JOIN OUR THRIVING INTEREST GROUPS!

THIRD MONDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:
Long on Tradition, Friendships and Love of Reading
Carol Kiemel (286-1446)

“Conversation at Monday Evening Book Group meetings back in the 1950’s has changed little when compared to what you might hear at a current Monday Afternoon meeting today. Yes, we talk about family, activities, travel, but mostly about good books we’ve read today just as we did so many years ago. But the subjects are now grandchildren and yes, even great-grandchildren, general interests, and the travels might be even more extensive than before. We still meet in the warm comfort of members’ homes and just as before, one thing is obvious: Friendships are still being made between women who share that common interest of burying themselves in reading a good book, then talking about its style and many controversial aspects.”

The quote above is from Jeanne Grover. When talking with the three other members who also joined in the early 50’s, similar feelings were expressed. In addition, Marjean Smith mentioned that while raising five children, she welcomed the evening meetings and she “kept on reading.” Margaret Schroeder added her appreciation of the friendships forged over coffee/dessert and book reading. Mary Ellen Gerloff stressed how she appreciates the smaller group setting now because “there is more time to express yourself about the book.” This occurred in the 60’s when the too-large group split into two groups, one evening and one afternoon.

Our current group recently chose the books for next year at our May potluck lunch meeting. We wondered how we could ever top this past year’s list of novels such as A Man Called Ove by Fredrick Backman and nonfiction books like The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown. However, everyone offered suggestions prior to the meeting, and after much discussion we chose eight books reflecting our many interests and decided who would lead each discussion.

We invite you to join us for The Confessions of Young Nero with Margaret George, the author, as our special guest in September, and Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf in October. And continue with us for an amazing year of friendship and discussion.

MORE ON OUR THRIVING INTEREST GROUPS!

Genealogy Meeting in April, 2017  (Contact: Catherine Tesar, 233-8077)

Mary Jo Willis

At the April meeting of the Genealogy Interest Group, we welcomed four members of the Madison, Wisconsin African American Genealogy Group. They were inspired to write their childhood memories and share them in their genealogy meetings and with their families. A book entitled *Nine African American Women: Their Memories and Reflections* (Madison, Wisconsin African American Genealogy Group, 2016), grew out of their work. It is available at most libraries and bookstores. These women, who came from a variety of backgrounds and locations, produced significant achievements in their own education, professional and community service work, and family life. They happily shared their stories. Other contributors to the book were unable to attend our meeting. A big thank-you to LaVonne Senn for inviting the group to our meeting.

Left to right: Rose Mary Jackson, Barbara Jill Thomas, Dianna Hopkins, and Kay Simmons.

Wine Divas and Dudes
(Contact Elaine Rosenblatt, 827-5046)

Eighty-five percent of the group’s founding members are still participating. When it started it was named Wine Divas. But as members enjoyed learning about wine and meeting other people, they started to bring spouses and male friends. (Left to Right: Ken Pelatze, Renee Hoxie, Neil Hoxie, Sharon Nellis, Linda Baumann, Kate Beaver, Mary Jo Willis, Elaine Rosenblatt, Barbara Rogers, Dan Beaver, Lynda Cantrell.)

Know someone who might like to Join University League?
Have them contact our Membership Chair, Kathleen Murphy  Sherry
(831-7871 or frostyfluffy@aol.com)
Anyone can join, and dues are only $30!!
MORE INTEREST GROUPS!

Armchair Travelers Fall Schedule  (Contact: Mary Jo Willis, 467-8608)

Join us for our fall programs being held at Oakwood Village West on the first Monday evening of the Month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Westmoreland Room. The fall programs include:

October 2, 2017       Walking the Ice Age Trail with Melanie McManus
November 6, 2017     Touring Iceland in Summer with Linda Baumann
December 4, 2017     In the Wake of Captain Cook: 3 South Pacific Sailing Trips with Heidi Wilde

(No meetings in September and January)

Art Appreciation Group  (Temporary contact: Kathy Knox, 231-2197)

The Art Appreciation Interest Group attended the Electronic Theater Controls tour in Middleton in May. ETC manufactures theatrical and studio lighting equipment internationally. Its products include lighting control systems, stage lighting instruments, fixture dimming, stage rigging, and power distribution systems.

In June, the group went to Mineral Point and visited the Brewery Pottery Studio among other sites.

Diane Smidt and Kathy Knox say that the group looks to find “art” beyond, but not excluding, museums:

“We see art in many aspects of our everyday lives. It’s practical, it’s an enhancement of our environment, it’s a fascination we are yet to know! Our hope is to explore that realm and raise awareness of the beauty of art all around us.”

Pictured (Left to Right): Ann Walser, Fred Foster (President & CEO of ETC), Judy Stang, Diane Smidt, Cathy Andersson, Helen Read, Kay Jarvis-Sладкы, Marcia Schmidt, Kathy Knox, Mary Laedtke, Edith First.
STILL MORE INTEREST GROUPS!

**DINING OUT – LUNCH** (Contact: Kathy Knox, 231-2197)

The Dining Out – Lunch group enjoyed getting together at Nakoma Golf Club in April.

![Image of dining out group](image1.png)


**BOOK CRITIC – DISCUSSION** (Contact: Elisabeth de Boor, 258-9698)

![Image of book critic group](image2.png)


From Elsie Ham: “The Book Critic Group started in the week of the U.S. Moon Landing, 7-16-1969. The members ‘graduating’ from the Newcomers’ book group formed a new UL group called Book Critics, now in it’s 48th year.”