



Milwaukee (WI) Branch  
Established 1894

# MILWAUKEE BRANCH NEWSLETTER

March 2014

SATURDAY,  
MARCH 1, 2014

Social  
11:00 am  
Suite 202

Program  
12 noon  
In Bach Room

Luncheon  
1 p.m.

COST \$20

You may come for  
just the social and the  
program free of charge

Please make your  
reservation by  
TUESDAY, FEB 25

414-276-6820

aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com

Saturday, April 5th :

Urban Ecology Center

on how we can all play  
an active role right here  
in our own community as  
"Citizen Scientists."

Saturday, May 3rd:

Scholarship Presentation  
Italian Community Center.

Saturday March 1

9:30 a.m. Board Meeting  
Suite 202

## *Holly Patzer and Jeanne Geraci believe in Compassionate Criminal Justice*

**Holly Patzer** is the Executive Director of **Wisconsin Community Services, Inc. (WCS)**, the oldest and largest criminal justice nonprofit agency in Wisconsin. The agency provides an extensive array of re-entry and alternative to incarceration services for youth and adults in the juvenile and criminal justice systems in the areas of halfway houses, offender supervision and monitoring, education, intoxicated driver intervention, treatment courts, restorative justice, mental health/addiction, and neighborhood violence prevention. Holly has 28 years' experience working in the criminal and juvenile justice systems of Milwaukee and



*Holly Patzer*

Waukesha Counties, including being an experienced mediator and facilitator of Victim Offender Dialogue. She has a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from UW-Milwaukee and a Paralegal degree from Concordia University. In addition, she has a Professional Certificate in Nonprofit Management from UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education and the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management.

**Jeanne Geraci** has served as the Benedict Center's executive director since August, 2011. Founded in 1974, **The Benedict Center** is an interfaith, nonprofit criminal justice agency work-

ing with victims, offenders and the community to achieve a system of justice that is fair and treats everyone with dignity and respect. The Benedict Center provides direct ser-



*Jeanne Geraci*

vice and advocacy to create a more just criminal justice system. Core programs include the Women's Harm Reduction Program and its street outreach arm, the Sisters' Project, which provides treatment, education and support alternatives to incarceration for women involved in the criminal justice system. By taking a public health approach to the underlying issues of past trauma, mental health and drug addiction, women can more effectively build healthier lives for themselves and their families. The Benedict Center especially advocates for changes in the criminal justice system that create more opportunities for effective treatment alternatives.

Jeanne Geraci has worked for over 15 years in the nonprofit sector with a focus on advocacy and community organizing. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics.

*Jeanne made a list of the items given as care packages in The Benedict Center's street outreach and to women in their program, which appears on the back page.*

# President's message...

Kathleen Ellis Stifter



Dear AAUW Milwaukee Branch Members,

Our February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, in my opinion and by virtue of its length, ranks as one of the more engaging presentations we've had. The topic was one with which we're all familiar: estrogen. During Dr. Frick's presentation and afterward, members asked thoughtful questions and we ran over by about 20 minutes! Special thanks to Programs chair, Jessie Moffat.

### Update on President's Poll—

I plan to present in March during the social the results of one of this year's special projects--- the President's Poll – where I asked for members input! I hope you will attend. I look forward to sharing **your** results and eagerly encourage discussion on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 am. Usually we begin the social at 11:15, but this month, to allow for discussion, we'll begin at 11:00. The general meeting with presentation is at 12:00 noon and luncheon will follow.

### 2014 AAUW Wisconsin Convention----

**It's that time of year again—Convention Time!** The 94<sup>th</sup> AAUW Wisconsin Convention will be held in Eau Claire this year, beginning on Friday evening April 25<sup>th</sup> running through late afternoon April 26<sup>th</sup>. Last year, in Racine, we had 12 attendees from our branch. If you have never attended, please plan to join us---it's quite an opportunity to learn about AAUW in a bigger arena. We have a small budget to pay for members registration fees so, if you're planning to attend, please let the office know your plans ASAP.

### Community Investment—

In February, the board passed a motion to make a donation to The Optimist Theater (*Shakespeare in the Park*) in the amount of \$1000. Our donation will assist Optimist in meeting their challenge grant from BMO Harris Bank. Last year AAUW was a large sponsor helping Optimist win the challenge grant.

### A Note on Committees—

**Community / College Outreach Chair, Lyn Ann Hildenbrand** is finalizing details for \$tart\$mart which is planned for May 9<sup>th</sup> at UWM. This is a "First" for AAUW-Milwaukee

and one of this year's big GOALS! She may reach out for help, as we get closer to the date.

**Bylaws Committee** headed by **Michelle Prosek**, has 6 members. They are in process, updating the bylaws, not only to conform to national and state, but to be more understandable by all.

**Membership Chair, Linda Jenzake**, is actively recruiting members for her committee.

Come be part of growing our membership!

**Nominating Committee**, chaired by **Michelle Prosek**, will reach out to all of you soon.

At our **March meeting** we'll have committee signup sheets available. These will list those of you who *have already expressed* interest in certain committees as well as allow others to step up and get involved.

### Update on another 2014 goal----and a special thank you---

One of my goals as President is compiling a 'working calendar' and a 'set of operational guidelines'. We're well on the way to completion. We now have a 'working calendar' and it seems we add salient details each month, with each board meeting!

A reason for the 'operational guidelines is many of the comments we hear when asking a member to step up to run for a board position are 'I don't know how that works' or 'I don't know what's required' for that role. Outgoing board members always inform the newcomers (*and I might add, are always happy to be asked again for advice, if need be*) which is key.

I extend a special thank you to those who've been so very helpful with this project: Margaret Courtright, Virginia Strukel, Benita Clark, Nancy Nohl, Mary Fiedler, Julie Ferris, Kathe Bogdan and Michelle Prosek.

*I hope to see ALL of you in March!*

# Upcoming Nominations

Reported by President-Elect *Michelle Prosek*

As the President-Elect, I have been asked to develop a Nominating Committee to identify interested members for leadership positions in our organization. We have several positions that will be open for the coming year, starting September 2014. We have several more that will be coming open September 2015. There are always opportunities for members to contribute on the various committees that are currently under way.

**I challenge** each of you to consider how you might like to participate in AAUW-Milwaukee branch in the future.

- Do you want to participate in the decisions that are made regarding the various organizations that we support with our time and resources?



If you have questions about the leadership positions or committees that are seeking participation, please email **Michelle Prosek** at [michelle\\_r\\_prosek@uhc.com](mailto:michelle_r_prosek@uhc.com). I look forward to talking to you very soon.

- Do you want to work with the House Chair in getting our apartment updated?
- Do you want to work on outreach and getting AAUW's mission recognized at local schools?

Regardless of how you might want to be involved, when the Nominating Committee contacts you (*and we will be contacting you!*), I encourage you to say "YES, I want to participate!"

## Hospitality Corner



**F**EBRUARY SOCIAL HOSTESS was Michelle Prosek, pictured above with Lyn Hildenbrand and Margret Courtright

MARCH HOSTESSES are Joanne Johnson and Janet Nortrom.



## ..a word about college/university partnerships

When AAUW was founded in 1881, the first type of membership was an institutional membership for colleges. Today, AAUW continues to honor our relationship with the academic community through the creation of strong partnerships with faculty, staff and students. AAUW's future lies in building and maintaining relationships with these institutions, and creating a welcoming, mentoring, learning environment for the next generation of AAUW members—today's college students. **Member leaders must play a role in making this happen.**

A partnership with AAUW benefits everyone on campus. Faculty, staff

and students have access to numerous opportunities:

- ~ Student leadership development, educational programs, and scholarships
- ~ Free e-student AAUW memberships for all their undergraduates and a free, one-year membership for each after graduation
- ~ Priority selection for leadership programs, project grants, and other programs AAUW provides free to college students
- ~ Exclusive member discounts on numerous products of special benefit to student, faculty and staff.
- ~ Access to cutting-edge gender equity research and advocacy as well as funding for projects to

- address issues affecting women
- ~ Research, speaking, professional development and resume-building opportunities
- ~ Inclusion in a national network of educated, supportive individuals.

Besides the public institutions, only Alverno, Cardinal Stritch, and the Medical College in the Milwaukee area have a partnership with AAUW in our area. We need to reach out to other two and four-year colleges and universities in the greater Milwaukee area.

**If any of our members has a tie to these colleges, please let us know so that we may begin contact.**

## Out & About...

Mount Mary University

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Presents the

 **STAGE** SERIES   
voices of leadership

**Wednesday, March 5, 2014**

7:30 am — 10:30 a.m.

**Carly Fiorina**, former CEO  
of Hewlett-Packard, and  
**Lauren Bush Lauren**, founder  
and CEO of FEED Products.

For more information about this  
event, contact Natalie Strade at 414-  
443-3606 or straden@mtmary.edu

## Spinach Balls

Featured at the February Social by **Michelle Prosek**  
And requested by Members

### Ingredients

- ¾ C butter (1.5 sticks)
- 6 large eggs, beaten
- 1 box (6 oz) Chicken flavored stuffing
- 2 pkgs (10 oz each) frozen chopped spinach – drained and squeezed
- 1 C grated Parmesan Cheese
- ¼ Tsp black pepper
- Cayenne pepper or Hot sauce (optional)

### Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 if you will cook immediately. 12-15 minutes to cook, until the bottoms are brown.

Melt the butter in a bowl, add the beaten eggs and Parmesan cheese and mix until smooth. Add Stuffing and spinach until well mixed. Season with pepper. Roll into small 1-2 inch balls, place on ungreased cookie sheet. You can also freeze these at this point, and pull them out a few at a time.

Happy spinach ball eating!!

**Benedict Center** needs these items for distribution.

AAUW Members are encouraged to donate the following by bringing to the meeting or dropping off at the office.

- \* Deodorant
- \* Shampoo and conditioner
- \* Boxes of tissue, and tissue in individual packets
- \* Wet Wipes— *the small foil packs with one wipe each*
- \* Toilet paper
- \* Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- \* Mouth wash
- \* Body wash and body lotions
- \* Suntan lotion
- \* Feminine pads and tampons
- \* Hair brushes and combs
- \* Juice boxes
- \* Water—small (8 oz) bottles
- \* Crackers in individual packages

Janet Nortrom and  
Lyn Hildenbrand  
exchange thoughts  
over lunch.



Rosemarie Shimeall and Isabell  
Mueller at March's luncheon  
presentation.



**Tuesday, March— 1 p.m. in Astor Suite 202**

*Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed

—Discussion Leader: Ellie Moseley

**Tuesday, April 22 —*Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different*** by Gordon S. Wood

—Discussion Leader: Donna Jordahl

**Tuesday, May 27 —*Dear Life*** by Alice Munro

—Discussion Leader: Ann Hirst

**We welcome anyone** who would like to participate in the discussions to come to our Astor Suite 202 at 1 p.m. on any of these dates. We would be delighted to have you!