



League Letter

Volume L, Number 4, February 2016

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

Editor: Roma Lenehan

University League Celebrating a Century of Giving

Carol Lindbeck will share memories of University League's Founder Margaret Allen.

Join University League's celebration of 100 years of giving funds to University of Wisconsin-Madison students. Our speaker will be Carol Lindbeck, the great-great-granddaughter of one of our founders, Margaret Allen. Margaret's stepdaughter, Katherine Allen, also served as President of University League from 1927-29. Joining Carol will be her mother, Katharine Peterson, who remembers fondly her Aunt Katherine Allen and her home on Langdon Street.

University League's Spring Program

When: Wednesday March 16 at 10 AM

Where: Blackhawk Country Club
3606 Blackhawk Drive

Registration Deadline: March 8

Please join us to learn about the life and times of Margaret Allen and her goal of helping the women students of the University of Wisconsin through the newly created University League (founded in 1901).

Bring a friend or invite a potential new member to attend this interesting presentation. Historical displays will highlight our scholarship giving and the history of University League. A punch reception with these displays will begin at 10 AM with lunch served at 11:00 AM. Ladies, please consider wearing a hat like the ladies would have worn 115 years ago when University League was organized.



The cost of the luncheon is \$24 per person and all **reservations are due by Tuesday, March 8th**. The menu is Chicken a la King served over Patty Shells with fresh fruit garnish, steamed vegetables, rolls, mini muffins and a beverage. Three different Petits Fours will be served for dessert - chocolate with chocolate frosting, lemon with raspberry and vanilla frosting, and carrot with cream cheese frosting.

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, call Rhonda at 608-577-6702 or Suzy Griffiths at 233-5592 or 628-4988 (cell). *(continued on page 3)*

From the President's Desk:



What do 115 + 100 + 45 equal? The answer - what we will be celebrating at our next event on Wednesday, March 16. We will be reminiscing about 115 years as an organization, 100 years of giving financial aid to deserving university students, and 45 years of publishing a newsletter. At 10 AM we will have a special reception with punch and displays of our history to bring back memories and present interesting aspects of League's history. The program will be about Margaret Allen, one of our founders, as told by her descendants. Three generations of Allen family members will join us to tell their story including family secrets, intrigue, the connection to slave songs, and much more.

When our founders gathered to discuss plans for a new organization, they would have come dressed in hats, gloves and pearls. Everyone is encouraged to come to the luncheon, dressed as our founders would have dressed in 1901. The special committee working on the event details are pictured on page 10 wearing the hats they plan to wear. Have fun picking out a special hat to wear!

At the luncheon, Kay Jarvis-Sladky will announce the amount of money donated to The University League Centennial Endowed Scholarship. Kay developed this fund-raising initiative. The question was, could University League raise \$10,000 in a semester to fully fund an Endowed Scholarship to celebrate our "100 Years of Giving"? Come to the luncheon to find out if we met our \$10,000 goal!

You received an invitation to our Stay-At-Home Scholarship Benefit. Kathleen Murphy Sherry and her committee produced a fabulous invitation that paid tribute to our first 100 years of giving aid to students. Anne Stoelting added her special artistic touch to the invitation. Since at least 1981 (when League received non-profit status), our scholarship gifts have been given annually to twelve schools and colleges (see your Yearbook for details). The schools then awarded them to students the following year. Help us continue this generous giving tradition. Student financial need continues to exceed available funds. Please help students achieve their educational dreams by mailing your scholarship donation by April 1.

This is the fourth newsletter this year that has contained 25 facts of our history to celebrate our anniversaries. Our Publicity Chair, Jan Martin, spent hours going through documents in League's archives to find all these facts. If you have saved all four newsletters, you will have a concise history of our last 115 years. Thanks Jan for giving us this gift as we celebrate our 100 years of giving funds to University of Wisconsin-Madison students.

Our newsletters are a vital part of the way we communicate. Forty-five years ago the League newsletter began to be published regularly, five times a year to support our events. Thank you to each and every newsletter editor who has worked so hard to deliver the League news to us.

Our founders would be proud of what we have become, 115 years after their first meeting. Send in your reservations for our special celebration on March 16 so you won't miss the fun. I will see you there!

Linda Harvey

Celebrating a Century of Giving (continued from page 1)

Carol Lindbeck, the daughter of Katharine Peterson, the great-great-granddaughter of Margaret Allen, will present an informative PowerPoint presentation about her illustrious family. Katharine Peterson, Carol, and her sisters, visited the University of Wisconsin-Madison Archives several years ago to look at the archives of William F. Allen, their great-great-grandfather and the husband of Margaret Allen. He was a professor of Ancient Languages and History at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, an American classical scholar, and an editor of the first book of American slave songs. When they visited the archives, the family was aware of Margaret’s involvement in starting the University League. They were less aware that she established a loan fund which later became a scholarship fund. Subsequently, her heirs learned about the growth and development of University League with its many scholarships, Interest Groups, Volunteer Service opportunities, and educational programs. Carol will also bring and introduce a few members of the younger generation of Margaret Allen’s family.

One Hundred Years of Student Support

by Rose Fahien

Many scholarship events have been held since The University League Loan Fund for Women was established in 1916 with \$25. In 1925, Mrs. William F. Allen made a bequest of \$2,000 to be used as a loan fund without interest for needy students. In 1978, the Loan Fund was converted to a scholarship fund. In the early 80’s, the League chose a different school each year to receive the League’s scholarship. Since September 1998, all of the endowed funds have been handled by the University of Wisconsin Foundation. Today, the UW Foundation manages the twenty-three Endowed Scholarships and the interest is given as scholarships throughout the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Different University League events such as a circus, a town hall meeting, and concerts were held to benefit scholarships. Dinner dances were popular League events during the 40’s and 50’s. A 1942 invitation on a one cent postcard read “You are invited to attend the U.L. Dinner Dance, Sat. Jan 31, in the Memorial Union - Dress optional - Dinner at 7:00 p.m. in Tripp Commons. Dancing at 9:00 p.m. in Great Hall. Reservations for dinner must be made by Jan. 29 with Mrs. C. M. Huffer.” On the same card: “The University League’s Clothes Exchange needs donations. The benefit bridge party for U.L. Scholarships will be held Feb. 24. Save the date. Bring your friends.” All that information for one cent!

Today, dispersing information is more costly as is the University of Wisconsin-Madison tuition. Since 1981, the University has given the money it raised to scholarships, dividing it between all of the University of Wisconsin-Madison schools and colleges. The League continues to function under the framework of its founders: service, scholarship, education and friendship.

A Century of University League Giving The Final 25 Facts, from 1976 to 2016

76. 1976 Dues raised from \$5 to \$6
77. 1976 League had 805 members
78. 1976 University League celebrated its 75th anniversary
79. 1978 Mrs. William F. Allen Scholarship Fund established (\$10,000 from Loan Fund and \$200 from University League)
80. 1978 Policies revised to state “the name shall be *The University League, Inc.*”
81. 1980 First Past Presidents Lunch held
82. 1981 Published the Newcomers Handbook to be mailed to incoming faculty.
It was revised and reprinted in 1988 and again in 1996
83. 1981 The University League, Inc. became a tax exempt organization
84. 1985 First Big Ten Faculty Wives’ Organization meeting held at the University of Michigan
85. 1985 Dollars For Scholars Run produced a net income of \$367 in 1985 and \$751 in 1986
86. 1985-86 The Honorary Life Membership category dissolved due to increasing cost of maintaining members who do not pay dues
87. 1987 League had 28 new members and 709 paid members
88. 1992 University League mission statement was approved:
Supporting Scholarships, Service, Education and Friendship
89. 1993 The University League Endowed Scholarship was established
90. 1993 League membership opened up to members from the community
91. 1994 Newcomers was disbanded due to insufficient numbers of new members
92. 1995 Madison Friends of International Students (MFIS) became a separate organization and the MFIS President no longer held a League Board position
93. 1995-96 First Pay In May, changing the dues deadline from the fall to the previous spring
94. 1997 Book value of University League Endowed Scholarship Fund was \$21,570
95. 1998 Louise B. DeFoliart Endowed Scholarship Fund was established totaling \$17,210 (\$10,000 from Gene DeFoliart, \$3,000 from Louise, \$4,210 in memorials for Louise)
96. 2000 University League opened its membership to men.
97. 2000 Past Presidents presented the University League Logo pin in appreciation of service
98. 2001 May 4 University League celebrated 100 years in the Great Hall, Memorial Union
99. 2004 University League website developed (univleague.wisc.edu)
100. 2016 March 16 **The University League Celebrates A Century of Giving**

Past Presidents Interviews

Carol Mathis

Carol Mathis joined League after coming from Michigan State in 1959. The wife of the Dean of the College of Agriculture recruited Carol, encouraging her to join University League for its enrichment activities. Carol served as President from 1981-82.

Carol was instrumental in helping to start a Housing Referral Service for new faculty.



She and her husband had rented out their home during the summers when they traveled. In 1975-76, after a few negative experiences, Carol, Betsy

Tishler, and others started this Service to help faculty find housing. Eventually the University staff provided this Service.

In 1959, bridge was one of the first interest groups Carol joined. Carol believes she has played in the bridge groups longer than any other League member.

Carol remembers a trip to UW-Stephens Point where representatives of faculty wives' organizations met. Subsequently, Karen O'Neill, wife of UW President O'Neill, and Sally Fleming, wife of the University of Michigan President, started the Big Ten Faculty Wives' Organization, which first met at Michigan in 1986.

Carol's message to membership is that if you stay on the periphery you miss the opportunity to meet others. Serving on a committee or as a Board officer is fun and you will meet members who want University League to continue to be successful in its mission.

Margaret Hickman

Margaret Hickman joined University League in 1978. She recalls the 1978 change of the Mrs. William F. Allen Loan fund to the Mrs. William F. Allen Scholarship fund, combining \$10,000 from the loan fund that was not well utilized and \$200 from the League. By 1998, the Endowed Funds were moved to the UW Foundation.

Margaret served on the Board of League before assuming the presidency in 1988-89. She "loved" serving as President, learning how the organization worked and seeing the integration of members into the many League and volunteer activities. She was very pleased when, during Heidi Bollinger's presidency in 1987-88, instead of being listed in the Yearbook by their husband's names, members were listed with their first names with their husband's names in parentheses, encouraging members to call each other by their **first** names!

In 1972, Margaret came from Iowa City where her husband James was a Professor at University of Iowa. James was hired that year to teach at UW-Madison Business School in Actuarial Science and Statistics. Margaret received her degree in Home Economics at the Iowa State University in 1950. She taught high school home economics for a number of years. She later used her cooking skills for three years teaching wives of foreign students to prepare American style cooking. Her master's degree was interrupted by the move to Madison.

In Madison she became very involved in many volunteer activities while raising three children. She was excited to assist her husband



James, then Dean of the Business School, to raise money for the building of Grainger Hall. She was very impressed that the alumni were so generous in their giving and were so proud of their time at UW-Madison.

Spanish Reading and Conversation Holiday Fiesta

The Spanish Reading and Conversation Group met at Middleton Library December 15 for a Holiday fiesta. During this fiesta, members took a break from reading to sing Spanish villancicos and other holiday songs. The singing was accompanied by pianist Shawn Djamali. Irene Geller, Mina Kato, and Joanna Thompson were ready to dance. Co-chairs Karen Pasch and Mina Kato organized the potluck. Special foods included the traditional almond candy, *turrón* (*duro/hard*) and (*blando/soft*), *jamón serrano*, *tortilla española*, a potato omelet, which is a favorite *tapa*, *bocadillo* (sandwich) or a typical evening entree, which is served at 10 or 11 PM (it is not a typical breakfast item). Guacamole, cheese, fruit and sweets were other offerings.

This Interest Group meets the first and third Thursdays at local libraries. The Sequoya Library is a favorite, but other libraries are used as well. This year we read *El ruido de las cosas al caer* (*The Sound of Things Falling*), a portrayal of the drug wars in Colombia, and *La ridícula idea de volver a verte* (*The Ridiculous Idea of Not Seeing You Again*), a comparison of the author's emotions and thoughts about her husband's early sudden death with the thoughts of

Marie Curie, who kept a journal about the death of her husband Pierre at the age of 46.

The new Interest Group, Spanish Conversation, meets the second Thursday of each month at Panera on Mineral Point Road. The conversation is focused on a brief magazine article circulated for that meeting. If you are interested in joining either group, both of which speak only Spanish, call Mina Kato or Karen Pasch.



First row, Stella Prucha, Joanna Thompson, Yolanda Grajales-Sutter, Aurora Gil-Casado, Irene Geller, Shawn Djamali, and Mina Kato. Back row, Kay Jarvis-Sladky, Jan Morse (hidden), Sally Schrag, Anna Peczerski, and Theresa Calderon. Photographer: Karen Pasch, Missing: Elia Basurto-Colson, Elizabeth Gaus, Molly Wesling, Esther Bach y Rita, Karen Ostrov, Pauline Thome, Jan Tymorek, Celia Lobo Anderson and Patricia Meagher-Springer.

In Memoriam

We regret to announce the loss
of League member

Marguerite Sykes



2016 Scholarship Benefit

By now, you should have received your 'special' invitation for the *Stay-At-Home Scholarship Benefit*. For 100 years University League has supported University of Wisconsin-Madison students. Help us to celebrate this Centennial by giving a generous donation to this fund raiser, so we can raise the **Balloon** to new heights of student support!!

So, please give generously so we can continue our wonderful history of student financial support, assisting their **Rise to the top of their Education Goals!!**



Scholarship Benefit Committee. Front Row: Linda Auer, Susie Jablonic. Back Row: Judy Stevenson, Kathleen Murphy Sherry, Anne Stoelting

Scholarship Recipient Interviews

Baila Kahn

Baila Khan received one of the University League Angelena Frenley Lenehan Endowed Scholarships. She graduated from Marshfield High School in May 2015. She is a freshman at University of Wisconsin-Madison this year. Baila comes from an Indian/Pakistani family and is the first generation American here in the United States. Her father passed away when she was an early teen. His death changed Baila and made her more independent, compassionate, and forward-thinking.

Baila finds solitude in books. One of her favorites is *1984* by George Orwell.

Baila is majoring in Biology and Spanish and is pre-med. She wants to be a physician like her late father. Science has always been Baila's favorite subject. Aiding others gives Baila a greater sense of accomplishment than any other activities. In addition, Baila would like to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country.

Baila is very grateful for this wonderful scholarship. She says the scholarship

enables her to focus more on her studies. She greatly appreciates this generous scholarship and is thankful for the recognition of her efforts.

Justin Bannister

Justin Bannister received one of the Mrs. William F. Allen Endowed Scholarships. He is currently a freshman in the College of Letters and Science. He graduated from Preble High School in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Justin hopes to major in Computer Science and International Studies with a certificate in German. In High School, Justin was very involved in his school and also worked as a baker in a local grocery store. Justin was lead drum major and lead trumpet in his high school band. Now he is part of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Marching Band's trumpet section.

Justin says a huge thank you to University League donors and says he will immerse himself in his studies. "For this gift, I thank you!"

Volunteer News

Once again, the University League provided volunteers for Wisconsin Public Television's annual December Membership Drive. The League group worked Saturday, December 12th, from 2:00 to 6:30 PM. Our six Volunteers, Joanne Cantor, Theresa Calderon, Linda Harvey, Kay Jarvis-Sladky, Sandra Nuernberg, and Emlen O'Keeffe, enjoyed the afternoon taking phone calls from those wishing to donate and entering donor information into the computer. The Drive was very successful, thanks to all the volunteers and groups that participated. The final total raised during WPT's Membership Drive from Saturday, November 28th, through Sunday, December 13th, was \$585,000. During the shift that League members were working, \$20,154 was raised. A single donation of \$1,000 was received by one of our League Volunteers!

Eight volunteers will be needed for the annual March Drive (March 5th through March 20th) on Thursday, March 17th, from 6:45 to 10:30 PM. This will be a live shift with a guest from the show appearing on the program that night. If you are interested in volunteering that evening, please contact Emmie O'Keeffe as soon as possible by email at emlenvj@gmail.com or call her at 608-556-3788.

University League Celebrating a Century of Giving

Wednesday, March 16, Social 10:00 AM, Blackhawk Country Club

Program: Carol Lindbeck,
Memories of University League's Founder Margaret Allen

Member: _____

Member: _____

Guest(s): _____

Reservation Form due March 8, 2016

_____ Reservations at \$24 each = _____

General Scholarship Donation = _____

Total = _____

Checks payable to "The University League, Inc."

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

Help Us Get New Members

Did you know that members who join University League now don't have to renew again until **May 2017**, getting four months free? This provides a perfect opportunity for you to encourage a friend or neighbor to join League. Consider giving a University League membership as a gift. Membership in League provides opportunities to participate in the more than 25 Interest Groups, to attend meetings, to make new friends, and to support scholarships. Since you are aware of the many opportunities for service and social activities, you can enthusiastically share this knowledge with friends and family.

As of February 1, we have 395 members plus 62 spousal members for a total of 457 members. Since our last newsletter, we have gained three new members, but unfortunately lost one member.

Remember, new members joining in January through May will be paid members through May 31, **2017**. "You Are Invited" brochures, which contain further information and an application blank, will be available at the March Celebration. If you have friends or family who you feel would enjoy the League, please call or email me with their name and address and I will send membership information to them – Lynda Cantrell, Membership Chair, 203-5211, reylinda@gmail.com.

Centennial Celebration Planning Group



The Centennial Celebration planning committee had a little fun showing off their vintage ladies' hats in anticipation of our Century of Giving Celebration on March 16th. Vintage hats and gloves help us reflect on what our early University League members would have worn for their planning meetings and programs. We hope our participants will dig deep in their family treasures and find a hat to wear.

Join in the fun and show off your favorite hat!

Pictured from left to right standing are Jan Martin, Judy Stang and Kathy Knox
Seated are Suzy Griffiths and Mary Jo Willis. Not pictured is Linda Harvey