished teaching and advising.

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

WHAT:  
WINE-TASTING /APPETIZERS

WHEN: Tuesday, Sept. 11th  
**NOTE DATE CHANGE!!**

WHERE: JAVA VINO  
*1505 Losey Blvd. South Village  
Shopping Center*

TIME: 6 P.M.

COST: \$20 This includes sampling several wines which will be paired with appropriate appetizers. You will receive \$10 towards a purchase of wine.

CONTACT: PAT STAUPE: pstaupe@centurytel.net or 788-7439 for reservations or more information



### Contemporary Authors

Our next book will be:  
**Major Pettigrew's Last Stand**  
by Helen Simonson



*Next Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 18, 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, October 4th  
6:00 pm, River Place Apts, 1 River Place Dr.*

AAUW in Action is a study group that serves as a springboard for community service activities for our branch that promote AAUW's mission. Last year, we were active with YWCA's Transitional Housing Program, organized a Cyberbullying awareness evening for the community, presented women's history programs to several groups and celebrated Women's History Month with 25 Books for 25 Years. We also did monthly collections at the general meetings to benefit various organizations in our community. One of our members wrote a daily item for the La Crosse Tribune during Women's History Month. We also designed, printed and delivered bookmarks about bullying to school systems in La Crosse, Onalaska and Sparta. We like to stay busy!

Our meeting on Oct. 4th will be a planning meeting for programs and projects for this year. This is your opportunity to be involved with a local organization or community cause; come help us find meaningful activities to promote AAUW's mission and the La Crosse branch.

*Please consider joining us!*

*Questions? Contact Erica at moogs56@hotmail.com or*

*608-366-1509*

# Art Fair on the Green

by Pat Staupe, Chair



Another art fair has come and gone.....and once again it appears that it was a big success. Several of our long-time artists said they felt that this was our best art fair ever due to the high quality of our artists.

A complete report will not be available for some time because we don't have all of the bills yet. The attendance was extremely good on Saturday but the light rain took a toll on the Sunday crowd. Overall, the attendance was just slightly down from last year.

Thank you to the committee who put in so many hours of service to make the art fair a success. And, thank you to Sharon De Cicco and Marcia Wine for filling in for two committee members who had other commitments that weekend. Thank you to all who sold tickets, worked at the concession stand or worked at the raffle.

The donations for artist awards, scholarships and purchase awards were very good again this year. Thank you for your generosity!

*From Marla French, Art Fair Volunteer Coordinator:* Special thanks to the many members, friends, and spouses who volunteered in any capacity. Without you, this event couldn't happen. It was especially rewarding to have so many of our scholarship winners taking part--several of whom brought additional volunteers.

## AAUW Member Benefits

How Many AAUW Member Benefits Have You Used?

Your AAUW membership comes with access to discounted goods and services! Visit Member Benefits today, and make sure you keep checking back.

Next month we'll be announcing a prescription discount card, home and auto insurance, a shopping portal for women-owned businesses, and more! Plus, every time you use one of these benefits, you are supporting AAUW's mission!

# Public Policy

By Carlene Roberts, Chair

## Voter Education Highlights from AAUW National

### ERA -

The Equal Rights Amendment is expected to be included in the 2012 Democratic National Platform. The ERA was proposed in 1923 and passed in 1972, but the timeframe for ratification by the required 38 states expired. AAUW supports passage and ratification of the ERA, which was one of our top Public Policy priorities in the 1970's.

### Social Security -

AAUW believes Social Security is of particular importance for the economic security of women. The National Academy of Social Insurance has produced a 4 minute video, available at [www.nasi.org](http://www.nasi.org).

### Abortion -

The GOP platform contains no exceptions for abortion in cases of rape. AAUW supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services. AAUW trusts that every woman has the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own moral and religious beliefs. AAUW believes that these deeply personal decisions should be made without governmental interference.

### LGBT Rights -

The Democratic Party platform includes lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights positions, including marriage equality and employment non-discrimination. AAUW strongly supports civil rights, liberties and equality for all citizens.



*From the Treasurer  
Michele Strange*

## Financial Report as of August 29, 2012

Checking Account .....\$11,369.99

### CD's

matures May 2012 ..... \$ 5,133.01

Scholarship Bridge.....\$ 992.77

## AAUW's 130th Anniversary

Graduate students can join at the special 130th Anniversary rate for just \$18.81 through June 30, 2013.

With more than \$4 million in fellowships and grants awarded annually, a variety of member discounts, and a nationwide network of more than 150,000 members and supporters, AAUW provides opportunities that graduate students can't afford to miss!

## Scholarship Committee

*by Robert Richardson, Co-Chair*



The Committee thanks all of the AAUW members (and affiliates) who worked on the Art Fair this year and any other year.

Because of the efforts of many dedicated individual volunteers and a highly effective leadership team, AAUW can award significant-value scholarships and awards.

Our recipients sincerely appreciate the support we offer them - both financially and interpersonally.

The Scholarship Committee works throughout the year and welcomes new committee members; we have enough work for all members to participate meaningfully.

If you would like to join this committee, please contact one of the co-chairs: Sharon De Cicco or Robert Richardson.

## Membership News

*by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership*

As we start our new branch year, one of our members started a new position. Sarah Koehler was hired in August as the Spanish language interpreter at Mayo Health Care Center in Sparta.

***Congratulations Sarah!***



And as your new membership chair, I look forward to sharing pertinent member news throughout the year.



## One Member, One Vote

One Member, One Vote Site Is Open for Business...

AAUW business, that is! Now through November 15, all members can help shape AAUW's future by proposing and commenting on bylaws amendments and resolutions through the One Member, One Vote website.

The AAUW Public Policy Program will be posted for comment in October. In the spring, members will vote on the proposed changes and for officers for the national AAUW Board of Directors.



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 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?**

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.

