



## Upcoming Events

October 14-15-16 (Friday - Sunday)

### 30th Annual AAUW Book Sale

Eau Claire Expo Center

Saturday, Oct 22

### Get out the Vote Training

Stevens Point, WI - Holiday Inn

AAUW - Eau Claire

Oct 2011

### President's Message

I had a terrible time this June at the AAUW national convention in Washington, DC.

*At first.*

Here's the short version: cord left in Eau Claire – ventilator won't work – two nights of no sleep – FedEx arrives, aaaah.

It's a testament to the powerful experience AAUW creates at these conventions that I look back on those four days as stimulating, provocative, and worth repeating.

AAUW's public policy platform always impresses me, but it was exciting to be in D.C. with the entire public policy team. The first night we were there, I was concerned that the panel "Women in Power in the Obama Administration" was just going to be a resume brandishing occasion. Instead, we got to see how high-ranking women in the Departments of Justice, Labor, Education and the White house coordinate together on the Council of Women and Girls to solve problems no department can address on its own.

One of my favorite speakers was actually Rep. Jan Schakowsky from south of us in Illinois. She and some friends led the campaign in the 70s to get food expiration labels clearly marked on cans

and other foods. They learned the alphanumeric codes and published guides deciphering them for other consumers. She continues to advocate consumer safety and is a real dynamo..

I was given the opportunity to facilitate a breakout session with members from large branches – 140-330 members. That was a real eye-opener. Not everything I learned there applies to a branch our size, but I did learn the value of having multiple projects going, as well as special interest groups.

It was difficult to hear Edith Arana, the named plaintiff in the *Wal-Mart v. Dukes* case, when we knew the Supreme Court was close to a decision. Everyone wanted so badly for her to win, especially as it became clear that being the named plaintiff in a case that has spanned **more than a decade**. However, she came across as an extremely strong person and she expressed how the support from organizations such as AAUW made her willing to become the lead plaintiff and persevere through the trial. She felt we had her back, which is exactly how recipients of AAUW legal funds should feel.

So who's in for 2013? It's going to be in New Orleans, June 9-12. I hope that several of us will be able to make it, and there's no better city to visit... *Laissez les bon temps rouler!*  
-Kate Hinnant



## Book Group

AAUW Book Group meets the first Tuesday of each month September through June. Here are our selections so far:

Tuesday October 4, 7:30 at Claran Ramsdell's to discuss **The Cape**

**Ann** by Faith Sullivan;

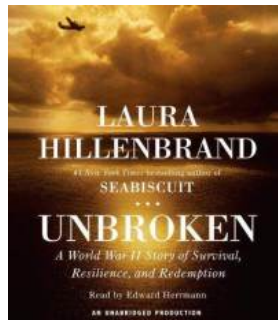
Tuesday November 1st, 7:30 at Dee Schorr's to discuss

**Unbroken** by Laura Hillenbrand;

Tuesday December 6, 7:30 at Ginny

Wright's to discuss **Remarkable Creatures** by Tracy Chevalier; and

Tuesday January 3, 7:30 at Chris Kondrasuk's to discuss **Major Pettigrew's Last Stand** by Helen Simonson.



We have one other book picked for discussion, probably in March. It is **Bold Spirit** by Linda Hunt and was an AAUW ¡Adelante! List choice for last year.

We ask that you contact the hostess if you plan to attend.

Chris Kondrasuk

## AAUW-Eau Claire Board 2010-2011

President:	Kate Hinnant
Membership Chair:	Margot Bouchard
Program Chair:	Robin Miller Karen Pope
Finance:	Linda Spaeth
Development Chair:	Kim Wellnitz
Public Policy Chairs:	Sarah Harder Mary Hayden
Communications:	Chris Kondrasuk
College/University Representative:	Beth Ernst
Newsletter:	Kate Hinnant
Bylaws:	Lois Helland
Historian:	Cleo Powers

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<http://aauweau Claire.org/>

email: [aauweau Claire@gmail.com](mailto:aauweau Claire@gmail.com)

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To cut down on spam, we will avoid including individuals' email addresses in *Foliage*. Please check your membership booklet for

## UW-Eau Claire Scholarship Winners (2011-2012)

Bonnie Krahn – MBA  
Ka Vang – MBA  
Caitlin Lloyd – Nursing

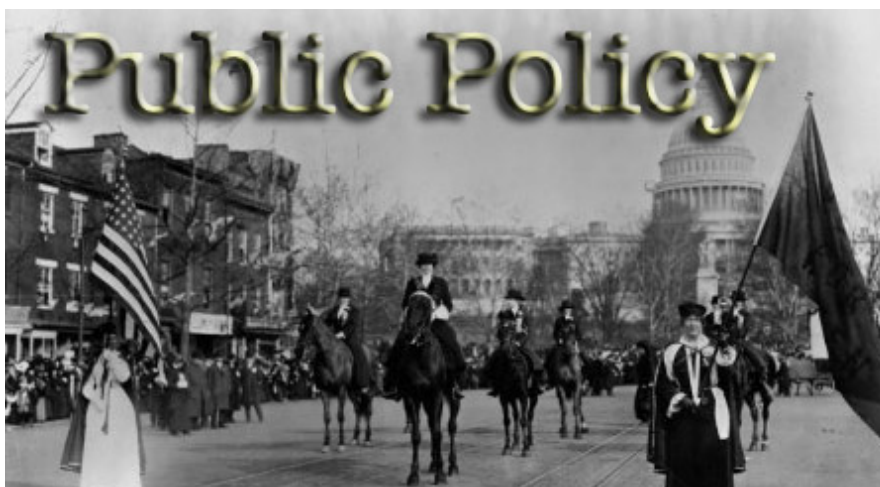
Susan Schwiebert – Education Studies, Master's  
Natalia Emberson – pre-Dental  
Kalani Krautbauer – Communication and Speech Disorder, M.S.

... stay tuned for more about our winners in the next issue of *Foliage*



What does GOTV mean?

It means a lot to us as citizens of Wisconsin. “Get out the vote” has become so important for our state that **our national AAUW organization has awarded AAUW-Wisconsin a grant of \$1000** and is sending a member of the national public policy team to help us organize local AAUW efforts to register voters.



The passage of restrictive Wisconsin voter ID legislation will make it much harder for anyone without a permanent address and a photo ID that shows their current address, to vote. The requirements of the law are not exactly “voting by the landed gentry only,” but they will definitely discourage students, residents of care facilities, those without a driver’s license, and the transient population from being part of our democratic process.

Why does this matter? As Barbara Peterson, AAUW-WI public policy chair said,

In our current legislative climate it will be difficult or impossible to gain passage of legislation that assures women’s health, education and safety rights. We can all work together to cut spending but AAUW will continue to work so that women and children do not take the brunt of these cuts. There is a shared economic responsibility here and legislation should be equalized across the board. The best way to achieve this is by getting women to the polls in 2012. AAUW – WI has been challenged to do that across our communities in this state.

What can you do?

On **October 22, from 9:30am-3:30pm**, Seth Chase from AAUW headquarters in Washington, D.C. will be leading a GOTV workshop at the **Holiday Inn in Stevens Point**.

A registration form is included with this newsletter. To join a carpool, please email [kate.hinnant@gmail.com](mailto:kate.hinnant@gmail.com). We currently have at least six people attending.

If you have questions about this wonderful opportunity, call Mary Hayden at 715-832-0445, or email [haydenm@prodigy.net](mailto:haydenm@prodigy.net).

Mary Hayden  
Sarah Harder  
Public Policy Co-chairs



## National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

**This June, we sent two college women to College Park, Maryland to participate in NCCWSL. Here are their stories...**

### **Reflections from NCCWSL : National Conference for College Women Student Leaders**

by: Kristine Rivall

The first sentence in my blog I kept while at NCCWSL reads as this:

“Being surrounded by so many ambitious and successful women has been wildly inspiring.”

And even though it happened several months ago, that feeling still lingers.

When I first landed in D.C., it almost felt too good to be real. That was my first time *ever* visiting the nation’s capital, and it was my first time going to a conference that not only celebrated leadership, but my gender as well.

I made friends, I made potential business partners, and best of all I made connections. I met so many women. I met women who balanced jobs, a family, and an ambitious career. I met college women like myself, who were active on campus and strove to make a difference. I met women who defied the stereotypes, women who were entering computer science careers, or going to college for welding. I met older women, and younger women, and I was positively *delighted* by the diversity of all the potential that was crowded together those two days at NCCWSL.

This whole experience was made even more magical by being in Washington D.C. I remember walking through the capital with a group of my fellow women, and we all traced our fingers along a replica of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution – the amendment that gave women the right to vote. Washington D.C. with all its buildings and monuments served as a reminder, but also as a symbol for hope.

When I arrived back in Wisconsin, I was a changed woman. I had taken a lot of NCCWSL back with me: Bits and pieces from all of the insanely memorable speeches we heard, facts from our workshops, a whole wallet full of business cards, and a camera full of photos. I did research on the women I got to talk with and learn from – women in athletics, women in politics. And I surrounded myself with an optimistic realization: that just by being around inspirational women, I felt as I had myself become a better leader. So I want to thank AAUW-Eau Claire, and the AAUW branch of Wisconsin, for giving me a chance to engage in this phenomenal opportunity. When NCCWSL rolls around this time next year, you bet I’ll be one of the first ones following all the news.

### **Reflection on NCCWSL**

Amy Fredman

“Every single issue is a ‘womens’ issue,” pointed out feminist organizer Shelby Knox during her speech at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland-College Park, which I had the privilege of attending, thanks to AAUW’s generous support.

Throughout the conference, the statement above resonated with me as I listened to speakers, talked with my peers, and sought to further understand my own leadership roles as a woman. Because women are more than half of the population, every issue of our world does involve us, including the environment, politics, education, religion, the military, science, business, and countless other issues. I had the opportunity to explore women's contributions in these areas through each of the conference activities – touring Washington D.C.'s Newseum, listening to many speakers with varied experiences, conversing with women who I came to admire, taking an adventure on Washington D.C.'s mall, and growing from smaller group sessions.

Many of my favorite moments of the conference were in talking with my peers about their hopes, dreams, and passions, and then becoming inspired myself by their passion for deeply impacting our world. On the first day of the conference, I met a young woman named Kristina who was majoring in environmental engineering at a school in Oregon. She is passionate about not only working toward a safer environment, but also about empowering young women to pursue STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, where women are often underrepresented). As we talked, I became excited with her. Even though science and math are my least favorite topics, talking with her challenged me to evaluate the way that I communicate about these topics to other women. If I continue to say that I hate math, especially around young girls, what message does that send them about math being a worthy and accessible topic of study for them? This was just one example of my peers helping me see more of the world – I was also challenged to think about my involvement in politics, my role in mentoring younger women, and my understanding of the experiences of minority women.

In addition to being inspired and challenged by the other 500 female student leaders at the conference, the speakers and presenters were outstanding. At the Women of Distinction ceremony, where five women were honored for their contributions and positions as female leaders, Natalie Randolph, who is the nation's only current female high school football coach in the midst of over 15,000 other male coaches. When I talked with Natalie afterward, I was inspired by her commitment to her students. She has been offered positions at private schools as a science teacher, but she stays in her lower achieving school because "these kids need me." In the midst of top leaders and famous individuals at the conference, I loved Natalie's commitment as a female leader in a lesser recognized area of leadership – education. Her story was a reminder to me to be committed and passionate about leading and caring for people, regardless of where I am or the title on my business card. I was very thankful for the opportunity to be inspired, but I also really appreciated the concrete skills that I took away from the conference. I attended one session on perfectionism, where the presenter gave us a quote by Adrienne Rich that said, "When a woman tells the truth, she is creating the possibility for more truth around her." This quote demonstrates the importance of being honest about our struggles to juggle everything in our lives as female leaders, not covering them up in order to present a perfect persona. In addition to these lessons about being honest, I also attended a networking session by a remarkable businesswoman. Here, I learned more about confidently standing tall when meeting business contacts, how to engage people in business settings, the proper amount of time to converse in networking settings, and ways to be assertive without being pushy.

The women I encountered at this conference inspired me, challenged me, educated me, and supported me. As I was reflecting on my experience with these many women who are passionate about changing the world, I thought of a statement by Gloria Steinem, quoted by Shelby Knox at the conference: "In any audience, there is enough energy, skill, anger, and humor for a revolution." The NCCWSL audience was surely such an audience, and one that I was honored to be a part of, thanks to the support of AAUW. I can't thank you all enough for this opportunity and for your continuous commitment to women leaders.

# Book Sale Schedule Sign Up

Please see the book sale schedule below and let Kim Wellnitz know ([kimwellnitz@yahoo.com](mailto:kimwellnitz@yahoo.com)) when you're available to help

## Wednesday, Oct. 12

6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Set-up (need lots of help)

## Thursday, Oct. 13

12:00 – 9:00 p.m. Set-up (need lots of help)

## Friday, Oct. 14

Set-up anytime before 2:45 p.m.

First Sale Shift 2:45 – 6:00 p.m. (need 5 more people)

Second Sale Shift 5:45 – 9:00 p.m. (need 7 more people)

## Saturday, Oct. 15

First Sale Shift 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (need 6 people)

Second Sale Shift 11:45 – 3:00 p.m. (need 4 more people)

Third Sale Shift 2:45 – 5:00 p.m. (need 5 people)

## Sunday, Oct. 16

First Sale Shift 9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (need 4 people)

Second Sale Shift 12:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Clean-up 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (need 3 more people)

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## Discussion:

# Wisconsin Voter ID Act

Learn more about the implications of the Wisconsin Voter ID Act from former State Representative Kristen Dexter.

Date: October 27, 5 pm\*

Place: The Nucleus Annex,  
405 Water Street, Eau Claire

\* Feel free to order a sandwich!

Registration for GOTV Workshop on Oct 22

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Your AAUW Branch:

\_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee Enclosed? \$15 (checks preferred) Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Make Payable to AAUW – WI (In Memo space) GOTV training

Mail to: Barbara Peterson

548 Omaha Road

Hudson, WI 54016 (On or before October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011)

Rooms are available at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point on Friday evening for \$89.

Double occupancy available.

Please call the Holiday Inn and ask for the “AAUW Block” --- (715) 344-0200 (Room rate available until Oct 7)

Located at 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54482

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**AAUW VISION STATEMENT** - AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls..

**AAUW MISSION** - AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

**FOLIAGE - Newsletter of the American Association of University Women - Eau Claire Branch**

Send or call items of interest to Kate Hinnant, [kate.hinnant@gmail.com](mailto:kate.hinnant@gmail.com), 831-0182, 220 Roosevelt Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701



**GIVE/**

October 14-15-16 (Friday - Sunday)

**30th Annual AAUW Book Sale**

Eau Claire Expo Center

**ACT/LEARN/**

Saturday, Oct 22

**Get out the Vote Training**

Stevens Point, WI - Holiday Inn

**ACT/CONNECT/LEARN/**

Thursday, October 27 @ 5 pm

**Kristin Dexter and the State of Voter ID**

The Nucleus Annex

220 Roosevelt Ave  
Eau Claire, WI 54701