



# League Letter

Volume LIII, Number 3 January 2019

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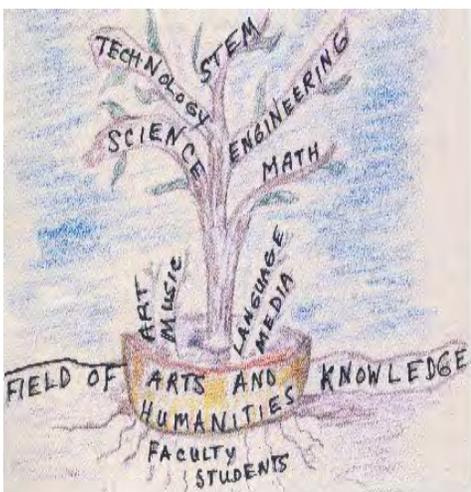
Editor: Betty Shuford Zeps

## It's Time for the 2019 University League Scholarship Benefit

University League's 2019 Scholarship Benefit-- Let's make it the best one ever! Our paramount annual Benefit to raise scholarship funds for deserving students at the University of Wisconsin in Madison is soon approaching! Instead of a scholarship fundraising event on a certain date and time, with high overhead costs, which many members may not be able to attend, the committee is coordinating the "Stay-at-Home Benefit," which historically results in more scholarship contributions, all done from the comfort of your home! Join all of us in University League from February 2019 to the end of May 2019 to grow the "Tree of Knowledge" with your generosity and belief in the positive power of education! Please plan on donating yourself, and encouraging other people you know to consider helping out!



University League Scholarship students: Stephanie, Cynthia, Ellie, and William.



Leaves. Branches. Tree trunk. Roots. Reaching to the sky and deep into rich earth! This year's benefit theme captures the dynamic "Tree of Knowledge" as our theme. How do our contributions impact positively? Creative Ruth G. Johnson brought an inspiring hand-drawn idea to our committee's second meeting portraying the potential power of our participation. We see a "Field of Knowledge" which encompasses the ARTS and HUMANITIES with departments of languages, arts, media, communication, human ecology' music and more. The "Tree of Knowledge" grows a trunk and branches with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) that reach out to support the faculty and students as they learn and grow. Knowledge from this tree enriches our community, state and world as it spreads and is shared with others. Ruth captured the beauty of what our

scholarship contributions nourish! We look forward to engaging you in this commendable community action. Be ready to join us in supporting students in their growth at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Your invitation and return envelope to participate proudly in this Scholarship Benefit will come to your postal box this February 2019. Watch for them!

## From the President's Desk

Happy New Year everyone!

The New Year brings much excitement and anticipation to the University League. Our annual Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit is just around the corner, and we are all anticipating another record-breaking event. In February 2018, University League members donated \$16,140 to the General Scholarship Fund through the annual Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit. With 100% participation, we can exceed that total! The University League General Scholarship Fund supports the UW-Madison's 11 Colleges and Schools plus Adult and Career Services. Together, let's continue the University League tradition of giving to the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The Scholarship Benefit Committee, Benefit Director Judy Stevenson, and UW-Madison scholarship recipients have all joined hands in creating an original and persuasive invitation for you to make a donation, large or small, to this year's Scholarship Benefit. See page 1 for more details. We welcome your participation.

As we mentioned in our comments last month, one of the focus areas of the Long Range Planning and Policy (LRPP) Committee this year is technology. Many people have shared the idea of forming a Technology Interest Group. The goal of LRPP is to define members readiness to use the tools of technology (computers, laptops, tablets, smartphones), and any membership needs to improve individual access to technology. The Technology Knowledge Survey was first distributed at the Board of Directors Meeting in December. We have included the Technology Knowledge Survey on pages 5-8 of this newsletter. Please take the Survey from the middle of the newsletter to send it. As soon as the online version of the survey is available, an email will be sent to all members who then may prefer to complete the survey on line. We urge everyone to complete the Survey and return it by **February 8<sup>th</sup>** electronically or mail to: Barbara Rogers, The University League, Inc.,  
P.O. Box 506 Madison, WI 53705-0064

Our heartfelt thanks to all for your continuing service and participation in the University League.

*Adelante (Forward),  
Theresa Calderon*



The Spanish Reading/  
Literature Group meets at the  
Sequoia Library the first and  
third Thursday of the month,  
September through May. New  
participants are encouraged to  
attend.

# UNIVERSITY LEAGUE EVENT

## New Member Coffee—October 3, 2018

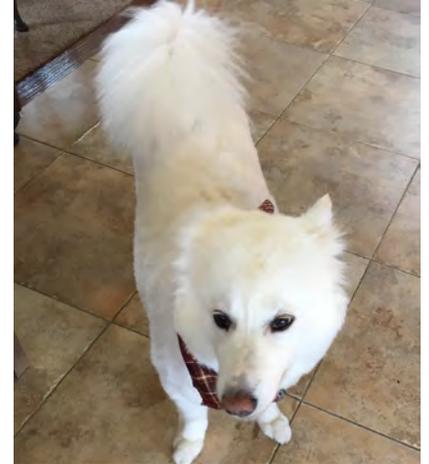
The New Member coffee, an annual affair to acquaint new members with the various events that the University League offers and Interest Groups they are able to join, was held at Kathleen Murphy Sherry's home on October 3.



Some of the members who attended enjoying their brunch



Those attending were treated to coffee, tea and a luscious coffee cake baked by Pat Feltskog. She has replied to several requests with this recipe.



Even the household dog enjoyed meeting the League's new members.

### University League Coffee Cake

1 yellow cake mix, NOT BUTTER RECIPE  
3 large eggs  
3/4 cup vegetable oil  
1 8 oz. package of sour cream

**Filling**  
1 1/4 cups brown sugar  
1 tablespoon cinnamon  
(Mix together)

#### Glaze

2 cups powdered sugar  
3 tablespoons milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla

Mix the above together until smooth; you can always add more milk if necessary.

#### Directions

In large bowl, combine cake mix, eggs, vegetable oil and sour cream. Beat at medium speed until well blended. Spread half of mixture in greased 9 by 13 pan. Sprinkle the filling evenly over the bottom layer. Gently spread the other half of cake mixture over the filling. Bake for 35 minutes at 350 ° Let cool for 5 minutes and then poke holes (gently) with a fork all over the cake. Pour the mixed glaze over the cake and let cool.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Elinor Anita Zach.** We are saddened to announce the passing of Elinor Zach on Monday, November 19, 2018. Not only was Elinor very active in all aspects of the University League, serving as the League's president from 2003-2004, she especially enjoyed the Antiques, Foreign Foods and Gardening Interest Groups, and volunteering with UW-Hospital Services. Whenever she was asked to take a leadership role on any of our committees such as Mailing, Membership, or Planning, Elinor graciously pitched right in. Not only will the League miss her service, we will miss her happy smile and generous demeanor. We offer our sincerest condolences to her family: her sister, Kathryn Harrington, and her children, Lorna, Rudolph, Randolph and Kristina. Elinor was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Zach, who was also a League member.



**Mary Willmert Anderson.** Mary Anderson passed away peacefully on October 29, 2018, following a brief illness. Mary was a long-time League member, and for many years was president of the Madison Friends of International Students. She was a talented artist who worked as an interior designer until two years before her death. In addition to her professional work, Mary was a lifelong volunteer with children and school activities, and in her latest years in Madison at the Agrace Hospice Thrift Shop. Even though she moved to Minnesota about a year ago, she kept her membership active with the University League. We send our sympathy to her children: Robert, Kathleen, David, Susan, and their families.

**Helen Catherine Lodge.** Helen Lodge died peacefully on Wednesday afternoon, November 14, 2018, in her apartment at Oakwood Village University Woods. She was active in University League and many other service organizations, including volunteering at Head Start and teaching English to spouses of international scholars at the University. She became an enthusiastic birdwatcher, and helped found the University League birding group with Libby Lewis and Annetta Rosser nearly 60 years ago. She loved the daily cultural programs at Oakwood, and participated in the many other wide-ranging activities including exercise classes and hiking. She will be missed. She leaves three children: Keith of Duluth, MN, Alison Shambrook of Durham, United Kingdom, and Timothy of Minneapolis, Minnesota.



NOTE: Pages 5-8, Survey Tool for Technical Knowledge, have been eliminated in this website version of *The League Letter*. They were printed in the previously mailed newsletter. An online version will be available later.

## **DONATIONS**

**Thank you for your generous donations to the University League Scholarship fund.**

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

January 23, 2019: Editor's deadline for the next *League Letter*

March 21, 2019: Spring Luncheon, "The Driftless Reader"

March 21, 2019: Editor's deadline for the final *League Letter*

May 8, 2019: Luncheon and Annual Meeting, "Vicars of Vegetables"

**NOTE:** A number of *League Letters* were returned to the Post Office following the December delivery. Please make sure that you have sent a change of address to the Membership Committee Chair (currently Kathleen Murphy Sherry, frostyfluffy@gmail.com or 831-7871).

## News from the Interest Groups

### Art Interest Group—Diane Smidt

On a rainy day in early November, the Art Interest Group, led by Kathy Knox and Diane Smidt, made a trip to Ephraim Faience Pottery in Lake Mills, WI.



The Interest Group watching and observing Kevin Hicks at work

As his interest in art grew, he ascertained a goal of creating a ceramic studio where he could merge the more traditional factory-producing company with the more modern individual artist.

On this particular day, we were fortunate to observe Hicks demonstrate the throwing of a pot, standing at a wheel (more ergonomic). He referred to this first procedure as a “growing thing,” the foundation or framework for which collaborating artists then bring life to the piece.



Hicks went on to discuss the chemistry involved in the making of their own glazes, their exploring new trends, their accommodating differences, and so forth. But, most importantly, he stressed the acknowledgement of the artists’ hands.

With as many as 500 seasonal pieces, some requiring three firings with the glazing, Hicks found himself in need of a second store, and found one in Cambria, California.

After 23 years in the business, Kevin Hicks continues to stay busy and continues to venture out as his interests change. Yet, he keeps his artists and keeps his faith in the idea of art as a collaborative effort!

The group of ten listened with interest to the skilled potter and founder, Kevin Hicks. His studio of 15 artists, some part time, is reminiscent of the Arts and Crafts movement.

Hicks is originally from Deerfield and has a business degree, but found an early interest in art as a kid who frequented the school art rooms after hours, enjoying the collaboration of artists working side by side.



## Antiques Group--Barbara Pillinger and Ruth G. Johnson

The Antiques Group continues to thrive with a variety of engaging programs and occasional local trips throughout the Fall and Spring. Our long-time leaders, Barbara Pillinger, Norma Magnuson, and the Vogelsangs (Barbara and Bill), have “retired,” and now our members take responsibility for planning and organizing each monthly program.



Drawing Room—Al Ringling Mansion

Such was the case in September; long-time member Karen Goebel organized a delightful “Day in Olde Baraboo.” The circus-oriented trip featured two main venues--the Al Ringling Mansion and the Al Ringling Theatre. The spectacular red stone mansion, built in 1905 for Al and Lou Ringling, is reminiscent of Mark Twain’s home in Hartford, Connecticut. The features include original Tiffany windows and light fixtures, plus elegant period furnishings. Restoration is currently in process by private owners, and the artistry is both praiseworthy and authentic. What a unique opportunity to visit an early Wisconsin home in its original state!



Detail from the Al Ringling Theater restoration

After a tasty lunch at the Little Village Café (circa 1945), complete with red counter stools, we ventured forth to the Al Ringling Theatre to see the meticulous restoration to its original grandeur. Our tour included the golden lobby, the horseshoe foyers, and the grand auditorium. In addition, we had a chance to peek backstage to glimpse the unique historic dressing rooms, which have been host throughout the years to many theatrical groups and even Vaudeville. Later, we enjoyed a brief demonstration featuring the mighty Barton organ. The City of Baraboo uses the Ringling Theatre quite often for community events, movies, plays, and even high school graduation. Needless to say, a good time was had by all!

The next meeting, at Ruth G. Johnson’s home on November 12, featured “folk art.” Aleta Murray showed several of her old caricature dolls. Helen Lackore showed a wooden comical toy. Charlotte Burns displayed a complete set of very old pewter tea service pieces. Kay Jarvis-Sladky brought a painted iguana figurine that had other hidden figures painted on it. Judy Stang brought two long-ago little notebooks she found in a trunk that had poetry and beautiful writings in them. Fran Rall wore and displayed unique jackets made from scrap pieces of fabric. Carol White showed us some Christmas wreaths with a couple of dozen mini dolls in a circle all dressed up in costumes from Guatemala.

The above list is only a sample of what our members brought to the meeting. There were 18 enthusiastic members seated in a circle, sharing wonderful conversation about all folk art. Ruth Heinz brought luscious home made tarts and cookies for us to enjoy.



Display of the Ojibwa Indian beading as well as hand leather tanning exhibited by Ruth G. Johnson



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The Aerobics Interest Group is dressed and ready to start their 35<sup>th</sup> year of staying trim and fit!

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