



# League Letter

Volume LVIII, Number 5, April 2024

www.univleague.wisc.edu

Editor: Roma Lenehan

## University League Luncheon and Annual Meeting

### “The Fur Trade in Wisconsin”

by Mary Elise Antoine

Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Blackhawk Country Club

Mary Elise will present a history of the rich fur trade period in Wisconsin, using images and objects to illustrate her story. She will explain the relationships and partnership between the French Canadian, British Canadian and the Indigenous people and then compare the United States’ government perception of the fur trade. She will conclude by discussing the remnants of the fur trade culture that still exists and can be seen in Wisconsin.



Mary Elise Antoine was born and raised in Prairie du Chien. She resides in a restored early 19<sup>th</sup> century French-Canadian house with her Golden Retriever, Meggie. She attended Marquette University in Milwaukee, receiving a BA in History, and New York State University-Oneonta, receiving a MA in History Museum Studies. She has over 30 years of professional experience working for history museums and historic preservation.

(Continued on page 3)

#### About the Event:

The menu choices are:

- Quiche Lorraine with bacon and Swiss cheese
- Or
- Grilled Chicken Craisin Berry Salad (Craisins, Bleu Cheese, Walnuts, Berries & Raspberry Vinaigrette dressing - can be GF, DF, V or Vegan)

Includes mini-muffins, coffee, tea and mini cream puffs for dessert.

#### LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

**When:** Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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

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

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

**Annual meeting:** 1:15 p.m.

**Where:** Blackhawk Country Club

3606 Blackhawk Dr., Madison, WI 53705

**Cost:** \$30 per person

**Reservation Deadline:** April 26

(No refunds after this date)

**Reservation form on page 7**

## *From the President,*



Dear University League Members and Friends,

Our University League year is coming to a close and I hope you will be able to attend our Luncheon and Annual Meeting at Blackhawk Country Club on Wednesday, May 8, starting at 11:00 a.m. We will have a very interesting presentation by Mary Elise Antoine, “The Fur Trade in Wisconsin.” She is the President of the Prairie du Chien Historical Society and former curator of Villa Louis. She has written many articles and several books on the history of the upper Mississippi. Her presentation will give us an opportunity to learn more about the native peoples who lived here before us and how they interacted with the Euro-American fur traders. Information about her presentation and the luncheon can be found on the front page and continuing on page three. Be sure to mail your luncheon reservation early so that it is received by the April 26 deadline.

Following the luncheon and presentation we will have our Annual Meeting where you will have the opportunity to learn about the scholarship monies raised this year, our finances, and the state of University League. You will also be asked to vote on the slate of new board members and officers for 2024-2025.

“It takes a village” to keep University League functioning well and I am most grateful for the wonderful women who have served on the University League board and committees this year. Those currently serving can be found on pages 5 and 6 of your Yearbook. In addition, I am grateful for each of the Interest Group Leaders who keep these valuable League groups going throughout the year and for those League members who are out in the community serving in one of our Volunteer Opportunities. University League continues to carry out its mission well:

### **Supporting Scholarships, Service, Education, and Friendship**

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve as your President this year. It has been a joy to work with such hard-working and dynamic women and to support this 123 year old organization. Thank you for putting your trust in me as your leader. I would encourage all of you to say YES when asked to serve on the board, as an Interest Group Leader, or in one of our off-board positions. It is only when we work together that we can keep The University League, Inc. as a strong and vibrant organization in the UW-Madison community.

Thank you,

*Sally Lorenz*

Sally Lorenz, President 2023-24

## Annual Meeting and Luncheon (continued from page 1)

The North American fur trade was a partnership between Euro-Americans and Indigenous Nations. The trade began in the early 1600s along the St. Lawrence River and its tributaries and by the late 1600s had spread to the western Great Lakes and the upper Mississippi River.

Each summer, French-speaking men would transport trade goods from Montreal to Michilimackinac and from there to la Baie, Lapointe and Prairie du Chien. There, the goods were divided into “outfits” and, in the fall, the *hivernants* (wintering traders) and *voyageurs* left the fur in their trading places on the rivers that flowed into the Fox-Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers. When the ice melted, the Native people brought the pelts of the fur bearing animals to the *hivernants* and the trade occurred. The pelts were packed into bails, brought to la Baie and Prairie du Chien and then, after a bit of celebration, were transported to Montreal.

In 1763, Great Britain acquired the French colonies in North America. They saw the value of the trade with the Native nations and continued the trade in the traditions established by the French. The trade continued until the United States gained military control of the land that is now Wisconsin.

## Endowed Scholarships Provided Over \$131,000 to Students

University League Named Endowed Scholarships provided more than \$131,000 to students throughout the University for the 2023-2024 school year. These Endowed Scholarships were established with funds given by members or their families through the years. Now the annual income from these funds is awarded by the designated school or department as student scholarships.

Do you want to leave a legacy? At the same time, are you interested in donating to a specific school, college, or department at the University? You can support student scholarships forever. You can do this through a University League Named Endowed Scholarship.

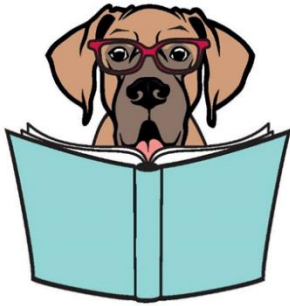
A fully endowment scholarship requires \$25,000. But you can start with \$5,000 and add until it reaches the full endowment within five years. Your funds will be held in the University League Endowed Scholarship Fund until you reach full endowment. When you reach full endowment (\$25,000), the funds are transferred to a University League Endowment Scholarship Fund in your name and the spendable income goes to the school, college, or department you have chosen. Since the principal remains intact, your fund will provide student support in perpetuity!

Once your Named Endowed Scholarship is set up, family and friends can contribute to your fund through the University League Foundation website.

To set up an Endowed Scholarship and recognize University League, it is important to contact the University League President, Sally Lorenz ([sallylor67@gmail.com](mailto:sallylor67@gmail.com)) or University League Endowed Scholarship Liaison Mary Jane Getlinger ([getlinger2@gmail.com](mailto:getlinger2@gmail.com)).

# University League Great Dane Readers

by Mary Warfield



University League  
**GREAT DANE READERS**

His name is Derrick. For the first three visits I made to his southside Head Start classroom, he did not gather with his 12 preschool classmates for our Great Dane Reader book readings. Instead, he remained outside our circle, playing with toys at a table nearby. For my fourth visit, he joined our group and listened intently to the story I read about a cat and a dog who live in the same house but are not friends. As I tried to (very dramatically!) read about the dilemma of the cat and the dog who are not friends, Derrick very excitedly shouted out the solution to their problem. He had become very involved in the story and was so happy that he had solved their problem with a suggestion of how the characters might cooperate! He and his teachers beamed as he came up to receive his own copy of the book.

The goal of Great Dane Readers is to encourage young children to develop a love of reading through book ownership. We hope to provide books that are informative (like the National Geographic book about animal homes), beautifully illustrated (like the book about a little bird reluctantly migrating for the winter), or with an interesting plot (like the book about the cat and the dog). We hope all the children will become so engaged in their books that they will want to read and reread them. Thank you to all our donors who have helped provide books this year for Derrick and 454 other Dane County preschoolers. Our program would not exist without your support!

Thank you, also, to all the Great Dane Reader volunteers! They faithfully visit their classrooms every month, sharing their enthusiasm for reading with the preschoolers, making all the books interesting and exciting – even the alphabet books! Many thanks to Barb Freeman, Lucy Lasseter, Gail Steinhorst, Cindy Edwards, Anne Raffa, Laureen Yoshino, Nancy Gloe, Mary Tremaine, Sue Taylor, Janet Gajewski, Karen Sallander, Nancy Baumgardner, Denise Garlow, Barbara Rogers, Sheila Endres, Helen Read, Kathy Knox, Brian and Cheryl Goodman, Mary Hansen, Sally Stengel, Sandra Wurdeman, Jacqui and John Shanda, Candy Mooney, Lynn Courtenay, Madonna Scullion and Fran Malloy.

Whether through financial contributions or as volunteer hours, your support of Great Dane Readers does make a difference. We have recently completed a review of the books being considered for next year. **The cost of the books has increased significantly, from approximately \$3 to \$4 per book. I hope you all will continue to be generous! Your donations really do allow us to continue our efforts.** On behalf of all the preschoolers who benefit from our program, thank you!

If you have any questions about Great Dane Readers, please contact Mary Warfield at (608)273-9809 or mbwarfield@gmail.com.

## Pay-in-May Packets Are Coming Soon

The University League year ends on May 31 and the new year begins June 1, 2024. Membership renewals through **Pay-in-May** will be mailed at the end of April. Members are asked to:

- Check your contact information on page one
- Fill out the Interest Group and Volunteer information on page two
- Return both with your check in the pre-addressed envelope **no later than May 31.**

By promptly returning your Pay-in-May forms and check, your name can appear in the Yearbook and you will be able to participate in the Interest Groups you select. And you will save League money and its Membership Committee members time if they don't have to contact you by mail, email, or phone to remind you to send in your renewals. If, for some reason, you don't receive a packet by May 5, please contact Membership Chair Elaine Rosenblatt, 608-827-5046 or elainer49@gmail.com.

## Your Board Member - Barbara Rogers, Assistant Program Chair

I moved to Madison from Chicago in 1993 with my two young children. In 1971 when I was just 17, I graduated from high school with a class rank of 16 out of 352 students. I received a full scholarship in Education and attended Chicago State University. I majored in both Special Education and Elementary education. My minor was Psychology.



I taught Chicago (CPS) for seventeen years. I began my career teaching in the Head Start program. I taught students with Learning Disabilities, Emotional Disabilities, Behavioral Disabilities and Autism in the area of Special Education. I was an Autism specialist my last few years in Chicago.

I taught Kindergarten, First Grade, Third Grade, Fourth Grade, Sixth Grade and Eighth Grade Regular education. When I moved to Madison I taught children with Emotional Disabilities, as well as students with Cognitive Disabilities and Autism. I taught Elementary students (MMSD) 1994-2014.

In 1997 I received a Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University. After receiving my Master's degree, I began teaching in the Middle school grades six through eight. I taught Sixth Grade Language Arts, Social Studies and Math. I also taught Studies Skills and Computer Skills. For one year I taught Eighth Grade English.

I noticed there were communication deficits between students of color and teachers as well as parents of color and teachers. I sought to improve this for everyone. To that end, I wrote a class, called Code Switching, for teachers, professionals and paraprofessionals to increase communication skills. I taught the class for five years through Viterbo University.

I am now retired from teaching. I joined the University League in 2013 after receiving an invitation in the mail through Madison Teachers Inc. I was most intrigued by the Mah Jong group and Wine Divas. I have also participated in the evening Dining Out Group, the International Foods Group, and Movie Group and attended the Spring, Fall, and Candlelight events.

I have been on the Board as Assistant Volunteer, Volunteer Chair, President Elect and your President 2019-2020. Unfortunately, Covid cut my tenure short. In 2020-2021 I served as Chair of the Nominating Committee.

---

**University League Luncheon and Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 11:00 a.m.  
Blackhawk Country Club**

**Program:** Mary Elise Antoine – “The Fur Trade in Wisconsin”

**Reservation deadline: April 26\* (No refunds or registrations after this date)**

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

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Reservations @ \$30 each (includes lunch and program) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Great Dane Readers \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
(For donations “In Honor of” or “In Memory of”, please circle IHO or IMO and provide contact Information – General Scholarship only please)

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

Menu choices (indicate who wants each, and list any dietary restrictions):

See page 1 for descriptions of menu items.

\_\_\_\_\_ Quiche Lorraine with bacon and Swiss cheese

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Chicken Craisin Berry Salad (can be GF, DF, V, or Vegan)

Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

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 April 26.**

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



The University League, Inc.  
Post Office Box 5064  
Madison, WI 53705-0064

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Madison, WI  
Permit No 2084

## Wine Divas & Divos



Hosts, Winn and Tom Eckert, showed us wine doesn't need to be expensive to be enjoyed. We did a blind tasting of two whites and two reds. We were surprised to find that our preferred wine wasn't always the most expensive wine!

### **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.