



American Association of University Women
 La Crosse Branch
 P.O. BOX 2112 • LA CROSSE, WI 54602-2112

April Meeting:

**La Crosse
 Community
 Theater Tour
 &
 Election and Installation of
 Officers**

Presenter: David Kilpatrick

When: Saturday, April 13, 2013

Where: La Crosse Community Theater, 428 Front Street South; classroom on the second floor. *Street parking is available near the theater, as well as the parking ramp about a block away.*

Breakfast Cost: \$6.00

Menu: *assorted muffins, bagels, and scones, coffee and tea.*

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 or 782-6589 by noon on Wed., Apr 10, 2013.

There will be a short business meeting with election and installation of officers. After the meeting, we will be given a tour of the new theater by Executive Director David Kilpatrick.

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The Current

a publication of the La Crosse, WI AAUW Branch

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APRIL 2013



**PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:
 Change of Seasons**

by Carol Robertson, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

Hopefully by the time you read this, we will be enjoying some spring weather rather than fighting snow and wind chills. Once again we look forward to enjoying the beauty of spring flowers and trees and spending more time outdoors. Of course, true to human nature, we'll be wondering how hot it will be for the Art Fair and wishing we had some of this cold (well, maybe cool) weather back to offset the heat and humidity. The weather doesn't stop our Branch from accomplishing the various projects and activities that we sponsor. In April, as we observe Equal Pay Day, our Branch along with several other groups, will be sponsoring \$mart \$tart Workshop. This workshop is targeted for juniors and seniors in college as they start their careers and is intended to help women negotiate for their starting salaries. The workshop will be held on the UW-L campus, April 6. Details are covered in a separate article in this issue.

For our general meeting this month, we will have the opportunity to tour the new Weber Performing Arts Center which is the new home of the La Crosse Community Theater. We are reminded of the contributions women have made and continue to make in the field of arts and literature. At this meeting, we will hold our annual business meeting to elect officers for the coming year. In order to devote the time in our Scholarship Brunch entirely to our recipients,

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Next Board Meeting

Monday, April 8th, 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 to place items on the agenda

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

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 EditorErica 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

Change of Seasons... (continued from pg. 1)

we will also install the new executive board at the April meeting. Check the report of the Nominating Committee in this *The Current* for those members who have been nominated to fill officer positions. Thanks go to Pat Markos, outgoing Program Co-VP, for her work over the past two years. We appreciate her time and efforts in providing us with quality programs.

The Scholarship Committee is hard at work reading applications and selecting recipients for the awards to be given at our annual Scholarship Brunch, Saturday, May 4. We look forward to meeting the worthy selectees. Consider supporting the attendees by paying the cost of the brunch for them. The Branch pays for the recipient and her/his guest.

As we look forward to the change of seasons, we also look forward to our continuing activities, not only the ones I have highlighted but all the others listed throughout the newsletter. Take a look for details.

Membership News

by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership

March was the second general meeting in a row where we welcomed a new member to add to your directory:

June Reinert
2215 Mississippi St.
La Crosse, WI 54601
608-782-1351
reinert.june@uwlax.edu
Bowling Green State University, M.Ed. in Special Education, 1969



We are glad to have June join us and thank Michele Strange for introducing her to the branch.

As graduation time is fast approaching, there is a great way to introduce new grads to AAUW. National has an innovative program called "Give a Grad A Gift." Anyone who has earned an associate, bachelor or doctorate degree within the last year may receive a one-year \$49.00 national membership for free if invited by an AAUW member.

For 2013/14 Betty Kruck and I have invited Susan Fabian who graduated in December, 2012, and was a scholarship and a grant recipient from our branch. Let me know if you have a grad in mind and I will fill out the application form. The graduate will have only to pay the state dues of \$13.00 and branch dues of \$8.00. It's a great bargain!

There are directories left over for this year. I'll bring some to the April meeting so if the dog ate yours or it had coffee spilled on it, you can pick up a replacement.

April Meeting (cont.)

La Crosse Community Theatre has been a La Crosse tradition since 1963. They produce seven shows during their September through June season, including dramas, comedies and children's performances.



David comes to La Crosse with a wealth of professional and community theatre experience from

around the country. As a theatre administrator, he has served as executive director, production manager, and box office supervisor. On the production side of theatre, David has directed, designed, performed and stage managed. Within the entertainment industry, David has worked for cruise ships, theme parks, a magician, and ticketing software companies. David's most recent project was a study of the audience's perspective on 'preparing for the theatre experience.' This research project completed his dissertation and Ph.D. in theatre from the University of Missouri-Columbia. David has a wife and 10-year old daughter who are huge fans of theatre.



From the Treasurer Michele Strange

Financial Report as of January 20, 2013

Checking Account\$ 12,663.14

CD's

none at this time

Scholarship Bridge\$324.02

Dues Reminder

Please note that you may now begin renewing your AAUW membership for next year (2013-14). Deadline for membership dues is June 30, 2013.

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

More information of dues breakdown can be found on the attached renewal form. Please print out the attached form and submit it to me before June 30th. If you are unable to return it at either the April or May meetings, my mailing address is below:

Michele Strange
2442 Redwing Rd.
La Crosse, WI 54601

AAUW WI State Convention



AAUW WI State Convention will be held **April 26 & 27, 2013, in Racine**. Friday night events will include the screening of the film "The Invisible War" - Oscar nominated documentary on sexual assaults in the military. Speakers for Friday and Saturday include one of the plaintiffs from *Dukes v Wal-Mart* and an AAUW Senior Researcher on "Graduating to a Pay Gap". Betty Kruck, Pam Thiel, and Carol Robertson will be attending.

New AAUW Logo

February 20, 2013, AAUW released a redesigned logo with a descriptive tagline that reflects the vibrancy of AAUW today. It is our first new logo in more than 20 years. These changes, which also include an updated tagline and a fresh color palette, are designed to place AAUW on the cutting edge of digital communications and appeal to a broad audience while honoring our outstanding history.

It's easier than ever to use the new website; the website's redesign allows for complete mobile access and should make the site more user friendly, provide a better experience for smartphone and tablet users, and create greater visibility for AAUW.



Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Community Days

By Bev Bodine, Chair

Thanks to everyone who participated in Community Days this year with a contribution and/or selling coupon booklets in-store. Final numbers are not yet available as we are awaiting the bonus check from Herberger's. That check will likely be around \$200. The amount we have received from sales is \$690. I will give a final accounting next month. Those who sold booklets in the store are Cindy Waltershausen, Marian Schiesser, Carol Robertson and Bev Bodine.

We are in the process of re-evaluating whether or not to continue with the Herberger's coupon booklets as our LAF fundraiser. Your opinion would be appreciated along with any other ideas you might have for fundraising projects. Please talk to me or any of the Board Members with your thoughts.

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

Join us for a "Think Spring Salad" event.

When: Wednesday, April 17th at 6:00 pm

Where: Sarah Stuber's home -
934 Milson Ct., LaCrosse.

RSVP by April 15th:

Sarah Stuber @ sjz212@charter.net or: 784-9310 or
Jane Wernecke @ ajja701@triwest.net or: 534-6330.

You will be creating your own salad that evening from a variety of ingredients. When you let us know you are coming, we will provide a list of items and you can choose a couple you would be willing to bring. (Beverages, bread and dessert will be provided.)



Also, please bring copies of your favorite salad or homemade dressing recipe to share.

Come celebrate Spring with us!!

AAUW in Action

*Next Meeting: Thursday, April 25, 2013
6:00 pm, River Place Apts, 1 River Place Dr.*

- **25 Books for 25 Years.** This program celebrates the designation of the month of March as Women's History Month. Booklists will be found at our website (www.aauwlacrosse.org) and at Pearl St Books. The program runs through March 31, 2013. *Please help us get the word out as more purchases are needed!* You're invited to a reception to present the books to local organizations on **Monday, April 1, 4:30pm, Pearl St. Books.**

- **A Celebration of International Women: 4 Cultural Viewpoints.** This one time event on March 7th featured women from 4 cultures speaking about their experiences as women in their culture and future opportunities. It was co-sponsored by UWL's WGSS, YWCA, LWV, UWL OIS and UWL's History Dept. It was a well attended and inspirational evening!

- **Start Smart: Salary Negotiation Skills Workshop**
Saturday, April 6; 10am-1pm.
UWL 3212 Centennial Hall.

This workshop is an exciting opportunity for women-identified juniors, seniors and graduate students to learn salary negotiation skills. It is co-sponsored by UWL's WGSS, YWCA, UWL's WSSA, UWL's ALANA and UWL's Career Services Office.

2013 AAUW ART FAIR ON THE GREEN

By Pat Staupé, Chair



DATES: JULY 27-28, 2013

Our art fair is only 4 months away! Do you have it marked on your calendar? We will need many volunteers to make it a success.

The deadline for new artist to apply is March 31. Jury Day will be held on April 12. Our committee will be meeting on April 15. We will be discussing possible changes with hospitality and concessions. We are always looking for new vendors that will appeal to the public and to the artists.

You will be receiving a letter later this spring regarding donations to the art fair prize money and for scholarships. Money donated to either of these causes is tax deductible. Your financial support is very much appreciated.

Many of you may be invited to bridal showers and weddings this summer. Remember that the art fair is a great place to shop for unique, one-of-a-kind gifts..... plus you will be helping a deserving artist.

Nominating Committee

by Carol Robertson

The Nominating Committee is happy to announce the slate for the Executive Board:

President: Carol Robertson (returning)

President Elect: Open

Member VP: Marilyn Hempstead (returning)

Finance VP: Michele Strange (nominated for another 2 year term)

Program VP's: Marla French (returning)
Carol Taebel (nominated for 2 year term)

Secretary: Jean Petri (returning)

We will vote on the two positions to be filled at the April general meeting & additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. After the election, installation of officers will be held. Pam Thiel has consented to lead the installation. Thank you, Pam.

Thank you to the members of the Nominating Committee: Sharon DeCicco and Jan Eriksen.

Public Policy

By Carlene Roberts, Chair

Marcy Leverenz is a member of the AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corp. She is from Arlington, VA, retired and is tutoring at a local elementary school. She has been meeting with members of the U.S. Senate in support of the School Safety and Campus Enhancements Act (S.146). She asks us to contact our Senators and urge them to co-sponsor this bill.

On March 7 Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW Government Relations Manager, represented us at a celebration - the signing ceremony for the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. Pres. Obama spotlighted improvements in the updated bill, championed by AAUW. Three cheers! and let's pat each other on the back!

There have been several victories for women and for education in recent years. Unfortunately, much of the progress is in danger due to the passage on March 21 of the Ryan budget by the House of Representatives. The proposed Senate budget is markedly different, setting up another Fiscal Year 2014 showdown between the 2 chambers. Our input on legislation that matters to us will continue to be critical.

Please read the weekly AAUW Washington Update and use the easy 2 Minute Activist responses provided.



Name Grant Reminder

by Katie Webster

To recognize a member of our La Crosse Branch who has given outstanding service to our organization, please send me your nominations for this honor by April 15, 2013. It would help the committee if you would include information in support of your choice. Thank you for helping us honor our special members!

Katie Webster
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608-788-7232