

Foliage

a newsletter of AAUW-Eau Claire

March **2014**



Social Media Training

Saturday, March 8, 10-11:30 am

Location: McIntyre Library,
Instruction Lab, UW-Eau Claire

Pay Equity Day

April 8, 2014

Annual Pie Meeting

Featuring Jennifer Johs-Artisensi
UWEC health policy expert who
has testified before Congress
about health and eldercare.

Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 pm
at Margaret Melrose's home

AAUW State Convention

Friday, April 25-Saturday, April 26
Holiday Inn South - 4751 Owen
Ayres Court

President's Corner

Missing History

Start smart, stay strong. That may sound like a coach's advice to an Olympic athlete. There were many "firsts" for women at the 2014 Winter Olympics. It was inspiring to see women competing and experiencing the exhilaration of success. No women competed at the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896. It was felt that their inclusion would be "impractical, uninteresting, unaesthetic, and incorrect." Imagine if those observers had been transported to Sochi to see the fairer sex compete in hockey, ski jumping, snowboarding, and halfpipe skiing. But, those athletes would not have had a chance to compete if people had been tied to past traditions. It takes a focus on the future to envision new possibilities and move forward. That is one reason the theme of our state AAUW convention program in April will focus on education and the future.

With the theme of Start Smart, Stay Strong, the program will highlight AAUW's efforts to support and promote the interests of the young women who will shape the future of the world. It may not involve time trials, but it will feature presentations showing all the work AAUW is currently doing to enhance opportunities for girls and young women and will, no doubt, encourage us think about what more can be done. Because the convention is being held right here in Eau Claire, this is a great chance for our branch to be engaged in learning how to do more, in addition to showing off what we have accomplished.

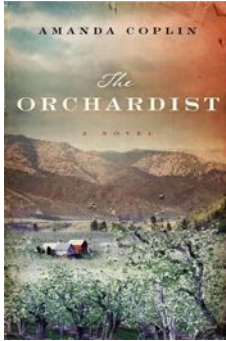
Our own Sanjukta Chaudhuri will be featured on a panel of women who have been awarded fellowships and grants. She will describe her research related to gender inequality in India, while other

(continued on page 5)



Book Group Meetings:

April 8th, ***The Orchardist*** by Amanda Coplin



May 6th, ***Passion of Artemisia*** by Susan Vreeland

June 3rd, ***The Invention of Wings*** by Sue Monk Kidd.

Official Notice:

This serves as the required written notice of a bylaws vote to be held at our upcoming annual meeting. A mandatory addition to the bylaws requires that we state when new members can vote. The board recommends the following inclusion in the bylaws. "New members are eligible to vote at the next branch meeting after dues have been received by an officer of the board." The part that would up for discussion is underlined. Sincerely, Lois Helland, AAUW Eau Claire Bylaws Chair.

Public Policy

Online Resources for AAUW Members

Equal Pay Day—Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Join us in the new Davies Center at UW-Eau Claire from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be handing out Payday bars and materials to raise awareness of the pay inequity between women and men. The pay gap has not narrowed in over a decade! AAUW has produced great information sheets on the statistics, the reasons for unequal pay, the results of wage inequity of women and families, and "The Fight for Pay Equity: A Road Map."

Your help is needed to staff the table in Davies Center. Please contact Mary Hayden if you can help for an hour.

A new event will follow-after work-at an off-campus location. We are calling it our "Unhappy Hour." Plan to invite your friends, young professionals, and students over 21. Stay tuned for further details.

Check out the following resources from AAUW

The gender pay gap is real, and it hurts women and families.

- [Among full-time, year-round workers, women are typically paid 77 percent of what men are paid.](#)
- [The pay gap is worse for women of color.](#)
- [When you account for all factors known to affect pay, women are still paid almost 7 percent less than men just one year after college — and the gap only grows from there.](#)
- [The pay gap hasn't budged in a decade.](#)



Start Smart, Stay Strong

Please join AAUW branch members throughout the state for the 2014 AAUW-WI 94th State Convention being held this spring, Friday, April 25-26, at the new Holiday Inn Eau Claire South.

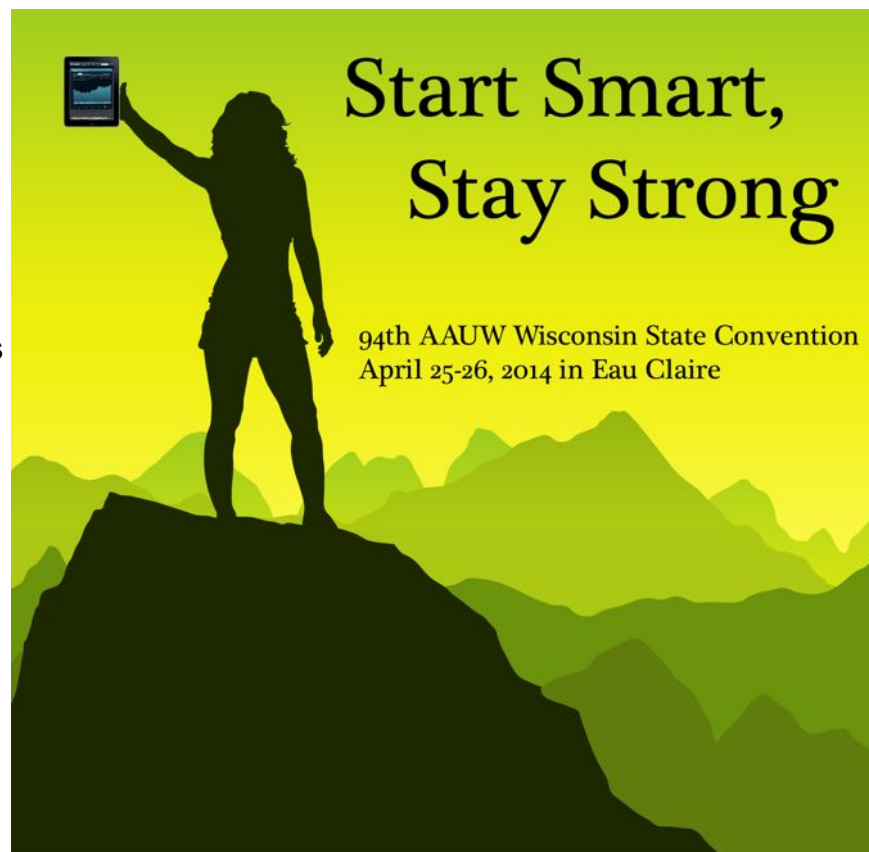
The convention begins on Friday afternoon with the pre-convention workshops of \$tart \$mart, a salary negotiation workshop for 40 university/technical college students plus additional time for facilitator training at UW-Eau Claire, and Branch Best Practices, an orientation and update workshop for branch presidents.

Registration opens at 3:00 p.m. followed by a dinner and cash bar beginning at 5:15 p.m. Catherine Hill, National AAUW Director of Research, will keynote at 7:00 p.m. and a panel of AAUW Fellowship and Grant Recipients, one of whom is our own AAUW member Sanjukta Chaudhuri, will enlighten us on their experiences. The evening concludes with an inspirational film, "Girl Rising", about girls around the world who face heartbreaking circumstances, but still are determined to get an education.

Saturday begins with the opening of the annual business meeting and a welcome from Kerry Kincaid and David Kirkwood, AAUW Director-at-Large. Catherine Hill will present the luncheon keynote on her research, *Community Colleges: Access to Success*.

A panel of former attendees to our National Conference for College Women Student Leaders begins the afternoon along with numerous breakout sessions. More details and registration information will be sent to you in the *Badger Briefs* convention issue.

If you have attended a state convention or if this would be your first state convention, we encourage joining your fellow AAUW members. The Eau Claire Branch **will pay** for your **registration** and **meal costs** if you will volunteer at this convention. If you plan to attend, complete the registration form in the *Badger Briefs* and our branch will reimburse you after the convention. We look forward to seeing many of you at the state convention.



The voting on the budget occurs at the April 16th meeting

AAUW - EAU CLAIRE BRANCH 2014-15 Proposed Budget

CARRY FORWARD	2013-14	2014-15
Operating Expenses	\$3,585.00	\$2,604.60
Book Sale Rental	1,312.00	1,261.40
National Conference		2,000.00
INCOME		
Dues (\$73 x 65 + \$24 x 4 members)	\$4,550.00	\$4,841.00
Book Sale	8,000.00	8,000.00
Interest	3.00	-
Fund Raiser(s)	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$18,450.00	\$19,707.00
EXPENSES		
Dues		
National (65 members x \$49)	\$2,990.00	\$3,185.00
State (69 members x \$13)	845.00	897.00
Meeting Expenses		
Rent (Facility Expense)	\$250.00	\$250.00
Hospitality	90.00	100.00
Speakers/Programs	180.00	150.00
Promotion	100.00	120.00
Conventions/Workshops		
National	\$1,900.00	\$2,000.00
State	1,200.00	1,200.00
Other (Regional Meetings)	150.00	150.00
Operating Expenses		
Liability Insurance	\$160.00	\$170.00
Newsletter	210.00	110.00
Public Policy	200.00	200.00
Membership	100.00	100.00
Executive Board	75.00	75.00
Book Sale	3,000.00	3,000.00
Scholarships		
UWEC Foundation	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
CVTC Scholarship	500.00	500.00
UWEC Endowment	1,000.00	\$1,000
NCCWSL	2,000.00	3,000.00
National Contributions		
AAUW Funds	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00
Community Action/Organ		
Community Action	300.00	\$300.00
Misc. Donation Requests	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$18,450.00	\$ 19,707.00

The President's Corner (continued)

panelists will talk about inspiring girls to pursue science education and research, and programs providing leadership education for girls. Another panel of NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) scholarship recipients will include Gretchen Bachmeier, one of the first recipients of a scholarship from our branch. We'll learn more about strengthening our connections with local colleges and universities and strategies on how to get young women to the polls to vote. We'll hear from Dr. Catherine Hill, AAUW's Director of Research, about community colleges and their roles in helping women on the path to economic security. Thanks to funding from the state AAUW board, we will be able to have a \$tart \$mart salary negotiation workshop on campus for 40 women students and 20 trainers who can then continue to hold these workshops in the future. Contrary to the belief of one of our state legislators, money is just as important to women as it is to men.

Besides expanding our thinking about working toward a better future, this is a chance to meet with AAUW members from all over the state, without a long drive! Look for registration materials in the next Badger Briefs and plan to spend part of your weekend, April 25 and 26, with a group of like-minded, dedicated women.

Connie Russell
AAUW Eau Claire President



From the Book Group:

A photo of Marian Carr, who talked about her involvement as a chemist with the Manhattan Project during WWII. Marian came to book group during their discussion of *The Girls of Atomic City*.

A “party-line” intrusion into public education

The history: Wisconsin was among the first of 45 states to adopt new core curriculum standards that challenged educators to help US student reach performance goals. When US council of chief state school officers and national governor’s association signed off on the project in 2010, state educators set to work.

Wisconsin’s previous standards were vague and outdated. For the past two years therefore Wisconsin K-12 schools have been preparing students to meet the more rigorous math and reading standards.

In 2012, Governor Walker supported the state’s adopted “Common Core” as “more rigorous” and a “response to the need to improve state standards.” The standards enjoy broad support from business leaders as well as educators. The strongest opponents have been Tea Party Republicans, who believe the standards are federal intrusions into local education. However, as defined by the states, Common Core standards simply address national guidelines aimed at building a skilled US workforce in a global economy.

So, what happened? In 2013 Governor Walker began talking about a commission co-chaired by the Superintendent of the DPI to construct “Wisconsin-specific” standards, “stronger than” the Common Core. But in the past weeks, details emerged quickly. First, an Assembly bill was rushed for a vote february 20 by its education committee, then quickly cancelled. The same day the Eau Claire Leader Telegram published two articles on the bill. The first, an op-ed by Representative Dean Knudson (R-Hudson), denounced the Common Core state standards as a power grab by “State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Evers,” describing “his” bill introduced to “limit the Superintendent’s power to adopt future standards.” Knudson concluded: “the Legislature has worked hard to meet Gov. Walker’s call for WI-based standards. . . . The time to act is now.” A second article from the AP (buried at the back of the paper) was headlined, “Walker backs bill to drop Common Core standards.” Actually, Walker’s staff wrote the bill!

Additional news articles followed:

Scott Walker staff drafted bill aimed at Common Core State Standards

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/education/standards21-b99209908z1-246343221.html>

Editorial: Scrap Senate bill, not Common Core

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20140224/GPG0602/302240391/>

Editorial-Scrap-Senate-bill-not-Common-Core

Noting the grossly political makeup of the proposed Standards board: “if this is truly to be objective and nonpolitical, why does the governor appoint more members than the DPI chief?”

Editorial: Leave education to educators; Common Core bill terrible

<http://www.postcrescent.com/article/20140223/APC0602/302230196/Editorial-Leave-education-educators-Common-Core-bill-terrible>

If it is not too late, the April 8 unhappy hour location is Mogie's Pub, 5:30-6:30.

Get ready, get set, take action!

AAUW national, state, or local public policy leader often ask members to contact government leaders regarding issues vital to the mission of AAUW. You have several options available to locate the information to reach these leaders. Often you will be advised which contact method is best, a phone call, an email, or a letter.

- A printed copy of government contact information is located in the back of your AAUW-Eau Claire membership directory.
- A Find My Legislators link is located at: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/pages/waml.aspx>
Bookmark it!
- A request similar the one below takes you directly to the site; just hold your mouse over the blue link, then press CTRL and Click. Try it.
Please [contact your legislators today!!](#)

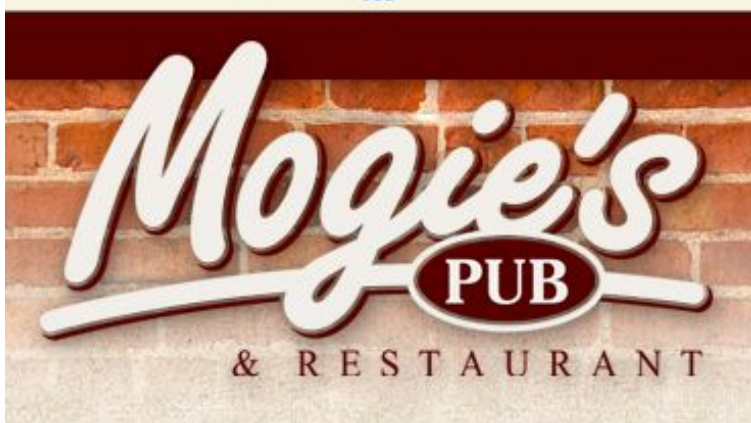
Sen. Terry Moulton (R) (23rd Senate District)
608-266-7511
Sen.Moulton@legis.wisconsin.gov

Sen. Kathleen Vinehout (D) (31st Senate District)
608-266-8546
Sen.Vinehout@legis.wisconsin.gov

Rep. Kathleen Bernier (R) (68th Assembly District)
608-266-9172
Rep.Bernier@legis.wi.gov

Rep. Warren Petryk (R) (93rd Assembly District)
608-266-0660
Rep.Petryk@legis.wi.gov

Rep. Dana Wachs (D) (91st Assembly District)
608-266-7461
Rep.@achs@legis.wisconsin.gov



The April 8th **Unhappy Hour** is at Mogie's Pub,
5:30-6:30pm.

New Members

Barb Reid - Attorney working for UnitedHealthcare as a Regulatory Analyst focusing on the Medicare and Medicaid programs. What concerns me most is the impact that unrealistic female images used in advertising have on young girls self esteem.

Case in point: the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition. What do bikini clad, half naked, airbrushed women in sexy (realistically, awkward) poses have to do with sports? We keep pushing these unrealistic ideals on young women and men. While it's great to address this issue with programs aimed at enhancing girls esteem, we also need to address the unrealistic advertising aimed at men and boys. It indoctrinates them into having unrealistic expectations of how women should look which leads to greater pressure on women to achieve these unachievable images - which can lead to lower self esteem. It's a vicious cycle. Let's educate men as well. For example, when my husband enjoyed Kate Upton's pic in SI, I mentioned that in a few years, she would regret those already sagging implants. And I mentioned the airbrushing along with a few other things. I completely destroyed his fantasy, poor guy.

Joan Shannon

Hello! My name is Joan Shannon and I have lived here for 2 winters! That's how I mark time now (just kidding!). Before moving here, I lived in Lancaster Pennsylvania, and I have to admit – the winters are pretty long here but the snow is so much nicer! Instead of snow-melt-slush as it was in PA before I could even get out my skis, my husband and dog and I now have lots of opportunities to enjoy the beautiful groomed xc ski trails. And fall in Wisconsin is spectacular.

Some things about me: I have taught in one form or another for my entire adult life. Most of it in business and industry, first in training and curriculum development, and later as Director of HR and Diversity. Five years ago, I wanted to return to interacting with students, and to combine my love of language, travel and cultural diversity, so I returned to grad school and began my current career. Since then, I have had the best job in the world, teaching ESL to adults from Russia, Brazil, Italy and many other countries via Skype. And I happy to say that I just launched my own little business and website (joanshannonenglish.com) in December.

I have a number of passions in my life, including art, music, travel, women's and children's issues, outdoors, extended family and friends, and most of all, my husband, Peter, and fluffy dog-daughter ☺, Marta.

When I first moved to Lancaster from NE PA, I joined AAUW for the first time. There, I found women who were interesting and fun to be with, who were passionate about important causes and who inspired me to grow. Now, through AAUW Eau Claire, I am looking forward to contributing to this community and forming new friendships!

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

