

JANUARY MEETING

Creating a Resilient and Trauma Informed Community

Presenter:

Catherine Kolkmeier,
*Executive Director, La Crosse Medical
Health Science Consortium*

When: Saturday, January 12

Where: Viterbo University,
School of Nursing, Room 195

Cost: \$12

Menu: Egg bake, sausage, yogurt
parfait with fresh fruit, kringle,
GF muffins, coffee, tea and juice

Registration: 9:30 AM

Breakfast: 10:00 AM

Meeting & Program: 10:30 AM

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) were called "the single greatest unaddressed public health issue in this country today" by the former president of the American Pediatrics Association. Studies have repeatedly shown that traumatic experiences are closely associated with a multitude of adult health problems.

Building resilience in both children and adults, especially through positive social relationships and empathy, helps heal the effects of trauma and can help prevent future trauma by breaking generational cycles.

Continued on Page 2 »

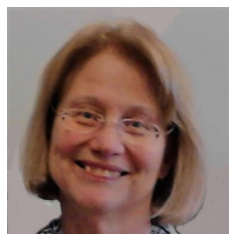


The Current

a publication of the La Crosse, WI AAUW Branch

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2019



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Happy New Year!

by Jan Eriksen, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

Happy 2019! We had a wonderful close to 2018 with the meeting on December 8. The "Holiday Memories" by The Community Carolers were inspirational and everyone enjoyed the Cookie Walk. I'd like to thank the Cookie Walk "elves" for their work: Michele Strange, Alice Ross, Cristina Kovacs, Bev Bodine, and Ardu Cleveland. The Cookie Walk, along with sales of Ruth Ann Knapp's beautiful jewelry, brought in a total of \$405.75. Ruth Ann deserves a big thank you as well.

All of the money goes to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) which "works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. ... Sex discrimination today takes a variety of forms: unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual assault, and violations of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 can affect both women and men. LAF addresses these

barriers by informing people of their rights and using the legal system to seek justice and change" (www.aauw.org).

Other good news from December

was the E-mail from Wisconsin AAUW Leadership Vice President, Joan Schneider, announcing that our La Crosse Branch nominee, Rebecca Lawrence, was awarded one of the state NCCWSL scholarships. The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, sponsored

Continued on Page 2 »



NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 7, 2019

January will be an email meeting. The E-meeting will begin at noon on Jan. 7, when all board members are asked to send reports to the entire board, and end at noon on Jan. 8. All members are invited; just let Jan know, via phone (787-5946) or E-mail (jperiksen@viterbo.edu) to be included in the electronic discussions.

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

Happy New Year ... (continued from page 1)

by AAUW national, will be held May 29 – June 1 at the University of Maryland, College Park. In 2018 nearly 800 students from around the world gathered to build community and sharpen their leadership skills. Rebecca Lawrence is a University of Wisconsin – La Crosse senior majoring in microbiology and chemistry. Despite the challenging major Rebecca has been a five-semester dean's list qualifier as well as a member of the Eta Phi Alpha Honor Society and the Wisconsin International Scholars Honors Program. Her career goal is to become an obstetrician/gynecologist and advocate for women's reproductive rights.

In closing I'd like to remind you about the Wisconsin State Convention, to be held April 26 and 27 at the Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, in the Lake Delavan and Geneva Lake Area. For more information, please see the article on page 5 or go to www.aauw-wi.aauw.net.

Membership News

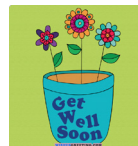
by Marilyn Hempstead, Chair

DUES CHANGE FOR NEW MEMBERS

Membership from National has issued the following change for 2019: No Half-Year National Dues. Earlier this year, AAUW stopped offering half-year dues for new national members. Branches, if their bylaws stipulate it, are able to continue this option for state and local dues. New members reported between January 1 and March 15 will be current through June 30, 2019. March 16, 2019 begins FY20. So those who join after the first of the year will no longer pay half price dues. We did charge people joining during that time just half of the state and local dues. The board will look at continuing this policy although state dues are only \$13.00 and branch dues \$8.00 so it wouldn't be much of a savings. National dues will stay at \$59.00.

BEST WISHES

Sara Arthur's mother Joyce is in rehab after being struck by a car. May healing be swift.



CONGRATULATIONS

Carol Taebel will be honored on Jan 18th. She will be presented with the Distinguished Service Award in the LaCrosse Schools by the LaCrosse Public School Foundation for her work during active teaching years, as well as her work & interests now.



A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS NEW AND NOT NEW AND TO THOSE YET TO JOIN!

JANUARY MEETING (continued from Page 1)

Our community has developed a collective framework for encouraging resilience in our schools, healthcare systems, organizations, and families. Come learn more about how you can help build community resilience by being trauma-informed.



Catherine
Kolkmeier

YWCA Video Link

As most of you know, our own Marilyn Hempstead was honored in November 2018 by the YWCA as part of the YWCA La Crosse Tribute to Outstanding Women.

Because Marilyn was out of town for the ceremony, she pre-recorded a speech that was shown that night as well as at our November branch meeting.

If you have not been able to see it yet, here is a link for it:

<https://youtu.be/wj4cwT8YTA>

Congratulations again, Marilyn!

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

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: January email meeting. Agenda will be sent out on Jan. 10th with responses appreciated by Dec. 11th.

Thank you for the generous donations of gift wrap, bows and calendars at the December meeting! The items were distributed to YWCA, New Horizons & Brighter Tomorrows.

Save the date: Thursday, March 7th. Annual International Women's Day Panel. New location TBA. 5pm-7:30pm

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.

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.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Holiday Celebration

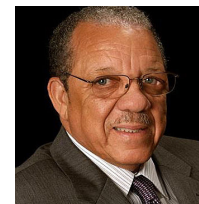
Date: Monday, January 21st 2019, 5:00 pm

Location: Viterbo University – Fine Arts Center, Main Theatre

Presenter: David J. Dennis, Sr.

Topic:

What does it mean to be an American?



This is not a question only for one individual American citizen. What it means to be an American requires a collective perspective. Our Founders placed E Pluribus Unum – out of many, one-- on the nation's seal. The number of people who comprise the whole, as well as the differences among us, have grown dramatically in our 240 year history. Therefore, Civil Rights Activist David Dennis will ask us to reflect upon how we can still become an untied whole out of our great 21st century diversity.

This will be a free admission event open to the public and cosponsored by many community partners.

January Highlights in US Women's History

January 3, 1949 – Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine) starts her tenure in the Senate, staying in office until 1973, becoming the first woman to serve in both the House and Senate as she served in the House 1940-49.



January 5, 1925 – Nellie Tayloe Ross is inaugurated as the first woman Governor in U.S. history (Gov of WY).

January 7, 1955 – Marian Anderson is the first African American woman to sing at the Metropolitan Opera.



January 25, 1890 – Nellie Bly, journalist, completed her around the world trip in 72 days, 6 hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds after setting sail east to prove she could circle the globe in less than 80 days.



January 25, 1980 – Mary Decker became the first woman to run a mile under 4 1/2 minutes, running it at 4:17.55.

January 29, 1926 – Violette Neatly Anderson is the first black woman to practice law before the U.S. Supreme Court.



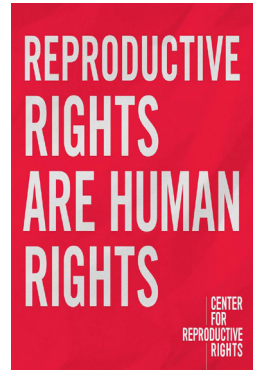
Public Policy

By Ann Brice, Chair

AAUW Advocacy

AAUW advocates for women in many areas that are currently under attack. Betsy DeVos is trying to roll back Title IX regulations, which would have wide sweeping effects on women who are assaulted on campuses. The gender pay gap, previously thought to be 80% is actually closer to 50% according to the Institute for Women's Policy Research. In July the current administration decided to rollback President Obama's policy on Affirmative Action in schools. All of these issues impact women and girls' experience in the classroom and the workplace.

Equity on campus and in the work world will never emerge, however, unless women have control over their bodies. That is why AAUW continues to advocate that women be able to choose how to manage their reproductive lives, as well as to advocate for increased access to health care and family planning services. Attacks on a woman's right to control her body are no recent phenomenon. Nine days after founder Margaret Sanger opened the country's first birth control clinic in 1916, police raided the clinic, and put Sanger in jail for 30 days. Fast forward to March, 2017, when Mike Pence cast the tie-breaking vote to repeal an Obama-era protection for Planned Parenthood patients who get family planning care through Title X. In May, 2018, the Trump administration announced a "gag rule" which gravely restricts access to reproductive rights and attempts to block Medicaid patients from care at Planned Parenthood health centers. By November 7, 2018, the administration finalized rules to allow employers and universities to refuse to cover birth control in their health insurance plans.



AAUW continues to advocate for women's reproductive health. In May 2018 in response to the "gag rule," AAUW joined with more than 110 organizations in a letter to Alex Azar, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, asking him "to reject any proposals that would restrict access to high-quality, affordable family planning care under Title X, including the harmful domestic gag rule." AAUW supports improving public funding for reproductive health and ensuring access to legally prescribed or available contraceptives.



You can get updates about urgent issues from AAUW when you sign up for Two-Minute Activist: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

Sources for this article are :

- <https://www.istandwithpp.org/defund-defined>
- <https://www.aauw.org/files/2018/05/HHS-Letter-to-Secretary-Azar-Opposing-the-Domestic-Gag-Rule-051518.pdf>
- <https://iwpr.org/women-earn-49-cents-for-every-1-men-earn-new-report-says/>
- <https://www.trackingtrump.org/>



Also, as I mentioned at the AAUW meeting in November, here are some good sources on Wisconsin politics:

Wisconsin Eye: <http://www.wiseye.org/>

The Wheeler Report (Covering Wisconsin Legislature Since 1972):

<http://www.thewheelerreport.com/>



And here is the link to Playbook on Best Practices for Gender Equity in Tech From AAUW's site:

<https://www.aauw.org/research/best-practices-playbook/>



Planned Parenthood also has a take action page: <https://www.istandwithpp.org/take-action>

FROM THE TREASURER

Kristen Foehner

Financial Report as of December 19, 2018

Checking Account..... \$11,859.71

CD'snone at this time

Scholarship Bridge..... \$804.00

Branch Scholarships

by Robert Richardson, Co-Chair

Scholarships and Grants Committee reminds members of the opportunity to nominate a woman over 29 years of age for the Karen Wilson Scholarship. Members/nominees may download the application form on our branch website.

The scholarship applications for:

- High School Graduating Senior
- UWL Students
- Viterbo U Students
- Karen Wilson Memorial
- Janet K. Isler Memorial

are now available on our branch website:
www.aauwlacrosse.org
for downloading.



ALL HANDS ON DECK!

State Convention 2019 will Sail Away on April 26-27



Be sure to plan on attending the next AAUW Wisconsin State Convention, to be held Friday April 26 and Saturday April 27, 2019 at the lovely Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, in the Lake Delavan and Geneva Lake Area. Room rates will be \$103 (includes the resort fee) plus tax so extend your visit into a mini-vacation and enjoy the lovely area. Larger rooms and suites are also available at reduced rates. Make plans with your fellow members and/or your significant other

to enjoy spring in southeastern Wisconsin! Lake Lawn Resort has a spa, golf course and marina too.

See <http://LakeLawnResort.com> for more information.

We are keeping the prices at last year's levels – \$75 registration (\$85 late); \$30 for the Friday dinner and \$45 for breakfast, lunch and breaks on Saturday. Student registration is \$25. Registration opens at 2 pm on Friday, and sessions begin at 3 pm. The program will end around 5 pm on Saturday.

Our speakers are still being confirmed; however, we do know that we will have speakers on Progress on Title IX, Nontraditional Career Education for Women, Preventing Human Trafficking, Best Branch Practices, What You Don't Know about AAUW, and a presentation on the Remarkable Women of Lake Geneva. Stay tuned for more details that will be forthcoming as the program is finalized.

The Geneva Lakes, Kenosha and Racine AAUW branches make up District 3 of the Wisconsin AAUW. District 3 is proud to be the host of the 2019 State Convention and hope that you will be joining us. Contact Gretchen McCarthy, Geneva Lakes Branch, or Denise Anastasio, Racine Branch with any questions. We can be reached at denise.anastasio@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you in April!

Badger Briefs Online now

The fall issue of Badger Briefs hit the in-boxes of our members in November. The change from paper to electronic is a new endeavor that will save some trees, appeal to members on the go and will help our state organization utilize our dues in more effective ways.

If you didn't receive yours in your in-box, be sure to check your "spam" or "Junk" folders. Here's a link for that issue:

<https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/files/2018/11/Fall-2018-Badger-Brief.pdf>



American Association of University Women
La Crosse Branch
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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