



March
2010

President's Message

Just Don't Say No!

One injunction that has come out of the recent attention to the issue of women and work/life balance is that women need to learn how to say "no." Overcommitted and underappreciated, women are advised to pull back from some of their less rewarding commitments. It's not surprising that in the last 5 to 10 years a number of books have come out counseling women how to do just that with confidence and without guilt.

One popular book published last year by Nanette Gatrell, *My Answer is No . . . If That's Okay with You*, claims that "Saying NO for women can be a genuine struggle because of our deeply rooted need for connection." She focuses on honoring that commitment to connection without being tethered to guilt with every "no" one chooses to say.

But from my point of view, our branch members are getting too good at saying no. And while I recognize this as a sign of progress for women, it has potential repercussions for the running of AAUW-Eau Claire. I don't have time (because I'm overcommitted) to write an entire book, so here are my main points:

- Our board meetings are fun, engaging evenings featuring delicious food and beverages.

- On the board, you can learn more not only about our branch and AAUW, but also our community.
- You can help decide how we enact the AAUW mission through our programming, fund-raising, and service commitments.
- Our board is flexible, informal, and supportive. We help each other figure things out. We are ***connected***.

With that being said, let me introduce our **slate of nominees for office:**

Treasurer: Linda Spaeth

Membership x 1: _____

Programming x 2: Karen Pope + _____

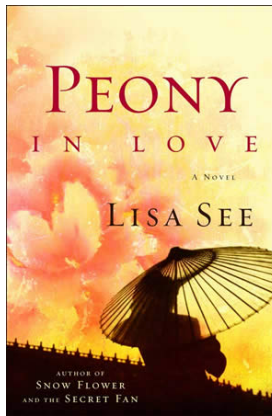
Secretary: _____

That's a lot of blank slots that I'm hoping will be filled with (self) nominations from the floor at our April meeting. Please, please consider volunteering. I am also looking for Book-Sale Co-chairs, which are appointed positions. Contact me!

-Kate Hinnant

kate.hinnant@gmail.com





Book group

Book Group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at members' homes. Here are the remaining meetings and books for this year.

APRIL: *Peony in Love* by Lisa See from the AAUW Adelante list at Ginny Jordan's with Marge Quaid doing the review.

MAY: *Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger at Karen Haugen's with JJ Henriksen doing the review

JUNE: *The Lace Reader* by Brunonia Barry at Pam Hicks' with Ginny Jordan preparing the review.

Please contact the hostess if you plan to attend. This spring we will also select our summer reading book.

Chris Kondrasuk

April is important!

April is our Annual Meeting. Aside from celebrating the end of tax season, we will be voting on next years budget and the slate of officers for our board.

This April, we are lucky to have our own Sarah Harder on the program to discuss women's issues in Russia.

**Thursday April 15th, 7pm
1st Congregational Church**



Butternut Squash and Apple Soup Kim Wellnitz

Use 1 ½ large or 3-4 small butternut squash
Cut in half, put flesh side down in microwaveable dish
Add 1 cup water
Microwave about 9-12 minutes or until tender
Remove and let cool
Scoop out flesh and set aside (discard seeds and skin)

Chop one round onion
Chop 3-4 stalks of celery
*Fresh ground pepper
**Cook in 1 -2 tablespoons of olive oil until tender

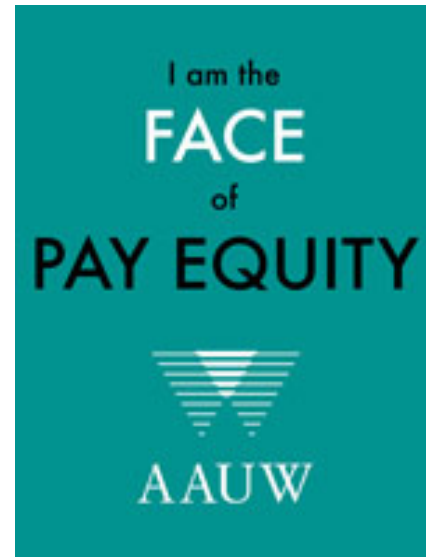
Add two diced apples (I leave skin on)
Heat for a few minutes,
Then add some vegetable stock
Heat until soft
I use a hand immersion blender and blend until smooth

Add butternut squash
Add vegetable stock
Blend until smooth and add more stock until desired consistency

Serve topped with bacon bits.
*I don't add extra salt because the bacon is salty and I don't use low sodium vegetable stock.
**You can fry the bacon first, then use some of the bacon fat to cook the onion and celery for a non-vegetarian option.

Public Policy

Every year that day rolls around, the day when women's wages catch up to men's wages from the previous year. We DO have to work a lot longer to earn the same salary! We know that the situation has improved since 1963, when the Equal Pay Act was passed, but women still make only \$.78 for every dollar that men earn. It's interesting to see that the gap is still real, in spite of the increased numbers of women earning degrees, and the entry of women into STEM and other non-traditional fields. You may hear the claim that it is the life decisions that women make that result in their lower salaries. The issue is more complicated than this, and that statement does not explain the differences in starting salary between men and women who leave college after earning identical degrees.



You will find a wealth of information online at the AAUW site: www.aauw.org, take action...equal pay day. Another good resource is the Wisconsin Women's Council publication, "Mind the Gap! Women, Wages, and the Pay Gap in Wisconsin" at <http://womenscouncil.wi.gov/>.

This year the AAUW-Eau Claire bake sale is out, replaced by our new "let's raise awareness" event. Join Eau Claire branch members and friends as we staff tables at UW-Eau Claire's Hibbard Hall and the Chippewa Valley Technical Institute on Tuesday, April 20, from 11:00 a.m.-1 p.m. We will be handing out a short quiz, accompanied by a Payday candy bar or a 100 Grand bar. The questions on the quiz will cover topics that students can relate to: gender pay inequities in salary after leaving school, their mom's lifetime earnings compared to that of a male, the effect of wage inequities on family and household income, and how race enters into the picture.

We need your help. Sign up at our branch meeting on March 24 to staff one of the tables, or, if you cannot be at the meeting, contact Mary or Sarah. And now that you don't need to bake this year, if you feel the need to contribute toward the cost of the candy bars, you know where to find us.

Thank you from your public policy co-chairs,
Mary Hayden, 715-832-0445, haydenm@prodigy.net
Sarah Harder, 715-831-9193, harderss@uwec.edu



Scholarship Winners... an Update

Congratulations to 2009 graduates!

Cara Dempski

2008 scholarship recipient
Social Work

Amy Lavin

2006 scholarship recipient
Nursing (currently a UWEC graduate student in Nursing)

Be proud of the work you've done.

Since 2000, we've awarded **40** local scholarships totaling **\$19,600!**

It looks like there'll be about 5 scholarship winners graduating in 2010.

One of our 2008 scholarship recipients, **Catherine Emmanuelle**, continues her education at UWEC, working towards a degree in Women Studies and a minor in Economics. Catherine is also running for an at large seat on the Eau Claire City Council.

Location Change!

Public Library

March 24th - 7pm

Teresa O'Halloran

**Assistant to the Chancellor for Affirmative
Action at UW-Eau Claire**

*Now at the Eau Claire Room in the L.E. Phillips
Public Library

Teresa will talk with us about the recent campus climate survey and other initiatives to address equity issues for women and minorities on the UW-Eau Claire campus.

To be voted on at our Annual Meeting on April 15th

AAUW - EAU CLAIRE BRANCH 2010-11 Proposed Budget

		Actual 2009-10	2010-11
CARRY FORWARD			
Operating Expenses	1,646.00		1,460.00
Book Sale Rental	1,283.00	1,258.00	1,312.00
National Conference	0.00		1,200.00
INCOME			
Dues	4,550.00	4,147.00	4,354.00
\$70 x 65 members			
Book Sale	9,200.00	12,431.00	10,000.00
Interest	16.00	19.00	18.00
Fund Raiser (LAF Silent Auction)	500.00	1,100.00	750.00
Misc. Fund Raising	<u>175.00</u>	147.00	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$17,370.00		\$19,094.00
EXPENSES			
Dues			
National (65 members x \$49)	3,185.00	2,891.00	3,000.00
State (65 members x \$10)	650.00	590.00	650.00
Student member (5 affiliates x \$22)	110.00	154.00	102.00
Meeting Expenses			
Rent	150.00	150.00	150.00
Hospitality	50.00	81.00	90.00
Speakers/Programs	150.00	213.00	225.00
Conventions/Workshops			
National	1,800.00	1,556.00	1,900.00
State	1,200.00		1,200.00
Other (Regional Meetings)	50.00	172.00	17.00
Operating Expenses			
Liability Insurance	150.00	125.00	125.00
Newsletter	250.00	170.00	210.00
Membership	100.00	81.00	100.00
Executive Board	75.00	45.00	75.00
Book Sale	2,400.00	2,605.00	2,600.00
Scholarships			
UWEC Foundation (Min. of \$500 each)	3,000.00		4,000.00
CVTC Scholarship (Min. of \$500 each)	1,000.00		1,500.00
UWEC Endowment	1,000.00		1,000.00
National Contributions			
Legal Advocacy Fund	500.00	1,100.00	750.00
Education Foundation/Leadership	1,000.00		1,000.00
Community Action/Organ			
Comm. Action (MS Adventure Girls, etc.)	300.00	500.00	300.00
Mis. (Women of Dist/Donation Requests)	100.00	35.00	100.00
Mis. Expenses (Book Sale Video)	<u>150.00</u>		-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,370.00		\$19,094.00

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.binnant@gmail.com, 831-0182, 220 Roosevelt Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701



March 24, Wednesday - 7 p.m.

Campus Climate & Equity w/Teresa O'Halloran J.D.
L.E.Phillips Public Library

April 15, Thursday - 7pm

Annual Meeting
Sarah Harder on Women's Issues in Russia
1st Congregational Church

220 Roosevelt Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54701