



# B A D G E R B R I E F S

Volume 68 Issue 3

American Association of University Women-Wisconsin

Spring 2012



## Sarah Harder To Speak at Convention "Caught in the Crossfire? 2012, AAUW, and YOU"

Wisconsinites understand more clearly than most Americans the magnitude of change possible with 2012 elections. As we define our roles both this year and beyond, what can we learn from AAUW's century of progress toward equity?

For forty years Sarah Harder has involved women in social change at grassroots, national and international levels. Since 2000 she has served as National Peace Foundation (NPF) president. She also co-chairs the National Women's Conference Committee and serves on the National Council of Women's Organizations in Washington DC, both of which she helped create.

As president of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) 1985-89, Harder also chaired AAUW's Educational Foundation, launching its project SHORTCHANGING AMERICA bringing progress for girls in public education. She was vice-president of Geneva-based International Federation of University Women (IFUW). She served two terms on the WI AAUW Board and has been an Eau Claire Branch member since 1975

Harder is an emeritus professor at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, having created and administered equal opportunity services for minority, disadvantaged and reentry students, Title IX and Affirmative Action efforts. A tenured member of the English Department, she also started the UWEC Women's Studies program, the Children's Center and many campus projects for girls and low-income women.

After 1977 National Women's Conference Harder helped build women's advocacy networks nationally and internationally modeled after WI Women's Network where she was a founding member. She helped create similar leadership networks in 34 state capitals. Sessions organized at the 1995 Beijing UN World Conference for Women built upon Harder's NGO work at 1980 and 1985 UN Conferences. Her study and action guide, "Women's Future, World Future: Education for Survival and Progress," has been used by IFUW affiliates in 68 countries. It models practical projects to implement United Nations priorities, particularly empowerment and peace building.

*Continued on next page*

# Convention 2012

*From page 1*

Since 1989 with the National Peace Foundation, Sarah Harder has focused on partnerships in the former Soviet Union. As President of Women for Meaningful Summits, she co-chaired the 1990 Soviet-American Women's Summit that brought the first ideologically diverse USSR delegation together with 100 heads of US women's organizations. The NPF South Caucasus Women's Dialogue pioneered citizen peace-building and conflict resolution in 1992 and was transferred in 2000 as a UN program which still operates. Harder has volunteered on over 100 consultations with leaders across Russia and the South Caucasus, averaging three months yearly. Civic Forums organized with Olga Bessolova in 1995 established women's networks in 12 Russian regions focused on political, economic and social transitions. Co-chair of the Moscow symposium

("Women, Politics & Environmental Action"), Harder organized a return Wisconsin Conference on Empowerment and Sustainable Development. A 1995 partnership with Women of the Don Region and Bessolova continues a series of post-conflict projects with Chechnya and other troubled Russian Regions. NPF focus since 2001 on Russia's youth drug addiction crisis brings U.S. professionals to Siberian and Far Eastern Regions in partnership projects with recovering addicts, officials, professionals, NGOs, universities, business and federal ministries. National Peace Foundation exchanges with Middle Eastern Muslims through the U.S. State Department were modeled on its Eurasian projects funded by the Open World Leadership Program, the Mott, Eurasia, and MacArthur Foundations, the National Endowment for Democracy, and Russian corporations.

## Mike McCabe, Director of Wisconsin Democracy Campaign to Speak at Convention

### REPEATING HISTORY, RESCUING DEMOCRACY

Threats to democracy in Wisconsin and across the country have never been greater in living memory. Wisconsin's reputation for clean, open and honest government has been trashed. But in our state's distant past, there was a time when conditions were eerily similar to today's that prompted actions to put things right that can serve as inspiration to modern-day reformers.

Mike McCabe is director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign ([www.wisdc.org](http://www.wisdc.org)), a non-partisan watchdog group that tracks the money in state politics, fights government corruption and works for reforms that make people matter more than money in politics. He joined the Democracy Campaign's staff in 1999 and became the group's director in 2000. Prior to that he was communications director and legislative liaison for the Madison Metropolitan School District.

During Mike's time with the Democracy Campaign, he has led successful efforts to win

passage and eventual implementation of the 1998 Citizens Right to Know law requiring electronic disclosure of campaign finances, a 2006 "paper trail" bill requiring any electronic voting equipment used in Wisconsin to produce a verifiable paper record, a landmark 2007 ethics enforcement reform law, the 2009 Impartial Justice Act establishing publicly financed state Supreme Court elections, and new campaign finance disclosure rules approved in 2010. He co-authored a textbook *The Framework of Your Wisconsin Government* that is still widely used in elementary and secondary schools in Wisconsin. More recently, he co-authored *Democratic Renewal: A Call to Action from America's Heartland* published by the Midwest Democracy Network.

Mike was trained as a journalist, graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Journalism, and has worked as a newspaper reporter, legislative aide and now as a citizen activist. He was raised on his family's dairy farm in Clark County and served overseas as a Peace Corps volunteer in the West African country of Mali.

## *Join Us to REAP the Benefits of Membership in AAUW!*

This issue of Badger Briefs brings you all the news of our upcoming AAUW-WI yearly convention. The Janesville branch and our AAUW-WI Program Vice President, France Kavenik, have spent many hours planning a fantastic program and securing some excellent speakers for us. I thank them for being timely, creative and hard-working!

Our theme this year will be **REAP...Research, Education, Advocacy and Philanthropy**. We invite you to join us in **REAPing** the benefits of being part of a wonderful organization which is able to attract speakers such as Mike McCabe of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, a non-partisan watchdog group working for clean, open and honest government and reforms that make people matter more than money in politics. Our own Sarah Harder will be our keynote speaker on Saturday morning. Sarah is a member of the Eau Claire branch, an emeritus UWEC professor and has been AAUW president as well as chair of the National Women's Conference Committee. Currently, she is pres-



ident of the National Peace Foundation working extensively with women in Russia.

We will also have presentations by winners of AAUW's fellowships and grants who live and study in Wisconsin. I can hardly wait to hear from all of these wonderful speakers!

Our convention this year will be somewhat different from those in past years. We hope all of you can join us on Friday evening to hear a branch ideas exchange and Mike McCabe but, if not, please be sure to join us for a Saturday packed with information, networking and decision making. We will meet at the Janesville Holiday Inn Express. See more information in this issue on registering and directions to the Holiday Inn.

Again, many thanks to the convention planning committee. I look forward to seeing everyone in Janesville, April 27 and 28, 2012!

**Research      Advocacy**  
**REAP**  
**Education      Philanthropy**  
**REAP the benefits of AAUW**



**AAUW-WI CONVENTION AGENDA 2012**  
**Research, Education, Advocacy, Philanthropy**  
**April 27-28, 2012**

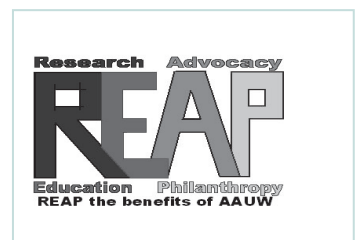


**Friday Evening**

4:00 Registration opens  
7:00 Branch Exchange  
8:30 Speaker: Mike McCabe, Executive Director, Wisconsin  
Democracy Campaign [Open to the Public]

**Saturday**

7:30 Registration  
Breakfast  
Welcome: Anne Lee, State President  
Welcome from City Official  
Opening of Convention  
Announcements  
Introductions  
Adoption of Convention Rules  
Minutes  
Development V.P. Report  
9:00-9:45 Keynote Speaker: Sarah Harder, former AAUW President  
9:45-10:45 REAP Breakout Discussion/Workshops  
10:45-11:00 Break  
11:00-12:00 Business Meeting  
Election of Officers  
Financial Report  
Resolutions  
12:00-12:45 Lunch and networking  
1:00-2:00 AAUW Leadership Corps  
2:00-2:45 District Meetings  
2:45-3:00 Break  
3:00-4:00 AAUW National Speaker  
4:00-5:00 Business  
Installation of Officers  
Incoming President's Report  
Prize Drawing and Awards  
New Business  
Thank You  
Call to 2013 Convention



### MEMBERSHIP - RECRUITMENT STARTS WITH RETENTION

#### Judy Phillips – Membership Vice-President

As important as it is to recruit new members, it is equally important to retain them. This is a great time to do that. Make sure you send out rejoin information in April or May. Reach out to your members. Help to keep them active by calling them about meetings and special events. Remind them what a great year we've been having and encourage them to renew. This is a good year to be involved with elections coming and so much new information about registration to be learned. This is a message to everyone in the Branch, not just Membership VPs.



Now is the time to apply for the Growth Award and the Gumption Award. Whether it's an increase in membership of 1 or 50, it is important. I am including the application forms in this issue of the Badger Briefs. **Membership Vice-Presidents, please fill these out and return them to me before March 31<sup>st</sup>.** The information is on the form. I am hoping for a record number of returns so everyone has a chance to be in the running for an award. Recognition will be given to the Branches at the AAUW State Convention in April. Please try to attend.

As you know, I have been looking for successful recruitment ideas from Branch Membership Vice-Presidents. Betty Pontius, Membership VP of the Appleton Branch, has sent me a "Snapshot" of their year and says that recruitment actually begins in April. They begin Membership renewal by contacting members reminding them to join. At their May meeting, they have an all member recognition for their years as members of the Appleton Branch. There is also a prize drawing for renewing members who pay their dues by that meeting and awards for those who brought in the most new members. It's a fun time.

Programming is very important to recruit and retain members. Appleton has begun year round Study Groups that are especially loved by the snowbirds. These groups help people get to know each other better and that helps the Branch when people are needed for important AAUW issues. This also entices people to join and keeps members with the Branch.

Betty reports that they have two Prospective Member gatherings. One is a picnic held in late August and the other is "Appetizers, Apple Cider and AAUW" held in November. People joined at both events. They also invite New members to these to help them get better acquainted. News Releases are used to advertise these events as well as regular meetings. Drawings are also held for Branch members who provide names of prospective members to invite to these functions. Even though only one person wins a prize, Betty says, "We are all winners!" They also use the "Shape the Future" promotion and the half price January dues offer. Each new member gets a buddy who calls or emails her to invite her to each meeting or event.

Appleton has a very busy year, it seems, but there is a secret to that. Betty and her Junior Membership Vice-President, Judy Goodnight, have a committee that meets and plans and helps with all these events. There's nothing like a good committee. But wait there's more. Communication is also very important. If anyone would like to see the details of the Appleton membership year, please let me know. Since implementing all these steps, they have recruited an unusual number of new members over the past two years. Betty has several more suggestions. I continue to look for other ideas from all of you.

See you all at the Convention in Janesville. We will have a discussion with Membership Vice-Presidents and share all of your ideas. Have a great rest of the year. Remember, recruiting and retaining members is a responsibility of every member.



## 2010-2011 AAUW-WI GROWTH AND GUMPTION AWARDS

### *It's time to share your Action Plans and Results*

This year's AAUW-WI membership awards and recognitions will be presented on Saturday, April 28, at the State Convention in Janesville. *Growth* awards will recognize branches that have recruited the most new members this year, based on the February 1 counts reported by the national office. The *Gumption* award will recognize branch success with Action Plans. We are looking forward to sharing success stories at the April convention and in the next *Badger Briefs*.

Please return the following entry form by **March 1, 2012**, to Membership VP Judy Phillips via email ([cubbie@athenet.net](mailto:cubbie@athenet.net)) or mail (2609 S. East St., Appleton, WI 54915).

If you have questions or other comments, call Judy at 920-739-1000.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ***Growth Award***

At present, AAUW-WI has 30 active branches and approximately 1,600 members. Recruiting new members each year is critical to the health of the branch - just to avoid attrition. It's an even better energy boost when branches can attract a variety of new members during the year. Remember that our ultimate goal is to *grow* a younger and more diverse membership in AAUW. *Let's bring that average age down!*

1. Branch Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Membership Count:    20011-12: \_\_\_\_\_    2010-11: \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many potential members did your branch contact since Mar. 1, 2011? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many of these potential members actually joined AAUW? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why did the new members join?
6. How many members did you lose during the year and for what reason(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Gumption Award***

For real growth, it takes *gumption* – making that special effort to reach out to neighbors, friends, coworkers, even strangers, and then asking your guests to join AAUW. Some branches are growing – how do they do it? How can a branch grow every year? Give us the details of your strategies and results. Even if something didn't work, what did you learn?

### **Membership Growth Action Plan**

Branch Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Who** took the lead in this effort?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. **Where** did you find potential members?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. **What** did you do to attract these newcomers?  
Describe all invitations, special programs or events, incentives etc.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. **How** did you ask your guests to join AAUW? (When was the time right?)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Describe the **results** of your efforts.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. How can you **improve** your strategies?

Any other comments or suggestions regarding current membership and attracting new members:

### Nominations

#### **Finance VP—Janet Quail**

Janet is a retired elementary school teacher. She graduated from UW Madison in 1969 where she first became interested in the women's movement. During her teaching career of 33 years she was an MAL but not until she retired in 2002 did she join a branch. She served as co-president of the North Shore Milwaukee branch from 2008 – 2010. Through her duties as co-president, attending state and the 2009 national conventions she learned what a force AAUW is in promoting equity for women and girls as well as how AAUW functions. Presently she is the current Finance VP for Wisconsin. She is looking forward to working with the new state board and the branch finance officers.

Janet was a big sister from 1979 – 1997. She also served on an interview team to help select big sister/brother candidates.

Janet's husband is a retired teacher. They enjoy traveling and especially visiting their grandchildren: Owen 7, Abby 5, and Meagan 3 who live in Fort Collins, CO.



#### **Development VP—Julie Ferris**

Dr. Julie E. Ferris is currently president of the AAUW-Milwaukee branch after serving as first vice president of programs and president-elect. She began her affiliation with AAUW in graduate school as she worked toward scholarship and fellowships sponsored by the organization.

As a faculty member at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Ferris coordinated a conference on Third Wave Feminism at the campus and collaborated with the AAUW-Huntsville branch and served as a program speaker during her tenure at UAH.

She is the Public Relations Supervisor for the Common Council in the City of Milwaukee and works in legislation, public relations, broadcast media and marketing. She has served as the Combined Giving solicitor for her division at City Hall and earned a record 100% giving by her division that year.

Julie is also a board member for the Social Development Foundation, the fundraising arm for the quasi-governmental Social Development Commission, one of the oldest anti-poverty coalitions in Milwaukee County. Her work with the group includes marketing and driving the fundraising ask for events like the Celebrity Chef spring fundraising dinner and the FUEL Milwaukee Adopt-a-Nonprofit showcase in 2010.

Her contributions include not only the fundraising ask, but design of the marketing appeal for each campaign, including the "Don't let poverty Monopolize Milwaukee" game theme and the "Get Engaged with Milwaukee" commitment theme for 2011.

*Continued on next page*



## Nominations

Currently, in her role as Public Relations Supervisor, she is working with the fundraising team for the new City Hall Museum and is a part of the development process for the historic space.

A campus organizer, Julie is familiar with grant writing and other development opportunities, including securing more than \$7,000 to sponsor her Third Wave Feminism workshop.

Though new to the Milwaukee area, Ferris is active in the AAUW, SDF and the Public Relations Society of America and helps foster adoptable animals through the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission. She is well versed in writing and public speaking and recently ended her term as the first ever writer-in-residence for the Pfister Hotel. She currently teaches as an adjunct at Carroll University and works to mentor college-age women in the job market.

### **Program VP —FRANCES M. KAVENIK**

Frances M. Kavenik is Emeritus Professor of English from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, where she worked for thirty years until her retirement in 2009. During that time she taught a variety of courses in literature, composition, film, women's studies, and interdisciplinary studies; acted as chair of the General Education Committee and director of the General Education Program; developed and led the ACCESS and Interdisciplinary Studies programs for nontraditional students; and was director of the Women's Studies Program for many years. She also pioneered efforts to foreground women's issues on campus, serving on the first Sexual Assault Task Force, creating and sustaining Women in Math, Science, and Technology Day, and serving as Director of the Sexual Harassment Committee.

In addition to the professional activities previously listed, she has been involved in a number of volunteer activities in the community, such as the Mayor's Commission on Women's Issues, the Kenosha Branch of the American Association of University Women, the Gateway Radio Reading Program, the Volunteer Transportation Program (Kenosha Ageing and Family Services), Kenoshans Against Sexual Assault/Women's and Children's Horizons, Friends of the Kenosha Public Library, and currently serves on the Boards of the Friends of the UW-Parkside Library, KAFASI (Kenosha Area Family and Ageing Services, Inc.), and the Friends of the Wisconsin State Historical Society. She currently chairs the Legal Advocacy Committee of AAUW.

She has given lectures and facilitated discussions of works of literature and films, including film and book discussion series at the Public Libraries and for the National Women's Studies Association. She has taught students and classes at Taycheedah Correctional Institute and the Racine Correctional Institute. She has coordinated a women's music festival and several conferences on politics and social issues.

She has written and edited *The Handbook of American Women's History*, *A Critical History of British Drama: 1660-1779*, and *The Designs of Carolean Comedy*. She was a UW System Teaching Scholar, received an AAUW Equity Initiative Recognition Award for the "Women in Math, Science, and Technology" program, and was admitted to the Southeastern Wisconsin Educators' Hall of Fame in 2005.

She received a BA from Lake Forest College, an MA from Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### Janet Quail – Finance Vice-President

I hope to see many of you at the state convention in Janesville. Due to the shorter format there will not be a counterpart session scheduled for the finance officers to meet together. I will contact all the current finance officers prior to convention. The finance officers will receive guidelines, suggestions, and tips to help with their responsibility for the 2012-2013 membership year through email or snail mail. If you would like to talk to me in person at the convention, I will be available during Saturday morning breakfast to answer any questions. Please stop by during breakfast or introduce yourself at any time during the convention.



in the MPP. Payments from the branch are sent directly to our state bank account and to your branch account on a monthly basis as payments are received. The MPP has worked well for both the branch and the state this year.

You may investigate this option on the national web site, [WWW.aauw.org](http://WWW.aauw.org). After you log into the Member Center with your member ID, click on the link Membership Services Database. Log in again with your password. Click on the link Membership Payment Program. On the screen there is a link to a master user guide which includes information on the MPP. I recommend that you look over these sections: MPP MENU OPTIONS OVERVIEW, Personal Membership MPP, Branch MPP Opt-In Program, and Branch MPP Dues Payment Entry.

Tax season is upon us. Part of **national dues** is tax deductible for charitable contributions depending on the amount that was paid to national. Below is a chart that shows the tax-deductible portion allowed. Remember that only the national part of dues is tax deductible. Branch and state dues are not tax deductible. Our fiscal year ends June 30, 2012. During

If you feel comfortable in the electronic world and are the 2012-13 branch finance officer, this may be a good fit for you. I would be happy to answer any additional questions or send

**Tax Deductibility**

National Dues/Fees	Tax-Deductible Portion	Not Tax Deductible
\$980	\$980	\$0
\$26-49	\$23-46	\$3
\$18-25	\$16-23	\$2
\$17 or less	\$16	\$1

the upcoming fiscal year your branch may want to elect using the voluntary **Membership Payment Plan (MPP)**. The Membership Payment Program (MPP) offers electronic options to simplify and provide convenience, efficiency, and cost savings to your branch's dues payment and processing. Branch MPP participation means that your branch will be able to receive dues payments from the national office on a monthly basis, reflecting dues payments from your members. This convenient, efficient, cost-saving tool allows branches to submit dues payments in a secure on-line environment. Presently one branch has elected to participate

more information about the MPP or any aspect of branch finance. Call me at 414-213-9161 or email me at [janet.quail@gmail.com](mailto:janet.quail@gmail.com). You may also contact Connect2AAUW by phone at 800/326-2289 (10 a.m.–5 p.m. EST) or by email at [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) to receive help or information about the MPP.

Finally I wish to thank all the Branch Finance Officers for their support and hard work.

## Are You Convention Ready?

I'm very excited about this year's state convention – the planning committee has been working to bring you exciting new features. If I was asked to sum up this year's convention in one word, I'd use the word "**simple**." We'll have a **simply** wonderful time during a one-evening and one-day gathering packed with valuable sessions and speakers. However, a shortened convention means less time to fundraise, so it's time for something new.

We'll **simplify** fundraising at convention by asking you to **simply** give. That's all there is to it – nothing more. I realize many of you have enjoyed the basket auction, but that isn't tax deductible. And there are those who have said they **simply** don't need more stuff. Instead of spending on a basket, make a donation in its place.



keep it  
simple

### 2 Simple and Easy Options:

**1) Attend convention and bring your checkbook or cash!** We'll be there to collect your *tax deductible* donation. Those who contribute at convention will be *recognized* in Badger Briefs and have their name put in a *drawing* to win one of three, **simply** fabulous *prizes*. Must be present at convention to win.

**2) If you're unable to attend convention, you may contribute now!** Individuals and branches are welcome to donate and will be acknowledged in Badger Briefs. Checks payable to "AAUW WI EF"

**Mail to:**  
Kim Wellnitz  
3737 Briar Way  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

In closing, I've enjoyed being your VP of Fund Development for two terms and encourage **YOU** to consider filling this important role. I'm happy to chat with anyone who's interested. I've **simplified** and streamlined processes, and will work with the new VP to make it a **simple** and smooth transition. Remember, donating your time and expertise is highly valued and the rewards will **simply** amaze you!



Kim Wellnitz  
VP of Fund  
Development

### **Public Policy.....**

#### **It matters because women matter!**

Based on attendee feedback at convention two years ago, funds raised this year will be donated to **Public Policy**. More than ever – it's needed. *Please give generously.*



## WISCONSIN'S TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST

By Barbara Peterson, Public Policy Coordinator

During January, there have been two broadcasts of *Two-Minute Activist* alerting AAUW members of issues where they can make an impact on important bills in the Wisconsin legislature. All members are encouraged to take part in this AAUW effort.

In 2010 the Wisconsin legislature passed the **Healthy Youth Act**. With the passage of this act, when a school district taught sex education, it was required to teach more than abstinence-only sex education. The lessons had to contain age appropriate, medically accurate information on reproductive health. If a school district chose not to teach sex education, they were required to notify parents that it was not being taught in the school district.

Medical personnel could be brought into the classroom to answer questions and aid in the discussion. Abstinence education could be suggested along with information that would inform a student if they were not abstinent. Studies show that abstinence-only sex education does not prevent pregnancies and a lack of information about sexual health makes sexually transmitted disease the number one disease of teenagers.

AB 337 will repeal the Health Youth Act of 2010. **If this passes**, medical personnel will **not** be allowed in the classroom, parents will **not** be notified of the school district's policy on sex education and students may receive abstinence-only sex education. This bill has already passed the Senate and the Assembly Education Committee has sent it to the floor of the Assembly. Word is that it will be voted upon in early February but you may still have an opportunity to let your Assemblyperson know that AAUW does not support this bill. It flies in the face of substantial education and endangers our youth.

On January 30, a Two Minute Activist alert was issued on Senate Bill 292 related to **Campaign Finance Reform**. AAUW-WI has partnered with the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign for several years to push for more campaign finance reform. SB 292 does just the opposite.

Currently when a person contributes to a campaign in Wisconsin, the candidate's staff must report campaign donations to the Government Accountability Board. The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign has a database where citizens can access the names of contributors to a Wisconsin state candidate, the amount of the contribution, the employer and job title of the contributor. SB 292 would mandate that no contributors be listed for contributions under \$250 and no employer or job title be given.

In recent years, investigators have been able to track campaign contributions funneled by employers through employees with this system. If these rules had been in place during those investigations, 84% of the information would not have been available. The time to take action is now because this could become law momentarily.

The AAUW-WI Two Minute Activist is available at [www.aauw-wi.org](http://www.aauw-wi.org) for use by AAUW members and friends. If you are not receiving the broadcasts, please go to the AAUW-WI website and enter your name, address and zip code in the Two-Minute Activist system. The system is able to identify your legislator by your zip code.

A letter to your representative is provided for you but also allows you to edit the text. When you submit your letter, it is sent immediately to the office of your legislator where your support or dissent of a bill is recorded. Timing is essential to this system. We need you to take action NOW!



## Scholarship Breakout

Scholarship winners will be featured in break-out sessions after Sarah Harder's keynote address on Saturday. The focus will be on their own educational experience and scholarship, and how they fit the mission of AAUW. These young women represent the future of the organization and its commitment to research, education, advocacy; and their fellowships and scholarships represent the philanthropy of AAUW in action.

### **Natalie Abts, M.S. Industrial Engineering, UW-Madison**

Although now pursuing an advanced degree in industrial engineering, Natalie Abts has a background unique to the engineering field. She graduated in 2006 from the University of Wisconsin, Madison with a degree in art, focusing on photography, painting and graphic design. After working at a printing company for four years, she returned to school at UW-Madison to find her passion in improving the quality of health care. As a part of her studies, Natalie has contributed to a research project conducted by Professor Ben-Tzion Karsh involving the redesign of the primary care model for elderly patients. This research work is also the basis for her master's thesis.

Natalie has also been able to enhance her knowledge of health care quality improvement practices through an internship at the University of Wisconsin Medical Foundation. Her work has involved assisting with process improvement projects, as well as providing support for many ongoing programs in the Quality, Safety and Innovation department. Upon graduating in May with a master's degree in industrial engineering with a focus on human factors and ergonomics, Natalie would like to continue in the health care field by pursuing work with process improvement and usability.

### **Margaret Braun, M.B.A Business Management, Viterbo University**

Margaret (Maggie) Braun with her husband, Bob, directs WeHaKee Camp for Girls a private Catholic camp in Wisconsin. Maggie (and Bob) also directed Catholic Youth Camp in Minnesota. Maggie spent 17 years professionally with the Girl Scouts including positions as Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer.

Maggie holds a bachelor's degree in recreation management is currently an MBA candidate at Viterbo University, La Crosse Wisconsin. She is a past member of the American Camp Association (ACA) National Board of Directors and is now on the ACA National Board Development and Policy Committees. She is the recipient of the National AAUW 2011 Career Development Grant.

In pursuing a master's in business administration, she is conducting research on the leadership styles of Camp Directors focusing on gender differences and the effect of leadership style on the organizational citizenship behavior of camp staff. She will use this research to influence education and training of young camp professionals as well as students pursuing recreational management in college. She hopes to combine her experience and knowledge in youth development and nonprofit management with her Masters work to teach at a university level. This opportunity allows her to give back and help youth and young adults prepare for a role in improving their lives, their families, their schools, and their communities.

### **Emily Clark, Ph.D., English Language and Literature, UW-Madison**

Emily Clark is currently completing her dissertation "Unintelligible Bodies: Disability, Posthumanism, Representation" at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In it she uses contemporary literature including the novel, poetry, and film to consider the ethics of representing bodies that can not or will not speak for themselves. Her work combines feminist theory, disability theory, and animal studies and contributes to current critical conversations about what it means to be human by focusing on disability and the acts of speaking for self and others.

Recently Emily reviewed a new edited collection on Disability and Mothering for the journal *jac*, and has an essay forthcoming in the journal *Hypatia* on the relation between feminism and animal studies. In October she contributed a critical analysis of the Zanesville animal tragedy to the University of Wisconsin's Public Humanities forum. This summer she will be presenting at a large international conference on animal-human relations at Utrecht University in the Netherlands.

Emily has a graduate minor in Gender and Women's Studies from UW Madison and has taught in both the English and Gender Studies departments there. Her MA thesis, which she completed at Case Western Reserve University, was centered on the question "What is a Mother?"; she has published a number of essays on maternity and mothering. In addition to her academic work, Emily has volunteered for Domestic Abuse Intervention Services in Madison, and is currently leading a weekly group of fifth-grade (all girl) creative writers at the local grade school.

### **Katrina Czys, M.A. Counseling, Lakeland College**

Katrina "Katie" Czys is a Consumer Protection Investigator III for the State of Wisconsin. She works out of the Office of Caregiver Quality in the Department of Health Services and investigates abuse, neglect and misappropriation by caregivers throughout Wisconsin. Previously, Katie spent 8 years in law enforcement, five years of which were in patrol and she continues to work as an EMT - IV tech. In December of 2012, Katie will graduate from Lakeland College with her Master's Degree in Community Counseling. Her focus is in crisis and trauma and in the future she plans to work with emergency responders immediately following critical incidents and those later diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder. Currently, Katie is completing her practicum and internship semesters at the Hope House in Baraboo, WI. At the Hope House, Katie volunteers her time counseling women and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault among other concerns. Katie graduated from the University of Wisconsin - Platteville in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, Spanish and Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology.

Katie grew up in central Wisconsin and currently lives in the Wisconsin Dells area with her two dogs, Abbie and Sadie. When she isn't busy volunteering, working or finishing homework, you might catch her at one of the state parks with her dogs, out on her motorcycle or in the company of friends and family. Katie also enjoys traveling, camping and trying new things.

Katie hopes to help as many people as possible while being a positive role model and leader in the community. She demonstrates daily that women can be successful in fields traditionally dominated by men. She wants to thank everyone in and associated with the AAUW for supporting her with that goal, providing her with the generous grant, and allowing her to participate at the state convention among other things.

### **Elizabeth Duthie, Ph.D. Public and Community Health, Medical College of Wisconsin**

Elizabeth Duthie has a longstanding interest in the health and wellbeing of women and children that stems from work with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Head Start, and inner-city afterschool programs, where she volunteered as a teenager. Following these experiences, she completed her undergraduate studies in philosophy at St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN), where she became interested in epistemology, ethics, and theories of social justice.



Following college, Elizabeth took a hiatus from academics to participate in a year of service work, teaching kindergarten in a low-income school in Central Phoenix, AZ, where she saw how poverty, discrimination, and policy affect the daily lives of children, families, and communities. With a strong interest in the potential of research to improve people's lives, she completed a Masters Degree in Sociology at New York University (New York, NY), where she focused on stratification and the role that public policy has played and continues to play in the formation and maintenance of inequalities.

Now at the Medical College of Wisconsin (Milwaukee, WI), Elizabeth is completing her doctorate in Public & Community Health with the generous support of an American Dissertation Fellowship from the American Association of University Women. With her multidisciplinary background, her research interests span social, cultural, psychological and clinical issues, with a focus on two distinct but related areas: (1) gender and the influence of body size and body image on physical and mental wellbeing; and (2) women's health, sexuality, and reproduction. Her dissertation, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being Pregnant: Patient and Provider Perspectives on Pregnancy Weight Gain*, combines these interests in a study of how pregnant women experience pregnancy-associated weight gain, and how they and their obstetricians communicate about weight gain. She is currently applying for research positions within academic departments, government, and research foundations, where she hopes to establish a program of research that will contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of women.

### **Molly Snellman, M.S. Industrial Engineering, UW-Madison**

Molly Snellman is pursuing an advanced degree in industrial and systems engineering with a focus on health systems. Her passion is enhancing both the quality and safety of health care using the tools and techniques of a systems engineer.

Molly's graduate coursework consists of classes across various departments to establish a cross-disciplinary view of the problems that exist in healthcare. Her master's thesis is focused on the safety of the elderly population in primary care. While patient safety in the hospital setting has been a focus of the last decade, little work has been done in primary care. The elderly population is of particular concern, due to their high incidence of medical conditions and medication use. The study seeks to use a defined workflow to increase provider awareness of patient health by decreasing information chaos (defined as information overload and underload, uncertainty about information, and total lack of awareness about information). Information chaos was found in a previous study to be the most serious hazard in the safety of primary care delivery. Molly's graduate studies are complimented by an internship with UW Health's Quality, Safety and Innovation department.

Following graduation, Molly's goal is to continue her career in healthcare safety. She plans to use her research and intern experiences to drive value by increasing quality and decreasing costs, all while keeping the needs and safety of the patient as the primary focus.

## 92nd CONVENTION AAUW-WI

*Research, Education, Advocacy, Philanthropy*

Holiday Inn Express  
3100 Wellington Place  
Janesville, Wisconsin  
April 27-28, 2012

### Registration Form Deadline: April 6, 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Registration Status: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Past State President, State Board Member, MAL, Association Office, Student Affiliate, Convention Worker, etc.)

Special need (including special diet): \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Fees

Registration:	\$40	\$ _____
Convention Worker Registration	20	_____
Late Fee (after April 6)	15	_____
Friday Munch & Mingle: Branch Exchange	15	_____
Saturday Lunch	20	_____
Saturday Box Dinner to go	10	_____
Choose one: _____ Turkey _____ Roast Beef _____ Vegetarian		

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable to: AAUW WI State Convention 2012

Send to: AAUW-Janesville  
c/o Kathy Thostenson  
P.O. Box 8033  
Janesville, WI 53547-8033

Questions and special needs including diet requests should be directed to: Leslie Brunsell.  
lrbrunsell@aol.com, or (608) 752-2100.

## ***Hotel Reservations for the AAUW WI 2012 Convention At the Holiday Inn Express, Janesville Conference Center***

3100 Wellington Place, Janesville, WI 53546

Total guestroom rate is \$101.02 per night including the tax. This rate is for single and double occupancy and includes breakfast. Additional persons per room are \$10.00 each. The block rate is available until March 27.

Contact the Holiday Inn Express at (608) 756-3100 and request a room in the block reserved for the AAUW WI Convention. This rate is good for both Friday, April 27 and/or Saturday, April 28 nights.



## State Historian Writes AAUW-Wisconsin History - Seeks Documents

AAUW-Wisconsin has earned a rich history since its founding in 1921. Among this span of nine decades, the years 2001-2011 were no exception. One of my duties, *nay* privileges as state historian is to compile a historical supplement for those years. I've been hard at work. But *alas*, parts of our story are missing. Only you can help me retrieve those parts. *Perchance* in your files somewhere you have the following documents just waiting to serve the noble purpose of filling the missing pieces in our archives:

**Badger Brief issue needed:** Fall 2000

**Convention booklets needed:**

- 84th Minneapolis Airport Marriott, Minneapolis, April 30-May 2, 2004, "Together Women on the Move" AAUW Minnesota/AAUW Wisconsin State convention
- 85th Country Inn, Peewaukee, April 23-24, 2005, "?????????????????"
- 86th Park Plaza Hotel, Oshkosh, April 28-30, 2006, "Strengthening Our Connections"
- 88th Milwaukee Brookfield Sheraton, Brookfield, April 25-27, 2008, "AAUW = Advocacy + Education + Research = Action"

As *your humble state historian*, I await in suspense the opportunity to fill in the story threads from these missing years. Email me what you have and I'll coordinate your mailing it to me.

Thanks and *fare thee well!*

**Nancy L. Schulz, AAUW-WI Historian**  
**nancy1.schulz@gmail.com**



*Continued from page 19*

**Finance:** Janet Quail reviewed the financial statement covering July 1, 2011 thru January 21, 2012 showing a balance on hand of \$24,167.37. **MOTION:** Mary Jo McBrearty moved, seconded by Frances Kavenik, to approve the financial report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Webminder:** Rachel Hirsch's submitted report was reviewed. It included website statistics from 2011 and a synopsis of the year's activity, a job description and suggestion to change the Webminder title to IT Manager to more accurately reflect the work of the position. The change was approved.

**Badger Briefs:** Carol Ebel indicated that this will be her last year as editor and work should begin on finding a replacement.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Mary Jo will email the list of elected leadership positions to be filled by the Nominating Committee to Marian Seagren Hall and the appointed positions to Joyce Hoffman.

Job descriptions were reviewed. After updating the descriptions will be on the state website.

**Badger Briefs: Jan. 30 next issue deadline**

**Next State Board meeting: April 27, 2012**

Meeting Adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Thiel, Administrative Services Coordinator

Anne Lee  
President  
annelee@wctc.net  
715-424-3490

Joyce Hoffman  
President Elect  
joyce.hoffman@att.net  
262-633-0013

Judy Phillips  
Membership VP  
cubbie@athenet.net  
920-739-1000

Mary Jo McBrearty  
Leadership VP  
mmcbrearty@charter.net  
920-458-5648

Janet Quail  
Finance VP  
[janet.quail@gmail.com](mailto:janet.quail@gmail.com)  
414-967-7942

Kim Wellnitz  
Development VP  
kimwellnitz@yahoo.com  
970-443-2964 w  
715-425-5418 h

Barbara Peterson  
Public Policy  
lbpeterson@dishup.us  
715-425-5638

Frances M. Kavenik  
Program VP  
kavenik@uwp.edu  
262-654-7570

Karen Thiel  
Admin. Coordinator  
thiel@wctc.net  
715-887-4338

Carol Ebel  
Badger Briefs  
cebel@ezwebtech.com  
715-758-7638

## AAUW-Wisconsin State Board Meeting Minutes Friday, January 21, 2012 at the McFarland Public Library, McFarland, WI

Present: Carol Ebel, Joyce Hoffman, Frances Kavenik, Carolyn Krebs, Anne Lee, Mary Jo McBrearty, Janet Nortrom, Janet Quail, Donna Weidman, Karen Thiel and Kim Wellnitz.

**Motion** Minutes of the October 21, 2011 meeting were approved.

**Leadership:** Mary Jo McBrearty indicated that no applications have been received for the NCCWSL scholarships to date. **MOTION:** Mary Jo McBrearty moved, seconded by Frances Kavenik, that unless an application(s) is received by the extended deadline of February 1, 2012, AAUW-WI will not offer its scholarships for the NCCWSL event for 2012. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Program:** Frances reported on the arrangements for the 2012 Convention to be held in Janesville, April 27 & 28, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Express. She reviewed the agenda for the convention indicating the participation of six AAUW fellows who are students in Wisconsin. Because of limited time at the convention, Kim Wellnitz suggested having an Un-basket Auction. Cash would be collected instead of having baskets for a silent auction. The names of all donors would be in a drawing for prizes – a 2013 convention registration, state and national dues, and an AAUW gift item.

**Development:** Kim Wellnitz indicated she will do an article for *Badger Briefs* explaining the un-basket raffle at the 2012 convention. As agreed to previously, funds raised rotate through the four AAUW Funds and this year will go to the Public Policy Fund.

**Membership:** The State has 1658 members at this time. Judy has received recruiting ideas from the Lake Geneva and Appleton branches and will write about them in the next two issues of *Badger Briefs*. Growth and Gumption Award nominations should be submitted to Judy.

Carolyn Krebs  
District 1 Coordinator  
carolynkrebs@sbcglobal.net  
608-754-1424

Janet Nortrom  
District 2 Coordinator  
nortromj@sbcglobal.net  
414-967-3764

Camille Thibeadeau-Meyers  
District 3 coordinator  
ctmeyers@gmail.com  
262-245-9268

Donna Weidman  
District 4 Coordinator  
Donna.weidman@gmail.com  
715-835-7735

Pat Hinckley  
District 5 Coordinator  
920-434-0784  
pwhinckley@earthlink.net

Jodi Simek  
Diversity  
jbsimek@uwec.edu  
715-514-1418

Lois Helland  
ByLaws  
hellanala@uwec.edu  
71-831-8315

Rachel Hirsch  
Webminder  
[rw@rachelhirsch.com](mailto:rw@rachelhirsch.com)  
612-987-0395

## AAUW Value Promise

**“By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.”**



**BADGER  
BRIEFS**

American Association of University Women-Wisconsin  
Wisconsin Bulletin

POSTMASTER: Address Service Re-  
quested. Send changes to AAUW,  
1111 16th Street, NW, Washington,  
DC 20036-4873  
Editor: Carol Ebel  
135 N. Adams St., Bonduel, WI 54107

75 Wood Ridge Dr  
River Falls, WI 54022

## AAUW-WI Calendar 2011-2012

April 27	Board Meeting
April 28	State Convention

The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.