University League Presents
The Autumn Dinner
With author, David Maraniss
“A Writer’s Journey”

Tuesday, October 27, 2009
Social: 5:30 pm – Dinner: 6:30 pm
Blackhawk Country Club

Author David Maraniss will honor University League as the guest speaker for our Autumn Dinner. Join us on Tuesday, October 27, at Blackhawk Country Club to hear him share his thoughts about his life as a writer as told through his next book, *The Sweet Long Days: A Writer’s Journey, Stories of Life, Politics, Sports, and Loss*. The book, which is a collection of his stories from newspapers, magazines and books over the past three decades, will be published in January by Simon and Schuster. He will also speak on the book he is currently researching, a multi-generational biography of Barack Obama titled *Out of This World, The Making of Obama*. The biography is scheduled for publication in the fall of 2011.

David Maraniss, who grew up in Madison, is an associate editor at *The Washington Post* and the author of the critically acclaimed and bestselling books, *Rome 1960: The Olympics That Changed the World; When Pride Still Mattered: A Life of Vince Lombardi; First in His Class: A Biography of Bill Clinton; They Marched Into Sunlight—War and Peace, Vietnam and America, October 1967; and Clemente: The Passion and Grace of Baseball’s Last Hero*. He won the Pulitzer Prize for national reporting in 1993 for his newspaper coverage of then-presidential candidate, Bill Clinton. He also was part of *The Washington Post* team that won a 2008 Pulitzer for the newspaper’s coverage of the Virginia Tech shooting.

Our evening will begin with a social hour at 5:30 followed by dinner at 6:30. Entrees offered will be Pork Loin with Door County Cherries or Walleye Pike Amandine. Each dinner will include a salad, basil parmesan mashed potatoes, and roasted fall vegetables. A vegetarian option is available upon request. The cost is $33 per person. **Reservations are due October 22.** Late reservations cannot be accepted for this event. Please return the reservation form (on the last page of this newsletter) with a check payable to The University League, Inc., to: Helen Read
813 Ottawa Trail
Madison, WI 53711
FROM THE PRESIDENT:  
JEANNE BURULL

The difference between a child who reads and a child who mainly watches television is immense.

The child who reads sharpens his mind, opens his life to a mysterious treasure trove of imagination, develops an active sense in never knowing what he will discover, finds a compelling force leading him to learn and to develop complex expressions. His life is propelled by new things, by new discoveries, by living in the wider world of people and ideas.

The child who mainly watches television finds it harder to focus, harder to learn, harder to communicate. His brain is actually reshaped because he has been taught to process images but not words. He is unable to express himself clearly and to form complex ideas easily. His ideas and thought patterns are formulated and sifted through technology, making it difficult for the reader and the non-reader to communicate on the same level generally. In addition, the non-reader finds it difficult to organize is thoughts on paper.

This is where we can all make a difference. Reading good books to a child is important for a number of reasons: Children need the companionship and the role models of adults who take time and care enough about their development to read to them. We need to help open young minds to the joy of learning and becoming. We need to pass on to a younger generation the blessings we have been given in our own schooling, whether by a teacher or parent.

The University League provides its members with two specific opportunities to do this: Bookworms, where volunteers read to preschool children from families below the poverty line (Mary Warfield, 608/273-9809) and American Family Children's Hospital, where volunteers read to children while waiting for treatments or appointments (Tina Nelson, 608/890-8323).

Thank you for caring.  
--Jeanne Burull

JOIN US

I am constantly impressed with the many ways that University League plays an important role in our community. There are so many interest groups, volunteer opportunities, and means of interacting with interesting, friendly, welcoming members. Please bring a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance to an event or interest group, and encourage them to join. You may give me a call, send me a note, or email, and I will send out information on membership.

Kathy Knox, Membership Chair
4405 Woods End, Madison, WI 53711
608 231-2197 or kathyknox@charter.net
ANNOUNCING THE BARBARA GERLOFF-UNIVERSITY LEAGUE GREAT PEOPLE SCHOLARSHIP

Barbara Kay Gerloff is the daughter of Mary Ellen (Varney) Gerloff and the late Professor Gerald C. Gerloff. Like many former University League presidents, Mary Ellen valued its tradition of dedicating funds for University of Wisconsin student scholarships. She chose to honor Barbara's deep and knowledgeable regard for the animal world in this way.

Barbara earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from UW-Madison in 1978. After teaching music in Superior, she returned to UW-Madison in 1982 to attend Graduate School. Barbara is now the Assistant Director of Education Academic Services in UW-Madison's School of Education.

From early elementary school days when she tried to assist earthworms to cross a busy wet street, Barbara has cared for many representatives of the animal world and has been actively involved in several animal rescue organizations.

The above picture shows Barbara with recently adopted Juneau, a young Great Pyrenees with multiple heart problems. As did many of her animals, Juneau received treatment at the UW-Madison Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.

Both Mary Ellen and Barbara are pleased to further the School of Veterinary Medicine's educational mission with this scholarship.

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A BIG THANK YOU

On behalf of the Bookworms Committee, thank you to all the League members who responded so generously with contributions to Bookworms! In addition to League members, we gratefully acknowledge the very generous donations of the Madison West Rotary, the Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation and the Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education. With their combined help, we secured sufficient funding for the 2009-2010 school year. This funding provides books for 225 students at 10 different preschools in Madison, Sun Prairie and DeForest.

Target became our first contributor for the 2010-2011 year with a recent donation of $1000! We thank ALL our donors for their support of the children of our community. For more information about Bookworms, call Mary Warfield at 273-9809.

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II. THE CONFERENCE

Friday, June 5, 2009: Registration began at 12:00 pm in the lobby of Lowell Hall for the 32 delegates from other Big Ten clubs and 14 registrants from our University League. Each delegate was given a “goodie” tote bag, program, and any other requested information. Many then left to go on walks around Lake Mendota, Memorial Union, Pyle Center and the city.

The opening reception was scheduled from 5:00 – 6:00 pm for the Pyle Center’s beautiful Alumni Lounge and its view of Lake Mendota, with the buffet dinner to begin at 6:00. All the members of the League Board were invited to the reception to socialize and talk with attendees. Delegates were greeted before dinner by Janice Golay, University League President, and Gary Sandefur, Dean of the College of Letters and Science. Dean Sandefur welcomed all on behalf of the University. Minnesota, Iowa, and Northwestern presented their “Show and Tell” sessions.

After dinner, a well-received medley of Broadway songs entitled “The World Goes Round,” was performed by members of Four Seasons Theatre.

Saturday, June 6, 2009: Conferees began to gather at 9:00 am for the Keynote Session in Pyle Center. The presenter was Martha Taylor, Vice President for Development for the UW-Madison Foundation. Her topic was “Women Philanthropists Changing the World.” After giving a short history of women philanthropists such as Jane Addams, Anne Radcliffe and Margaret Mead who became philanthropists while overcoming prejudice against women, she challenged everyone to become leaders in development activities for their own universities.

Following the keynote, the group broke into two workshops (repeated at the afternoon sessions): “Membership Affiliation, Publicity Planning, and Annual Giving,” facilitated by Boris Frank and “Making a Lasting Difference Through Endowed Scholarships.” Norma Brooks, Pat Cornwell, Mary Ellen Gerloff, Margaret Hickman and Carol Palmer told of their motivations to endow scholarships and how they went about doing it. Boris Frank gave a pragmatic, how-to-how-not-to lecture which provided specific tools for fund-raising success. The workshops were designed to complement each other and succeeded at this aim very well. At each workshop, there were many questions, comments and lively discussions. Although we didn’t have delegates fill out “satisfaction questionnaires,” it was clear from remarks we heard during the rest of the conference how
interesting and informative people found the workshops and keynote address.

Between the two workshop sessions, a box lunch in the Alumni Lounge was provided. The “Show and Tell” presenters this time were Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio State.

Free time between the workshops and the banquet at Olbrich Gardens was filled with excursions staffed by volunteers to various interesting locales noted above in the University area and the city. Prior to the reception, although a light rain had started, a tour through the Gardens was enjoyed by many delegates. They were particularly impressed by the stately Thai Pavilion. The reception was held at 6:00 and the banquet buffet began after “Show and Tell” presentations by Michigan State and Penn State. These sessions by all the Clubs highlighted the commitment that they have to both serve their communities and their universities while also having fun.

Music provided by the Shumi String Quartet, one of whom, LaVonne Senn, is a long-time University League member, was thoroughly enjoyed, especially as they ended their performance with two UW Fight Songs, “On Wisconsin” and “Varsity.” We may never hear that again!

**Sunday, June 7, 2009:** The final day started with breakfast at French House, catered by the staff of the facility. The director, Andrew Irving, gave a short history of the House’s founding, and as we ate, the business meeting was led by incoming University League President Jeanne Burull. The only business before the group was a name change by the Illinois Club from “The Women’s Club of the University of Illinois” to “The Illinois Club.” Purdue Women’s Club, as the next host for the conference, gave the final “Show and Tell.” It mostly consisted of their invitation to join them in 2011 in West Lafayette, Indiana. A basket of “Purdue goodies” was given to each club after which, the University League presented the usual “seed money,” $100, to the Purdue Club president. The conference was officially adjourned at about 10:30 a.m.

**Summary:** We have received letters of congratulation from all of the Clubs and many individual delegates. Everyone was pleased with the camaraderie, the information, the smoothness of execution of all the elements of the conference, and the friendliness of everyone involved with the conference organization. And it did take a lot of work to have this happen. Each member of the committee put in yeoman hours and thought, communicated with each other so succinctly, and stayed the course so well that it was a joy to be on the Planning Committee.

The committee would like to thank all the Interest Groups for their work, and all the other volunteers for their invaluable help in making the conference so successful. We would especially like to thank Jeff Martin for his photographs, both candid and posed, and Jackie Bowe for her extensive help with graphics.
NEWS YOU CAN USE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Madison Friends of International Students
It’s impossible to live in Madison and not be aware of one of our most valuable resources: international students. Many have left the security of family and friends, face a challenging academic load often in a second language, and experience an unfamiliar culture. That’s where the Madison Friends of International Students (MFIS) can enter their lives to ease that transition by offering temporary hosting, loaning furniture, introducing them to Madison homes and lifestyles.

The University League was instrumental in helping to establish MFIS over 50 years ago. The same need for international student support still exists. MFIS is asking for our help to maintain a viable organization. Temporary hosts will be needed for January when new students arrive, more English language partners are needed currently as are persons to staff the MFIS office on campus, and holiday hosting is needed year round. Those of us who have traveled abroad know the best memories of a trip often are the times spent with locals. Are you personally willing to invest a little time for friendship? Please call (608) 263-4010 Monday-Friday 10a.m.-noon OR email: mfis@odos.wisc.edu.

“Reach Out and Read” Program: American Family Children’s Hospital & UW Health Pediatric Clinics
“Reach Out and Read” (ROR) is looking for volunteer readers at multiple UW Health Pediatric Clinics in Madison. Volunteer readers in ROR programs transform clinic waiting rooms into literacy-rich areas for children and parents, and help families learn the joys and the techniques of reading aloud. Volunteers have two important traits in common: a love of books and stories, and a genuine interest in helping children. Volunteers read to children, modeling book-sharing techniques for parents and showing them by example that reading aloud is fun for parent and child. Readers are scheduled at the clinics for 1 ½ hour sessions Monday - Friday mornings or afternoons. We need volunteers that can commit to the same day/time each week. To volunteer, please visit http://www.uwhealth.org/madisonhealthcarejobs/uwhospital/stepstobecomeavolunteer/11550 or call Jennifer Spiegal at Volunteer Services at 608-263-6046. Please specify your interest in the Reach Out and Read program. Reader positions are available.

The Odyssey Program
For several years, the League has supported Odyssey with financial contributions that cover costs for books and other materials needed for the motivated low-income students accepted into Emily Auerbach’s program. However, one need continues: sponsors for the weekly meals given to students and their children at their Wednesday night sessions. Previously various League interest groups offered to take one night for providing home-made food for 30, OR collecting money (approx. $75--$100) to order carry-in food. Please discuss this at your next meeting of an interest group, or organize a meal among your church members or friends. We realize this is a difficult time for all of us, but your efforts are needed and the experience is guaranteed to be rewarding. For additional information or to volunteer to be the volunteer "point person" for League-sponsored meals, please contact Marguerite Sykes at (608) 238-2015.
INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS’ MEETING

On Tuesday, September 22, the chairs of Interest Groups met to become acquainted, talk about the coming year, exchange new ideas, and discuss strategies both for retaining old members and for the recruitment of new. Each chair gave a summary of her Interest Group’s activities and focus. Also present were several Board members, each of whom gave a short presentation on policies and various other League guidelines. Kathy Knox, Membership Chair, reminded everyone that the League requires all participants in Interest Groups to be a League member. Marguerite Sykes, Volunteer Services Chair, urged all Interest Groups to volunteer to host at least one meal during the year for the Odyssey Project. Newsletter Editor, Betty Zeps, asked for Interest Group members to send any news and pictures of their group for inclusion in the League Letter (bszeps@wisc.edu or 1922 Adams St, Madison 53711). Deadlines are Oct. 26, Feb. 5, and Mar. 29. Information on Interest Groups may be found in your League Yearbook, starting on pg. 8, and on the web at www.univleague.wisc.edu.
University League Autumn Dinner Reservation Form

Due by October 22, 2009

Program: David Maraniss, “A Writer’s Journey”

Member: ____________________________      ___ Pork Loin  ___ Walleye

Guest: _______________________________      ___ Pork Loin  ___ Walleye

Vegetarian Option________________________

Autumn Dinner: Blackhawk Country Club, Tuesday, October 27
Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

_____ Reservations @ $33.00 each = _______
Scholarship donation = _______
Total = _______

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