League Autumn Dinner Features Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson

Shirley S. Abrahamson, Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, will honor University League as the guest speaker for our Autumn Dinner. Join us on Thursday, October 30, at Nakoma Golf Club to hear her share "A View from the Bench" as she discusses the judiciary and its role in our society.

Chief Justice Abrahamson became the first woman on the Wisconsin Supreme Court when she was appointed in 1976. She was elected to a ten-year term in 1979 and was re-elected in 1989 and 1999. She has served as chief justice since 1996. She earned a B.A. magna cum laude from New York University in 1953, a J.D. with high distinction from Indiana University Law School in 1956 and an S.J.D. in American legal history from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1962. In addition, she holds fifteen honorary doctor of laws degrees. Before her appointment to the court, she practiced law in Madison for 14 years, taught as a faculty member of the University of Wisconsin Law School, and lectured at Marquette University Law School.


Autumn Dinner at Nakoma Golf Club

Our evening will begin with a social hour at 5:30, followed by dinner at 6:30. Entrees will be a choice of Grilled Atlantic Salmon with Yogurt Dill Sauce or ten ounces of Prime Rib. Each dinner will include a garden salad, dinner rolls, roasted red potatoes and roasted root vegetables. A vegetarian option is available upon request.

The cost is $31.50 per person. Reservations are due Saturday, October 25th. We cannot accept late reservations for this event! Please return the reservation form (found on the last page of the newsletter) with a check payable to The University League, Inc., to:
Mary Warfield
2713 Post Road
Madison, WI 53713

University League Autumn Dinner
When: Thursday, October 30, 2008,
5:30 Social hour  6:30 Dinner
Where: Nakoma Golf Club
4145 Golf Club Lane
Registration Deadline: October 25th
President’s Message — Janice Golay

The committee organizing the Madison biennial Big 10 Conference has been busy. Letters of invitation have gone out to Presidents of the Big 10 Women’s Organizations. After careful consideration, venues have been chosen, reservations have been made, and speakers have been selected. Please read the article about the Conference in this issue and return the form below it.

Book Critics, another of our treasured Interest Groups, is featured in this issue. I am privileged to live in the same retirement community (Capitol Lakes) as Harriet Shetler, one of its founders, so although I didn’t know her years ago I do know her clever and courageous self now. Let me know if you would like me to greet her on your behalf.

It was wonderful to see such a large and lively attendance at Bill Cronon’s talk in September. Please note the follow-up article about this event below.

Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson’s talk at our Autumn Dinner at Nakoma on October 30 should be equally but differently inspiring. I look forward to sharing the experience with you.

Janice

University League Fall Coffee

One hundred and twenty-eight University League members and guests attended this year’s Fall Coffee at the UW Arboretum. After visiting with friends, the group heard featured speaker, Bill Cronon, describe UW Madison’s Lakeshore Nature Preserve and discuss plans for the future.

Some members very generously donated to the University League Scholarship Fund when they registered for this event. Those donations totaled $481. We thank League members for their generosity and loyal support!

Lemons to Lemonade

An old saying suggests that when life hands us lemons, we should make lemonade. University League members recently turned a shortage of coffee and cream cheese into scholarship dollars! A disappointing handling of the catering for the League Fall Coffee prompted University Housing to reduce the amount they charged for the event. University League donated the unexpected surplus to the University League Scholarship fund. We thank University Housing for working with us to remedy the situation.
University League Leads Big Ten in Philanthropy:
What Are the Secrets of Our Success?
By Jill Muehrcke, Endowed Scholarship Chair

University League was started by women who wanted to lend a hand to students, and members of University League have been doing so ever since.

At first the helping hand took the form of loans to women undergraduates at UW-Madison. That seed of dedication to helping students has grown into a program of scholarships, gifts, and grants of nearly $60,000 a year.

We’ll have a chance to share our secrets of success with other universities when University League hosts the Conference of Big Ten University Women’s Organizations next June. “University League is head and shoulders above other Big Ten organizations in the amount of money we raise, and they all want to know how they can improve their own fundraising,” says Janice Golay, President of University League.

Our biggest secret is our members, who are amazingly generous and grow more so every year. Another key is that we have partnered with the University of Wisconsin Foundation, which helps us administer our endowed scholarships. “Through a special arrangement, our members can build an endowed scholarship in $1,000 increments, so they don’t need a fortune to start one,” says Janice. “Members can also start a memorial scholarship honoring a specific person or department in the university, so there is a wide range of possibilities.”

Because most of our members are associated with the University of Wisconsin, they realize the importance of education. They also understand how expensive college has become and how hard it is for students to pay for it.

“Students appreciate our help so much,” Janice says. “When it’s time for the scholarship ceremonies, I hope some of our members will attend, because it’s a wonderful experience. It’s so inspiring to hear the students tell their stories and express their gratitude to us for the help we give them.”

Last year, University League provided over $33,000 in endowed and memorial scholarships, over $19,000 in general scholarships given to every school and college at University of Wisconsin, $3,600 in grants, and $2,680 to the Odyssey Project. Altogether, the amount of money raised by University League members in 2007-2008 was $58,847.76 – an awesome amount by anyone’s standard.

“One of the major themes at the Big Ten Conference next spring will be philanthropy,” Janice says. “Martha Taylor, Vice President of the University of Wisconsin Foundation will speak. We’ll have workshops on the subject, so that other universities will be able to benefit from our long history and tradition of giving.”

See the front section of the University League Yearbook for a list of scholarship donation opportunities and last years’ amounts given to the UW. For more information, or to set up an endowed or memorial scholarship of your own, contact Janice Golay (244-4345, jgolay@wisc.edu) or Mary Jo Prieve (233-9362, maryjprieve@sbcglobal.net).

New Members Join University League

University League is so very pleased to welcome new members to our organization. We are the beneficiaries of their new ideas and enthusiasm. Please greet and welcome our new members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lavonda Cameron</th>
<th>Margaret Kaufman</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte Campbell</td>
<td>Elinor Koepeke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judith &amp; John Cooper</td>
<td>Mary Morton-Gibson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhonda Croxson</td>
<td>Karen Pasch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonnie Cubalechini</td>
<td>Laura &amp; John Petchler</td>
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<td>Sandra &amp; Jack Frazee</td>
<td>Marielli Rowe</td>
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<td>Kathryn &amp; David Granquist</td>
<td>Carol Shackelford</td>
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<td>Ruth Gundermann</td>
<td>Joan Shands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ilene Hagman</td>
<td>Kim Vegeront</td>
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Gearing Up for Big Ten Conference

On June 5-7, 2009, University League will host the biennial Conference of the Big Ten University Women’s Organizations. The last time Wisconsin hosted this Conference was twenty years ago. The event theme is “Navigating Today’s Currents: Charting Our Course,” and will touch upon common issues these organizations face.

The University Women’s Organizations Conference offers an opportunity for up to five members of each member Big Ten organization to visit our campus, share ideas, and make new friends and contacts. Attendees learn how other groups deal with organizational issues.

Venues will include the Pyle Center’s beautiful Alumni Lounge, with a four-star view of Lake Mendota. Big Ten delegates will stay in nearby Lowell Hall, with plenary and workshop sessions in the Pyle Center. Saturday evening’s event will be at Olbrich Gardens, where we can show off June roses and the unique Saba pavilion donated by UW alums from Thailand. A Sunday morning breakfast and business meeting will be held in the lovely French House on Lake Mendota and just across from Lowell Hall.

Our Needlework Interest Group is already working on bookmarks with our State flower, the violet, done in needlepoint. (By the way, this group prepared the same gift twenty years ago!) This and other small gifts will be given to each delegate in a tote bag. The revived Crafts group will be working on centerpieces for the tables.

What would your Interest Group like to do or make? How could you contribute to this special event? University League volunteers will be essential to the success of this exciting event. Only with our members’ help can we effectively host this important event. Please fill in the attached coupon and return to Kathy Sandefur, 5910 Hempstead Road, Madison, 53711, to let us know how we can count on you.

Yes, I Can Help with the Big Ten Conference

___ I have a connection to one of the Big Ten Schools. (Please specify school name and connection.)

___ I would be available for small, local auto tours (maximum 1-1/2 hours) on Saturday afternoon, for delegates who request them.

___ Please list any talents you would be willing to share: ____________________________

___ I would be willing to make a monetary contribution or other donation to the event.

Name ____________________________ Phone ____________________________
Thank you!
Thank you to everyone who donated money during Pay in May to support the University League Scholarship programs and the Odyssey Project.

In Memory of
Dean Calkins
Joan Calkins

In Memory of
Rosa B. Fred
Anita Gurda

In Memory of
Angela Lenehan
Anne and Charles Scott

In Memory of
Alice Mueller
Ellen Buck

In Memory of
Alice Mueller
Joan McCarthy

In Memory of
Robert F. Patton
Jeanne Patton

In Memory of
John Schrag
Beverly Schrag

In Memory of
Elizabeth Sequeira
Judy Troia

In Memory of
George Sledge
Dorothy Sledge

In Memory of
Marian Stemmle
Ann Ellingboe

In Honor of
Ruth D. Davis
Mathilda Schwalbach

In Honor of
Katherine Kroo
Catherine Tesar

In Honor of
Carol Palmer
Anna Bender

In Honor of
Ruth Petersen
Susan Udell

The Odyssey Project

Alice Appen
Karlee Babcock
Susan Becker
Nancy Becknell
Dorothy Binning
Coral Bishop
Joan Box
Laura and Bernard Cohen
Elisabeth DeBoor
Judith DeWitt
Mary Evert
Donna Fisker
Jean Frank
Irene Geller and Bob Fry
Anita Gurda
Betsy Haimson
Rita Harring

Marita Hettinger
Patricia Holt
Ruth G. and Millard Johnson
Dolores Kanner
Phyllis and Robert Kauffman
Maureen Kind
Kathleen Knox
Dee Kuech
Helen Kuntz
Helen Lacksore
Sueann Lerwick
Caroline Liedtke
Elizabeth Livermore
Sally and Robert Lorenz
Jane Maher
Marie McCabe

Joan McCarthy
Jan Morse
Joy and Eldon Newcomb
Carol and John Palmer
Eleanor Rodini
Marcia Schmidt
Marilyn and Edward Schten
Anne and Charles Scott
Marilyn Slatterback
Mahi Tandon
Priscilla and Gerald Thain
Joanna Thompson
Betsy Tishler
Nancy and John Webster
Diane Wilcox
Betty Zeps
General Scholarship Fund – Pay in May

Celia Anderson
Nan and N. Thomas Baillies
Susan Becker
Marion Belzer
Cynthia Benevenga
Sandy Bernstein
Dorothy Binning
Gennie Bostian
Joyce Bringe
Sandra Bubenzer
Carol Jean Buelow
Katherine Burris
Phyllis Carbon
Betty Carpenter
Sally Carpenter
Shirley Chosy
Laura and Bernard Cohen
Audrey Dean
Jane Deyo
Lois Dick
Ruby Dobson
Ann Ellingboe
Trudi Flanagan
Sandra and Jack Frazee
Genevieve Gershbach
Mary Jane and Vernon Getlinger
Karen Goebel
Janice and Jean-Pierre Golay
Mary Graziano
Betsy Haimson

Mary Ann Halvorson
Renate Harkin
Inge Harris
Karen Harris
Linda Harvey
Ruth Heins
Jane Hilshoff
Marian Holm
Barbara Holtzman
Louise Jean
Joan Jennerjohn
Frances Johnson
Ruth G. and Millard Johnson
Dolores Kanner
Phyllis and Robert Kauffman
Ruth Kearl
Doris Kennedy
Carol Kiemel
Maureen Kind
Kathleen Knox
Charlene Krembs
Dora Kuehner
Helen Lackore
Marilyn and Robert Laurion
Glenda Lindsay
Helen Lodge
Claire Mangasarian
Jan Martin
Katherine Masden
Carol Mathis

Jane Mitchell
Jan Morse
Kato Perlman
Jane Pizer
Mercedes Pozo
Robert and Ivan Preston
Mary Jo Prieve
Stella Prucha
Fran and Louis Rall
Sheila Read
Janet Nelson Reilley
Sarah Roberts
Eleanor Rodini
Nancy Rude
Veronica Saeman
Marilynn and Edward Schten
Anne and Charles Scott
Jobelle Shands
Judy Stang
Betty Stern
Jean Stewart
Audrey Strang
Margaret Strass
Mary Taylor
Mary Tibbetts
Karen Warren
Joan Westgard
Margaret and Klaus Westphal
Diane Wilcox
Helen and George Wilding

General Scholarship Fund – September Program Contributions

Anna Bender
Cynthia Benevenga
Frances Bicknell
Ginger Brennes
Toby Cohen
Marge DeVault
Ruby Dobson
Nancy Dott
Marita Hettinger

Ruth G. Johnson
Dolores Kanner
Kathleen Knox
Sueann Lerwick
Caroline Liedtke
Claire Mangasarian
Joan Montague
Mary K Moser

Fran Rall
Dee Dee Rikers
Nancy Rude
Kathy Sandefur
Marilyn Schten
Priscilla Thain
Judy Troia
Betty Zeps
A Short History of Book Critics 1969-2008
By Elsie Ham

In July 1969, graduating members from the Newcomers' Book Club held a meeting on Harriet Shetler's porch in Nakoma to found Book Critics. Unlike other book review groups who usually listen to one member or guest present a review, this new group chose to be "critics" by having everyone read the book (usually paperback fiction). Then the reviewer looks up a biography of the author, reads some reviews, and leads a discussion of the chosen book. These discussions are usually lively; sometimes the members unanimously like the book, but in times of differing viewpoints, the exchange can be quite spirited! The geographical diversity and varied career fields of the members also enrich our discussions.

The books are chosen at the July planning meeting; discussion leaders and hostesses volunteer at this time (or even later in the year as the members know their schedules). We take advantage of members' travel experiences. Last April we planned a presentation around Kris Brown's trip the previous March as the guest of a Saudi Arabian oil company that chose American teachers to meet Saudi teachers and visit their classrooms. This spring we plan a similar program based on Nancy Webster's June visit to Tehran, Iran, when she accompanied her husband to a professional conference.

We have sketchy records for the first years, but in the early 1970's we began having computer-generated lists and from then on the record is complete. Our first meeting was October 6, 1969, at the home of Adelaide Bingham. Judith Ward led a discussion of Saul Bellow's *Mr. Samler's Planet*.

The group usually invites a guest to lead the discussion for one of the meetings. Germaine Bree, Nellie McKay, Emily Auerbach, Bob Najem, Elaine Marks, Helen Androski, Herbert Lewis, and Bob Frykenberg are some of the many guests we have enjoyed through the years.

February 13, 1995, Judith Ward gave a lovely party for about 40 guests at the Chancellor's home in honor of our 25th Anniversary.

Next July will be our 40th Anniversary. We plan to have a party of some kind. Nearer the time we will put a notice in the League Newsletter to invite all present and former members to help us celebrate. During the school year we meet on the second Monday of every month. New members are always welcome. Call Fran Johnson, 273-1958.

September’s Meeting at Mary K Moser’s Home
Front row: Nancy Webster and Audrey Roberts
Middle: Mary K Moser, Elsie Ham, Mary Gallagher
Back: Verlene Morris and Mary Evert
UW Odyssey Project Begins its Sixth Year

"I was overjoyed. I almost cried—actually I did because it seems as if some doors of opportunity are opening," wrote Cameron Travis, a single father of three who is one of 32 new students accepted into the UW Odyssey Project for 2008-2009.

Class began on September 10, 2008, in South Madison’s Harambee Center, with University League members Nan Baillies and Robbie Preston assisting Project Director Emily Auerbach by providing a delicious dinner before the first night’s discussion of William Blake, writing, American history, and other topics.

The UW Odyssey Project is a free, team-taught college humanities course for adults facing economic barriers to higher education. By reading and discussing Shakespeare, Socrates, Martin Luther King, Emily Dickinson, and many other artists and historical figures, students gain a new sense of power and find a voice. Many graduates of the program are going on in school, including several now on full-time scholarships to the UW-Madison.

Classes meet from September to May on Wednesday nights, 6-9 PM, in the Harambee Center, adjacent to the South Madison Library. Dinner begins at 5:30 and provides not only practical help to hungry adult students but also a chance for conversation and fellowship.

Students in this project receive free tuition, books, and childcare.

Even on the first night of class, excitement filled the classroom. "I feel like Ulysses when he finally gets to go home. I have a second chance to make a first impression on my life!" commented Robert Gare. Rhonda Johnson observed, "I know that this class will give me the jumpstart I need to receive a degree."

Roberta James wrote that when she heard she had been accepted into the program, "I felt like I had gotten one of my wings for heaven."

The University League has supported the UW Odyssey Project in several ways: by encouraging its members to make donations to the University League Odyssey Project Fund; by helping to bring or fund meals for students on Wednesday nights; and by spreading the word about the project to others in the community.

To find out more about this truly life-changing project, visit www.odyssey.wisc.edu or call Emily Auerbach at 262-3733 to request more information. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation to the project, checks to the University League Odyssey Fund can be mailed to Odyssey Project, 628 Lowell Center, 610 Langdon Street, Madison WI 53703, and you will receive an acknowledgment.

To help with meals, contact Julie Haberkorn at 244-2400 x2869 or email her at julieh@greatwiscsincu.org, and she’ll let you know which dates have not been filled and details about how best to help.

Emily Auerbach comments, “University League members have been incredibly generous and helpful, and my students and I are very, very grateful. We need all the help we can get!”

Excelent conversation partners are needed to help students feel more comfortable in normal conversation. They know English, but hearing and responding takes practice! Students from 100 countries vary in age from professor to undergraduate. You decide with your partner how often and where to meet.

Thanksgiving dinner hosts make a friend from a foreign country and share American Thanksgiving traditions.

Winter coats are needed for men; take coats to the Red Gym, Room 223—call 263-4010 first.

To help, call 263-4010 Monday through Friday between 10 AM and 12 noon or email MFIS at mfis@odos.wisc.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volunteer Contacts Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are two new contacts for League Volunteer Opportunities. Phone numbers are unchanged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen Centennial Gardens: Edward Lyon <a href="mailto:eslyon@wisc.edu">eslyon@wisc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Public Television: Ericka Baldord <a href="mailto:erickabalgord@wpt.org">erickabalgord@wpt.org</a></td>
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Antiques Group

Long white baby dresses of the 19th century, cut glass and pressed glass, autograph books, antique sewing tools, English transferware china, antique Swiss linens, rare books -

Does this list make you curious? All of the above, and more, have been program topics presented at the antiquing group meetings in the past couple of years. The group meets on the second Monday at 1:15 PM, usually at the Fitchburg Senior Center. Last year we also toured the Elizabeth McCoy house and the Quivey’s Grove house and learned about their histories. Of course we took time for lunch at Quivey’s Grove.

Come and join us and hear about children’s tea sets, antique prints, old buttons, and more — all on the schedule for this year. — Norma Magnuson, long time group member.

Craft Group Lives Again!

The Craft Group will resume in October after a brief hiatus. Two “get acquainted and planning” sessions will be held on Thursday, October 16, at Kathy Sandefur’s home at 5910 Hempstead Road. The morning session will be at 10 AM, noon and the afternoon session will be from 1 PM to 3 PM. No experience is necessary and all the materials for the first gathering will be provided. All are welcome. For more information and to RSVP, email ksandefurl@charter.net or call 274-7268.

Why two sessions? Kathy says “Once you get all the materials organized and the tables and chairs up, you might as well spend the day crafting! Since everyone can’t always come at the same time, this might be a better arrangement. It’s my hope that we can settle on the second Thursday of each month, beginning in November.”

Milestones and Signposts

I am a member of the University League Genealogy Interest Group and I have had some interesting recent experiences. First, in March, I received an email from Thilo Proff, a distant relative from Munich, Germany. He had become passionately interested in his family history, and he wanted to meet some “living” members of his American branch.

Thilo found me by looking at the German Interest Group – Wisconsin website – where he discovered that I, too, was researching the Proff family. Since he was touring the United States when we connected, I invited him to Madison. When he arrived my husband and I took him out to eat and he came to our home so we could talk about family. I gave him a copy of the book I had written about Private John William Asbach plus a lot of pictures and family information. Thilo left as a friend as well as a relative.

At the end of July, another German, Gerd Stolz from Kiel, contacted me. He had found my book, Hasselmann/Biederstadt from Mecklenburg/Streititz on the internet, and he wanted to use portions of it in his book about mass emigration from Northern Germany to the USA. I will see that he gets the information that he needs.

All in all, you can see that I have had a rather exciting six months.

Joyce Hasselman Nigbor

In Memoriam

We are sorry to announce the following members of University League have passed away in the past year. We will miss them. Our sympathy is with their families.

Carol Jean Buelow
Katherine Burris
Susan Finnman
Jane Graff
Alice Mueller
University League Autumn Dinner Reservation Form

Due by October 25, 2008

Program: “A View from the Bench”

Member: ____________________________   ___ Prime Rib  ___ Salmon
Guest: ________________________________  ___ Prime Rib  ___ Salmon
Guest: ________________________________  ___ Prime Rib  ___ Salmon

Autumn Dinner: Nakoma Golf Club, Thursday, October 30
Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

_____ Reservations @ $31.50 each = ________
Scholarship donation = ________
Total = ________

Check(s) payable to: The University League, Inc.
Mail to: Mary Warfield
        2713 Post Road
        Madison, WI 53713