

NOVEMBER MEETING

Empowering Today's Youth: Preparing for College and Beyond

Presenter: Maggie McHugh,
Teacher/Advisor and students
from the La Crosse Design
Institute, La Crosse School District

When: Saturday, November 10

Where: : UW-L, Centennial Hall,
Room 1300 (Hall of Nations)

Cost: \$12

Menu: Quiche-spinach, ham and
swiss cheese, Veggie Bake (gluten-
free-asparagus, mushroom, green
pepper, tomato, and cheese), Hash
Browns, Assorted fresh bakery-
breakfast breads & muffins (gluten-
free included), Orange juice, Assorted
teas, Regular and Decaf coffee

Registration: 9:30 AM

Breakfast: 10:00 AM

Program: 10:30 AM

Members and guests are welcome
to attend the brunch or just come
for the program. Please indicate
such when you RSVP. For late
reservations or cancellations, please
call Robert Richardson at 788-0595
by NOON on Monday, Nov. 5th.

La Crosse Design Institute (LDI)
advisor, Maggie McHugh, and her
students will explain their project-
based learning charter middle school.
Specifically, the group will share how
these young adolescents are

Continued on Page 2 »

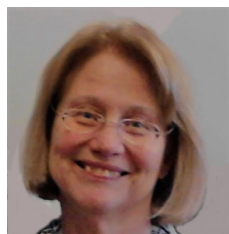


The Current

a publication of the La Crosse, WI AAUW Branch

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NOVEMBER 2018



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE: A Special Thank You and a Busy November

by Jan Eriksen, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

First, I'd like to thank Robert Richardson for his extraordinary work in arranging the bus trip to Chicago to see "Hamilton" on stage. A bus load of AAUW La Crosse members and their friends and families made the trip on October 17. Robert did a fabulous job of purchasing matinee theater tickets, arranging for bus service, and even making dinner reservations for various groups of us in Chicago, all the while keeping us updated and well-informed via E-mail. No detail escaped Robert's notice. It was a long (7:00 a.m. to midnight), but fantastic, day!

Now we're into the busy month of November, with myriad events and celebrations. The first event is the kick-off for the Greater La Crosse Region's Global Initiatives Week (GIW), which will be held Friday, November 2, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., at North

Woods International School, N2541 Sablewood Rd., La Crosse. AAUW will sponsor a booth to illustrate our global interests, such as organizing

International Women's Day and hosting delegations from other nations. In addition, there will be cultural displays, multi-lingual story

time, and other presentations by international students and adults living in our area. The event always features food samples from around the globe. Admission is free. Michele

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NEXT BOARD MEETING

**Monday, November 5, 2018
6:30 pm**

Viterbo University Nursing Building,
Room 502. Meetings are open to any
member who is interested in attending.

Contact Jan at: 787-5946 or
jperiksen@viterbo.edu
to place items on the agenda.

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

Autumn Events and Information ... *(continued from page 1)*

Strange is our AAUW representative on the GIW planning committee.

Then please vote on Tuesday, November 6. You may even have a neighbor, friend, or family member for whom you can provide transportation to the polls.

Thursday, November 8 is the YWCA 2018 Tribute to Outstanding Women, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the La Crosse Center. A table of AAUW members will be there to cheer on our Vice-President for Membership, Marilyn Hempstead, one of the honorees this year. Although Marilyn can't be there in person (she'll be in England!), she is sending a videotape of her acceptance speech to be played that evening. We congratulate Marilyn on her recognition and celebrate her community volunteerism and AAUW service.

Our November 10 AAUW meeting, with Maggie McHugh from the La Crosse Design Institute (LDI), promises to be an interesting one. LDI delivers middle school curriculum through creativity, imagination, and project-based learning. I'm looking forward to learning more about it.

On November 14 at 7:30 a.m. the Self-Sufficiency Program hosts its annual Locally-Grown Scholarship Breakfast in the Granddad Ballroom in UW-L's Student Union. Please see Andrea Hansen's article, on page 3, for more details.

And, lastly, on November 22 Americans will observe the Thanksgiving holiday. I wish you a wonderful day with family and friends. And, if you're leaving town, please travel safely.

Membership News

by Marilyn Hempstead, Chair

Having no one join this month offers an opportunity to thank the many members who have invited guests to our meetings. Even if the guest does not join, it helps to spread the word about our branch and all the contributions we are making to the community.

Also, here is a heartfelt Thank You to the AAUW members who nominated me for YWCA Award! I am stunned, but so grateful to represent our branch as one of the honorees for Outstanding Women of La Crosse event. Enjoy the dinner on November 8th where I will be represented by a video thinking about you from England.



Back row (from left): Kemesha Harper, Theresa Smerud, Aurora Waite, Terri Taylor Johnson, Jessica Skemp. **Front row (from left):** Marilyn Hempstead, Yining Zhou, Karen Dahl, Linda Xiong, Miranda Panzer

NOVEMBER MEETING (continued from Page 1)

becoming prepared to tackle the academic and life skills needed to be successful in college and future careers. By sharing about the design process and providing examples of personalized projects, students will articulate their growth as they manage their own learning. Come prepared with an open mind and willing heart to share your thoughts about this learning experience.

Maggie McHugh of Sparta, a sixth-grade teacher and adviser at the La Crosse Design Institute, was named Wisconsin's 2019 Middle School Teacher of the Year.

McHugh is a board member of Sparta Transitions, a nonprofit that helps Wisconsin Challenge Academy graduates integrate into work, college or the armed forces, serving as a host mom to a Challenge Academy cadet. She serves on the Wisconsin Mathematics Council. She spearheaded the WMC #mathchats, a biweekly Twitter professional learning opportunity for teachers around the country.

McHugh began at the La Crosse Design Institute in 2013. She earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from New Mexico State University. She holds bachelor and master's degrees from UW-La Crosse.



Maggie McHugh

Study Group News

AAUW IN ACTION (AIA)

See this page for meeting info

Contact: Erica Koonmen, 366-1509

HEARTH & HOME

See below for meeting info

Contact: Sharon De Cicco, 788-5356

CONTEMPORARY AUTHORS

3rd Tuesday of the month at 2pm

Contact: Alice Ross, 788-4206

SCHOLARSHIP BRIDGE/CARD GAMES

TBA

Contact: Sharon De Cicco, 788-5356

HEARTH & HOME

Hearth & Home study group meets monthly to explore new ideas, culinary experiences, fun activities and our area through visits to local businesses or in-home happenings.

Next Meeting: Wednesday,
November 14

Time: 5pm at Lost Island Winery:
570 Theater Rd, Onalaska
followed by dinner at Ciatti's:
2846 Midwest Dr, Onalaska

Cost: \$5 for wine tasting; dinner
on your own.



Please RSVP to Sharon: 788-5356 or JoAnne: 782-1975 by November 9th.

Our Dec. Meeting is on Wed. the 19th. It will be our dinner with chef Shawn McManus. The venue has changed so more people can attend. It starts with appetizers at 6pm followed by a gourmet dinner prepared while you watch. More specifics to follow in the December issue of *The Current*.

If you are interested in planning a program for the group or if you would like to head it up, please contact Sharon at 788-5356 or sharon.decicco@gmail.com.

AAUW IN ACTION

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

If you are interested in joining us for a meeting, or just knowing what we're planning, please ask to be on our email list by sending an email to Erica at moogs56@hotmail.com

Next meeting: November email meeting. Agenda will be sent out on Nov. 8th with responses appreciated by Nov. 9th.

At the December 8th general meeting we will be collecting holiday gift wrap, bows, cards and calendars so please save the freebies you get in the mail or bring your extra ones.

These items will be donated to YWCA, New Horizons and Brighter Tomorrows.



SSP Breakfast: November 14th

by Andrea Hansen

The 2018 Self-Sufficiency Program's Locally Grown Scholarship Breakfast is **Wednesday, November 14, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. at the Bluffs, in the Student Union at UW- La Crosse.**

Open to the community and campus, the Breakfast celebrates the accomplishments of SSP graduates who attend area colleges and raises funds for scholarships. With strong support of AAUW and others, SSP is celebrating its 30th year. Offered each semester, this free program helps low-income single parents and others explore and develop their academic potential. SSP is a pre-college outreach program of the WGSS Dept at UW-L.

The 2018 Breakfast speaker is Amy Sullivan, who directed SSP from 2002-2011. With enthusiastic support from the community and the SSP Advisory Board, she founded the scholarship fund and annual breakfast event.

Amy is currently a history professor at Macalester College in St. Paul. She created and leads the Minnesota Opioid Project at

<http://amycsullivan.net/mnopioidproject>



Please RSVP at uwlaxssp@gmail.com by Monday, Nov. 9, 2018. For more information, please call Andrea Hansen, SSP Director at 608.785.8733.

Public Policy

From aauw.org

The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap

We continue to hear that women still only make 80 cents on each dollar that men earn. But why does the pay gap persist in 2018, with women achieving so many gains in education, in politics, and in the workplace?

AAUW's The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap, Fall 2018 Edition report indicates that, at the rate of change between 1960 and 2017, women are expected to reach pay equity with men in 2059. However, progress has stalled in recent years and if wage patterns continue, women will not reach pay equity until 2106. The pay gap not only stays with women throughout their careers, but also follows them into retirement, resulting in women earning less money than men do in terms of pensions, Social Security, and other sources.

The pay discrepancy has also been calculated at the state level, with Wisconsin women earning 80% of what men in the state make. This is an improvement since the 2017 report was published, when Wisconsin's working women were at only 78%. The median annual earnings for full-time, year-round male workers in Wisconsin was \$51,346 in 2017; \$40,930 for females in the same categories. Across all racial and ethnic groups, American women now earn more college and postgraduate degrees than men. However, women with college degrees who work full-time make, on average, 26 percent less than their male peers with college degrees. Although women with degrees have higher earnings than women without degrees, men with degrees have even higher earnings. Men are therefore able to pay off educational student loans much more quickly than are women.

So, what causes the pay gap overall? One discrepancy is occupational segregation. Women are disproportionately represented in education, office and administrative support, and health care occupations. Men, on the other hand, are disproportionately represented in construction, maintenance and repair, and production and transportation occupations. The work that women do is valued less than work done by men precisely because that work is done by women. Even within the same occupations, men are paid more than women.

Other factors working against women's pay equity include the "motherhood penalty" (employers are less likely to hire mothers and to pay them less when they are hired) and the "fatherhood bonus" (many fathers actually receive higher wages after having a child.)

What can we do to help close the gender pay gap? AAUW recommends a multi-pronged approach, focusing on individuals, employers, and federal and state governments.



La Crosse Branch Cameo

1. How did you find & join AAUW?

2. What significant changes/ improvements have you seen in AAUW?

3. What do you think is the most important issue facing women today?

4. What's on your bucket list?

5. What's something we don't know about you?

Gloria Doyle



1. Carlene Roberts had a meeting with my husband, State Representative Steve Doyle, on AAUW priorities and suggested I would enjoy the association, so I followed up. She was correct.

2. The number of scholarships provided and level of local involvement have soared, or maybe being a member enhances my knowledge of what AAUW does in the community. I enjoy the art fair, the international women speakers, the support of SSP and Hearth and Home outings.

3. Affordable, good quality childcare in the shadow of continuing struggles toward gender pay equity.

4. I enjoy travel with family and hope to do that again once my daughters both complete graduate school. Until September, going on a hot air balloon ride was on my bucket list. I was able to cross that off after a trip to the wine country of California! I had never been to Europe until my daughters studied abroad together a few years ago. I hope to return to Ireland.

5. Some might not know I am one of your five circuit court judges for La Crosse county and, to my knowledge the second woman elected judge in the county. I was able to go to college and law school because of grants, scholarships and loans.

I own a hobby farm and raise about a dozen alpacas and a few goats. I scuba dive with my family.

At the individual level, it has been socially acceptable for men to negotiate for higher salaries, but not for women. AAUW has developed Start Smart and Work Smart to train women in negotiation skills, both when accepting a first job as well as further along their career paths. AAUW's goal is "training 10 million women to negotiate their financial futures by 2022."

There are many practices employers can voluntarily implement to help close the wage gap. Three federal bills, proposed in 1994 (Fair Pay Act), 1997 (Paycheck Fairness Act), and 2016 (Pay Equity for All Act) have not been passed, as of the current 115th Congress. To read the entire 30-page report, The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap, Fall 2018 Edition, go to www.AAUW.org.



FROM THE TREASURER

Kristen Foehner

Financial Report as of October 22, 2018

Checking Account..... \$9,348.93

CD's none at this time

Scholarship Bridge..... \$723.00

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NCCWSL Report

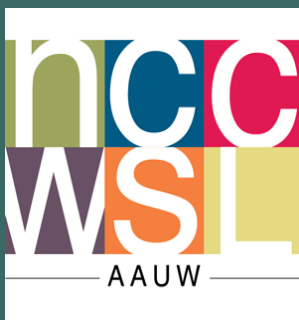
by Kathryn Draper

My experience at NCCWSL was amazing. I got to meet incredible women from across the U.S. and I was able to learn so much about their experiences. Hearing about how different our life and college experiences were but also how similar was incredible to hear and allowed me to make so many connections.

There were many different workshop, panel, and guest speaker events I was able to attend to work on my personal and professional development.

After attending NCCWSL I feel much more prepared and confident in myself to graduate this May and also to move on into the real world outside of college.

Thank you so much for sponsoring me and helping me take the opportunity to attend such an impactful conference.



Global Initiatives Week: Nov. 2-9

by Michele Strange



In 2013, Global Initiatives Week was launched by a diverse group of local businesses and organizations in an effort to develop a community with a deep sense of global responsibility and engagement. It is not only a celebration of the cultural, social, and economic value of our community worldwide, but it also informs and educates about the vital global ties that exist within our community and the tremendous impact of these connections on the Greater La Crosse Region.

For the fourth year, AAUW La Crosse Branch will have a booth at the Kick-Off Event highlighting local and national AAUW work related to international affairs. This year it will be held on Friday, November 2 from 4-7 pm. at North Woods International School, N2541 Sablewood Rd, off of CTH B east off Route 16. There will be free shuttle bus service available with pick up locations at Viterbo/Hamilton Elementary, La Crosse Public Library Main, UWL/Emerson Elementary, and Logan Middle School. Here is a link to all the week's events: <https://www.uwlax.edu/committee/global-initiatives/events/>

We hope that you will participate in some of these activities and please consider coming to the kick-off event. They have excellent food from around the world as well as international entertainment.

Cookie Walk is Back for December!

by Michele Strange



Our December meeting will include a reprise of our cookie walk. Last year we netted \$348 to support our contribution to AAUW National's Legal Action Fund. If you've never been to a cookie walk, it is great fun and enables you to purchase holiday treats you wouldn't normally bake yourself. Variety IS the spice of life after all. The Cookie Walk will be from 11:15-12:30 . Price: \$6 per pound

We are asking each member who is able to donate 2 dozen cookies or candies for the walk. Breads did not sell well. Small attractive cookies work best. Holiday type cookies are the most popular and are encouraged.

If you cannot attend on Dec. 8, items can be dropped off on Dec. 6 or 7 at Lois Gilbert's house, and a cookie walk elf will get your donation to the meeting on December 8. If you know your winter gets busy, stir up your donation early and freeze with a label saying "AAUW Dec. 8". If your donation contains nuts, tell us and we can attach a NUTS label.

Hope you can join us on a holiday cookie walk! This is a perfect event to invite your neighbor, friend or relative to attend also. Guests coming to the cookie walk do not have to participate in the brunch to attend.

Questions? Call Alice at 788-4206.



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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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