

October
2008

Presidents' Message

Our kick off meeting this year was a very relaxing and enjoyable afternoon thanks to Margot Bouchard's excellent organizational skills. Thanks also to Mary Hayden, Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe, Sandy Hume, and Kim Wellnitz for sharing information about this year's plans.

Speaking of book sales, by now you should have noticed the book barrels in the grocery stores. The dates for our annual fundraiser are October 10-12th. Please support this event by donating books, signing up to work, and encouraging others to attend. Don't forget: when you're at the Expo Center working and/or shopping, pick up your **membership booklet** for the 2008-2009 year.

With the November elections just around the corner, AAUW urges you to hold your elected officials accountable for their votes and to know where the candidates stand on issues that are important to women and their families. In mid-September, AAUW released the *Congressional Voting Record* for the 110th Congress and voter guides for some hotly contested races this November. Detailed information is available on *Washington Update*, AAUW's free, members-only weekly e-bulletin. Subscribe to *Washington Update* by emailing VoterEd@aauw.org. Information about what election-related efforts *our* branch is undertaking can be found in this issue of *Foliage*.

If you read your fall issue of *Badger Briefs*, you saw the notice for the District 4 leadership meeting on November 15 at UW-Eau Claire, co-sponsored by the Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls branches. We encourage you to take advantage of this energizing workshop. You don't need to hold a branch office to participate. Please contact Margot Bouchard if you are interested in attending at 832-9848 or email her at margotbouchard@yahoo.com. The registration deadline is November 1st.

Mark your calendars now for December 6th, the celebration of our 50th year as an AAUW Branch. We're combining this with our Holiday luncheon and LAF Silent Auction. It's sure to be a very special day.

We have a busy fall ahead of us. We encourage you to get involved!

Cleo Powers

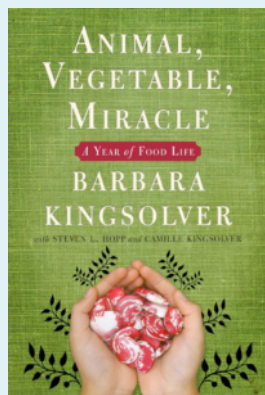
powerscj@uwec.edu; 834-0794

Dawn Bosold

dbosold@hotmail.com; 835-4055



Book Group



The Evening Book Group meets the first Tuesday of the month. Our October meeting will be Oct. 7th at 7:30 at Claran Ramsdell's to discuss *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver.

In November we will meet the 2nd Tuesday because of the election, so the date will be Nov. 11 at Pam Hick's to discuss *Beirut Heart* by Cathy Sultan, a local author. December's meeting is Dec. 2nd at Karen Haugen's and the book is *Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirovsky.

If you are new to the group please call the hostess.



For many years we have relied on **Jean Hazelton** who so ably provided us with treats at our Branch meetings.

Thank you, Jean!

She has now resigned her role, and we are looking for someone to take over the position of **Hospitality Hostess**. The primary responsibility of the hostess is to make sure "treats" are available at the meeting by asking fellow AAUW members to bring them. The hostess is also responsible making sure coffee, tea, and serving dishes are available.

If you are interested, please contact Cleo Powers (834-0794) or Dawn Bosold (835-4055).



Election Program:

Tuesday, October 21

7 p.m.-First Congregational UCC

Geoffrey D. Peterson, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director, UWEC Political Research Institute, will be speaking about the election season up to this point and what is likely to come given what we have seen in past elections.



This should be a timely, informative session, as the General Election is just around the corner. Please join us!



Connie Russell, Book Sale Chair, and Margot Bouchard yuk it up as they sort



AAUW-Eau Claire “Get out the Vote” Initiative

Plans are in place for AAUW-Eau Claire to support the national Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout Campaign this year. AAUW encourages branches to reach out to women and mobilize them to vote. Women vote in greater numbers than men according to the Center for American Women and Politics (2004). Because of the potential for women to determine the outcome of any election, politicians are increasingly seeking the women’s vote, and giving women’s issues more attention.

Approximately 4000 first-year UWEC students living on campus will be eligible to vote for the first time in a national election. There are many more students living off campus who are planning to vote but are not yet registered in Eau Claire, or do not have clear voting information. AAUW-Eau Claire will partner with UWEC Student Senate, University Centers, Housing, and Student Affairs, and assist in the university’s efforts to support an informed voting community.

This plan will try to reach the first-time voters living on campus, new faculty and staff that have joined the university, and many current residents (student and staff) that may have moved/changed addresses and wards. Activities will include voter registration on campus, in classrooms, ice cream socials, fliers, and canvassing in student neighborhoods that are not being contacted by other voting groups.

Before October 16th

- Help register voters from 10:00-2:00 on the campus mall (1-2 volunteers-tableing)
- Help register voters from 3-7 at the Hilltop Dining Hall (1-2 volunteers-tableing)
- **Canvassing student neighborhood 4 – 7 on October 1, 2, and 5th (need 10 volunteers-walking)**
- Visit classrooms and register voters by request (1 deputized volunteer – 5 minutes)
- Help at register voters at ice cream socials on campus (1-2 volunteers)
- Attend a Voter Registrar training at City Hall October 2, or October 9 and register women citywide.

After October 16th

- Canvassing (most effective, 1 in 14 additional votes)
- Call women first time and irregular voters and encourage them to vote (second most effective, 1 in 30 additional votes)
- Leafleting “I Will Vote” stickers, polling maps and information
- Talk to friends and neighbors and encourage them to vote

Please join the AAUW-Eau Claire “get out the vote” initiative! If you are able to volunteer a few hours please call or email one of your public policy co-chairs.

Mary Hayden, 832-0445 haydenm@prodigy.net

Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe, 833-8843 kelleymb@uwec.edu

Book Sale... Looking Forward to Another Success!

October 10 - 12

Fri - 3 - 9pm
Sat - 9am - 5pm
Sun - 10am - 4pm

**Eau Claire
Exposition
Center**

Come as a *volunteer*, a *shopper*, or to say “hello” and pick up your new membership booklet and directory.

Sorting continues and we appreciate all those who have helped; keep comin’ out because lots of books are pouring in. **Sorting can be done at anytime**, whatever fits your schedule, simply stop by Lois & Mark’s garage. We continue sorting on Wednesday evenings but additional evenings will be added... watch your email for those.



Sorting is Fun!

Many thanks to:

- ~ Connie Russell - Fearless leader (a.k.a. Book Sale Chair)
- ~ Pam & Dawn – Book Barrel buddies
- ~ Rita, Becky, Ronadin, & Jeanne - Publicity Committee
- ~ JJ & Jodi - Sorting
- ~ Lois & Mark Helland - angels for allowing us to take over their garage
- ~ Roma Hoff – the best volunteer coordination assistant
- ~ Everyone who has donated, sorted, or supported the sale in some way – it takes all of us!

Bags, bags, and more bags... the paper kind!

If you have brown, paper, grocery bags we’ll gladly take them off your hands. Customers use a lot of them and they’re especially needed for the Sunday bag special. You can drop paper bags off at Lois’ garage or bring them to the sale.



Book Sale: *We need volunteers for the highlighted shifts; please consider volunteering. You may contact Roma Hoff (#832-8518) before she contacts you. ☺*

Thurs, Oct. 11th

Set-up 12:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Cleo Powers
Margot Bouchard
Debi Levin-Stankevich
Karen Pope
Mary Hayden

Friday, Oct. 12th

Set-up 12:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Cleo Powers
Barbara Ries

Friday, Oct 12th

First Shift 2:45 – 6:00 p.m.

Donna Weidman
Cleo Powers
Marge Quaid
Ginny Jordan
Nina Albanese-Kotar
See Schorr
Claran Ramsdell

Friday, Oct 12th

Second Shift 5:45 – 9:00 p.m.

Dawn Bosold

Saturday, Oct. 13th

First Shift 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Chris Kondrasuk
Lois Helland
Karen Haugen

Saturday, Oct 13th

Second Shift 11:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Roma Hoff

Saturday, Oct 13th

Third Shift 2:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Margot Bouchard
Mary Hayden
Kate Hinnant
Robin Shih

Sunday, Oct. 14th

First Shift 9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct 14th

Second Shift 12:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Roma Hoff
Karen Pope
Rita Houser

Sunday Clean-up 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Cleo Powers
Margot Bouchard
Karen Pope
Rita Houser
Mary Hayden
Dawn Bosold



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Just a reminder -- **Younkers Community Day coupon booklets** will be available for purchase \$5 at upcoming AAUW events until November 10. The \$5 remains with AAUW and is an easy fundraiser for the Branch. Community Day is scheduled for November 15. The event coordinator assured us that the Community Day coupons will be easier to shop with on Community Day. There will be hundreds of more items that the coupons can be used on.

## Meet Our Scholarship Awardees

This year our Branch awarded scholarships, each in the amount of \$540, to five very deserving young women. Here's a little background on each of the recipients.

**LEAH JEAN ACKERVIK:** Leah is a single mom of a son 15 years old and a daughter 11 years old. After moving back to Eau Claire from Seattle, WA., she recently completed her first semester at UWEC and plans to graduate in December 2009 with a degree in Public Relations. She says, "I am so grateful for the scholarship. Indeed it does help alleviate financial stress, but equally important, it is a vote of confidence from my community that "I can do it".



**CATHERINE NICOLE EMMANUELLE:** At the end of May, Catherine completed her freshman year at UWEC working toward a degree in nursing. You may have recently seen the article in the Leader-Telegram about Catherine and a fellow classmate who designed a T-shirt to bring emphasis to the role of gender in the current presidential campaign. Catherine is a single mother and expresses her gratefulness to AAUW for investing in her and affirming her scholastic efforts.

**KARA LEIGH DEMPSKI:** Kara describes herself as a non-traditional student pursuing a second bachelor's degree in social work. Her ultimate goal is to pursue a degree in counseling and serve as a school guidance counselor and school social worker. She indicates she was pleased and surprised to receive this recognition, and she accepts it with gratitude.

**CHRISTA R. SPIESS:** Christa is a single mother of two children, ages nine months and four years, and she identifies her two children as the driving force to succeed in nursing school and anticipates graduating in 2010. Prior to entering UWEC she was a hard-working waitress and a soldier. She says, "I will continue to excel to the best of my abilities and will always remember what AAUW has done for me. You have earned a place of honor in my heart, and I thank you for your hard work and dedication to advancing equity for women such as me."

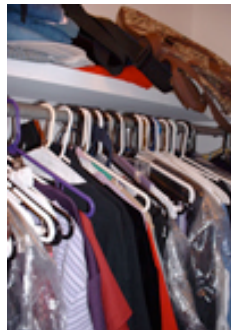
**REBEKAH A. STREIT:** If Rebekah's name sounds familiar, it is because she is a scholarship recipient for the second year in a row. She is a mother to McKayla, her eleven-year-old daughter and Jeffrey, who is eight years old. Rebekah says, "While traveling down the road of single parenthood, I worked for a number of temp agencies, factory jobs, and other labor positions and for five years at United HealthCare in Eau Claire, but in September, 2005, started writing a new chapter in my life and signed up for classes at UWEC." She has declared a major in the Health Care Administration program.

# Legal Advocacy Fun Auction

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December 6<sup>th</sup> is the day of our 50-year gala event. But in addition to celebrating this special anniversary, we will also hold our annual LAF Auction. You know the one – featuring coveted items made by our creative members, services you didn't even realize you needed, and lots of laughs as the bidding reaches a last-minute frenzy.

It's two months until the auction, but it's time to start thinking about what you're willing to contribute. Remember the mystery dinners? The Sandbakkels? The closet organizing? Hmmm...



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**Don't need a paper copy of our branch newsletter anymore? Then let us know...**

**Tell Us Your Newsletter Delivery Preference**

For the past year we have been sending an electronic copy of *Foliage* as well as a print copy through snail mail. Many of you have mentioned that you would be happy to receive only the electronic copy.

**About 35 members** have already completed a short form at our website indicating your preference. **You will continue receiving the newsletter by mail if we don't hear from you.**

[www.aauweauclaire.org](http://www.aauweauclaire.org)

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*An invitation from our friends at the Chippewa Falls branch:*

## The Producers

The new Mel Brooks Musical  
At Chanhassen Dinner Theatre  
Saturday, November 22

Join members of the Chippewa Falls branch on a day trip to Chanhassen, MN to see the Tony Award winning musical at one of only three regional theatres to receive the rights to produce it.

The price of \$84 covers:

- Morning coffee and donuts
- Coach bus ride
- Backstage tour of the theatre complex
- Luncheon
- Ticket for performance
- Opportunity to shop at Mall of America

The bus will leave Chippewa Falls at 8:45 am and return at approximately 9 pm.

Call Sue at 715-723-6961 to make your reservation and get further details.

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



## **AAUW Annual Book Sale**

**Oct 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

**Eau Claire County Expo Center**

## **Election Forum**

**Featuring Geoffrey Peterson**

**October 21, Tuesday - 7 p.m.**

**First Congregational UCC**

220 Roosevelt Ave  
Eau Claire, WI 54701