



League Letter

Volume L, Number 5, April 2016

<http://www.univleague.wisc.edu>

Editor: Roma Lenehan

Come to our Annual Meeting and Learn about Madison's Schools

Join us for the Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 3rd, at Blackhawk Country Club, 3506 Blackhawk Drive. Jennifer Cheatham, Superintendent of the Madison Metropolitan School District, will speak about improving education in our public schools. Social time begins at

11 AM. Our welcome will start at 11:30, followed by lunch at 11:45. The Annual Meeting will be after the speaker.

Our luncheon menu this year includes pecan crusted chicken, spinach, sliced strawberries and goat cheese salad with maple dressing, along with rolls, mini muffins and a variety of beverages including coffee, tea, iced tea or milk. A cash bar will also be available. Dessert includes two different varieties of cookies. Special dietary needs can be met – please indicate them on your reservation form.

The cost of our luncheon is \$24 and all reservations are due by Monday, April 25th. Please return the reservation form (on page 9) of this newsletter with a check payable to *The University League, Inc.*, to Rhonda Danielson, 101 Ferchland Place #408, Monona, WI 53714. If you have any questions, Rhonda can be reached at 608-577-6702.

University League's Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 3

Social: 11:00

Welcome and Lunch: 11:30

Speaker: 12:30

Annual Meeting: 1:15

Where: Blackhawk Country Club

Registration Deadline: April 25

Bring a friend or invite a potential member to attend – we look forward to seeing you there.



Jennifer Cheatham – Biography

Dr. Jennifer Cheatham is the superintendent of the Madison Metropolitan School District. Jennifer's focus is on systemic improvement in urban school districts. Her expertise lies in developing instructional alignment and coherence at every level of a school system aiming at achieving breakthrough results in student learning. Most recently, Jennifer was the Chief of Instruction for the Chicago Public Schools. In that role, she led the central office education team in its efforts to support networks and schools on instructional improvement. She brought to this role a depth of experience to school system reform. She worked as a Chief Area Officer for the Chicago Public Schools, the Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction for San Diego City Schools, and a coach and professional developer for the Bay Area School Reform Collaborative (BASRC). Before joining BASRC, she led a multi-year initiative aimed at improving academic literacy for middle and high school students. She began her career as an 8th grade English teacher.

Education: Ed.D., Harvard University; Ed.M., Harvard University; M.A. in Education, University of Michigan; B.A. in English, DePaul University, Chicago.

From the President's Desk:



The *Century of Giving* celebration at Blackhawk Country Club on March 16 was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who came wearing hats and dressed as our founders would have at a 1901 luncheon. Judy Stang, Kathy Knox and Martha Taylor thoughtfully brought hats to be borrowed for the day. A special thanks for the hard work of the planning committee: Jan Martin, Mary Jo Willis, Suzy Griffiths, Judy Stang, Linda Harvey, and Kathy Knox, chair. Rhonda Danielson took reservations and organized the nametag table. Other helpers were Aleta Murray, JoAnn Savoy, LaVonne Senn and Peggy Wiederholt. Jeff Martin was the photographer and took more than 150 photos, including those found throughout this newsletter.

Kay Jarvis-Sladky announced that during The University League Centennial Endowed Scholarship fundraiser \$20,604 was collected, easily exceeding the \$10,000 minimum to establish a named endowed scholarship! A check was presented to Martha Taylor of the University of Wisconsin Foundation at the March 16 luncheon. Thank you to each and every one of you who made a special donation to this fund. Interest from this Endowed Scholarship will support deserving students beginning in 2017 and continuing into the future.

Our goal is to help as many students as we possibly can with financial aid. The Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit is our annual scholarship fundraiser. All donations to the Benefit will be given directly to student scholarships this year. Donations can be sent to our post office box, which is listed on this newsletter's return address. Many thanks for considering a gift.

Our final event of the year will be our Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting on May 3 at Blackhawk Country Club. This earlier date was chosen to accommodate Madison Metropolitan School District Superintendent Jennifer Cheatham. I look forward to seeing you on May 3!

This is my last note to you as your President. It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve as your President this year. It has been a pleasure to work with each member of the Board of Directors. Our events have run smoothly, educating or entertaining us as we saw old friends and met new friends. In the coming year, I hope that you will try a new Interest Group, introduce more friends to University League, or become more involved by joining a committee or taking a position on the Board of Directors. I thank Past President Kay Jarvis-Sladky for her advice through the year and Judy Stang for her enthusiasm as she makes plans for next year. Most of all, I thank each of you for your participation and enthusiasm.

Linda Harvey

League Inaugurates Its Centennial Endowed Scholarship at the *100 Years of Giving* Event

The University League inaugurated the 24th endowed scholarship on March 16 as it celebrated



100 Years of Giving at Blackhawk Country Club. Kay Jarvis-Sladky presented a check for \$20,604 to Martha Taylor of the University of Wisconsin Foundation. The new University League Centennial Endowed Scholarship honors the 100 years that the League has given time, talent and financial support to University of Wisconsin-Madison students. In October 2015, the League invited all members to donate *any* amount to this endowment. By March 16, 2016, \$20,604 was donated by generous University League members.

The tradition of financial support for students was initiated in 1916 by a founder, Mrs. William F. (Margaret) Allen, who established a \$50 loan (in 1916-1917 a semester's tuition was \$12). Her great-great-granddaughter, Carol Lindbeck, was the guest speaker at the March celebration and spoke of her ancestor's life and times.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

By Mary Warfield

As we conclude another year of reading and distributing Wisconsin Bookworms books, I would like to thank the many people who have contributed to the success of our program. Thank you to all the University League members who have generously provided financial support! Without their donations we would be unable to continue providing books for disadvantaged preschool children. Thank you to the University League Board of Directors for all their support and encouragement! Thank you to Helen and Chuck Read for securing a very special gift from the Morgridge Foundation! And finally, thank you to all the volunteer readers who have spent many hours preparing the books for distribution, planning fun activities and visiting the classrooms! We would not have a program without their enthusiastic participation. Our volunteers this year were Bev Zarnstorff, Daphne Haacker, Sally Schrag, Sally Lorenz, Madonna Scullion, Nancy Gloe, Laureen Yoshino, Anne Raffa, Barb Larsen, Dory Christensen, Peggy LeMahieu, Barb Freeman, Lucy Lasseter, Pat Meloy, Gail Steinhurst, Nancy Baumgardner, Karen Hansen, Lila Moravec, Susan Stachoviak, Florence Schmitt, Karen Sallander, Susan Sprague, Carole McGuire, Joan Hall, Sheila Endres, Helen Read, Kathy Knox, Janet Gajewski, DeDe Freeman and Linda Mayfield. If you would like more information about how you can help with Wisconsin Bookworms next year, please contact Mary Warfield at 273-9809 or mbwarfield@gmail.com.

Nominating Committee Report and Board Slate

Thank you to the Nominating Committee.

The Committee met regularly at Priscilla Thain's house, looking for candidates that had the



necessary skills for each of the eleven positions and calling potential candidates.

Serving on the Board, a two year commitment (the first year as Assistant), is a fun and rewarding way to meet people and learn about and contribute to University League. All members are eligible for Board membership and you can volunteer or nominate a friend.

Left to right: Pat Feltskog, Priscilla Thain, Joyce Anderson, Norma Magnuson, Kay Jarvis-Sladky (Chair) and Ruth G. Johnson

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the 2016-17 nominees for the University League Board of Directors. This talented Board will bring diverse skills and energy. Thank you to the nominees for agreeing to serve.

Proposed Slate for the University League Board 2016-2017

These candidates will be voted on at the annual meeting on May 3

Elected Position

President-Elect
Assistant Secretary
Assistant Treasurer
Assistant Program
Assistant Membership
Assistant Interest Groups
Assistant Volunteer
Assistant Scholarship Benefit
Assistant Newsletter Editor
Assistant Publicity
Assistant Mailing

Nominee

Betsy Haimson
Joan Leffler
Pat Feltskog
Joan Hall
Kathleen Murphy Sherry
Patricia Meagher-Springer
Linda Mayfield
Molly Wesling
Joanne Cantor
Kay Jarvis-Sladky
Joanna Thompson

Nursing School Award Ceremony

Jan Martin and Linda Harvey met with University League School of Nursing scholarship winners on February 29. Pictured are Rebecca Krause, a first year student from Neenah; Linda Harvey, University League President; Nate Buseman from DePere; and Audrey Wood, a junior from Seattle. All three scholarship recipients thanked University League for their scholarships which helped pay for tuition. The scholarships enabled them to spend more time on their studies rather than extra hours working at a job. Each of them chose nursing for a different reason. Rebecca had worked in an orphanage in China as well as working with the elderly in a retirement center in Madison. Audrey moved to Madison to care for her ailing aunt. Nate wanted to interact with patients. He will be graduating in May and has a job at University of Wisconsin Hospitals.



Thank you to Volunteer Anne Stoelting



Back row: Judy Stevenson, Kathleen Murphy Sherry (Chair), Anne Stoelting. Front row: Linda Auer, Susie Jablonic

Anne Stoelting deserves a huge shout-out for sharing her artistic talent and graphic art expertise on many League projects. A new member in 2011, Anne has generously shared her gifts. She has flown under the radar so most members may not be aware of her significant contributions.

Anne has created:

- Four years of colorful and captivating invitations for the Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit (she is pictured here in the back right with this year's Benefit Committee).

- Promotional folder for Bookworms to invite all to become a BWBF (Bookworms Best Friend).
- Updated the format of the You Are Invited packets to give to new and prospective members.
- Name cards with the new logo for ALL 450+ members and non-member guests at our events.
- Items to aid Bookworms, Membership, Program, Scholarship Benefit and Publicity Committees

Thank you, Anne, and please take a bow.

Anne is now wishing to focus on other aspects of her life. If you or anyone you know would be willing to help with graphic art for the coming year, please contact Kay Jarvis-Sladky at 831-9331 or holakati2@gmail.com.

Long-time History in the University League: Book Review Interest Group

By Marie S. McCabe, March 2016

When I attended a meeting of the Book Review group recently I couldn't help remembering the very beginning of the group back in the 1940s. I was a young mother, wife of Robert McCabe who was the Arboretum Biologist and also an assistant to Aldo Leopold (from whom Bob got his Master's Degree). I heard about University League and was interested in joining. The rule then was that new people had to join what was called Junior Division for three years before being admitted to regular status. That's what I did, joining a bridge group. Glenn and Daisy Pound happened to share with us a house across from Randall School that had been made into apartments. We had the front of the second story and shared the bathroom with the Pounds as well as the refrigerator in the hall. Our tiny kitchen had been a closet. At least it was close to the campus, a big advantage since the bus fare was five cents.

Daisy and I were both great readers. We thought there should be a group for discussing and sharing the books we were reading. The League agreed to let us begin such a group, and it soon was established. Daisy recruited several wives from Glenn's Plant Pathology department. We met in the home of someone whose space would hold us. Friends would bring friends and it seemed to be very successful as it grew. We did not all read the same book. Volunteers took turns with the presentation. We met in the evening when our husbands could look after the kids. I suppose we served coffee and cookies.

Years went by, as they tend to do, and the ladies were able to meet in the afternoon because children were in school. Members decided to bring a sandwich which would be cut into quarters, served on a large plate where one could choose from a variety. That was fine for a few years, but as women will, some ambitious hostess added a salad! Soon it became a full lunch with dessert and took a lot of time to prepare and serve on one's best china and silver – emphasis on food rather than books. Also the group had grown so that only a hostess with plenty of space could manage. I objected to this arrangement, so the group agreed to divide in two with the lunch people going their way. Still there was always an interest in book reviews. I always liked to read and review a biography, but the choice was varied. One woman reviewed a very politically biased book and I nearly walked out, but restrained myself.

More time elapsed, and eventually in the Twenty-first Century the two groups had lost members and decided to merge back again. We now meet at Oakwood with lunch as an option. Some women eat and then sleep through the review. Many members are content to just take turns telling what they are reading. A few of the originals survived all that time. Helen Kuntz and I, now in our mid-nineties, can claim to be 70 year members of the University League.

Century of Giving Celebration March 2016

Photographs by Jeff Martin



Joy Newcomb, former Archivist,
with the scrapbook she made for the
University League Centennial in 2001.



University League Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting

Program: Jennifer Cheatham, Superintendent MMSD

Reservation Due by April 25th

Member: _____

Member: _____

Guest(s): _____

Luncheon and Annual Meeting: Tuesday, May 3rd, Blackhawk Country Club

_____ Reservations @ \$24.00 each = _____

Scholarship Donation = _____

Total = _____

Menu: Pecan Crusted Chicken, Spinach, Strawberries and Goat Cheese Salad

Check(s) payable to: The University League, Inc.

Mail to: Rhonda Danielson, 101 Ferchland Place #408, Monona, WI 53714



Margaret Allen Extended Family at Celebration Luncheon

University League Past Presidents at the Centennial Luncheon



Left to right, back row: Linda Harvey, Caroline Liedtke, Mona Steele, Roma Lenehan,
Ruth G. Johnson, Sally Lorenz, Kay Jarvis-Sladky, Elinor Zach.
Front row: Mary Jo Willis, Bobbie Johnson, Joy Newcomb, Carol Palmer, Rose Fahien, Lois Buelow