

55th AAUW Art Fair on the Green

by Pat Staupe, Chair

Our AAUW Art Fair on the Green is about a month away; committee members are busy taking care of the details. We've had a good response in filling the work slots for working at the raffle, selling tickets and concessions. It takes many people to make this event run smoothly so please call Marla French to volunteer if you haven't been contacted.

Thank you to George Kruck and Lori Kaufmann for volunteering to handle Hospitality this year. They will be serving coffee and muffins to the artists Saturday morning. Also, thank you to George for purchasing coffee from one of our vendors for all of the artists!

Watch for the art fair advertisement on Ch. 8. This is new and exciting! Betty Kruck and Carol Robertson are securing sponsors to help with the cost. The ad will run 20 times on Ch. 8 during the news throughout the day and evening the week preceding the art fair. It will also run 20 times on My Network, from noon until midnight during that week.

Our art fair is our main source of income to support the scholarships we give each year. We have been fortunate in being able to attract many wonderful artists. This event is a great place to find that unusual gift as well as buying artwork for your own enjoyment.

*Let's make this our best
art fair ever!*



The Current

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Thank You!

by Carol Robertson, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

Sitting down to write this, I checked the results of the election at the AAUW Convention in New Orleans for Board of Directors. Our own Pam Thiel has been elected to the Board of Directors! Congratulations to her; she will be a valuable asset on the Board. Thank you to all of you who took the time to vote for her. We look forward to hearing from her about the convention and the plans for the coming year for national.

We concluded our regular meetings with a wonderful Scholarship Brunch. Congratulations to all the deserving recipients. It was heartwarming to hear their stories (must remember Kleenex)! Thanks to the Scholarship Committee for their fine work, especially Robert Richardson and Sharon DeCicco, co-chairs. Your commitment to this effort is greatly appreciated. We look forward to some of our recipients volunteering at this year's Art Fair on the Green.

Speaking of the art fair, we now turn our efforts to ensuring that we will continue to award this number of scholarships. In this edition of *The Current* are various ways you can contribute to the success of the art fair. Contact Marla French, volunteer

coordinator, and let her know what you can do.

Betty Kruck and I attended the WI State Convention of AAUW April 27-28 in Racine. We heard from a lawyer and plaintiff in the Wal-Mart pay discrimination suit, saw "The Invisible War" (Oscar nominated documentary on sexual assault in the military – see it on PBS), shared our Branch successes, participated in workshops, and saw a presentation by a local actress portraying a runaway slave who traveled the underground railroad through WI. We shared our hosting of the \$tart \$mart pay negotiations workshop. Other branches had questions on how to host; it was good to hear that branches are encouraged to use this as a tool to address pay equity.

By the time you read this, the Board will have conducted its final meeting on June 13th. I thank the members of the board, both new and old, for their willingness to serve. We could not accomplish all we do without the efforts of all of you.

**See you at Art Fair on the Green,
July 27 & 28!**

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

Membership News

by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership

We welcome two more new members who have joined as a result of our Women's History Month and scholarship programs.

Diana Moran Thundercloud
357 Lower Lake Dr.
Merrillan, WI 54754
608 547 0038; moran.diana46@yahoo.com
MS UW-Madison, Multicultural/Bilingual Education 1995
Diana was on the panel at our International Women's Day program in March.

Andrea Hansen
609 W Main St.
Sparta, WI 54636
608 487 5571; ahansen@uwlax.edu
MS Iowa State University Sociology 1986
Andrea is the director of the UW-L Self Sufficiency Program, which we support with scholarship dollars.

UW-L senior Karin Johnson, who was sponsored by our branch to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders in May, has joined AAUW as a student e-member. She is now a branch honorary member.

Art Fair Grounds Help Needed

By Carlene Roberts, Grounds Co-Chair

Spring is in the air, summer isn't far off, and the Art Fair is fast approaching. Alice Ross and I are in charge of Grounds, which means:

- 1-set up on Fri. morning
- 2-closing fences at the end of Fri. and Sat.
- 3-opening restrooms each morning
- 4-helping artists & food vendors with their grounds questions/needs Fri.- Sun.
- 5-collecting garbage at the end of the day on Sat.
- 6-and take down at the end of the fair on Sunday.

We 2 cannot accomplish all this - especially set up and take down - by ourselves. In the past we have had a wonderful crew of volunteers, with many hands making light work.

Set up involves measuring and staking out artist spaces, placing tables and chairs where needed, putting up the AAUW tents and placing signs around the neighborhood.

We can use 10-15 people on Friday morning. Take down is the reverse-without measuring artist spaces - so 8-10 people is plenty.

Are any of you available Friday the 26th between 8 and 11 a.m.? Or Sunday the 28th from 4 to 5 or 6 p.m.? Spouses, teen or young adult children, and friends have been a great addition in the past. I look forward to hearing from each of you so we can build our teams.

Carlene Roberts, Grounds co-chair 608-788-0868 or camcar876@gmail.com

Art Fair Awards

by Jan Eriksen

The letter and form regarding contributions to the 55th Art Fair on the Green have been sent to all members via email. The categories for fund raising are the same as last year: Purchase Awards, Artists' Awards, Scholarship Fund, and Gift Certificates. Contributions to the Scholarship Fund are tax exempt and new this year: donations to the Artists' Awards fund are also tax exempt. Checks for Artists' Awards, Purchase Awards, and Gift Certificates should be made payable to *AAUW Art Fair on the Green*. A check to the Scholarship Fund should be written to the *La Crosse Community Foundation*, with the notation "for AAUW Scholarships." If you are making contributions to scholarships as well as to another fund, please write two separate checks. Please contact Jan Eriksen for more information: jpriksen@viterbo.edu

From the Treasurer Michele Strange

Financial Report as of June 19, 2013

Checking Account\$15,951.51

CD's

none at this time

Scholarship Bridge\$364.02

2013 AAUW ART FAIR ON THE GREEN INFORMATION



Concessions: by Betty Kruck

Our AAUW branch will sell water and soda at the art fair again this summer. Any donations of water and soda will add to our art fair profits. Please contact Michele Strange or Betty Kruck if you have beverages to donate. We particularly need bottled water, diet and regular coke and diet pepsi. While at the fair, please check out the special AAUW can cozies our branch will have for sale.

We will have a number of outside food vendors at the fair. That Salad Place will sell sandwiches, wraps and salads. Cabin Coffee will have coffee, iced and hot tea and their own roasted packaged coffee. Crepes JeanLuc will sell pastries on Saturday and a variety of crepes on Sunday. The Little Shop of Cheesecakes will be back selling fresh squeezed lemonade and frozen cheesecake on a stick. Cowboy Kettle Korn will also return with his kettlekorn.

Volunteers: by Marla French

If you haven't yet emailed me or called to volunteer at the Art Fair on the Green, please do so as soon as possible. I'd so much rather hear from you first, rather than have to call and beg people to work. There are approximately 70 positions to fill, from set up to take down, with ticket sellers, concession workers, raffle booth workers and booth sitters. Many of you work in several positions, as well as volunteering your husbands and daughters. That's so helpful, but I need to hear from you soon.

If you are able to help this year, please call or email Marla French. (782-6589 or mfrench000@centurytel.net). Help is needed as early as Friday, July 26th for set up and as late as 4:00 P.M. when the fair closes at on Sunday and until the final trash bag is carried away and the tents are packed up. In between are shifts of sellers in the different areas.

These are generally 2 1/2 to 3 hours .

DATES: JULY 27-28, 2013

Public Policy

By Carlene Roberts, Chair

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Congress is once again trying to reauthorize the federal law governing public education - BUT if we don't speak up it may not get done right. After 2 years of waivers for the 'No Child Left Behind Act', 37 states have agreed to the president's plan for education for their states, but this is not a long term solution. Unfortunately the House Education and Workforce Committee approved a bill that is wrong in so many ways:

- eliminates federal enforcement of narrowing the achievement gap
- gives a free pass to states to define their own standards, assessment and accountability systems
- freezes funding levels for K-12 public education
- ignores the need for comprehensive bullying and harassment policies in public schools
- fails to provide adequate protections for students' civil rights.

In addition, as we have seen in Wisconsin, some members of Congress have vowed to add amendments to divert funds to private and religious schools through voucher plans.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act, ESEA (H.R. bill 5) now heads to the full House floor. On June 20th the AAUW Lobby Corp visited the House, telling our representatives that our kids deserve a better bill. WE NEED TO DO THE SAME. Contact Rep. Ron Kind to support a better ESEA - 202-225-5506 or 608-782-2558 or 205 5th Ave. SO., Suite 400, LaCrosse, 54601 or 1406 Longworth HOB, Washington D.C. 20515.

Wisconsin State Budget and Wisconsin Women

Watch for release this fall of a report outlining how the final WI State Budget will impact women and girls. Included in the assessment will be stories from WI women on the effects on their health, safety and economic security.

June 10th was the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act. Through AAUW, as well as our votes, we can continue to work for the day when equal pay is a reality.



Karin Johnson (2nd from right) with former Secretary of Human Services Donna Shalala (center) and other attendees at the 2013 NCCSW in College Park, Maryland

National Conference for College Student Women Report

by Karin Johnson, UW-L Student attendee

I am beyond grateful for the support that AAUW—Wisconsin and the AAUW—La Crosse Branch provided me to attend the National Conference for College Student Women leaders in College Park, Maryland May 30th-June 1st. I had the opportunity to connect with my female peers from across the country to follow the conference's theme to "Find our Voices."

The whole trip was fantastic but I'd like to share a few highlights. Because of the financial support I received from AAUW, I was able to attend the Women on Capitol Hill pre-conference. Not only did I get to tour the capital and spend the morning in Washington, D.C. (one of my favorite places!), but I also learned from a panel of women who work on the hill. As a woman who holds office and is passionate about women's involvement in public office and politics,

it was empowering to hear the voices of women who shape today's national policies.

I am a political and public policy geek, so one event excited me more than anything on the whole trip—I got to meet former Secretary of Human Services Donna Shalala! We have talked about Donna Shalala in a few of my classes as a woman who aims high, achieves momentarily, and encourages others to do the same. Because of her role as previous Chancellor of UW-Madison she was impressed when we introduced ourselves as Wisconsinites. I have attached a picture of some fellow Wisconsin women I met at NCCSWL with Donna Shalala and me.

Thank you so much for the financial support to attend this conference and for all the hard work each of you puts in to creating these opportunities for women like me.



Jennifer Williams Terpstra:
Transcendence/Immanence: New encaustic paintings
University Art Gallery, Center for the Arts
June 28–Sept. 14

Hours:

- Noon-4 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays through Aug. 21
- Special hours during prior to and during these summer events:

June 27-30 and July 5-7 Summerstage

July 27-28 Art Fair on the Green

Aug. 23-25 Great River Folk Fest

Admission: Free

Special closing reception: 4-6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, with piano music by Daren Williams



American Association of University Women

La Crosse Branch

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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.

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Please send all content for *The Current* to Erica by the 20th of the month.

PROBLEMS RECEIVING THE CURRENT? LET US KNOW AT:

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