



November/December 2007

From the Presidents

Please extend a huge CONGRATULATIONS to Kim Wellnitz and Manda Krier and all the Book Sale Committee for their wonderful work planning and organizing which made our annual book sale so very, very successful this year. Many members and friends of AAUW put in lots of hours supporting the sale. Thank you, all!

Debbie Anderson Meyer, Director of Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, gave us much food for thought in her presentation at the October Branch meeting. WDC is a nonpartisan political watchdog group working for clean government. WDC tracks the money in Wisconsin politics. Check out the WDC's website (www.wisdc.org) to learn more about the efforts focusing on campaign finance reform, reform of the process for reapportionment/redistricting, and truth in campaigning. An example of some of their recent work is an analysis that disclosed that spending by outside special interests and the candidates in the 2007 Wisconsin Supreme Court race topped \$5.8 million, more than four times the previous record spent in a court race.

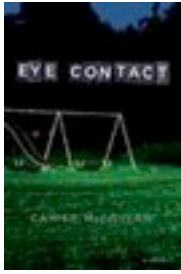
At the national level, AAUW is focusing on strategic planning this year. On July 1, delegates at the 2007 AAUW convention in Phoenix voted unanimously to approve sweeping changes to AAUW's organizational structures. The vote gives the boards a green light to move forward with strategic initiatives that will help create a viable and sustainable 21st century organization. At our Branch level

we also have a strategic planning document in place (see your Membership Book pages 16-17) for a copy of the plan. As changes move ahead on the National level, we at the Branch level need to reassess our goals too. Take some time to review our Strategic Plan and begin to think about changes that need to be made as we plan for our organization's role in the future.

Invite a friend or several friends to join you at the LAF Luncheon and Silent Auction on November 17th. We already have a tantalizing list of items to bid on. Funds raised are contributed to the Legal Advocacy Fund. LAF just celebrated 25 years of progress and precedents as the nation's largest legal fund focused solely on sex discrimination in higher education. Since its founding in 1981, LAF has supported more than 100 cases and contributed more than \$1.5 million to individuals who have taken their fight against campus-based sex discrimination to the courts. Help keep the momentum going. Join friends for good food, conversation and lots of spirited bidding. See you there!

Cleo Powers (powerscj@uwec.edu) 834-0794
Dawn Bosold (dbosold@hotmail.com) 835-4055





Book Group:
Eye Contact

The Book Group will be discussing *Eye Contact* by Cammie McGovern on December 4th at Pam Hicks'.

On January 8th, *Black and Blue* by Anne Quindlen will be the focus at Dawn Bosold's.

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.



The Wellness Corner

*I would thank you from the bottom of my heart,
but for you my heart has no bottom.*
~Author Unknown

This month is a time to give thanks for all that we have received, have given, and have shared. Sometimes it may seem easiest to thank people in spirit but difficult to thank them in person. Please, go out on that proverbial limb this month – say thank you. Make somebody's day.

Another quick tip for a daily self-booster is to journal what you are thankful for. Simply write down 3-5 things each day that make you smile, think, laugh, love. Even on those really stressful days that we all encounter, you owe it to yourself to focus (for at least a few minutes) on the positive things for which you are thankful.

One can pay back the loan of gold, but one dies forever in debt to those who are kind.
~Malayan Proverb

Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone.
~G.B. Stern

Membership

Getting To Know Our New Members

Jodi Simek

Jodi Simek speaks Ukrainian and some Swedish. She learned Ukrainian while teaching accounting (her minor from UW Eau Claire) for the Peace Corps in Ukraine.

After graduating from Eau Claire in '97, she worked at the University of Kansas as an international outreach coordinator. From Kansas, she moved to Pullman, Washington where she became an international center coordinator for Washington State University.

And as of last March, she became an international student adviser at UW Eau Claire assisting 150 international students from 35 countries. She helps students with the many regulations associated with their visas as well as providing personal, emotional and cultural support for the challenges they face.

J.J. Henricksen

J. J. moved to Eau Claire 3 1/2 years ago from the San Jose area of California. Her "accent" however gives her away as originally coming from the East coast. That's an upstate New York accent with a touch of New Jersey turned Wisconsinite you hear when you talk to her. I love to hear her talk!

J.J. studied math at State University of New York at Binghamton and then went on for her graduate degree in applied mathematics from Courant Institute of Mathematics at NYU.

This led her to a career in computer programming on supply chain management (amongst other things).

J. J. attends school board meetings and volunteers at the Memorial high school library, She also teaches Sunday school to high school students and just happens to have a 16 year old daughter. She survived 5 moves in 5 years - two of them cross country.

We've got web site



www.aauweauclaire.org

We're not quite ready for primetime yet, but we've got several pages up and running, including the yearly calendar, the newsletter page, and the list of board members. For the book sale this year, we used the Booksale page as a point of reference in our publicity.

We also have a contact form and a branch email address for people interested in learning more about our local organization.

If you have any photos from local events that you are willing to share, I'd like to incorporate more throughout the site. Please email me at kate.hinnant@gmail.com

-Kate Hinnant

Public Policy Wish List

You've got a lot on your mind in November and December. Everyone seems to want your help, your dwindling funds, and your valuable time. So what do I, as the AAUW Eau Claire public policy co-chair, want from you?

I am asking you to spend 10 minutes each month to make a difference. Take a peak at: www.aauw.org and scan the public policy area. What grabs you?

- * Girls as leaders
- * Retirement gap for women
- * Presidential candidate watch
- * Improvements to No Child Left Behind
- * Health care equity
- * Pay discrimination
- * STEM funding

Pick ***1*** and do the following: learn about it, discuss it with others in person or online, and take appropriate action.

That's it! That's all I am asking is a few minutes per month, and you really will make a difference. And if you find yourself spending more time on this, that's OK, too...

Mary Hayden

AAUW-Eau Claire public policy co-chair

haydenm@prodigy.net

832-0445



Book Sale 2007

It gets better each year!

A sincere “thank you” to everyone who assisted with the book sale. Whether you worked a shift, sorted, donated books, purchased books, baked some munchies, or got the word out, this year’s sale was a fantastic success and made possible with everyone’s assistance.

Top 10 reasons why this year’s book sale was extremely successful:

10. Kate Hinnant designed a jazzy new flyer and the books sale web page.
9. Lois and Mark Helland – “our key suppliers” of cookies and a garage to sort in!
8. Mark Patterson – your donation of time and expertise to price special books.
7. Prices, we raised them just a bit and nobody complained because it was still the best deal in town.
6. The UWEC Sigma Tau Delta – Theta Zeta Chapter (English Honor Society) – what a great group of enthusiastic and hard working students.
5. The UWEC Hockey team – thanks for helping us move the books again. Go Blugolds!
4. Our wonderful members who checked the barrels, sorted, and staffed the sale.
3. Fabulous individuals on the various book sale committees – you’re my heroes!
2. Manda Krier..... Co-Chair *Extraordinaire!*



Drum roll please, the number one reason we can consider it a successful year.....

1. ***WE MADE MONEY!*** We raised just over \$11,000! Our expenses will be about \$2,100, which leaves us over \$9,000 for scholarships and other worthy initiatives. We should be able to offer a larger scholarship and/or more of them. The Board has also decided to explore the creation of a scholarship at the technical college level.

We’re already thinking about next year and that means two things:

- Manda Krier is seeking a partner in crime to co-chair next year’s sale. Believe me, you want to work with this lady – she’s great.
- We’re seeking input to improve the sale and your comments are most welcome. Please contact Kim (kimwellnitz@yahoo.com or #970.443.2964) or Manda (krieram@uwec.edu).

THANK YOU!
Kim Wellnitz

It's Silent Auction time!

Annual Silent Auction and Legal Advocacy Fund Lunch

on

Saturday November 17, 2007

11:00am

Haymarket Grill

101 Graham Ave.

Downtown Eau Claire

**RSVP by November 15 to Sandy Hume at 835-1239 or
humes_1@charter.net**

Silent Auction Items:

Not Your Mother's Cross Stitch
Those Oh-So-Famous Lemon Bars
Murder Mystery Encore Dinner
Help, I Need Somebody!
Poetry by Patti
It's in the Stars
Sushi for Four

MMM Good, Homemade Goodness
Yummy Holiday Cookies
Authentic Sandbakkels
Clean Your Closet
Woven Mats from Vanuatu
Bavarian Cheesecake
Framed photo from Sandy Hume
Wrapping Holiday Gifts

To bid on auction items prior to Saturday, the 17th, please call or email Mary Hayden at 832-0445 or haydenm@prodigy.net.

Soup & Flick

Michael Moore's *Sicko* + Soup =
Great Discussion

Saturday January 19, 2008
11:30am.

Lois Helland's home
400 Foxmoor Lane
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



Upcoming:

November 17th, Saturday

**Legal Advocacy Fund Lunch &
Silent Auction**

Haymarket Grille

January 19th, Saturday

Soup & Movie: *Sicko*

220 Roosevelt Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54701