



January 2008

From the Presidents

Happy New Year. We hope you had a relaxing holiday and were able to enjoy time with family and friends.

Our November LAF Luncheon was a nice start to the season. Over 30 members joined us for good food and camaraderie. We were pleased to set a record by raising \$1,216 for the Legal Advocacy Fund. A special thanks to all who donated items to the auction and to all the triumphant bidders.

On January 5th the book groups from AAUW and First Congregational Church co-sponsored a presentation by Jerene Mortenson. With 175 people in attendance the room was buzzing with discussions about the accomplishments that her son, Greg, has achieved in Pakistan and Afghanistan and the free will offering that was taken raised \$3200 for the Central Asia Institute. The book *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time* is a must read. It's an incredible story about his goal to fight terrorism with books, not bombs, and successfully bring hope and education--especially for girls--to remote villages in central Asia. The book has been mentioned in the Fall and Winter issues of Badger Briefs. You'll be hearing more about this at future board and branch meetings, so take a moment to read the articles and consider what we, as a branch, can do to promote Greg's important mission. Many thanks to Chris Kondrasuk for coordinating this event for the community.

Do you feel that you're inundated with too many emails and too much information? That may be the case but there is one e-bulletin that all AAUW members should subscribe to—*Washington Update*. This is AAUW's free, members-only weekly e-bulletin that allows you to stay up-to-date on all issues important to our mission. We encourage

you to subscribe to *Washington Update* today by emailing VoterEd@aauw.org. You'll be glad you did!

It's chilly outside so what could be nicer than a warm bowl of soup and a movie on a Saturday afternoon? Look for more details on our next meeting in the newsletter. We hope you can join us.

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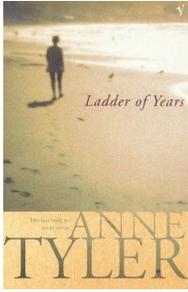
Soup + A Flick

Michael Moore's movie *Sicko*

Delicious Soup

Saturday January 19
11:30am.

Lois Helland's home
400 Foxmoor Lane
Eau Claire



Book Group: Ladder Of Years

The Book Group will be discussing *Ladder Of Years* by Anne Tyler on February 5th

In March, the Book Group will discuss *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides

The Book Group meeting time and date is always the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30. If you are new to the group please call Chris Kondrasuk (835-1638). Books are available through the library.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

As part of its new theme, *Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security*, AAUW is encouraging branches to explore the lifelong learning goal of Financial Literacy. We have some exciting programming coming up, speaking to just that goal:

February 19, Tuesday, 7 pm
Investments and Long Term Care
RCU Corporate, Phoenix Park

March 26, Wednesday, 6 pm
Credit Card Management
UWEC Hilltop

April 8, Tuesday, 7 pm
Annual Meeting & Pie Social
Book Discussion, Make \$ Not Excuses
Sandy Hume – 935 N. Moonlight, Altoona



Membership

Getting To Know Our New Members

One very interesting woman is **Faith Pawelski**. Faith is employed at UW-Eau Claire in the Academic Skills Center as a Student Services Coordinator. She teaches two courses each semester for the ASC and coordinates its intake and tutor training programs. Faith is a recent Eau Claire resident, moving here from the Appleton area in 2006. She and her husband, Jeff, have two children. Peter, age 9, and Noelle, age 5, attend St. James Elementary School. In her spare time, Faith enjoys singing in her church folk choir, reading mysteries, gardening, and ice skating with her family. Faith received her B.A. in Communication Studies from Winona State and her M.A. in Counseling/College Student Personnel Services from the University of South Dakota.

Another fabulous woman is **Kathy Briggs**. Kathy recently retired from CVTC after 37+ years of teaching accounting and shorthand for business students. A major part of her career involved placing students in internship programs in various offices around the region. Kathy and her husband, Bill, have one daughter, Jacquie, who is a 4th grade teacher in Arizona. In retirement Kathy keeps busy serving as Vice President of the International Association of Administrative Personnel (Chippewa Valley branch) and caring for her 90 year old mother. Kathy's interests include walking, biking, cross-country skiing, and travelling. She has had travel adventures in Europe, Israel, and Egypt but also spends time travelling to Arizona to visit her daughter. Kathy has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education from UW-Stevens Point and a Master of Science in Teaching degree from UW-Eau Claire.

We want to extend a heartfelt welcome to these new AAUW members!



TOO MANY SOUND BITES

Are you feeling harassed by the onslaught of Presidential election hype? It will all be over in a year—but at this point, that seems like an eternity. I have a suggestion to help you get through it: listen to the people, not the ads. Recently, friends and I watched the ABC Candidate Debate, which featured the Republican candidates debating first and then the Democratic candidates. We noticed that listening to the people present their goals, policies, ideas, plans, or whatever you wish to call them, was very interesting, and certainly much better than the interpretation by others. So watch the **people** and you will have a better chance of voting with confidence.

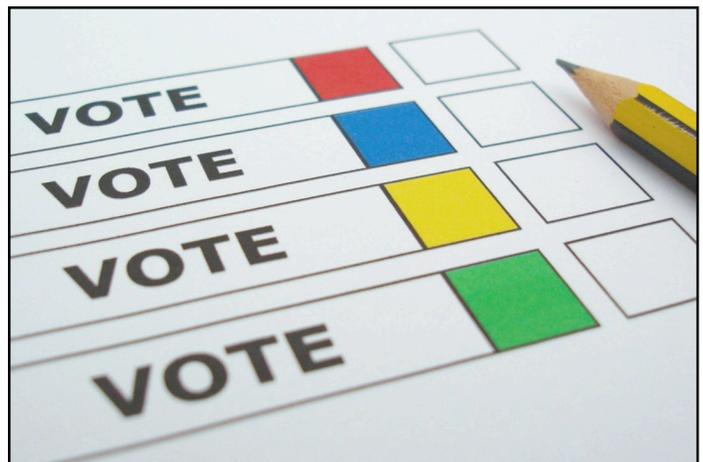
Please don't let the national elections overshadow the very important local elections. For City of Eau Claire residents, there are 5 city council positions open, with 6 candidates on the April 1 ballot. In addition to the City Council, voters will also elect members to the School Board, County Board, Circuit Court, and State Supreme Court. Check the local newspapers and Web sites for candidate information for Eau Claire and the surrounding areas.

Get someone hooked on voting. If we all encouraged just one person to go to the polls, just think what that would do for democracy.

Put these dates on your 2008 calendar and we'll see you at the polls.

2008 Election Dates

- Spring Primary, February 19
(Presidential Preference)
- Spring Election, April 1
- Fall Primary, September 9
- Fall General Election, November 4
(Presidential Election)



Mary Hayden
Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe

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



Upcoming:

January 19th, Saturday at 11:30
Soup & Movie: *Sicko*

February 19, Tuesday, 7 pm
Investments and Long Term Care
RCU Corporate, Phoenix Park

220 Roosevelt Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54701