



# League Letter

Volume L, Number 3, January 2016

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

Editor: Roma Lenehan

## Gerri DiMaggio Trio Jazzes up Valentine's Weekend!

Come join us for an evening of Jazz, Desserts and Dancing at the Nakoma Golf Club on Saturday, February 13, 2016. DiMaggio is a nationally known Madison singer and jazz artist. The Trio (vocalist, pianist, and bassist) will provide an evening of jazz to entertain and delight you as you enjoy delicious desserts and dancing.

The social hour begins 6:30. The Gerri DiMaggio Trio will begin playing at 7:30. The Club's cash bar will be open during the jazz filled evening! To register, send \$20 with your registration form (page 9) to Suzy Griffiths (2037 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53726) by February 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Jazz, Desserts and Dancing**

**When:** Saturday, February 13, 2016

6:30 PM – Social Hour

7:30 PM – Gerri DiMaggio Trio

**Where:** Nakoma Golf Club  
4145 Country Club Road

**Registration Deadline:** February 5<sup>th</sup>

Gerri DiMaggio is a major presence in the Madison music scene. Her take on jazz is as original as it is enticing. Kevin Lynch of Madison's Capital Times writes, "A fluid excursion through romantic standards, hip Jazz tunes, Latin music, and spiritually inspired music, DiMaggio's hip subtle phrasing and warm tones reflect an admitted influence from the magisterial Shirley Horn."



She performs regularly at The Isthmus Jazz Festival, the outdoor summer series "Jazz at Five" and clubs throughout the area. Gerri has been invited to the Telluride Jazz Festival, "The Feast of LA" on the Jimmy Kimmel stage, and to Madison's sister city, Mantova, Italy, for the Mantova Music Festival. She also performed a special jazz concert with Andrew Sewell and the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra at "Concerts on the Square." She was a guest artist at "Concert on the Green" with John DeMain and the Madison Symphony Orchestra.

Gerri is a native of Madison, Wisconsin. She studied music and voice at the University of Wisconsin and Jazz Studies with the venerated Professor of Bass and Jazz History, Richard Davis. She was one of the original producers of the outdoor summer jazz series "Jazz at Five." As the music director and promoter she brought to the stage local, regional and international Jazz artists such as Kurt Elling, Joe Sample, Richard Davis, John Hicks, Sonny Fortune, Chuchito Valdez, and Brian Lynch. She continues to produce and promote shows for artists in a variety of venues.

## From the President's Desk:



The November Candlelight Concert is a wonderful memory. The evening started with a toast to our "Century of Giving." The performance by Stephanie Jutt on flute and Thomas Kasdorf at the piano was mesmerizing. They introduced the audience to composers Piazzolla, Villa-Lobos, Guridi and Schoenfield. None of us that heard their performance will ever forget it. The program was followed by a wonderful meal. It was an evening to remember.

As you receive this newsletter, winter has arrived, the major holidays are behind us and we have started a new year. 2016 will be a big year for University League! We are celebrating 100 years of gifting funds to deserving University of Wisconsin-Madison students, University League's 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and 50 years of publishing a newsletter. Please mark Wednesday, March 16, on your calendar for a very special celebration at Blackhawk Country Club.

I want to thank each of you who donated to our one time fund-raising appeal for the University League Centennial Endowed Scholarship. Your generous response has been amazing. This new endowed scholarship celebrates our 100 years of giving aid to University of Wisconsin students. The interest from this scholarship will be given annually to help students fulfill their educational dreams. Come to our March 16 Anniversary Celebration and celebrate our new scholarship!

In our year of celebrating "A Century of Giving," we are throwing a Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit Party. Your invitation will be arriving in your mailbox soon. In contrast to the new Centennial Endowed Scholarship, all of this money goes directly to fund student scholarships next year. Please help the University of Wisconsin-Madison's needy students by giving generously.

The League's next event will be on Valentine's Eve. On Saturday, February 13, our Program Committee has arranged a jazzy night at Nakoma Golf Club. The Gerri DiMaggio Trio (vocalist, bassist and pianist) will perform. A dance floor will be available for those who want to dance. A dessert bar will be set up with the promise of chocolate. How can you resist? See you there!

*Linda Harvey*

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### **A Note from the Scholarship Benefit Committee:**

The Scholarship Benefit Committee has been hard at work over the past few months developing the *special* invitation for donations to support Scholarships for University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW) Students. This is also the University League Centennial year of supporting students at the UW.

The Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit offers University League members an opportunity to support students in all the UW schools and colleges. Students who receive scholarships send heartfelt and appreciative thank you letters about how this gift will help each achieve their educational goals!

The Stay-at-Home Scholarship Benefit invitations will be sent to University League members in early February of 2016. The Committee encourages all members to give generously so we can continue to help UW student recipients achieve their educational goals.

*Kathleen Murphy Sherry and the Scholarship Benefit Committee*

## New Member Coffee and Membership Update



Ten new members attended the New Member Coffee held at the home of Dorothy Binning on Wednesday, October 21. Everyone had the opportunity to learn about each new member and their reasons for joining University League. League members Linda Harvey, Judy Stang, Emlen O'Keefe, Jan Martin, Lynda Cantrell, Cindy May, and Dorothy Binning shared their League experiences and the opportunities League provides. The new members attending were Rhonda Danielson, Jane Dunn, Elizabeth Fritz, Janet Gajewski, Nancy Gondzur, Jane Hisgen, Susan Lauffer, Aleta Murray, JoAnn Savoy, and Nancy Wiebe. Membership Committee members provided treats, coffee and juice. Everyone enjoyed getting to know each other.

University League has 392 members plus 62 spousal/partner members, for a total of 454 members. We welcome all our new members and will be planning a Spring Coffee for those who could not attend this fall. We are continuing our "Each One Reach One" campaign

this year. Please send me names of prospective members who would enjoy the opportunity to join our wonderful organization. I will send a "You are Invited" packet with an application blank. Lynda Cantrell, 608-203-5211, [reylynda@gmail.com](mailto:reylynda@gmail.com)

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## Beginning Bridge Any One?



If you are interested in learning to play bridge or just polishing up your game after years of not playing, we are planning to offer "Beginning Bridge" lessons. This group will be starting February 5 and initially will meet at 9:30 on Friday mornings. Roma Lenehan has volunteered to be the instructor and several members of the present bridge groups have offered to assist. If you are interested in this activity, please contact Lynda Cantrell, 608-203-5211, [reylynda@gmail.com](mailto:reylynda@gmail.com).

## A Century of University League Giving 25 More Facts, from 1951-1975

51. 1952 There were six interest groups including Afternoon Play Reading
52. 1952 University League sponsored Madison Friends of International Students
53. 1954 Members addressed envelopes for Easter Seals as a service project
54. 1958 President E. B. Fred left the university and Conrad Elvehjem became President
55. 1960 League had 457 members
56. 1962 Treasurer's report showed \$674 Cash on Hand, \$87 for scholarships
57. 1962 Junior Division changed its name and became University League-Newcomers
58. 1962 Mrs. Conrad Elvehjem was voted Lifetime Honorary Member
59. 1963 The History Committee was dissolved as it has served its purpose
60. 1963 The cost of each yearbook was 25 cents
61. 1964 The Art Appreciation Interest Group was started
62. 1965 The first issue of *The League Letter*, University League's newsletter, was printed
63. 1966 The number of foreign students on campus was 1,600
64. 1966 *History of University League 1901-1966* by Mrs. Theodore Zillman was published in recognition of League's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary
65. 1966 The cost of the University League's 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday lunch was \$2.25 per person
66. 1967 There were twelve interest groups
67. 1970 League adopted the first logo design, a two toned, twelve point flower or star
68. 1970 *"This issue of the Newsletter will begin a series of five a year, designed to communicate directly with the entire membership of League. Each issue will bring you current news of what is going on in League. Another new look-throughout the year, this newsletter will contain a tear-off section on the bottom which will serve as an invitation to and reservation form for various league events. When the tear-off is used, there will be no additional invitation to the event."* University League Newsletter Number 1, September 1970
69. 1971 Dues were \$5
70. 1973 University League gave eight scholarships
71. 1973 Student aid included \$2,200 of scholarship gifts and \$325 to Allen Loan Fund
72. 1973 Directories were mailed third class for 8 cents each
73. Wives and widows of retired faculty become "Honorary Members"
74. 1975 Cash on Hand \$3,197
75. 1975 Newcomers are assimilated into League as a section rather than a division

## Scholarship Recipient Interviews

### Casey Michelic

Casey Michelic received an Angelena Frensley Lenehan Endowed Scholarship which helps him to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison) as a freshman. He is from Ellison Bay, Wisconsin. He and his sister attended Gibraltar High School, a small school (50 students in his class) 30 minutes away from Ellison Bay. Casey's father is a chef at Al Johnson's Swedish Restaurant. Casey's mother is a waitress at another local restaurant, the Shoreline. In fact, his Mom, sister and Casey all worked at the Shoreline. Also, his Dad worked there once a week to fill in when needed.



Casey is very excited to be a Badger. He knew that he wanted to attend UW-Madison when he ran through

the streets of Madison on a cross country trip during high school. Casey plans to become a physician's assistant. He also would like to pursue a master's degree after graduation.

With both parents working at restaurants, Casey says that he cannot say enough about how much this scholarship has meant to him and his family. It has enabled him to focus on his studies. He is motivated to do the best that he can while attending Madison. He again says how thankful he is for this wonderful scholarship.

### Ellie Schafer

Ellie Schafer received the Grace Loeffler Thiede Endowed Scholarship. She knew she wanted to pursue a future in education since she was very young. After graduating from the Education Department with a specialty in the Middle Childhood through Early Adolescence with English as a Second Language program, she plans to travel around the country teaching in elementary schools in high poverty areas. She believes that teachers play a crucial role in helping address our country's social and economic inequalities.

Ellie would eventually like to come back to Madison because she realizes the population of English language learners is increasing, allowing her to use her degree. When she returns, she hopes to be hired by a school that shares her passion for education.

Ultimately her career goal is to be a strong educator that is able to make strong connections with each of her students and help them become successful individuals.



Ellie Schafer in Uganda

***University League Jazz Evening***  
***Reservation Form***  
**Due by February 5, 2016**

Program: Gerri DiMaggio Jazz Trio

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

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

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Jazz: Saturday, February 13 at 6:30 PM, Nakoma Golf Club**

\_\_\_\_\_ Reservations @ \$20.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

*Scholarship Donation* = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** = \_\_\_\_\_

Check(s) payable to: The University League, Inc.

Mail to: Suzy Griffiths, 2037 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53726



Front row: Susie Jablonic, Ruth Heins, Aleta Murray, Fran Rall. Back row: Kathy Granquist, Norma Magnuson, Barbara Pillinger. - Karen Goebel - photographer

## Antiques Group



In November the Antiques Group met at Norma Magnuson's home to create, once again, the angels made from vintage glass lamp shades. The project exemplified the concept of recycling and repurposing. The heavenly hosts were with the eight of us and we had a great deal of fun and laughter.