Our **ANNUAL FALL COFFEE** kicks off at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, September 22, 2016 at the **NAKOMA GOLF CLUB**, 4145 Country Club Road, Madison, WI. The Opening Reception will allow you to meet and greet your friends and new members and introduce yourselves to our featured guest, **BRENDA DEVITA**, Artistic Director of the American Players Theatre.

We will begin the Continental Buffet at approximately 10:00. It will include a menu of freshly brewed coffee and a selection of hot teas, fresh slices of seasonal fruits, assorted breakfast pastries, scones, assorted bagels and creamcheeses, and a yogurt, berry, honey, granola parfait. **The cost is $18.00 per person.**

**Brenda DeVita**, artistic director of American Players Theatre, will close our opening event with her powerpoint presentation, “**An Unexpected Journey: Becoming APT’s Artistic Director.**” Brenda came to American Players Theatre in 1995 when her husband, actor Jim DeVita, was hired to play Romeo. Her first job was as Interim APT Company Manager. Brenda studied theater at both University of Northern Iowa and the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware. She trained with Tadashi Suzuki in Japan and worked many years as a professional actress. She has done many different jobs at APT, but most recently has fallen in love with directing and in 2014 was appointed Artistic Director. Since her appointment, she has continued to advance APT’s mission to bring dramatic masterpieces to as wide and varied an audience as possible. She has initiated diversity in both repertoire and scale to increase the number of actors, artists and staff in the APT Company, as well as increase the range of APT’s audience. The 2015 season - the first she planned as Artistic Director - broke all box office records, reaching nearly 115,000 patrons.

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING THE COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM (see page 9) ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT OF $18 PER PERSON IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016.**
Welcome new and continuing members of University League! I am delighted to serve as your President this year and look forward to meeting you at our many fun events. The Program Committee has planned an exciting year beginning with the Fall Coffee and Brenda DeVita on September 22. Next we hit the road on October 13 for a tour through the colorful Baraboo Bluffs to the meticulously restored Al. Ringling Theatre, lunch and a stop at Ski Hi apple orchard. Details of both events and reservation forms are in this newsletter.

Although some Interest Groups have continued through the summer, others will now begin in earnest with their programs. With 24 Interest Groups, there is something for everyone. Why not visit several groups this year and bring a potential new member? Your Yearbook lists the groups. If you have an idea for a new group, let’s hear about it.

Included in this newsletter is a handy bookmark with information about our events for this year. **Note:** The Annual Meeting will be held at Nakoma Golf Club, not Blackhawk. The change was made due to parking issues. Please make this correction.

This past year League celebrated its 100th year of giving financial aid to UW-Madison students. Through contributions from our generous members, the Centennial Endowed Scholarship campaign raised $22,254. University League is also honored by the generosity of long time member, Ruth G. Johnson. Ruth has established and generously funded the **Ruth Pugh Gifford Johnson Endowed Scholarship.** Thank you, Ruth! Both of these endowments will fund student scholarships in 2017.

In 2015, the Board established a Five-Year Strategic Plan to study the operations of University League and recommend positive changes. Changes approved by the board in the past year include increasing the Executive Committee to include the assistanttreasurer, assistant secretary and the past president to create a seven-member committee. A new Scholarship Committee has been established to combine all scholarship activity under one committee. The Scholarship Benefit and Endowed Scholarship programs are a part of this committee chaired by Priscilla Thain. Please read the Long Range Planning and Policy article (p. 8) by Mary Jo Willis, Chair, to learn the details of new policies for League.

An organization is only as successful as its involved members so please, when called upon to share your time and talent, say “yes” to the nominating committee members who are now looking for candidates for next year’s Board. You will enjoy the camaraderie of the Board while strengthening your organization.

See you at the Fall Coffee!

*Judy Stang,*
President
Interest Group News

The Spanish Conversation Interest Group, which normally meets the second Thursday of the month at Panera, moved its July meeting site to Anna Peczerski’s Cottage Grove home. The meeting had two special events. The first was Anna’s personal tour of her garden and orchard. Three varieties of kale, shoulder-high tomato plants and a variety of fruits, vegetables and herbs were featured. The second highlight was a delicious meal beginning with cold beet soup or borscht, a traditional soup of Poland, Anna’s birthplace. Anna prepared lasagna with salad, followed up by chocolate cake and cheese cake. A very tasty and special summer afternoon, indeed.

Antiques Interest Group Dines at Historic Walker House- On a beautiful June day, 13 members car-pooled to Mineral Point and enjoyed a 4-course Cornish miners’ lunch at the Walker House. Built in 1836 of native stone, the Walker House is on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of oldest buildings in the U.S. In addition to the original Cornish Pub, there are two “badger holes” (caves) used by the lead miners of the day. Following lunch, the group had a private tour of Pendarvis, an official State of Wisconsin Historic Site, led by docent Brian Bigler. A good time was had by all as we learned about our state’s history and people.

In July, the University League Garden Club had a delightful tour of Oakwood Village Gardens led by Mary Jane Getlinger and Lynn Schten. The group saw the raised gardens near Tabor, hidden ones behind its wooden fence, and the gardens near the Oaks.
Volunteer Opportunities News

Wisconsin Public Television has several opportunities each year for University League members to participate in its fundraising efforts. Pictured here (L to R) are Linda Harvey, Cindy May, Sandy Nuernberg and Suzy Griffiths at the WPT March Fundraiser. Members also participated in the WPT Auction in June.

The next volunteer opportunity is with the Quilt Expo, Sept. 8 – 10, 2016. Contact Volunteer Services Chair, Sandra Nuernberg, sn333@aol.com, if you are interested in volunteering for the Quilt Expo.

New Odyssey Junior Program
Since 2003, the UW Odyssey Project has offered a free, two-semester jumpstart course in the humanities free of charge to 30 adults near the poverty level. Of its nearly 400 graduates, more than half have continued their journeys toward college degrees; some have moved from homelessness to master’s degrees. In an effort to expand the family impact of Odyssey, Odyssey Junior was launched last year: an enrichment program for the children and grandchildren of Odyssey students.

Each Wednesday night in South Madison from September to May, the adults in Odyssey earned UW credits while studying Shakespeare, Socrates, Martin Luther King, and others. On the same nights in three nearby locations (the Goodman Library, the UW Space Place, HeadStart rooms), Odyssey Junior offered activities for 55 children aged 2 to 18. Children received intensive literacy help, went on field trips to the Madison Children’s Museum and Chazen Museum of Art, took home a library of new books, and engaged in activities involving reading, creative writing, science, music, theatre, and art. Thanks to new grants and private donations, Odyssey Junior will be offered this coming year as well.

Look in your 2016-17 Yearbook to find ways to volunteer with the Odyssey Project.
University League Splendor of Fall Tour  
Thursday, October 13  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Is there anything more beautiful than the colorful hillsides of autumn in Wisconsin? Here is your opportunity to sit back and relax on a comfortable Badger bus and take in the beauty of the Baraboo Bluffs. The bus will leave from the Covenant Presbyterian Church parking lot, corner of Segoe Road and Mineral Point Rd. at 10:00 a.m. sharp. Our first stop will be lunch at the new Driftless Glen restaurant overlooking the Baraboo River. There are three menu choices:

**Chicken Parmesan**—Chicken breast in an Asiago breading topped with marinara sauce and mozzarella cheese. Served with fettucinealfredo and garlic bread.

**Driftless Chopped Salad (GF)**—A blend of chopped Bibb lettuce and hearts of romaine tossed in ranch dressing with candied Nueske’s bacon, hearts of palms, heirloom tomato, red onion, Watermelon radish and Feta cheese. Sprinkled with carmelized cocoa nibs and Vermont maple balsamic reduction.

**Wild Mushroom Panini (VG)**—A wild mushroom blend, roasted red bell peppers, spinach, heirloom tomato and mozzarella cheese with basil aioli and balsamic drizzle. Served with fresh fruit.

**Coffee or a soft drink is included with each luncheon choice.**

Following lunch we will have a private tour of the Al. Ringling Theatre, “America’s Prettiest Playhouse”. Built in 1915, French Baroque was the inspiration for famed architects Rapp & Rapp whose “opulence was seldom matched”. Over the last several years the theatre has been painstakingly restored to its original magnificence. We will also be treated to a demonstration of the mighty Barton organ.

Next we board our bus and make a stop at Ski Hi Orchard where, in addition to your favorite variety of apples, you will find that the “Pie Ladies” are making pies. Apple cider, cider donuts and many other tasty products are also for sale.

**The cost of the tour including transportation and lunch is $42 per person.**

**Note:** There is very little walking on this tour. We plan to be back in Madison by 4:00 pm. The bus limits this tour to 40 persons so send in your reservation now (form on page 11) to save your place.
University League Luncheon and Annual Meeting – May 3, 2016

MMSD Superintendent Jennifer Cheatham was the featured speaker at our luncheon.

University League members enjoy conversation and a delicious luncheon at Blackhawk Country Club.

More Interest Group News

In July the Dining-Out group met at Union Terrace to enjoy the Friday night Behind the Beat jazz performance. Although it was extremely humid, the 18 plus group enjoyed conversation and the beautiful evening gazing at the lovely lake and enjoying the traditional Terrace food of hamburgers, brats, veggie burgers, corn, ice cream, beer and other drinks. We listened to the music of Johannes Wallmann - UW Director of Jazz Studies and his friends on the lake front stage.

IN MEMORIAM
Sybil Clara Frances Dee Robinson died May 20, 2016 in Madison. Born in Durban, South Africa, of British parents, Sybil moved with her husband John to Madison in 1963. She received her Ph.D in Theatre and Drama from UW-Madison and served as a professor in Theatre and Drama for 26 years. She was a long-time member of University League and a beloved teacher and mentor at UW.
Continuing Education Annual Awards Banquet

Thanks to the generosity of University League members with their gifts to UL scholarships, President Linda Harvey and President-Elect Judy Stang were privileged to present a University League Scholarship to Shannon Davis at the annual Continuing Education Awards Banquet in April. In May, Shannon became the first in her family to graduate from college. She received a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work and will use the University League Scholarship to help fund her graduate studies in the School of Social Work at UW this fall. At the ceremony, Shannon was also awarded the Outstanding Undergraduate Returning Adult Student Award for continuing her education in the face of extreme challenges, and she was a student keynote speaker at commencement in May.

Shannon says, “…words fail to accurately convey the impact of the University League’s scholarship on my life and that of my family. To put it simply, without the support of generous individuals, like each and every one of you, my educational dreams may have never been realized. I feel that my future is very bright today because on every step of my educational journey someone believed in my abilities.”

Each One Reach One

As of August 1, the University League has 346 regular members and 51 spousal members for a total of 397. This is down 33 members from last year at this time. New members are needed to replace those who have died, moved away, or encountered health issues limiting their participation in League activities. The most effective means to increase our membership is for each of us to encourage friends or family members to join. Since we are aware of the many social activities and opportunities for service that are available through the League, we are the very ones to enthusiastically share this knowledge with friends and family.

An invitation to attend our fall coffee on September 22 at the Nakoma Golf Club is one of the first things you can do to encourage membership. The speaker will be Brenda DeVita, Artistic Director of American Players Theater near Spring Green. “You Are Invited” brochures, which contain further information and application forms, will be available at the coffee.

If prospective members cannot attend the coffee, please call or e-mail me with their names and addresses, and I will gladly mail them the membership information: Cindy May, Membership Chair, 848-9291, clmay@wisc.edu

Recruiting new members is the responsibility of each and every member. Thank you for your help in keeping our League strong and vibrant.
**Centennial Endowed Scholarship**

Last year, in celebration of University League’s 100 years of giving scholarship support to University of Wisconsin-Madison students, the Board offered members the opportunity to contribute to the University League Centennial Endowed Scholarship. Members generously responded and to date $22,254 has been contributed. Kay Jarvis-Sladky led this effort and presents the following statistics:

* Participation: 40% of League members contributed  
  * Range of gifts: $10 - $1000  
  * Average contribution: $132  
  * Median gift was $50  
  * Most common contribution: $100

_Hats off to all who participated._

**Note:** In order to avoid unnecessary paperwork, the Board has determined that any future gifts to the Centennial Endowed Scholarship must be at least $100.

**Long Range Planning and Policy Committee Report**

Many of our League members have served on the LRPP Committee over the years and understand the variety of work that gets assigned by the president. This past year was no exception. The committee was assigned to review the findings of the three Task Forces appointed by President Linda Harvey in May 2015, which resulted from the 2015 Strategic Planning Session by the Board. The Ad Hoc Task Forces are: a) University League Structure b) Scholarship and c) Technology. The changes recommended by the Structure Task Force, which were approved by the LRPP Committee and the Board, include increasing the Executive Committee to include the assistant secretary, assistant treasurer and past president. This committee will also serve as the Finance Committee. The Mailing Committee is reduced to two members. A new Scholarship Committee has been formed which incorporates the Scholarship Benefit Chair/Assistant and Endowed Scholarship Chair/Assistant. The Scholarship Chair is appointed by the President for a 3-year term. This committee will oversee all scholarship activity for University League.

A new policy was developed for the handling of In Memory Of/In Honor Of scholarship donations: 40% of the combined general scholarship funds will be given to the College of Letters and Science (the largest college) with the remaining 60% divided equally among the other 11 schools and colleges. This formula will be reviewed every 5 years.

A policy was developed for email as a form of communication among Board members and the general membership. The policy will be reviewed by the Board in August.

The LRPP Committee has had a very busy year and will continue to review policies, procedures and job descriptions that affect changes resulting from Task Force recommendations. The Structure and Scholarship Task Forces have completed their work. The Technology Task force will be working this year. Stay tuned to the League’s forward motion!

_A big THANK YOU to the members of LRPP Committee 2015-16: Mary Jo Willis Chair, Brook Soltvedt, Beverly Schrag, Lois Buelow, Betty Zeps, Kathy Knox, Kay Jarvis-Sladky, President Linda Harvey and President Elect Judy Stang._
Changing of the Guard at the University League Annual Meeting

L to R: Linda Harvey, outgoing President; Judy Stang, incoming President; Betsy Haimson, President-Elect; Kay Jarvis-Sladky, outgoing Past President