University League
Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 11, 2010
Hike: 10:15 am, Social: 11:00 am
Luncheon: 11:30 am
U.W. Arboretum Visitor Center

“University of Wisconsin Arboretum History and Contemporary Issues”

Kevin McSweeney, Arboretum Director

How better to celebrate spring in Wisconsin than by spending some time at our unique and beautiful Arboretum? We’ve planned a guided hike through it before the luncheon. You’re welcome to come early for the hike at 10:15—walking shoes advised (sign up ahead on the reservation form)—or, if you wish, simply shop at the gift store (or at your table) and socialize with friends. In case of rain, the hike will be cancelled.

The luncheon menu will include (please choose):
An individual Cobb Salad (chicken, bacon, blue cheese, hard boiled egg, etc.) and Fruit Kabob, or Chicken Florentine En Croute, Steamed Asparagus, Couscous with Feta & Pine Nuts.
Assorted Dinner Rolls and Strawberry Tart, Coffee, Ice Water, Iced Tea, Lemonade with each entrée.
The price is $16.50 and wine will be available for $5 a glass.

Reservations need to be in by Thursday, May 6th, but earlier is better!
TO: Helen Read, 813 Ottawa Trail, Madison, WI 53711

Luncheon will be followed by a talk by Kevin McSweeney and our Annual Meeting. Kevin McSweeney is a professor of Soil Science & Environmental Studies and Director of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum. He joined the faculty in 1983 and served as Director of the School of Natural Resources in CALS prior to his current appointment at the Arboretum. His research focuses on restoration ecology, soil and earth history and sustainable land management. He was involved in a major international research project on sustainable agriculture and natural resource management conducting fieldwork in Central and South America, East Africa and Southeast Asia. He was born in Wales and received his undergraduate education in the United Kingdom and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois-Urbana.
FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Fellow League Members:

Mirabile dictu and horribile dictu--Wonderful to tell and horrible to tell!
That sums up this past year for the League. Like life itself, the League has had its ups and downs, but we work to smooth them out to keep sailing and doing what we are meant to do--provide scholarships, fellowship, and service.

Let's take the wonderful things first: Our Fall Coffee program featured Chancellor Biddy Martin, who, in speaking of the student financial aid shortfall, was both surprised and pleased to hear the announcement of the Barbara Gerloff University League Great People Scholarship. At our Autumn Dinner, David Maraniss, who grew up in Madison, regaled us with his peripatetic life as an author investigating everything from the Olympics to Vince Lombardi to the Virginia Tech shooting. The Annual Candlelight Concert put on a new face with a change of venue--a festive setting at Blackhawk Country Club. The response to the new setting was overwhelmingly positive. The Mad City Brass, a graduate student brass quintet, impressed everyone with its high quality of musicianship. Our Spring Luncheon featured Paula Panczenko for a look at the printmaking art of Tandem Press and the announcement of our second endowed scholarship by Lois Buelow, president of the League, 1999-2000. The program year closes with our Annual Meeting at the Arboretum, a delightful place to feel the burst of spring.

With all the concern about economic conditions, we were relieved when our total endowment earnings of $48,425 showed only a decrease of about $220 from last year. (And this year, the Board greeted its first male member, Robert Burull, who handled the Endowed Scholarship Committee.) Our scholarship contributions prosper, now reaching $14,000 and counting, including the Scholarship Benefit donations, which continue to be received.

Other activities made their mark: In June, the League hosted the 13th Biennial Conference of Big Ten Women's Organizations. Presentations made by a panel of League endowed scholarship donors (Norma Brooks, Pat Cornwell, Mary Ellen Gerloff, Margaret Hickman, and Carol Palmer) were especially inspiring and helpful to Big 10 attendees, all of whom are actively involved in fund-raising and who admire what our League has done in this area. In a personal way, I was especially pleased to learn that an aunt of mine held the presidential post of the University of Minnesota group some years ago.

Bookworms successfully finished its first year under the League's fiscal sponsorship. A separate article in this newsletter covers its accomplishments.

And five very fine League-Letters kept you informed of League activities, while our Website developed a new look.

Financially, the League made great strides to professionalize its bookkeeping system under the leadership of co-treasurer Cathy Tesar. The monthly and yearly reports are current, and the League is, at this time, financially sound. Under the leadership of Cathy, a group of former treasurers is completing a treasurer's manual, clarifying the record keeping and required reporting to the Board and governmental agencies.

Letter continued on page 6
NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED:
LOIS L. BUELOW SCHOLARSHIP IN NURSING

During the recent Spring Luncheon, Lois Buelow took to the dais to announce the establishment of her new endowed scholarship which will aid students in nursing education. Lois was born on a farm in northwestern Minnesota. Her elementary school years were spent in the same one-room school both her parents had attended. Her father died when Lois was seven years old, leaving her mother to raise three young children.

In order to attend high school, Lois boarded in a small town and rode a bus another ten miles to school. She graduated as valedictorian of her class and was awarded a scholarship to a nursing school in Fargo, North Dakota. While there, she met Fred Buelow at the University and four years later, they were married.

Lois practiced her nursing profession in South Dakota, Ohio, and Michigan before she became a stay-at-home mom.

Lois and Fred moved to Madison in 1966, where Fred served as Professor and Chair of the Agricultural Engineering Department. Their four children are all graduates of the UW College of Engineering. They have seven grandchildren.

Lois has always been active in university, community, and church organizations. She has held several positions on The University League Board, including President (1999-2000). She has served on the Boards of The Daughters of Demeter (President, 1984-85), Madison Civics Club, Attic Angel Association, MACCC, and Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

The nursing scholarship Lois received opened immeasurable opportunities that totally transformed her future. She is very grateful for that and pleased to be able to endow a scholarship in the School of Nursing to assist students in becoming nursing instructors.

◊ ◊ ◊

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Welcome Coffee
Wednesday, September 22 at 9:30 a.m.
Nakoma Country Club

Dr. Joann Peck of the UW Business School will describe how the sense of touch influences your purchase decisions. Details will be included in the fall edition of the Newsletter.
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION

As Chair of the University League Endowed Scholarship Committee, hearing grateful and enthusiastic words from young scholars regarding the League's scholarship donations is beautiful music indeed. The even greater reward is knowing that through the League's and individual donor's gifts, we're helping our brightest and best prepare for a successful life and lives so they too can be contributors for themselves as well as our society.

Below are two letters from two beneficiaries expressing their gratefulness:

"I am honored to be the recipient of the University League Scholarship. I am writing to thank you for your generous gift.

I am currently in my last semester at the University of Wisconsin where I will leave with a degree in Clinical Laboratory Science. After graduation, I plan on working in a lab somewhere in Wisconsin. Staying in Wisconsin is important to me so I can stay close to my family and friends. I am going to begin the difficult challenge of finding a job soon as I can work after graduation.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me."

Sincerely,
Kenneth Rueden

"Thank you very much for the University League Scholarship. I am financing my entire education on my own so this scholarship means a great deal to me.

I am currently a 1st year veterinary student here at UW-Madison. Right now, I am interested in pursuing a career in mixed animal practice -- dogs, horses, and dairy cattle are my favorite species with which to work. I am also interested in holistic medicine, and hope to become certified in veterinary acupuncture and chiropractic and use these therapies on both small and large animals.

Thank you again for your generosity. It really makes a huge difference in helping me stay in school."

Sincerely,
Laura Wunsch

--Robert Burull, Chair
Endowed Scholarship Committee

ADDRESS CHANGE

Please make the following change in your Yearbooks:
Mary Jo Willis, 84 Pond View Lane, Fitchburg, WI, Phone: 467-8608
NEWS FROM VOLUNTEERS

April, National Volunteer Month, Is The Time To Say
.......Merci, Takk, Danke, Gracias, Grazie, Thanks
to all volunteers everywhere. Who among us has NOT volunteered to improve the lives of others, improve the environment, and generally make our communities better places for all of us? We serve as docents at museums and gardens, prepare and deliver meals, pull invasive species and collect prairie seeds in protected areas, assist in hospitals, tutor in schools, inspire youth, raise funds for special causes, promote literacy, respond to local and international crises as best we can, serve on boards of not-for-profit organizations, staff food banks and meal sites, freely share our talents and expertise where needed in our communities. I could single out individuals who have a legacy of decades of service at specific sites, but I won’t. Many of our members qualify for this long term commitment to service. I personally think we volunteer not for personal recognition, but simply because we care and we can.

Bookworms Sends Its Thanks

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the volunteers who contributed to the success of Bookworms during this past year! With the help of 20 readers visiting 13 classes at 10 different preschools, our program provided 225 needy children with more than 1,800 books. Some readers also provided their classes with activities (like paper bag dog puppets) and snacks (like dog bone cookies)! Thank you, readers Bev and Bill Zarnstorff, Daphne Haacker, Marguerite Sykes, Paige Waterous, Helen Read, Kathy Knox, Diane Smidt, Elinor Zach, Kay Jarvis-Sladky, Florence Schmitt, Kathy Sandefur, Elinor Koepcke, LeeAnn Parish, Madonna Scullion, Rachel Hagen, and Robbie Preston. Thanks also, to Marguerite Sykes and Kay Jarvis-Sladky for their work writing grant applications to raise funds needed to purchase the books. We gratefully acknowledge the monetary donations of The Cremer Foundation, The Rotary Club of Madison West, The Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation, The Target Foundation and many generous members of University League. If YOU would like to help preschool children develop a love of reading, volunteer with Bookworms! Contact Mary Warfield at 273-9809.

Volunteer in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Volunteering in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve allows people to enjoy the outdoors, see the progression of spring flowers, and help restore a section of the campus. Join the Eastern Bill’s Woods Planting Party on Saturday, May 15, from 1 to 3, at the entrance to Picnic Point to see the beautiful restoration while planting additional wildflowers. Contact Glenda Denniston (denniston@wisc.edu or 231-1530) to help plant at a different May time. Garlic Mustard efforts will continue in April and May, including multiple work parties (see www.lakeshorepreserve.org and click on Garlic Mustard work schedule (lower right) or contact Roma Lenehan to schedule alternate times (rlenehan@charter.net or 238-5406). Learn about other volunteer opportunities by contacting Bryn Scriver (bscriver@fpm.wisc.edu or 220-5560).

Work Day at the UW Arboretum

This wonderful spring weather brings out the gardening urge within us. If you'd like to get outdoors, consider joining a work day at the UW Arboretum on the first Saturday of each month. An interesting angle is the chance to instill the need for caring for and sharing your love of the land with your children or grandchildren at an intergenerational project. Following Rachel Carson's wise mandate, we need to nurture this love of nature in children as they will become the future stewards of the land. I think the emergence of Spring is the most exciting time to be in the arboretum. Learn more about volunteering at the Arboretum by visiting their website or calling Julie Kingsbury at (608) 262-5604.
At the same time, there is a caveat--and this is where the horribili dictum comes in. In September we discovered an undisclosed checking account for the Odyssey Project under the League's corporate structure. The separate account was in existence since 2006, but it was unsupervised by the League, and neither the income nor disbursements had been filed with the IRS. After consulting with two CPA's and two attorneys, I determined that, to protect both the League and the Odyssey Project, we needed first to close the separate checking account and, secondly, to report the income and disbursements to the IRS for the past three years. This we did.

The account, discovered on 28 September 2009, was closed on 20 October 2009. On 1 December 2009, our CPA, Bruce Mayer of the Wegner CPA firm, informed us that the amended IRS returns for 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009 were in the mail to the IRS. Subsequently, the same returns were submitted to the State of Wisconsin.

Exactly, what does this mean? First of all, it means that the League will face a penalty for late filing, which could be substantial. We, however, are working with an IRS agent and with our CPA here in Madison to request an abatement of the penalty. Secondly, we could face other action regarding our tax exempt status. This is not anything that I can predict. The IRS will focus on when we found out about the account and what we did about it and when. We are hopeful, therefore, that our immediate, complete, and honest action to legalize the past will help us work through any troublesome area. In addition, it is in our favor that we have adopted tighter and more professional standards and controls. Lastly, it means that the League has faced and will face additional costs to handle the issues (at the moment, legal and CPA costs for filing the amended returns are approximately $2,000.); and that this will be an on-going problem, since the IRS has three years to decide if further action will be taken.

The League is staunch, however. It will go on, and it is stronger for what it has faced and is facing.

With that, I will say adieu, remembering the faithful members of the Board who have been presented with unusual and stressful problems this year, and who, nevertheless, continued to function; remembering all the good and positive things that have happened, in spite of the underlying stresses; and remembering all the fine persons who make up the League and its purposes of scholarship, service, and fellowship, a continuing vital part of the University, and Madison, community.

Takk for alt.

--Jeanne Burull

IN MEMORIAM

University League members were saddened to receive word of the passing of Eva Peterson and Harriet Shetler, on whose porch the Book Critics Interest Group was formed. They both were long-time and significant members of the League. We send our sympathy to their families.
INTEREST GROUP HISTORIES, PART II

This issue of the *League Letter* continues the series of short histories of various interest groups compiled by Pat Feltskog.

**Bird Group**
The Bird Group started in 1963. Annetta Rosser organized the group at the request of League members. Many members are from the original group. Mary Walker led the bird group until she died in 1971. Roma Lenehan, another expert birder, has led the group for the last ten years. The group now meets September through Thanksgiving, and again from late March, ending first week in June. Coffee at people’s houses allows some of the older members to attend. Members from the 1960s: Annetta Rosser, Lore Wahl, Barbara Vogelsang, Dolly Schoenberg, Jean Rideout, Frances Johnson, Helen Lodge, Phillida Charley, Betty Ragotzkie, Heidi Haeberli, Fran Rall, Ruth Southworth, Winnie Chapman, and Lois Curtiss. Frances Johnson, Phillida Charley, and Betty Ragotzkie are still active members, attending regularly.

**Genealogy Group**
The group started in 1982. Betty Montoye, Joan Montague, Margo Hansen, Ann Clark and Linda Harvey, Nancy Dorl joined soon after the group was organized. Joan, Margo and Linda are still members; Ann is deceased. The others keep in touch. Betty moved to Michigan; Joan, Margo, Nancy and Linda meet monthly and call themselves the “Genies.”

Betty Montoye gave a program to Newcomers on genealogy while Joan was a member of the Newcomers group. Betty called Joan because of her interest in the subject and asked if she would like to start an interest group on genealogy. Interest was so high that meetings were running very late, but now tend to end around 9. Computer use has aided members immensely, and by coming together and sharing, we help each other learn of new resources. We often go on field trips or have speakers. When a member gets stuck, the group can usually suggest other things in look into.

**Book Reviews -Monday Afternoon Book Group**
This group was started about 1954 at the University Houses and many moved then to the Hill Farm area. Founding members were Nancy O’Connor (now deceased), Marjean Smith, Margaret Schroeder, Mary Ellen Gerloff. These members are still in the group. Hildegard Scheibe was an original member of the group but can no longer attend.

This group now meets in the afternoon and has been together for over 55 years. They are interested in books and friendships. They often have guest speakers.

**French Conversation Group 2**
In January of 1995, a second French group was formed because there were too many people wanting to join and most private homes couldn't easily accommodate more than 20. There were four members of the first French Group (which meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month) who decided to help spin off a second group, and all four continue to attend both groups.

In the beginning, the second group met on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings, but after a few years changed to the same schedule as the first group, 12:30 pm. Through the years, the membership of the Second Group has fluctuated and as the membership of the First group also diminished, many of the Second Group members switched to the First Group. In Sept. of 2009, the Second Group, because of lower attendance, cut back to once a month, meeting only on the 3rd Wednesdays. Most members belong to one or the other of the groups, but there are still some who attend both groups.

Generally, the First Group reads books and the Second Group is rather less structured, incorporating articles in their discussions.
SCENES FROM UNIVERSITY LEAGUE EVENTS

A Valentine Coffee at Oakwood Village West

The Membership Committee, assisted by numerous board members, hosted a Valentine Coffee for League members residing at Oakwood West. More than twenty League members accepted the invitation. The members gathered in the Oaks Community Room on Friday, February 12th, enjoying refreshments and presentation of a red rose. Those in attendance introduced themselves and related a bit about their League experiences. Residents were thanked for their continued support. Pres. Elect Roma Lenehan enthusiastically outlined the many enriching aspects of League participation. The morning event was enjoyed by all those in attendance.

--Kathy Knox, Membership Chair

The Spring Luncheon with Paula Panczenko

The Spring Luncheon featured not only a tribute to many of the League members who have established endowed scholarships, but a very interesting power point talk by Paula Panczenko of the Tandem Press, one of only three professional presses affiliated with a university. A part of the Art Department within the School of Education, Tandem Press enables students to work alongside internationally known artists to create prints which are both experimental and creative. At the luncheon were two former deans of the School of Education, League members John Palmer and Charles Read, who were instrumental in the establishment and success of the Press.
University League Luncheon and Annual Meeting
Reservation Form

Due by Thursday, May 6, 2010

Program: Kevin McSweeney, UW Arboretum: “Celebrating 75 Years”

Member: ________________________________

Guest: ________________________________

Please choose one: [ ] Cobb Salad and Fruit
[ ] Chicken, Asparagus, Couscous
[ ] I (we) will be taking the planned hike at 10:15

____ Reservations @ $16.50 each = _______
Scholarship donation = _______
Total = _______

Check(s) payable to: The University League, Inc.
Mail to: Helen Read
813 Ottawa Trail, Madison, WI 53711