

Women Take the Lead: A Report on the 96th Annual AAUW-WI State Convention



AAUW-Wisconsin Celebrated 95th Anniversary

The “modern woman” emerged in the 1920s as women became legal entities unto themselves. AAUW-Wisconsin just celebrated its 95th anniversary (1921 – 2016) – being formed soon after women got the vote in 1920. After 95 years, women today are poised to take the lead in many areas of society. Will we soon elect “Madame President” as another national first?

The 96th Annual State Convention of AAUW-Wisconsin was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Madison, WI on April 22-23, 2016. There were 155 attendees representing 24 of 28 branches.



RESPECT

RESPECT: The Musical Journey of Women featured playwright **Dorothy Marcic** and four singers – Tracy Hines, Dana Shepperd, Lacey Blair, Jaclyn Lefebvre – plus a band of Lori Heidenreich (keyboard), Michelle Pare (bass) and



John Danielson (drums) – who sang and played their way from the corseted days of Lilly Langtry to today’s all-out-there Britney Spears under the direction of Becky Osman. What do women want? **RESPECT!**

Mentoring Young Women

Dean Emerita Julie K. Underwood, UW-Madison School of Education, used the game of “Chutes and Ladders” to show us how to mentor young women on organizational opportunities and pitfalls. She also encouraged us to reach beyond today’s specialized career compartments we find ourselves in, which she likened to “egg crates,” to build good working relationships with others across natural or imposed limits. Trust is the glue that binds when trying to get things done.



AAUW National President

Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW-National President, introduced AAUW’s latest



research *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership*. Leadership is a tough topic because so much has been done on it, yet women still fail to grasp the “unwritten rules” for

success. Copies of the report are available to branches. President Ho provided insights into AAUW-National priorities.

95 Years

State President Joyce Hoffman cut the cake in celebration of the State’s 95th anniversary and reminded everyone that AAUW-Wisconsin had been

active from the start of AAUW. Two UW grads were among AAUW’s founding mothers and Lois Rosenberry from the Madison Branch was president in 1921, when the organization consolidated nationwide and selected the name American Association of University Women. State Historian Nancy Schulz wrote a short history for the convention book and displayed related materials which are archived at the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison.



Students Attend Convention, Serve on Panel

Youthful Twist - 18 students from 4 schools – UW-Madison, UW-Whitewater, UW-Milwaukee and Mount Mary College – attended convention. A new student organization was formed at UW-Madison on April 5 and students held an Equal Pay Day rally on April 12 which was featured on the front page of the campus newspaper. Jiyu Zhou spoke about her role on the AAUW-National Student Advisory Council (SAC) and Kennia Coronado (UW-Milwaukee) spoke about attending NCCWSL. Kennia was introduced to AAUW by winning a scholarship from Racine Branch. NEW: All 14 UW Colleges (including online) are now AAUW C/U partners.



Teska Fund is Complete



Over the Top - The Katherine Teska Research and Projects Fund (#4320) Is Complete! Convention goers had fun and gave **\$6,950** toward completing the Katherine Teska Fund to make it grant-producing at a total of **\$76,742!** Lyn Hildenbrand, AAUW Funds Development VP, sold

raffle tickets for baskets and “Women Take the Lead” logo merchandise, plus collected direct individual donations. Three branches presented donations on Saturday at lunch: Fort Atkinson (\$2,155), Milwaukee (\$2,000), and Rhinelander-Northwoods (\$300). You can still contribute to the Katherine Teska Fund (#4320) by sending a donation to AAUW, 1111 16th St., NW, Washington, D.C., 20036.

AAUW-Wisconsin branches and members gave a total of **\$114,278** to the various AAUW funds in 2015. That amounts to approximately **\$65 per person** across the state.

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New Officers

New AAUW-WI officers: **Stephanie Malaney**, President 2016-18, Appleton Branch; **Diane Lau**, Finance VP, 2016-18, Sheboygan Branch; **Lyn Hildenbrand**, AAUW Funds Development VP, 2016-18, Milwaukee Branch; **Donna Weidman**, Program VP, 2016-18, Eau Claire Branch. The State Board named as Nominations Chair: **Frances Kavenik**, Kenosha



Stephanie Malaney, President

Re-districting Approved

The new AAUW-WI district map was ratified in each of the district meetings on Friday night and passed by acclamation at the business meeting on Saturday afternoon. The new district map will become effective on July 1, 2016.

New District Coordinators: District 4 – **Kathleen Peterson**, 2016-17, Tomah Branch; District 5 – **Nancy Schulz**, 2016-18, Wausau Branch.

Resolution Tabled

A resolution on “AAUW Support for College Campus Victims of Sexual Assault” submitted by Oshkosh Branch was tabled by the State Board at its meeting on Friday, April 22, before convention and so was not presented to the membership for their consideration. The State Board intends to give this important issue and resolution more thought and ask AAUW-National for guidance.

This & That

Appleton Branch received the Growth plaque for recruiting 23 new members. Milwaukee West Suburban recruited 21 new members. Racine Branch recruited 18 new members. Total statewide membership is 1,748. *Shape the Future* was used by 7 of 9 branches showing growth this year.

Jane Matthews, River Falls Branch, won the “early bird” registration drawing of a gift certificate for a future one-night stay at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison.

AAUW-National President Patricia Fae Ho Introduced Young Women’s Task Force (YWTF) – a new subsidiary of AAUW that already has 13 chapters in large cities for working women who are 20 to 35 years old. You can expect to hear more about YWTF.

Look for convention presentation notes on the www.aauw-wi.aauw.net website on the topics of *Intergenerational Leadership, Mentoring Young Women, Talking Finance: Nonprofits and the IRS, Building and Maintaining a Branch Website, Recruiting and Developing New Members and Leaders*, and *How to Spice Up Your Programs*.

Opportunities on State Board Await someone who would like to serve as Internet Communications Coordinator, Communications and *Badger Brief* editor, Historian, or Public Policy Coordinator. Contact Stephanie Malaney, smalaney5@aol.com; (920) 734-6750.

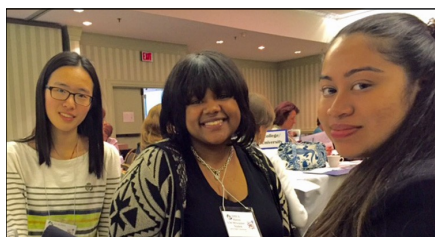
Notify AAUW-National of changes in your branch leadership before June 1.

Legacy Circle

Marian Seagren Hall and Lucille Harvey from Wausau Branch, received pins as two new **Legacy Circle** members, joining 10 others from Wisconsin. This select group is committed to empowering women and girls into the future by supporting AAUW with a bequest.



Girls Show Interest in STEM



Girls show interest in STEM –

Appleton and Oshkosh Branches held a **Tech Savvy** conference for 240 middle-school-aged girls and their parents at UW-Fox Valley on March 29. Racine Branch held its hands-on GEMS (Girls Empowered by Math and Science) camp at UW-Parkside for 250 girls from 6

middle schools on May 18. River Falls Branch held a Girls in Science conference for 120 girls and 80 parents at UW-River Falls on April 16.

Thank You

Many thanks go to State Convention co-chairs Donna Weidman and Sally Keyel and all District 1 branches, especially Monona/Madison, Janesville, LaCrosse, Geneva Lake and Watertown Branches.. Margaret Winz, President of Fort Atkinson Branch brought Dorothy Marcic to us from NYC and Consuelo Lopez Springfield, our District 1 Coordinator, brought Dean Emerita Julie K. Underwood and Mayor Paul Soglin. A special thank you also goes to convention book editor Diane Adams from Janesville Branch.

Time to Say Farewell

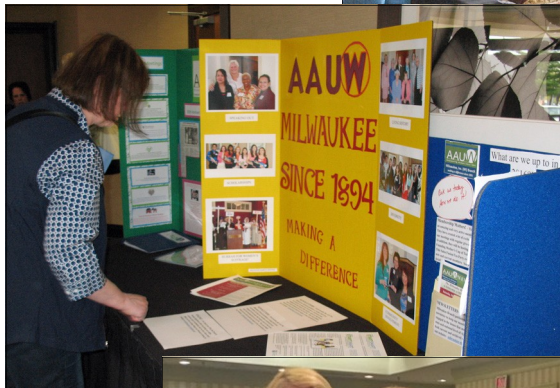
After four years, it’s now time to say farewell ...to all my AAUW-Wisconsin friends ...

As State President, it’s been a joy and honor to meet and work with so many branch leaders across Wisconsin. I have come to know each corner of this state through visits and conventions. We “generated” efforts for pay equity in the southeast; determined to “start smart, stay strong” in the northwest; empowered by Title IX, felt “entitled to succeed” in the northeast; and now are indeed ready for “women to take the lead” from Madison. My very best goes to incoming State President Stephanie Malaney expecting she will enjoy her role as much as I have.

Joyce Hoffman, AAUW-WI President 2012-16

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See you in 2017 at the AAUW-Wisconsin
State Convention on April 21-22, 2017 at the
Bridgewood Resort in Neenah.