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FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

Branch Newsletter November 2013

NOVEMBER AAUW-RF PROGRAM FEATURE

LEAN IN: WOMEN AND THE WILL TO LEAD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 10:30 AM
RIVER FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY
140 UNION STREET – RIVER FALLS

The November branch meeting will be held on Saturday, November 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the River Falls Library Community Room. The program will feature a panel discussion of Sheryl Sandberg's recent and controversial book *Lean In: Women and the Will to Lead*. The book probes business leadership and the dearth of women in leadership positions in government and business even with the gains of "Women's Movement." Sandberg is the Chief Operating Officer of Facebook and former Vice President for Google.

Discussing the ideas presented in this book will be three area women: Connie Foster, Betty Wetherell-Gustafson and Susan Lee, all of whom have had first-hand experiences in the corporate and academic world. The discussion will be moderated by Elaine Baumann, AAUW member and former high school principal.

Connie Foster has been the Interim Chancellor at UW-RF having served as Interim Provost and Vice-Chancellor Dean of College of Education and Professional Studies, and Chair of the Department of Health and Human Performance.

Betty Wetherell-Gustafson is Inside Account Director at Thomson Reuters, a multinational media and information firm. She is a graduate of Hamline University and William Mitchell College of Law.

Susan Lee is a Programmer Analyst at Datacard Group having previously worked in analysis, design, and implementation. She is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas.

Members are urged to read Sandberg's book or the March 18, 2013 *Time Magazine* article "Queen of Lean" for background information. It is also possible to hear her discuss her writings on various websites. I would recommend Googling Ms. Sandberg on C-Span Booknotes or TED Talks.

The library is co-sponsoring this event with AAUW which is open to the public so invite your friends for an interesting morning with coffee and snacks. The branch business meeting will follow the program.

PRESIDENT' S COLUMN

Ruth Lee, Branch President



November is that time to reflect on what we can be “thankful for”: Grandmothers, mothers, sisters, in many cases male role models that dropped subtle comments along our informative years to challenge us to make change. For some of us it involves being a part of AAUW or other organizations that seek continual opportunities for all female persons. How timely then for the November program to focus on *Lean In* and what that meant to Cheryl Sandberg and the three persons who will be speaking at the November 16th meeting, which includes AAUW member Elaine Baumann as moderator.

Andy Steiner, freelance writer and editor from St. Paul, states in the Minnesota Women's Press that every working woman in the United States doesn't always get what she wants from her work. We still need added social and governmental support, but she believes great strides have been made in getting there. Further suggestions for books relating to this subject include: **Bossypants** by Tina Fey; **Get to Work...And Get a Life, Before It's Too Late** by Linda R. Hirshman; **The Artist's Way** by Julia Cameron; **Mommy Wars: Stay-at-Home and Career Moms Face Off on Their Choices, Their Lives, Their Families** by Leslie Morgan Steiner; **How She Really Does It: Secrets of Successful Stay-at-Work Moms**, by Wendy Sachs. Steiner has written a book “**How To Survive: The Extraordinary Resilience of Ordinary People,**” which will be published next year.

The real thrill comes when a 10 year-old grandchild is excited about reading about the great accomplishments of women! Such as telling her mom about the strongest material in the world KEVLAR which was invented by a woman; and a particular story about the girl around the turn of the century who refused to take the “girls test” at school and instead took the “boys test” which determined she would make a great dentist or scientist. The follow-up statement to this information was “... and I happen to LOVE math!” Yes, she had found a book about women in the library and was enjoying every story in the book!

With all of that said, we of the River Falls branch of AAUW need to be thankful for all our members and the work that is done. There are times in our lives when we are flexible enough to be involved in fund raisers, board positions, heading committees and working on a committee that is of special interest to us. Some years we are dues-paying members who might write an extra check for a special project (or not).



Looking ahead to the December gathering. . .

December 10, 2013 we gather at the home of Suzanne Hagen for our Holiday meeting. There will be a live auction with merchandise provided by members to be sold to members for the good of the travel fund. Homemade baked goods, candy, knitting, crafts, art work, dinners for 2 or more, wine tasting adventure, coffee party, home sewn goods, etc. Do you have something in your home that you don't need and someone else does --- sounds like a good idea to share that for the benefit of the travel fund.



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EDUCATION

PROGRAM NOTES

Lorraine Davis and Elaine Davis, Co-Chairs

PLEASE NOTE: Date Change

In order to accommodate the schedule of our speaker, Dr. Eileen Korenic, physics professor at UWRP, please note that the January meeting has been changed to January 18, 2014 at Juniors at noon. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

PROGRAMS – 2013-14

River Falls Branch of AAUW

November 15 10:30 AM RF Public Library
Panel: Lean In, Discussion with Dr. Connie Foster, Susan Lee, and Betty Wetherell-Gustafson

December 10 7:00 PM Home of Suzanne Hagen, Holiday Party & Auction

January 18 12:00 Noon Juniors Grill
STEM Luncheon, Speaker - Dr. Eileen Korenic; Science Essay Award Recipients

February 11 7:30 PM RF Public Library
Women in the Civil War - Kurt Leichtle

March 11 7:30 PM RF Public Library
Effect of Vouchers On Wisconsin Public Schools - Tom Westerhaus

April 8 7:30 PM RF Public Library
Impact of ACA on Women's Health—Heather Logelin

May 13 6:30 PM Site TBD
End of Year Pot Luck

In keeping with our theme of Women: Past and Present, we'd like to schedule a theater excursion to the History Theater on Sunday, March 15 or 30, 2014 for Lonely Soldiers: Women at War in Iraq. Watch for more details.

Business meetings will be held an hour before regularly scheduled programs. Hostesses are still needed of February and March meetings.

Lydecker Lecture series events set for Nov. 12 and 13

Karen Dace, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, will be on campus Tuesday, Nov. 12, and Wednesday,

Nov. 13, as part of the Ann Lydecker Lecture Series.

Dace will speak Nov. 12 from 10:30-11:45 a.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater, University Center, about *Inclusive Excellence—Beyond Food, Festival & Fun*. On Nov. 13, she will speak from 1-2:15 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater, University Center, about *If Wishing Made it So: Advancing Women in the Academy*.

The lecture series was created in the memory of the late UWRP Chancellor Ann Lydecker and features a speaker on the issues facing women leaders in many contexts, both in academia and beyond. It is made possible by Bill Lydecker, Ann's husband, through the Ann Lydecker Lecture Series Fund of the UWRP Foundation. For more information, call the Provost's Office at 3700.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Yolanda Dewar, Chair

Malala Yousafzai Wins EU Human-Rights Prize

European lawmakers announced Thursday that they've given Europe's top human-rights prize to Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani schoolgirl who was catapulted to global fame after surviving a Taliban assassination attempt last year. The Sakharov Prize comes with \$65,000 and was previously awarded to Nelson Mandela and Aung San Suu Kyi.



Malala Yousafzai, had a meeting with President Obama and his wife Michelle and older daughter Malia in the White House. The White House issued a press release and a photo, saying that the presidential couple had invited this youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize nominee to visit "to thank her for her inspiring and passionate work on behalf of girls' education in Pakistan."

International Conference Action to Achieve Commitments in UNGA Resolution 67/146: Intensifying Global Efforts for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilations

Press Statement, Moving Forward Statement -
- High Level Segment, Rome, Italy, October 22, 2013

Hosted by the Government of Italy, the Conference brought together representatives from over 25 governments, as well as civil society organizations, parliamentarians, human rights defenders, regional intergovernmental institutions and United Nations agencies.

Governments agreed to a groundbreaking, comprehensive commitment to eliminate female genital mutilations, recognizing that policies, programs and services must be part of a holistic, culturally sensitive approach that promotes, protects and fulfills the rights of girls and women.

Women of the World Call for Urgent Action on Climate Change
From Nation of Change, October 28, 2013

Alison Rose Levy, News Report: Last month, the International Women's Earth and Climate Summit took place in Suffern, NY, with 100 women delegates, top-level policy-makers, grassroots organizers and indigenous chiefs from around the world. From the heart of the Amazon Rainforest, to the forests of the Congo, to the foothills of Himalayas, organizers and indigenous tribal leaders from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and North America assembled, speaking different languages, wearing different garbs, embedded in different cultures, but all devoted to the health of the Earth and future generations.

ADVOCACY

PUBLIC POLICY
Barbara Peterson, Chair

Public Policy Day held in Madison
Memorable Quote from the Day: "If you aren't IN the kitchen, you're ON the menu."

Four members of the River Falls Branch traveled to Madison for the October 16th Legislative Day. If you missed it, you missed some

exceptional speakers on topics that need legislative lobbying help. Ruth Lee, Cheryl Maplethorpe, Suzie Danielson and Barbara Peterson were there to lobby our legislators on your behalf. AAUW members from across the state gathered in Madison to hear speakers on issues needing legislative action. The speakers came loaded with facts and motivating challenges for us to take to the Capitol later in the day. The attendees were riveted by the messages the presenters gave. We heard from:

Women's Health and Reproductive Health
Sara Finger, Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health
Jennifer Lewis, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin
Public Education Issues/Voucher Effects on Public Education
Jennifer Kammerud, Legislative Liaison for WI State Superintendent
Work Place Issues/Pay Equity
Emily Kitchin, 9 to 5, Milwaukee
Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW Government Relations Manager (via Skype)
Campaign Finance Reform/Redistricting 2020
Mike McCabe, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign



Pictured above are AAUW-WI Public Policy Chair Barbara Peterson, AAUW-RF branch member Cheryl Maplethorpe, AAUW national organizer Jennifer Dillard, and AAUW-RF Branch President Ruth Lee at the Capital for Legislative Day on October 16. Sue Danielson also attended the event.

Charged up by our speakers on the current status of these issues, we went to the WI State Capitol to speak with our legislators and their staff. We can continue to make them aware that we are tracking their votes and hold them accountable for their actions. In many cases they are hoping we don't know their voting record or will forget before the next election.

Each member needs to communicate with our state senators and assemblypersons on the

issues. Sign up for the Two-Minute Activist on the AAUW-WI website to become part of a troop of AAUW members who are working for the principles of AAUW and equality for women and girls. Remember, if you aren't part of the solution, you may be next on the menu.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Jane Matthews, Chair

Three people have answered the call to work on the Membership Committee with me. They are Ann Gustafson, Jeanne Zirbel and Elise Whaley. I look forward to working with these resourceful people to capitalize on their creativity and insight regarding member recruitment.

Thank you to the members who have forwarded information about possible new members to me. Contact has been made with some of them and I will continue to stay in contact in order to answer their questions, invite them to meetings and share the AAUW story. The goal is that some will join our ranks.

Numerous recruitment resources are available from AAUW at the state and national level.

BRANCH BUSINESS

FINANCE REPORT

Kay Montgomery, Co-Finance Chair

AAUW-River Falls Finance Report October 19, 2013

Checking balance 9/19/2013: \$ 718.71

Receipts

Book sale	\$ 941.00
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Disbursements

Cash - Book Sale	\$ 65.00
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Balances 10/19/2013:

Checking:	\$1,594.71
Savings:	<u>\$1,953.76</u>
	\$3,548.47

Restricted Accounts:

UW-RF Scholarship	\$ 00.00
RFHS Scholarship	\$ 00.00
AAUW Funds	\$ 297.00
LAF	\$ 65.00
Travel	
State	\$ 00.00
National	\$ 00.00*

*Any funds left in the State travel after the State convention are added to the National travel fund.

Not all of these have been explored, but no doubt they will be helpful to us in our membership efforts during the coming year.

PHILANTHROPY

Suzanne Hagen
Finance Co-Chair

Book Sale Thanks

Sue Danielson, Book Sale Co-Chair

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Book Sale. There were so many willing hands that it seemed easy this year. We made about \$1400, which is a bit less than last year, but still a very respectable amount.

Be sure to thank Todd and Mary at Funktion Junktion. They sold \$198 worth of books when we weren't even there to collect money! Cheryl Mapplethorpe took several boxes of books to Books for Africa. Barb Peterson took some boxes of the best looking books to save for next year's sale. The rest of the books went to Goodwill. Special thanks to Yolanda Dewar for working practically every day. Good job everyone!

MINUTES - October 5, 2013 branch meeting

AAUW River Falls Branch
October 5, 2013, Function Junction

President Ruth Lee called the meeting to order.

Minutes and Treasurer's report approved as printed in the October newsletter.

President thanked Suzie Danielson and Jeanne Zirbel for setting up book sale.
Suzie and Jeanne had sign-up sheet for additional work times for the book sale.

Lorraine Davis announced the November 16, 2013 meeting "Lean In". This will be co-sponsored with the River Falls Public Library at 10:30 a.m. in the lower level meeting room of the library.

Newsletter deadline is October 20th or absolute 28th.

Other business took second place to setting up the book sale.

Submitted by Elise Whaley, Co-Secretary

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 16	Branch meeting, RF Public Library 10:30 AM; Program: <i>LEAN IN</i> panel discussion
November 20	Newsletter deadline
December 10	Branch holiday party & auction, Suzanne Hagen's home, 7:00 PM
December 20	Newsletter deadline
JANUARY 1, 2014	<i>Happy New Year</i>
January 18	Branch meeting, Juniors Grill, noon Women in Science, speaker and essay award recipients
January 20	Newsletter deadline



AAUW's MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW's VALUE PROMISE

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