



# League Letter

Volume LVIII, Number 4, March 2024

[www.univleague.wisc.edu](http://www.univleague.wisc.edu)

Editor: Roma Lenehan

## University League Spring Luncheon and Lecture

### Diving into History: The Lake Mendota Canoes

Amy Rosebrough - State Archaeologist

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Maple Bluff Country Club

In 2021, Maritime Archaeologist Tamara Thomsen found a dugout canoe in Lake Mendota that dated to A.D. 800. Its recovery made international news and it was selected as one of the top 10 archaeological discoveries in the world in 2021.

In 2022, lightning struck twice. Another canoe – this time dating to 1000 B.C. – was found in the same location. These discoveries are rewriting the history of Lake Mendota and highlighting the deep history of De Jope.

Dr. Amy Rosebrough is the State Archaeologist, an office associated with the State Historic Preservation Office of the Wisconsin Historical Society. A native of the Missouri Ozarks, she has long had an interest in burial monuments and archaeology. She is an alumna of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and she received her doctorate for region-wide re-analysis of Wisconsin's effigy mounds and mound builders. She has worked as an archaeologist in the academic, private, and public sectors. In her current position at the Wisconsin Historical Society, she manages archaeological and burial sites data, assists Wisconsin's citizens with archaeological questions, promotes Wisconsin's amazing archaeology, conducts research, and serves as a subject matter expert. (Continued on page 3.)



#### Spring Luncheon

**When:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024

**Social Hour:** 11:00 a.m.

**Lunch:** 11:30 a.m.

**Speaker:** 12:30 p.m.

**Where:** Maple Bluff Country Club  
500 Kensington Drive  
Madison, WI 53704

**Cost:** \$35 per person

**Reservation Deadline:**  
**March 9 - Reservation**  
**form on page 11**



## Happy Spring – almost!!

At the time I am writing this, we have had a most unusual winter. No snow at Christmas time and then lots of snow and very cold winter in early to mid-January and then a warm up with rain and melting snow. This was followed by more than a week of no precipitation. What a variety we have experienced! We had a few days of beautiful crisp snow with lots of sledding and cross country skiing in the area. I hope you were able to enjoy it while it lasted.

However, Spring is coming and officially arrives on March 19 – the day before our **University League Spring Luncheon**. The luncheon on March 20 should be delicious and the speaker should be very interesting. Amy Rosebrough, Wisconsin State Archaeologist, will speak to us on *Diving into History: The Lake Mendota Canoes*. These remarkable discoveries in 2021 and 2022 will help archaeologists and historians learn more about the peoples that lived in the Madison/Lake Mendota area centuries before us. I encourage you to make your reservation (see page 11) and invite a friend. A friendly reminder – the deadline for reservations is March 9.

By the time you receive this newsletter our annual Scholarship Benefit will be in full swing. Hopefully you received your invitation at the beginning of February and have already returned it. If you haven't returned it, there is still time – the Benefit runs through March 31. This is our annual opportunity to support students at UW-Madison who are in need of scholarships in order to stay enrolled and to have time to go to classes and labs, do assignments, write essays, take exams, and learn. The many thank you letters we receive speak to the importance of our scholarships in allowing the students to perform at the top of their ability. Here are a few quotes:

*“With this scholarship . . . I can further my college education without the financial burden of student loans . . .”*

*“. . . this scholarship offsets a large amount of the costs for my second year. . .”*

*“I feel much less stress in paying for textbooks and other resources required for my classes that are not included in tuition as this scholarship grants me the resources to pay for them.”*

*“This scholarship will help bring a sense of financial relief and security to my undergraduate studies.”*

*“This scholarship offers great financial assistance for me and my family. Coming from a single-parent household, I am eternally grateful for the support . . .”*

Participation in Interest Groups is one of the most valuable opportunities we have as University League members. And from all I can see, there is a lot of enjoyment and learning in each of them. In just one week I was able to 1.) learn about newspaper resources that are useful at the Genealogy zoom meeting, 2.) eat Japanese food with delightful University League members at Oishi with the Dining Out – Lunch group, and 3.) test red and white wines at blind side-by-side tasting at Wine Divas and Divos! Where else could one do this large variety of fun things in one week??

A reminder – if you have a friend who is interested in joining University League, the 2024-25 year will be free if they join in February, March, April, or May of 2024. Invite your friends to be part of this great organization.

*Sally Lorenz*

Sally Lorenz, President 2023-24

## The Mendota Canoes: Connecting Past and Present

The Wisconsin Historical Society, in partnership with Wisconsin's Native Nations, is preserving a pair of historic dugout canoes recovered from Lake Mendota. Testing revealed the first canoe is 1,200 years old (800 A.D.) and the second 3,000 years old (1000 B.C.).

These significant artifacts, unearthed by Society maritime archaeologist Tamara Thomsen, are being preserved for display at the future Wisconsin history center and for other educational opportunities. They will help provide a more complete story of how the Ho-Chunk and other Native American ancestors lived in the area thousands of years ago while also connecting their traditions to the vibrant Tribal Nations of today.



**1,200-Year Old Canoe**

The 15-foot dugout canoe was recovered from Lake Mendota on November 2, 2021. Dated to 800 A.D., it is the oldest fully intact vessel ever to be extracted from Wisconsin waters. It was also the first canoe found with artifacts on board – net sinkers used for fishing. News of the recovery spread on social media and made headlines across the world.



**3,000-Year Old Canoe**

The 14.5-foot dugout canoe was recovered from Lake Mendota on September 22, 2022. Dated to 1000 B.C., it is the oldest canoe ever found in the Great Lakes region by roughly 1,000 years. It was unearthed within 100 yards of the 1,200-year-old canoe, prompting research into ancient shorelines and fluctuating water levels.

For more information visit: [www.wisconsinhistory.org/canoe](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/canoe)

### **About the Spring Luncheon**

The event will be held at the Maple Bluff Country Club on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

The cost is \$35 per person. Please see the reservation form on page 11 for more details.

The menu will be

Spinach pear salad with grilled chicken breast, spinach, red wine poached pears, Gorgonzola Cheese, Marcona Almonds, Whole Grain Mustard Sherry Vinaigrette, rolls, coffee, hot tea, iced tea, water and cookies (DF without cheese, GF, V without chicken).

A cash bar will be available.

## Interest Groups

### Book Discussion

The Third Monday Book Discussion group meets each month from September to June on the third Monday at 1 p.m.. We usually meet at the Sequoya Library, but occasionally meet at the home of one of our members. The December meeting was held at the home of Karen Harris who was both the discussion leader and our hostess. Before the meeting begins, we usually have refreshments such as coffee or a cold drink and a cookie or sometimes, if we are lucky, some fresh guacamole and chips. In December, however, the holiday spirit prevailed and the bakers of the group also produced a tempting array of cookies and bars. Karen volunteered to bake Old-World Raspberry bars using a recipe given to her by Joan Leffler after last year's December meeting. The treat prompted memories of our dear friend Joan who had passed away last year, and whom we missed. As expected, the bars were delectable and brought a rush of memories and a lively conversation about Joan's caring personality and many talents. Joan had been a dedicated and active participant in our book discussions for many years.

The discussion group's December selection was *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. Karen Harris led the discussion, posing some difficult questions and also answering many others. The novel's strong characters, emotional resonance, gentle humor, and accompanying sadness led to many appreciative comments and brought out a thoughtful range of reactions and emotions.

In an apt description of *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry*, author Eowyn Ivy writes, "The novel has humor, romance, and a touch of suspense, but most of all love – love of books and bookish people and, really, all of humanity in its imperfect glory."

The upcoming titles and authors set for discussion are: *Jesus Cow* by Michael Perry on January 22; *Things I wish I'd Told My Mother* by Susan Patterson on February 19; *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver on March 18; and *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus on April 15. At the June 20 meeting we will vote on the member-nominated books for discussion for the upcoming year. Members will volunteer to lead the discussion or serve as hostess for each meeting in the 2024-25 year.

If one of the above titles sparks your interest and you would like to attend a particular meeting as a visitor or possibly to join in the camaraderie, insights and lively discussions for the remainder of the year, please contact Claire Mangasarian at [Claire.Mangasarian@gmail.com](mailto:Claire.Mangasarian@gmail.com). We welcome all booklovers.



The photo was taken at the December meeting at the home of Karen Harris by Marilyn Gundermann. The members are, standing left to right: Mary Anne Long, Karen Harris, Joyce Bringe, Amal Vitale and Friedemarie Farrar; and seated, Claire Mangasarian, Susan Myers and Jeanne Stein.

## Wine Divas & Divos



United States for after dinner drinks, while in Europe they use the term liqueurs. Thanks to our hosts, Mary Willis, Michele Rohan and Elaine Rosenblatt, we sampled and learned about five different cordials and had some appetizers. Most of us had not previously tried some of the

cordials so we had the opportunity to experience some new tastes. If you're interested in joining Wine Divas & Divos, contact Elaine Rosenblatt at [elainer49@gmail.com](mailto:elainer49@gmail.com).

The last meeting of 2023 for Wine Divas & Divos Interest Group was a fun event. We learned about cordials, the term we use in the



## Dining Out - Lunch

The University League Dining Out - Lunch group gathered at Oishi on Wednesday, January 24th. The Japanese restaurant, recently renamed, is still owned and managed by the same couple. It formerly was known as Edo. The recent redecoration was exclaimed over and applauded. Many of the group enjoyed experiencing a Bento Box, a sampling of several various appetizers and entrees. The group meets the fourth Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. An effort is made to vary the dining experience. Members are encouraged to suggest sites. Contact Kathy Knox ([kaknox24@gmail.com](mailto:kaknox24@gmail.com)) if you would like to join us. See the group photograph on the back cover of this newsletter.



## *In Memoriam*

Bernie Cohen

## Join Other League Members – Support the Scholarship Benefit

Have you received your 2024 General Scholarship Benefit envelope? We hope so! Let Ellen Lewis (608-238-1242 or ellenbook@gmail.com) know if you have not. The attractive Scholarship Invitation is derived from a mural in the Discovery Center pictured on the first page of the last (January) newsletter.

The Stay-At-Home Scholarship Benefit allows us to immediately help students attending the twelve University of Wisconsin colleges and schools listed in the invitation. All of the money collected is distributed in July to the schools so that the schools can award the money to their students next year. Furthermore, we have given directly to these colleges and schools for more than forty years! Imagine how many students we have helped. Our small donations, when combined with the donations of other members, can make a big difference. The campaign will run through March 31, so don't delay mailing in your contribution. You can make a difference to the University of Wisconsin students, allowing them to focus on their studies.

**Please give generously to the Scholarship Benefit today.**

### Dream of Becoming a Badger Comes True for Sara Cabrera Torres Recipient of University League Mrs. William F. Allen Freshman Scholarship

“As a little girl, I have always dreamt of becoming a Badger. I worked hard in school so I could



have the opportunity to become one and make my family proud,” writes Sara Cabrera Torres. Sara describes herself as coming from a “big family with lots of siblings.” She is the first in her family to pursue higher education, which she feels puts a lot of pressure on her to succeed. However, she is determined to “use the pressure to fuel me to achieve my goals.”

Sara, a 2023 graduate of Jefferson High School in Jefferson, Wisconsin, was a member of the National Honor Society and a leader in the Latino Club. Her school activities motivated her to become active in community and church service work, tutor underclassmen and volunteer as a translator. She is excited to be attending the University of Wisconsin, describing it as “one of the best schools for research and innovation.” She embraces being a part of “new ideas and projects,” which influenced her decision to attend UW-Madison. While still contemplating a future career, Sara emphasizes that she is interested in “all things STEM,” an area she both excels in and enjoys.

Sara’s appreciation as the recipient of the scholarship is sincere and heartfelt as she writes, “This scholarship will help me in so many ways. I come from a low-income family, which does not have the opportunity to help me with furthering my education...Thank you for helping me become the first ever in my family to further my education.”

For Sara and so many University League Scholarship recipients, becoming a Badger is indeed a dream come true!

## Opening Doors to Badgers Every Year: Thank You to University League Scholarship Donors

University League donors support scholarships for higher education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The value, appreciation and impact of that support cannot be overstated. Derek Kindle, UW-Madison Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, emphasized the importance of University League scholarships in a letter to League President Sally Lorenz, where he wrote,

*Our students are the heart and the lifeblood of this institution. They bring their skills, experiences, and curiosity to Madison from all corners of the world and enliven our campus with their energy. They continue to contribute to our communities with their talent, creativity, and service long after graduation.*

*This year, it is more vital than ever to emphasize our commitment to recruiting and enrolling these talented students from wherever they are found. They may be scholars who are the first in their families to attend college, students from a small town or rural community, or children of families for whom tuition is out of reach.*

*We continue to be humbled by your commitment to our Badgers. The scholarships you've created provide the critical tools to recruit and retain talented students regardless of their financial backgrounds. Your support opens doors for promising Badgers every year. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the university and to the amazing scholars you help send out into the world.*

Impact Report statements from University League scholarship recipients echo the same expressions of gratitude when answering the question,

### **What would you say to the donors if you had an opportunity to personally thank them?**

Tasneem Rahman (Senior), Biology Major, recipient of the Oscar N. and Ethel K. Allen Memorial University League Scholarship and the Carol V. Palmer University League Scholarship said,

*"I would like to thank them for their donations as this scholarship makes my education possible. As a first-generation college student, I never thought higher education would be possible for me. I didn't come back to school until I was in my thirties because I didn't think I could financially survive. I am doing this to better the life of my children. Someday, I hope to be able to help the next generation."*

Yaakov Segal (Senior), Mechanical Engineering Major, recipient of the Donald and Wilma Sites University League Scholarship said,

*"One of the only reasons why I've succeeded in college is because of the pure selflessness of people like you. Your example personally inspires me to become a better person and to use my degree for the best purposes possible. You enabled me to pursue a path of being a better person, so thank you."*

Indeed, THANK YOU to all University League donors for your support of scholarships that open doors to students to pursue higher education and inspire them to become better people and give back to future generations! Gratitude and appreciation for your generosity cannot be overstated.

## Visit an Interest Group

Has winter or the early spring mud season gotten monotonous? Would you like to learn something new or meet new people? Why don't you visit a University League Interest Group? They are listed in your Yearbook with a description, the meeting date, and the Interest Group Leader's contact information. Here are a few you might consider:

### **Armchair Travelers** (First Monday at 6:45 on Zoom)

In March, Gary Ray will be speaking on his adventures in Bolivia. In April, one of our frequent flyers, Cindy May, will discuss her recent trip to Saudi Arabia – an exciting change of cultures. In May, Jane Dunn will discuss her recent trip to Poland. Contact Mary Jo Willis (mjwillis@wisc.edu).

### **Bowling**

Join other League members to bowl on Thursday, April 18th. No experience necessary! Meet at 9:30 a.m. to form three person teams, find bowling ball, and get shoes to promptly begin bowling Tap 8 (8 or more pins scores a strike) at 10. \$12 lineage fee includes shoes for two hours of bowling. Lunch after bowling optional. RSVP so lanes can be reserved as a group. Schwoegler Park Towne Lanes, 444 Grand Canyon Drive, Madison. Contact Jane Dunn (gwtwfidddd1@tds.net).

### **Artiques** (Third Tuesday)

The Artiques Group will be traveling to Mt. Horeb on the morning of Tuesday, March 19th. The much-admired artist, Peggy Flora Zalucha, will give a presentation at the Mt. Horeb Public Library. We will have an opportunity to visit her studio / gallery as well as enjoy lunch in Mt. Horeb. Contact Kathy Knox (608-231-2197 or kaknox24@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Bird Study Group** (Friday, 9 a.m., meet at Covenant Presbyterian Church to carpool)

After seeing 31 Bald Eagles in January, the Bird Group resumes Friday weekly outdoor field trips March 15 with a chilly look for waterfowl at Lower Yahara River Bike Trail, followed on March 22 by a search for Tundra Swans at Goose Pond. Every week brings new migrants, with the orioles and warblers arriving in May. See our full schedule at [www.univleague.wisc.edu](http://www.univleague.wisc.edu). We welcome beginners and visitors. If you don't have binoculars, we can loan you a pair if you let us know in advance. Leaders Roma Lenehan (rlenehan@charter.net) or Jill Feldkamp (jeldkamp@gmail.com).

### **Climate and Environment** (First Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Middleton Senior Center)

Join us for this new Interest Group led by Carol Phelps (carolandyp@aim.com) and learn about how we can all make our world better. See page 10 to learn about the speaker about the COP 28 meeting.

### **Genealogy** (Fourth Monday, 6:45 on Zoom)

Monthly presentations about genealogy give research leads and inspire people to research, write about, and preserve their family history. Leader Mary Jo Willis (mjwillis@wisc.edu).

### **Technology Interest Group** (First Wednesday every other month from 9:30-11 a.m. on Zoom)

The Technology Group provides an opportunity for League members to learn a variety of technology skills. Topics have included how to use software programs and managing passwords. This season our focus has been on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Join us for our next meeting on March 6th at 9:30. The topic will be 'playing' with some of the basics of AI. You do not need to have attended earlier sessions. Come with questions and experiences regarding AI. It is a rapidly changing and dynamic field that affects all of us. Leader Linda Baumann (ljbauman@wisc.edu).

### **Wine Divas and Divos** (Fourth Thursday, 4:30-6:30)

Learn about wine and enjoy food and good company. Leader Elain Rosenblatt (elainer49@gmail.com).

## Your Board Member: Mary Jo Willis – Long-Range Planning and Policy

Born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, I was raised in North Fond du Lac, a little town with a population of 2100, into a family of two girls and two boys. I graduated from Horace Mann High School and because it was a class of only 50 students became involved in a multitude of activities including band, chorus, cheerleading, volleyball, forensics, and Drama Club. I was honored to be selected to attend Badger Girls State held in Madison in 1960. It was a thrilling experience and my first time in Madison. I knew I would come back.



After graduation, I followed my sister Judy to Columbia Hospital School of Nursing in Milwaukee, graduating in 1964. My first position was at Winnebago State Hospital in child psychiatry as a staff nurse and later as head nurse. I continued my nursing education at the UW-Madison School of Nursing, receiving my baccalaureate degree in nursing in 1972 and a Master's degree in Nursing in 1976. While obtaining my MS degree, I entered the new Geriatric Nurse Practitioner Program and later was employed by several

clinics as a nurse practitioner in Family and Internal Medicine. In 1977, I was asked to join the UW-Madison School of Nursing's Nurse Practitioner faculty. Balancing teaching nurse practitioner students and caring for patients was an exciting and rewarding experience.

During my nursing career, I consulted with long term care facilities throughout the state to provide educational programs and assist with improving nursing care. I had a long association with UW Nursing Extension, teaching geriatric nursing continuing education programs throughout the state and later nationally through Beverly Enterprises, training nursing home nurse consultants from all over the country. Being active in the Wisconsin Nursing Association (WNA) was a special experience where I learned to look at nursing from a national and state perspective. During this time, I served as WNA's Professional Security Consultant and participated in the planning for the annual nurse practitioner conferences.

When I finally retired in 2008, I was asked to join the University League by Joyce Waldorf. I soon found myself on the Board as President, Secretary, Mailing Chair, Interest Group Chair. I now serve as the Long-Range Planning and Policy Committee Chair. I am honored to be on the League Board, which has enabled me to learn diverse skills and meet the fabulous League leaders and members. I chair two of League's Interest Groups – Armchair Travelers and Genealogy.

Having a deep regard for dogs and horses, I managed to learn to ride a stubborn quarter horse (Bit of Roses) and adopted two beautiful collies, Juliette and Heather, who were my best buddies. Taking walks at dog parks I developed many long-term friendships. I knew the names of all the dogs, but had difficulty learning the owner's names.

I also loved to play tennis for many years in summer leagues and at Nielsen on campus. Many of the players were members of League. Who knew I would meet them again at League programs!

For relaxation, I love to read and have developed quite a large library. But I cannot stop myself at Barnes and Noble, so I joined the Friends of the Fitchburg Library, assisting with their many book sales and purchasing even more books. It never stops!

## New Climate and Environment Interest Group Has Exciting Speaker

In January, the Climate and Environment Interest Group was delighted to have Heather Phelps speak about her experiences at the United Nation Climate Summit COP28. Heather Phelps received her master's degree in 2020 from UW-Madison. She now works for the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education (WCEE) at UW-Stevens Point.



Every year, leaders from around the world gather to debate what actions should be taken to combat climate change. Previous meetings resulted in agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. This year, the countries of the world reached the “UAE Consensus,” which acknowledges for the first time that the world must transition away from fossil fuels. That’s astonishing, since Dubai was built by oil wealth, and this COP’s president was the head of a major oil company.

Heather went with the Christian Climate Observers Program. This program teaches participants about global climate issues and takes them to the annual climate conferences to offer “a non-denominational Christian presence advocating for God’s creation.” As official participants, they observe proceedings and report to their communities about the negotiations and progress.

Heather reports,

I was privileged to attend this year’s conference, known as COP28, held in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates this past December. The week I was there went by in a whirlwind: each day jam-packed with UN sessions and side events hosted by countries and multinational organizations. I saw John Kerry, Hillary Clinton, Al Gore, and even Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway, who spoke to an international audience about Madison’s upcoming bus rapid transit system (BRT).

It was truly inspiring to see so many young people involved from around the world. Some spoke of the challenges of facing droughts in areas where famines force families to marry their daughters off at young ages. An 11-year-old girl explained how she had already started two non-profits and organized the planting of hundreds of thousands of trees in her region of India. Meanwhile the President of Slovenia spoke about how she had implemented curriculum about climate change in all levels of education in Slovenia. There were so many incredible people to hear from, and my single regret was that I didn’t have enough hours in a day to hear from all of them.

## University League Spring Luncheon

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 11:00 a.m.  
Maple Bluff Country Club**

**Program: Diving into History: The Lake Mendota Canoes**

**Reservation deadline: March 9 (No reservations accepted after this date  
and no refunds after this date)**

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address of registrant \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Reservations @ \$35 each (includes lunch and program) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General Scholarship (IHO/IMO) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(For donations "In Honor of" or "In Memory of", please circle IHO or IMO and provide contact  
information so Honoree or family member for memorial can be notified.)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **Meal:**

Spinach Pear Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast # \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_ DF-Dairy Free \_\_\_\_ GF Gluten Free \_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

Need a ride? \_\_\_\_\_ Can you offer a ride? \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **The University League, Inc.**

**Mail to: Betty Zeps, 1922 Adams St., Madison, WI 53711**

**Reservation form and payment must be in hand by March 9, 2024.**

**Questions? Call Betty Zeps at 608-255-5252.**



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## Dining Out - Lunch



Present at the table, left to right, were Amal Vitale, Kathy Knox, Sally Lorenz, Carol Lyon, Louise Thompson, Judy Stang, Sheila Read, Kay Jarvis-Sladky, Sonja Hann, Charlotte Burns, Jim Burns

### **Mission Statement**

The University League is a nonprofit membership organization open to all who support the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The purpose of the League is to raise funds for student scholarships and to promote volunteer services, educational opportunities, and social activities for its members.