



Empowering Women Since 1881

Vol 92 No 1 AAUW Wausau (WI) Branch



THE LEAFLET

Jan/Feb/March 2015

WIPPS

WISCONSIN INSTITUTE for
PUBLIC POLICY and SERVICE

BUILDING COMMUNITY
STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

**WIPPS Public Issues Series on February 26:
Public Schools and Privatization - What's at Stake?**



Dr. Julie Mead

Dr. Julie Mead, a UW-Madison researcher and expert on legal aspects of K-12 education, will present her latest findings on Wisconsin's school voucher program from 6:30-8 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, at the UW Center for Civic Engagement in Wausau.

She documents the growth and current features of the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, the Racine Parental Choice Program, and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program. Dr. Mead, a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at UW-Madison, explains the traditional features of public schools and explains how privatization impacts those features. This presentation shares research on the comparative effectiveness of different forms of schools.

Dr. Mead's research is based on current data from Wisconsin's private and public education programs. School vouchers are paid for by the state and allow some students to attend private schools. These schools must meet minimum standards established by the legislature in order to accept voucher recipients.

A former special education teacher and administrator, she has collaborated on several books related to legal aspects of education, and has published numerous articles in both education and law journals.

The program is sponsored by the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service and the American Association of University Women.

RSVPs are appreciated, but not required. RSVP to marabill1@msn.com

Come on, Get Happy! **Thursday, March 19, 2015**



What are the keys to happiness? Come see “Happy” and find out for yourself! From the director of Bruce Almighty and the Academy Award nominated film maker Roko Belic, “Happy” has won several film awards including Audience Choice at the International Film Festival and Best Documentary at the Maui International Film Festival.

The program will be at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 March 19, 2015 at the Marathon Co Public Library.

Dr. Connie O’Heron will lead the group that evening, so it will definitely be worth leaving your home to join others for this event. In fact, bring along friends who might enjoy happiness too.

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Backpacks for Teachers in Nicaragua **Wednesday, March 25 - 9:00 a.m.**



An event that we all enjoy each year is gathering new or gently used items that would benefit teachers in rural areas of Nicaragua. Because resources are so scarce there, our backpacks help the teachers get the items to their schools and then enable them to have resources to teach better. Of course, we power up with a potluck brunch beforehand, and Amy Wiza, executive director of Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners will update us on how our backpacks get to Nicaragua, are distributed, and are used.

We welcome Amy and are eager for an update. Amy is, after all, an AAUW-Wausau member!

Please contact Ruth Hawks about what you plan to bring for the potluck: 715-842-5291 and **leave a message.**



BIG MONEY

Executive Director of Common Cause~ Jay Heck

Thursday, March 12th from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

AAUW is co-sponsoring with the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service
at the UW Center for Civic Engagement across from UWMC

Jay Heck, the director of Common Cause in Wisconsin, one of the state’s largest non-partisan, non-profit political reform advocacy organizations with approximately 2,300 members will discuss the Senate Joint Resolution 2 directing the Wisconsin Supreme Court to elect its Chief Justice every two years.

December Brunch Program Review

By Ron Lippi, Associate Dean at UWMC and Professor of Anthropology.

On the morning of Saturday, December 6th this past year, I made time to attend Nancy Schulz' slide show and talk on her recent trip to the Middle East. This was the AAUW Wausau chapter's "December Brunch Program." Contrary to what the Governor has said recently about UW professors not working enough, I was busy at work in my UWMC office Saturday morning and could not stay for the entire program but saw most of it. Nancy used her photos to discuss her experiences in Egypt, Israel, Palestine and Jordan; I had to leave before she got to Turkey, but I know that was also part of the presentation.

I have visited these countries but either as the leader of a university guided tour or as a young adult accompanying my father on a business trip. In both cases the trips were well choreographed in advance and tended to follow well-trodden tourist itineraries. What was most fascinating about Nancy's trip was that she was mostly off the typical tourist routes and completely on her own with her principal goal of meeting and spending significant time with local peoples. She saw this as a mission of peace and understanding as she tried to understand religious and other cultural differences.

Traveling with a backpack, Nancy used a variety of conveyances and slept in hostels, trains, houses and tents while getting her food mostly from local vendors. While she visited some of the great ancient monuments of Egypt, she put more emphasis on families she met along the way or with whom she dined



and lodged. Her experiences in the other countries were similar. Clearly, this is a better way to get to know a country and its people, but it takes a special person to pull it off. And, of course, she was also representing the U.S. as she reached out to make friends with a variety of Middle Eastern people. I remember being envious as I watched because my trips abroad are nearly always work-related and have me under a tight schedule. Very nicely done, Nancy.

March is Women's History Month. April 14 is Equal Pay Day. What progress have women made in your lifetime? Thank those who made improvement in women's status.

WELCOME

Please welcome our new member:

Mary Jarvis
2805 Swallow Lane,
Wausau, WI 54401
715-571-6903

University of Wisconsin, Stout

Major: Psychology Education

Minor: Physical Education

University of WI. Stevens Point

Masters: MEPD, Masters of Education and Professional Development

mejar@aol.com



AAUW PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM, 2013–2015

We welcome Rita Pachel as our new branch Public Policy Chair. Rita's advocacy background will bring informed leadership to the Public Policy position. We thank Vonnie Henning for her past role as Chair.

The Public Policy Program underscores AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research and speaks to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns across the life span. The work of AAUW builds upon more than 130 years of responsible public participation, and the principles provide a basis for AAUW members' actions at the local, state, national, and international levels. Implicit in each of our principles is support for government agencies administering programs, including adequate appropriations, effective and accountable administration, and provision for citizen participation.

AAUW is a strong advocate for public education and supports public funding for public education. Issues surrounding the purpose of education will be discussion points now in the future. Now is a crucial time to make your AAUW voice heard on this topic.

In 2013 AAUW members very thoroughly developed their position on the issue of school funding, and rather than include the document in the newsletter, please read it on-line at

<http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/position-on-school-vouchers-112.pdf>



Women in Leadership Roles ~ Impressive, Inspirational, Admirable

By Marlene Lau

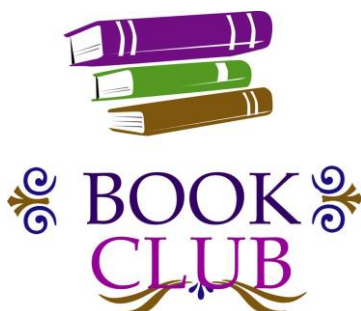
Impressive. Inspirational. Admirable. These words and more were spoken by those in attendance at the Women in Leadership presentation given by Marathon County Jail Administrator Sandra LaDu-Ives and Wausau Fire Department Chief Tracey Kujawa.

Each woman told her story of the paths followed and challenges encountered from high school on in pursuit of careers in male dominated fields.

Both women cited education, training, hard work, persistence, and family support in their success.

Also evident were self-confidence and strong beliefs in their abilities at their respective positions.

Those of us in attendance in January at 2510 were proud of their accomplishments and proud to have them representing women in leadership positions in our community.



AAUW
2nd TUESDAY BOOK CLUB
At Immanuel Lutheran Church ~ 630 Adams Street, Wausau
The second Tuesday of the month

Join us for lively discussion from our multiple perspectives. Call Ruth Grauer to join: 715-842-1592.

Due to a major snowstorm, several books have been rescheduled:

Rescheduled to March 10 ~ *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor

"An instant American icon--the first Hispanic on the U.S. Supreme Court--tells the story of her life before becoming a judge in an inspiring, surprisingly personal memoir.



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Lunch Bunch

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sandesl@frontier.com

Mary Walker, Early Advocate ~ Our April 21, 2015 Program

We'll learn about Dr. Mary Walker, Surgeon and women's rights activist who received the Medal of Honor for her service during the Civil War. (1832-1919)

George DeMass County Historian, from Oswego County N.Y. and Presbyterian pastor for 40 years will share his research about this remarkable women's rights activist from more than a century ago.

AAUW Wausau Branch
Financial Report



Alana Holt, Treasurer

July 1-October 31, 2014

Receipts include \$2,413 Dues, \$.88 interest,
Donation \$18

Disbursements include: Dues AAUW \$2009, Dues
AAUW of Wisconsin \$572, Insurance \$175,
LEAFLET printing \$130.66, Postage \$88.20

	Checking	Savings
Balance August 1, 2014	\$5732.00	2,152.68
Receipts	1840.88	
Disbursements	2974.86	
Balance October 31, 2014	\$4,598.02	\$2,152.68



Title IX: Entitled to Succeed

AAUW State Convention

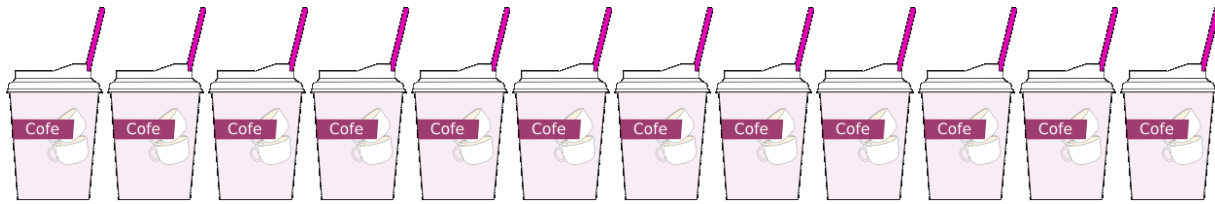
April 24-25, 2015 at Osthoff Resort at Elkhart Lake

What an exciting convention is planned, and AAUW-Wausau will be strongly represented! We will arrive at the Osthoff at 2:00 to attend the branch sharing times, the Keynote speaker Jessie Garcia, TMJ4 Sportscaster. On Saturday Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson will speak on "How My Job Affects Your Everyday Life" and then we will attend break-out sessions on a fascinating variety of topics.

Our branch has reserved a suite for Friday night and we will carpool to the convention leaving on Friday morning, April 24 at 10:00 a.m. and returning Saturday night about 9:00 p.m. Of course we have built in time for a restaurant stop and visiting on our way down and back.

For more information and the convention schedule check your Spring 2015 Badger Briefs. **The Action Team voted to pay for the carpool gas and then divide the remaining portion of \$200 among attendees.** Please contact Lucy Harvey to be included in the carpool and the sweet suite.

LOIS3545@aol.com or 715-848-3545



Additional Opportunity:

***Hot Coffee* Video ~ February 19 at First Presbyterian Church at 6:30 p.m.**

Is Justice Being Served? Seinfeld mocked it. Letterman ranked it in his top ten list. And more than fifteen years later, its infamy continues. Everyone knows the McDonald's coffee case. It has been routinely cited as an example of how citizens have taken advantage of America's legal system, but is that a fair rendition of the facts? *Hot Coffee* reveals what really happened to Stella Liebeck, the Albuquerque woman who spilled coffee on herself and sued McDonald's, while exploring how and why the case garnered so much media attention, who funded the effort and to what end. After seeing this film, you will decide who really profited from spilling hot coffee. - See more at: <http://www.hotcoffeethemovie.com/Default.asp#sthash.1L4Jcm3T.dpuf>

????????? Food for Thought ~ How Are We Doing in Wausau ??????????

Are your branch communication tactics working? Are your members reading your newsletters? Are people visiting your website or Facebook page? Do you know the names of your local media (newspaper, radio, etc.) representatives?

If you have more questions than answers – or if you have answers that you are willing to share with others, then you're going to want to attend the Media workshop at the state convention April 24 and 25. This is going to be *your* workshop. Consequently, we want to hear your questions and concerns before the convention so that we can do a little research.

Here are some thought starters for your questions:

- Developing a media relations plan
- Newsletters – print or electronic; if electronic, embedded or as an attachment?
- Best software for a print newsletter
- Communicating the right messages
- Making communication channels work together
- What is a communication audit and what is its value?
- What would it take for my branch to have its own website?

Please email your questions/topics to marlenesalley@hotmail.com or kate.hinnant@gmail.com.

Marlene Salley – AAUW-WI Communication Chair and Badger Briefs editor & Kate Hinnant - AAUW-WI IT Manager





AAUW Wausau (WI) Branch *LEAFLET*
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Calendar

Thurs. Feb 19 – Hot Coffee Video at First Presbyterian Church 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. Feb 26 – Public Schools and Privatization 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
UWMC James Venninga Theatre in Center for Civic Engagement

Weds. March 4 - Action Team at 11:30 at the Library (Second floor) All are invited

Tues. March 10 – AAUW Book Club discussion of *My Beloved World*

Thurs. March 12 – BIG MONEY 7:00 – 8:30 p.m UW Center for Civic Engagment

Thurs. March 19- *The Happy Movie* Marathon Co. Public Library at 6:00 p.m.

Weds. March 25 – Backpacks for Teachers in Nicaragua 9:00 a.m.

Weds. April 1 - Action Team at 11:30 at the Library (Second floor) All are invited

Tues. April 21 – Dr. Mary Walker, Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient

Fri. & Sat April 24 & 25 – AAUW State Convention