



Upcoming Events

Sept. 12, 3-5pm – **Fall Kick-Off!**
Lois Helland's Home

Sept. 28, 6:30pm – **Barbara Peterson** on One
Member One Vote/WI Elections & Public Policy
Unitarian Church Social Hall, 421 South Farwell

AAUW - Eau Claire

September 2010

President's Message

by Kate Hinnant

There are a number of children's books about toys that come to life while their owners sleep or go to school. My son, who at three and a half has a very firm and unyielding grasp on reality, insists that his toys are just toys and those books are "pretend."

It is no pretense to say, however, that while we were on a summer hiatus from AAUW-Eau Claire, our branch did not sleep.

The summer started with Kim Wellnitz finalizing the arrangements with our scholarship winners, while Beth Ernst was busy getting our student ambassadors ready for their trip to the National Conference for College Student Leaders. (A successful trip: see Marci Korb's reflections in this issue.)

Then Karen Pope started work on programming for this year. She talked over her ideas and plans with Lois Helland and I a few times. As you will soon see, the program reflects the activities highlighted on the national AAUW website: most particularly "Act," "Connect," and "Learn." We will also be meeting downtown more often this year, so expect good parking and the opportunity

to continue socializing when the meeting is over.

And of course there was the Book Sale to gear up for. We have no co-chairs this year, so by the time those of us who offered to volunteer steer the Book Sale met in July, I was having really bad dreams about towering boxes of books.

I feel better now. I've gone back to dreaming about having to go back to high school for one more semester. We've got an experienced and selfless team. But I can't underline enough that we are going to need many more volunteers to pull this thing off. At the end of the newsletter there are three core ways that you can help work on the Book Sale. Other opportunities will arise in the next two months, and we'll usually announce them via email.

I'm excited to see everyone at the Kick-Off!

In the next issue:

Learn about this year's scholarship winners, their goals, and their lives.



Book Group

The AAUW Evening Book Group will start its 2010-2011 meetings on Tuesday **Sept. 7th at 7:30** at Chris Kondrasuk's home 464 Summit Avenue.

We will discuss ***Driftless*** by David Rhodes. David Rhodes is one of the authors featured at the 11th Chippewa Valley Book Festival in October.



Other books and meetings will be:

Tuesday Oct. 5th 7:30 to discuss ***The Master*** by Colin Toibin

Tuesday Nov. 9th (moved because of the election on Nov. 2nd) to discuss ***Mister Pip*** by Lloyd Jones

Tuesday Dec. 7th (book to be decided)

Tuesday Jan. 4th to discuss ***Girl In A Blue Dress*** by Gaynor Arnold.

We meet the first Tuesday of the month in member's homes. If you plan to attend, please call or email the hostess. Happy Reading!

AAUW-Eau Claire Board 2010-2011

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<http://aauweauclaire.org/>
email: aauweauclaire@gmail.com

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

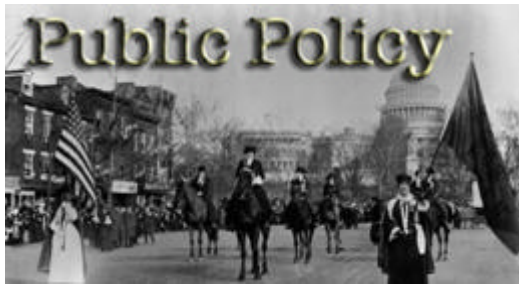


Wisconsin Primary

Tuesday, September 14th

For more on the election, see

WPR: <http://wisconsinvote.org/>



A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

AAUW Eau Claire has become a participating member in a local alliance that studies economic and fiscal policies, and their effect on schools, public services, and infrastructures. AAUW members Sarah Harder, Mary Hayden, Kerry Kincaid, and Karen Pope have been working with the organization to help plan a forum of State Senate and Assembly candidates. We strongly

encourage you and friends to join us on **September 29** for this important event. See the Alliance for Strong Communities Greater Eau Claire Area invitation included in this issue for the details. Please copy and post the announcement to get the word out.

Communication: Complicated but Exciting

Just when did communication get this COMPLICATED? As I looked at the AAUW 21-day campaign to encourage members to help get the Paycheck Fairness Act passed, it occurred to me how there are an amazing number of communication methods open to us. There is a way for everyone to get the information about AAUW policy, and then take action that really can make an impact.

Communication has evolved so rapidly that your favorite method of contact today may change tomorrow—or may fail to reach the intended recipients of your message. Here are some of the daily suggestions from the Paycheck Fairness Act campaign. Did you contact Senator Herb Kohl's office to encourage him to sign on to the PFA? How many different ways did you choose to take action? Keep these ideas in mind for your next opportunity to be an advocate for the issues that are near and dear to AAUW members.

Call your Senators' DC offices & urge PFA passage in Sept.

Urge PFA passage on your Senators' Facebook pages.

Get the men in your life to speak up for equal pay! It's a family issue!

Write a PFA post or comment on your favorite blogs.

Write a PFA "Get it Done" letter to the editor of your local newspaper

Send a "Get it Done" equal pay e-card to friends & family.

Post a video on YouTube, urging the Senate to pass PFA in Sept.

Add an equal pay twibbon to your Twitter avatar.

Sign Up Your Friends and AAUW Colleagues for Action Network!

Visit AAUW's [Take Action page](#) of our national website, where AAUW members and nonmembers alike can [sign up for Action Network](#). It is an excellent way to introduce potential members to AAUW's advocacy. You can also [print out flyers](#) online. Use flyers to sign up friends, family and coworkers to AAUW Action Network. These flyers are great to use at branch events, community events, etc.

Public Policy Chairs,
Mary Hayden & Sarah Harder

Participating Organizations:

- Altoona School Board
- Chippewa Valley Technical College
- Chippewa Valley Home Builders Association
- City of Altoona
- City of Eau Claire
- Eau Claire Association of Educators
- Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce
- Eau Claire Branch—AAUW
- Eau Claire County
- Eau Claire Schools Classified Staff Federation, AFT Local 4018
- Eau Claire Area School District Board of Education
- Greater West Central Area Labor Council, AFL-CIO
- Realtors® Association of Northwestern Wisconsin

Alliance for Strong Communities Greater Eau Claire Area



THE ALLIANCE FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES (ASC), the Realtors® Association of Northwestern Wisconsin and Community Television

INVITE YOU TO A

CANDIDATE FORUM September 29, 2010 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Memorial High School Little Theatre

Candidates for the State Senate District 23 and 31 as well as Assembly District 68 and 93 have been invited to participate.

The Alliance for Strong Communities is a non-partisan, regional network of organizations in the greater Eau Claire area united to strengthen essential public services and public infrastructures in all local communities so that families and businesses can thrive.

Alliance issues to be covered at the forum include: Addressing the state's structural deficit, sustaining essential public services, generating revenue and investing in economic development. Written questions will be taken from the audience as time allows.

For more information about the Alliance, please contact:

Mike Huggins, Alliance co-chair, 715-839-4902; mike.huggins@eauclairewi.gov
Carol Craig, Alliance co-chair, 715-832-1306, craig07cj@gmail.com



Fall Kick-Off!

Sept 12 @3-5pm

Lois Helland's House

The Kick-Off is a great time to catch up with friends, learn about new initiatives, and get psyched about our excellent programming in the upcoming year.

But don't forget to bring a friend or five!

Annual Book Sale

Oct 8-10 – Save the date

We will need your help!

- **Book Sorting – Every Wednesday evening @ Lois & Mark Helland's + extra days as announced**
- **Volunteers at the actual sale: set-up, sale, and clean-up**
- **Collecting boxes: if you have a source of copy-paper boxes, this would be a huge help – we are going need 100s.**

Reflections from NCCWSL:

by Marci Korb

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders: June 2010

Attending the AAUW Women's conference in June was definitely one the highlights of my summer. Gretchen and I became fast friends and really enjoyed exploring the Maryland campus and Washington D.C.. I had never been to D.C. before and the conference provided a really great way to network with other women from around the nation.

Our trip was off to a typical start when we missed our exit for the airport and were lost in downtown Minneapolis for about half an hour; however, thanks to Gretchen's mom navigating us via phone at 4AM we were able to find the airport and make it to our terminal with time to spare. Once we were through security and waiting in our terminal we began excitedly chatting about what to expect about the conference. The woman sitting in front of us, who had a beautiful head scarf on, turned around and asked if we were attending the AAUW conference in Maryland. We said yes and introduced ourselves, it turned out she was also attending along with six or seven other women from the Minneapolis area. Once they arrived we all said hello and continued to chat about our expectations.

That first experience in the terminal turned out to be a good representation of the three day conference. Overall, all the attendees were very friendly and warm which made for a comfortable and easy networking setting.

My favorite part of the conference, by far, was the Women of Distinction Award Ceremony. This took place on the opening night of the conference and the awardees were as follows: Dorothy Height, Christina Lagdameo, Patti Solis Doyle, Marie Tillman, and Nomfundo Walaza. Each woman had such a unique and inspiring story, and each had accomplished so much in their lifetime. It was really inspiring to see the effect that one individual's passion can have on a community and the world. Many of the women's stories had the audience in tears, and each recipient received a standing ovation.

Another aspect of the conference I really enjoyed was the time we were able to spend in Washington D.C.. Thursday morning Gretchen and I both attended the much sought after tour of the capitol building (this apparently was the field trip everyone wanted to attend but there was only space for 50 of us or so). It was fun, albeit a little unorganized (a fairly common critique I had of the

conference unfortunately) and the capitol building was absolutely stunning. On the following night we were given time to return to D.C. and explore on our own. Gretchen and I took advantage of this opportunity and headed into the city on the busses provided by NCCWSL. We went with another girl we had met, Nisha, who was from Boston. She was a riot and we had a great time eating in Chinatown and exploring all of the monuments on the hill.

Overall I think the conference was fun and worthwhile. To be honest, I didn't enjoy the keynote speaker as much as I had hoped to, and I was also shocked to find out how conservative many of the attendees and conference leaders were. At least half of the people in attendance did not identify with the term feminist or believe in a women's right to choose; this was probably most shocking to me because I was coming from a liberal Women's Studies program where everyone seems to agree on these issues. It was good to hear other's opinions and get a broader view of the nation's attitude.

I think NCCWSL is a worthwhile investment on the whole, especially for the experience it offers. I enjoyed having someone else to travel with, it made the whole thing less stressful, and I am truly grateful for the experience. Thank you AAUW Eau Claire!

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, 831-0182, 220 Roosevelt Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701



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