

LWV The *informed* Voter

League of Women Voters ® of Appleton, Wisconsin



<http://www.lwvappleton.org/>
P.O. Box 1281, Appleton, WI 54912

Email
League.appleton@yahoo.com

May-June 2018
(920) 738-7766

Board members elected at LWV Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2018, LWV Appleton voted to elect the following board members:

Officers 2018-2019:

Vice President Program—Irene Strohbeen
Treasurer—Karen Bachhuber

Directors

Elizabeth Laux,
Sue Hopfensperger,
Jessica Thiel

The following board members will continue their current terms through 2018:

President—Jeanne Roberts
1st Vice President—Jacqui Klimaszewski
Secretary—LouAnn Graf
Directors—Maren Peterson, Cindy Fallona

The new **Nominating Committee for 2019** includes Beth English, Chair; Barbara Kelly; Penny Robinson

Thank you to the 2018 Nominating Committee:

Shirley Strange, Chair; Sara Companik; Sue Eich; Elizabeth Laux; Cindy Fallona.

Upcoming Events



Mark your calendar

May 29, June 11

Candidate Forums pgs. 7, 8

Fri-Sat, June 8-9

LWV WI Annual Meeting:

Bridging Divides, Building Unity, Strengthening League, Oshkosh. Register by June 1st.

More Information on page 9

Mon, June 18

Marking the Case for Climate Change
Rescheduled, Copper Rock coffee shop,
downtown Appleton, 5-6:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 23

Women's Equality Day Celebration
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4 p.m.
2600 E Philip Lane, Appleton

LWV Appleton Board for 2018-2019



L-r front row: Jacqui Klimaszewski, Irene Strobeen, Jeanne Roberts, Sue Hopfensperger,; back row: Elizabeth Laux, Jessica Thiel, Maren Peterson, Cindy Fallona, Karen Bachhuber. Not pictured: LouAnn Graf

Stepping up to make democracy work

These women have stepped up to serve you and the community in making democracy work. Please look elsewhere in this newsletter for ways you can step up to assist them in this very important work.

LWV joins coalition to *End Child Poverty* Go to www.endchildpovertywi.org to endorse

Penny Robinson, Editor

At the urging of Sara Companik and Penny Robinson, the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Board decided unanimously at its March 27th meeting to join the *End Child Poverty Campaign* at the state level. This state coalition consists of Citizen Action, Wisconsin Council of Churches, WISDOM and Kids Forward. There will be a breakout session on this campaign at the Annual Meeting in June. More information on this campaign at www.endchildpovertywi.org

At its board meeting on May 2, LWV Appleton voted to join the local coalition to *End Child Poverty*. Currently the local Fox Cities coalition includes ESTHER, Citizen Action NEW, and Stronger Together Fox Valley's Good Early Start Team.

The campaign seeks to inspire Wisconsin to set a goal of eliminating child poverty, by holding itself accountable for reducing both child poverty and racial disparities by half in the next decade. The campaign is a product of three years of intensive policy discussion and moral reflection at 24 churches and other institutions throughout Wisconsin.

By joining the local coalition, we are taking a step towards fulfilling one of the league's priorities – reducing poverty. Particularly, we are asking everyone to endorse this campaign by going to www.endchildpovertywi.org and add your name to the list of people who endorse the three part-goal:

1. For Wisconsin to reduce child poverty by half in ten years
2. To reduce racial disparities in child poverty by half in those same ten years
3. To establish a reliable nonpartisan mechanism to measure our progress toward those goals, and to report on it annually.

By joining the coalition at both the state and local levels, League signs on as a local coalition partner. The short-term goal is to get 10,000 endorsements so that the coalition can show the Wisconsin legislature we really care about child poverty and want them to create programs to change this condition and monitor them for success. We can help get the word out by scheduling presentations (20-minute PowerPoint)

Endorse campaign to *End Child Poverty*

in our various groups and congregations. Eventually we would advocate with our local legislators to work to reach these goals.

We are urging you to go to www.endchildpovertywi.org and endorse this goal. To schedule a presentation at your congregation or



other group, contact Nancy Jones at njjones.wisconsin@gmail.com

Nancy Jones, Penny Robinson, and Connie Kanitz, (LWV Winnebago Co.) will give a short presentation at an afternoon breakout session at the state Annual Meeting June 9, in Oshkosh.

Exciting things happening with Voter Services

Editor's Note: Just in before press time—Jacqui reports the youth registration project won't be happening this year.

J. Klimaszewski, V-P, Voter Services

Youth Registration Project

We have been working with AASD marketing students at Willems Marketing. Deepak Vir, our main student contact, is working with us to create an event for Seniors at North focusing on voting information for when they leave home, go on to school, etc. This will be a half-hour session in the morning—he is working on the specific date.

We will need someone to present—let me know if you are interested! Representatives from both political campus groups will be asked to present information regarding candidates in August in the partisan primary. We will use this pilot event and hope to extend this to all three Appleton high schools next year.

Our involvement with Willems focuses on ways to get youth more involved in registering and voting. This connection has also resulted in a Youth Voters tab on our website (check it out!), a revised postcard for high school seniors, and a small “collectible” button promoting voting.

We owe a special *thank you* to Cyndi Pavelski, the teacher/advisor to the group for facilitating our work with the students!

Voter Registration Assistance Events

We kick off our new year with Juneteenth – June 10, 2018, from noon to 5:00 p.m. Let me know if

you can join us. Then we will be gearing up for August and the high school registration. As students register for high school, we'll be there to help them figure out how to register to vote.

Newly-created Voter Services Team!

The Voter Services Team will be organizing to review/revise the Voter Services mission and focus for the team, set meeting dates and set goals for the upcoming year.

With a **team** we can do more—more voter registration events, more with Vote 411, more with the Youth Initiative, more with Candidate guides.....

Special *thank you* to Nancy Pourciau, Jan Porter, Julia Evers, Sandi Rohde, Denise Valenti-Hein and Brian Post –our Voter Services Team!



News from President Jeanne Roberts

Appleton following LWV U.S. lead in *transformational journey*

The League of Women Voters U.S. has engaged in a *transformational journey* in order to continue to make LWV the important organization that it has been for nearly 100 years. As part of this, LWV U.S. is asking us to focus on issues of *Making Democracy Work* as well as becoming more inclusive and diverse. This includes attempting to increase our membership, not only among young people, but also people of different ethnic and racial backgrounds, as well as people of different gender identities.

The League of Women Voters of Appleton has taken several steps along those lines through our voter services, program, and membership initiatives. We have worked with the public high schools to help students register themselves and learn about the importance of voting at each election. To increase our efforts, we are currently working with the Willems student marketing team and are planning a trial Voter Awareness Day in May at Appleton North High School. During this Voter Awareness Day, we will have speakers talking about the importance of the midterm elections and *down ballots* as well as the importance of researching the candidates. We will also assist any students who have not yet registered to vote. In addition, we will talk with the students about the next steps for them after they have graduated from high school. If these efforts go well, we will attempt to expand to other high schools next year.

We are in the process of developing a *Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee* for the League of Women Voters of Appleton. This will include members of the diverse communities in the Fox



Valley as a way to help us become more aware of what we are doing right and what we need to do better in order to reach out to all of our residents and help them to become more active and informed citizens. We also want to make sure that we are a welcoming League to people of all ages and backgrounds.

Our varied and timely programs have brought much more activity to League and interest in what we are and who we serve. All of our programs have relevance to our researched based positions, which help to highlight the background work that is done but does not gather much attention. Because of our efforts, we have had, over the past year, an increase of almost 30% in membership, including several young people.

Finally, we have worked hard to make sure that once a person becomes a member of League that they are welcomed as an important part of our organization. We have worked hard to find the talents that members have and help guide them in ways to best use their gifts. An active League is a vibrant League.

I want to thank all of you for your support of the League of Women Voters of Appleton over the past year, whether it is attending forums, helping with voter registration, participating in the current study, attending programs, providing financial support or continuing membership, and staying aware of what we are doing. I look forward to continuing to serve as president of League of Women Voters of Appleton next year and am excited for what more we can accomplish in the future.

Registering voters at *March for our Lives*

Jeanne Roberts, Preident



Jacqui Klimaszewski assists with voter registration at *March for Our Lives*.

On March 24, many members of the League of Women Voters of Appleton participated in the local *March for Our Lives* at Pierce Park and City Park in Appleton. Several volunteers from our League assisted at the voter registration and information tables, both at the beginning, and at the end of the march.



Future voters

In addition, League members handed out well over 200 *Future Voter* stickers to young people in the crowd. It was exciting to see the energy of the young people proudly wearing their stickers



Notes on programming—your input appreciated

Irene Strobeen, Director—Program

As we are looking ahead to our next fiscal year’s programming starting in September, we are also looking for new members to assist the Program Committee. I hope you will consider joining us to help identify important and interesting topics and speakers for the upcoming year. To meet with us, please contact Irene Strobeen at ibstrohbeen@new.rr.com, or indicate your interest at the annual meeting.

CLIMATE CHANGE...INTERRUPTED BY CLIMATE!

Remember when the February meeting on *Making the Case for Climate Change* was cancelled due to wintry weather? It has been rescheduled for the **3rd Monday in June: June 18, 5:00-6:30 p.m., at Copper Rock coffee shop in downtown Appleton.**

Climate Risk & National Security: People not Polar Bears

Barb Dorzweiler, Director—Natural Resources

Rear Admiral David Titley, Retired US Navy, Ph.D. spoke April 6, 2018 in Appleton on his experience with climate science - *Climate Risk and National Security: People Not Polar Bears*. He has a unique perspective on the issue of climate change. The title of his presentation refers to widespread sympathy felt when marketers explain climate change by showing polar bears stranded on minor ice flows, seemingly starving into extinction. He describes climate change as a social science problem, not a physical science problem. After all, he says, the science was proven 120 years

ago by French, Irish, and Scottish scientists and mathematicians.

For those who want to “argue” the science or any fact related to climate change, it really comes down to fear. They fear three things: “all the jobs will go to China”, “I don’t want the government to tell me what to do”, and “gas will be so expensive I won’t be able to drive my truck”. Sound familiar? As in all fears, there is a grain of truth.

Professor of meteorology at Pennsylvania State University, Dr. Titley had lots of charts, graphs and data to elaborate his main points. Historically, the earth’s weather has experienced 450,000 years of variability followed by 8,000 years of stability up to current day. This lengthy period of stability enabled humans to build civilization as we know it:



Rear Admiral David Titley, Retired, U.S. Navy

ports on the coastlines, trade, and manufacturing. Now, we are moving away from climate stability. Greenhouse gases are changing the climate quickly, and this brings us face to face with a paradox. The earth, as huge as it is, is very sensitive to minor changes. As the seas rise, weaker and weaker storms will do greater and greater damage.

Dr. Titley provides political and military examples to illustrate. Diego de Garcia is the name of an atoll (a small coral island) in the ocean southwest of India. It has an elevation of five feet above sea level. It is owned by England, but it is a strategic US military base with extensive space radar capabilities. The Department of Defense didn’t plan on rising sea levels, but the effects will certainly handicap a billion dollar effort on this tiny island—all at taxpayers’ expense. Other naval stations will face similar problems when rising sea levels impact infrastructure. The world’s largest naval base is Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia, and it serves many parts of the world. When power, water, and sanitation sewers

are damaged or nonfunctioning, it will have far reaching consequences.

Many countries, especially Russia and China are interested in the Arctic ice. Photos show how much “multi-year ice” has disappeared. When major ice melts in the Arctic, China can shorten their shipping routes and cut eighteen days off their shipping travel time, saving lots of money. China wants Arctic sea ports. Russia builds Arctic air defense systems.

Dr. Titley then directs our thoughts to disaster relief in weather damaged areas. The U.S. provides humanitarian assistance, but at a great expense when using high value military jets and other equipment. The more the military provides this assistance, he asks us to consider what they are not doing in terms of capacity, readiness and new missions.

All of this leads to security threats due to climate change events. He points out that climate change was a factor in the Syrian war. Syria suffered two major droughts from 1988-1993 and from 1998-2000. The Assad regime began in 1970 when the father of the current President became President of Syria ruling with brutal force. In 2001 the Khabur River began to dry up. In 2003 the Iraq war began. Wheat crops failed and formerly self-sufficient wheat farmers became destitute, abandoned their farms and migrated to urban centers. The desperation of many becomes fuel to conflict and makes bad situations worse. Simply put: failing state, take away water, and the result is catastrophe. Economic, political and humanitarian catastrophes become a security risk for U.S. policy and the military. Dr. Titley emphasizes climate change was a factor in – not the cause of – the Syrian civil war.

Dr Titley had so much to say it is difficult to summarize. He ended on many positive notes, mainly that it’s not too late to mitigate climate change. He feels the “too late” mindset is a copout.

“We’re not where we need to be but we’re far from hopeless. We don’t usually do anything until it’s a crisis. When we get our act together we kick butt.”

He cites many institutions bringing elements of society together on the issue such as religious entities from the Catholic Church to Buddhists, the insurance industry, the health industry, the military. He instructed the audience to remember what each of us can do individually: LLMA, or Learn, Local action, Monitor, and Advocacy.

Learn by reading as much as you can on the science and mitigation recommendations. A good source is the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) publication “What We Know”. It can be downloaded by searching AAAS *what we know* on your computer. Check for a link on our League website soon.

As far as dealing with the nay-sayers who deny climate

change, Dr. Titley mentioned the book by psychologist Daniel Kahneman titled, THINKING FAST AND SLOW, published in 2011. It is a work of considerable research into the psychology of judgement and decision making, intuition and bias; and it explains why we don’t get it. He reminds us that science doesn’t change anyone’s mind, as it is very difficult to change our “tribal affiliation”.

Advocate for climate change policy through local action, and advocacy. He recommends asking your politicians “What are you doing to stabilize the environment?” and notes that if you care, they will care. He states as a reminder that “Congress will not lead but they can be led”.

With those words and more, he inspired all in attendance.

Making democracy work—using your gifts

Do you want to feel a larger part of the League of Women Voters of Appleton? There are many volunteer opportunities available to League members and supporters. We have opportunities in Voter Services, Program, Observer Corps, Budget, Fund Raising, Legislative/Advocacy work, Natural Resources/Environment, Youth Advocacy Study, *Making Democracy Work Award* or Women’s Equality Day.

In addition, we are developing a committee to work on our plans for the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters and the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote in all elections. See opportunities on pg. 12. If you are interested in finding out more about any of these opportunities, you can call the League number: **(920) 738-7766** or email League.appleton@yahoo.com

Jacque, Frostman to meet in candidate forum May 29

Andre Jacque and Caleb Frostman are scheduled to meet in a candidate forum on Tuesday, May 29 from 7-8:00 p.m. The Green Bay Press-Gazette and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay are sponsoring the forum ahead of the June 12 special election for the 1st Senate District.



Caleb Frostman



Andre Jacque

in the Christie Theatre on campus. Parking will be available in the union parking lot. The Green Bay Press-Gazette will moderate the event.

The 1st Senate District covers Door and Kewaunee counties as well as parts of Brown, Outagamie, Calumet and Manitowoc counties.

UW-Green Bay will host the forum from 7-8 p.m. May 29



RACE FOR JUSTICE

WISDOM Gubernatorial Candidate Forum

Monday, June 11, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Country Springs Hotel and Convention Center

2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee

WISDOM leaders from around the state will be asking the candidates very specific questions about their intentions in the areas of:

- Criminal Justice reform (including Parole, Crimeless Revocations, Treatment Alternatives to Incarceration, MSDF, Solitary Confinement),
- Public Transportation
- Childhood Poverty
- Health Care
- Immigration
- Education
- Mining

Candidates who have confirmed their participation: Matt Flynn,, Andy Gronik, Mike McCabe, Mahlon Mitchell, Kelda Roys, Kathleen Vinehout, Dana Wachs

Candidates unable to attend, expressing regrets: Tony Evers, Paul Soglin

Also invited, awaiting response: Scott Walker

To sign up for the event, and to learn about transportation options, contact the ESTHER office at 920-843-8083



2018 LWV WI

Annual Meeting

**Bridging Divides,
Building Unity,
Strengthening League**

**Best Western Waterfront
Hotel & Convention Center**
1 N Main St
Oshkosh, WI

Editor's Note: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (As of May 15! Please note in the Saturday afternoon breakout session, a couple of members of the Appleton League are presenting.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2018

10AM-1:00PM LWV WI Board Meeting

3:00PM Registration Opens

3:00PM-5:00PM *League Exchange* New this year! Friday afternoon, join us at the League Exchange where you can talk with members about what works in your League, get new ideas for programs and events, discuss challenges you face in your communities, and be inspired by the great League work being done across our State!

5:15PM-6:15PM Pre-dinner Socializing, Cash Bar

6:15PM-8:00PM Dinner and Keynote

Speaker **Tracey Robertson, Co Founder and Executive Director of Fit Oshkosh, Inc.**

8:00PM Join State Board and Staff for a post-speaker social

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018

7:30AM Continental Breakfast Begins / Registration Continues

8:00AM-8:15AM Welcome and Introductions

8:15AM-8:45AM Parade of Leagues

8:45AM-9:45AM 5th Annual Zabelle Malkasian

Lecture: Dr. David Canon, UW Professor of Political Science. He teaches courses on American government with focus on Congress, race and politics, the president, and political parties and was the recipient of a University of Wisconsin Distinguished Teaching award.

9:45AM-10:00AM Break

10:00AM-11:30AM Morning Breakout Sessions

A Public Education for All - Presented by Heather DuBois Bourenane, Executive Director of Wisconsin Public Education Network (WPEN) and Kim Kaukl, Executive Director of Wisconsin Rural School Alliance (WIRSA)

Incarceration Reformation: The unique challenges of women's incarceration - Melissa Ludin, EXPO President and Sarah Ferber, EXPO Organizer

11:30AM-1:00PM Lunch Buffet & Award Presentations

1:00PM-2:30PM Afternoon Breakout Sessions

The Importance of Civic Education - Panel includes LWV Winnebago Co - Margy Davey, LWV Door Co - Susan Kohout and Shirley Senarighi, LWV Milwaukee Co - Leigh Ann Tidey

Building Community Alliances - Panel includes LWV WI - Consuelo López Springfield, LWV Beloit - Bette Carr and Deb Fallon, LWV Milwaukee Co - , LWV Sheboygan Co -

A League look at the Economic Equity and Poverty in Wisconsin - Panel includes LWV Ashland-Bayfield Co - Jan Penn and Linda Jorgenson, LWV Appleton and LWV Winnebago Co - Penny Robinson, Nancy Jones, and Connie Kanitz

2:45PM Plenary Session – Business Meeting
4:30PM ADJOURN

LOCATION:

Best Western Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center
1 N Main St
Oshkosh, WI

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-lwv-wi-annual-meeting-tickets-44374611658> or go to www.LWVWI.org and scroll down to the story.



League of Women Voters of the United States®
53RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

CREATING A
**MORE
PERFECT
DEMOCRACY**



**Thurs., June 28 –
Sun., July 1, 2018**
at Hilton Chicago
720 S. Michigan Ave.

All information about
the 2018 convention
is at the following
link:

[http://
forum.lwv.org/
category/member-
resources/council-
and-convention/
convention-2018](http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/council-and-convention/convention-2018)



The Informed Voter

is published bi-monthly by the League of Women Voters—Appleton

Editor Penny Robinson
Proofreaders Sara Companik, Miriam Douglass
Gayle Hardt & Shirley Strange
Website Shirley and Dave Strange

Moving on—thanks for the memories!

This is the last *The Informed Voter* that I will publish. I want to especially thank

- All those who submitted articles, photos, and ideas,
- Those who proofread them and actually read some of the articles once issues had been published.
- All those who did not criticize the length but may have realized they weren't necessarily expected to read everything, but that the information was there for those who were interested.

Thank you for this privilege,

Penny Robinson

In case you haven't noticed

LWV Appleton has a new website. The League recommended this move for several reasons, one of which is to make it easier for leagues to communicate information with each other.

Dave and Shirley Strange have been managing our website and recommended the move, even though it costs a little more.

Check it out and see what you think:
www.lwvappleton.org



facebook

Like us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com

lwvappleton

The League of Women Voters of Appleton is a nonpartisan organization that advocates for informed and active participation in government. LWV is a vibrant, visible, respected advocate for sustaining our democratic society.

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS AN ORGANIZATION THAT:

EDUCATES AND INFORMS CITIZENS ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

MONITORS GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION AT ALL LEVELS

PROTECTS CITIZENS' RIGHTS

CALLS OUT FOR

- **Transparency in government**
- **Campaign finance reform**
- **Redistricting reform**
- **Responsible environmental legislation**
- **Healthcare for all citizens**

The League of Women Voters of Appleton is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers. The League is nonpartisan. It neither supports nor opposes political candidates or parties

Check out our new website at:

www.lwvappleton.org

Contributions are gratefully accepted online at

<http://www.lwvappleton.org/donate/>

LWV offers exciting opportunities for your skills

LWV Appleton Volunteer Opportunities

For more information, contact Jeanne Roberts at (920)-209-4233

Voter Services– voter registration and education at various locations. *See next page for details if interested. _____

Program – help plan programs or assist with registration/set-up at programs. _____

Observer Corps - attend county board, common council or school board meetings and report to the LWV Board. Learn how local government makes decisions. _____

Budget – one day for 2-3 hour commitment. Review budget and make recommendations to Board. _____

Women’s Equality Day– help plan event or assist on day of event. _____

Making Democracy Work Award– assist in sending out applications, gathering completed applications and select award recipient. _____

Legislative Services/Advocacy - helping plan what issues to work on, what goals, strategy, contacting legislators, testifying at budget hearings, what coalitions to work with etc. _____

Fund Raising– assist Fund Raising Director in establishing a fiscal plan and carrying out fund-raising activities. _____

Membership– assist membership director in developing and carrying out plan to attract and maintain members including welcoming new members. _____

Diversity – assist in developing and carrying out plan to reach out to diverse communities and helping LWV of Appleton become welcoming to diverse communities. _____

Study – assist in researching areas of study that are agreed to at the Annual Meeting in order to develop a position for advocacy. _____

Natural Resources/Environmental – assist in keeping local League informed of environmental issues in need of advocacy. Help plan for Earth Day or other environmental related activities. _____

Let us know if you would need transportation.

Voter Services Volunteer Opportunities

Please indicate which of the following areas you may be interested in. Training and support will be provided for all duties. Contact Jacqui Klimaszewski at jjklim@new.rr.com

Voter Registration and Assistance

Assist with completion of forms.

Assist with finding voter information on Myvote.wi.gov.

Answer questions about voting, ID, absentee ballot, etc.

If uncomfortable responding to questions, approach people regarding registering, help address envelopes, etc.

Candidate Forums

Greet people/sign-in table.

Distribute and collect question cards.

Collate cards and bring them to moderator.

Monitor the crowd to be sure no campaigning is occurring.

Time the candidate responses.

Speak to groups, especially high school seniors, on importance of registering and voting

Vote 411

Maintain Vote411 program on-line.

Identify candidates for various offices in municipalities in the Appleton area.

Develop appropriate questions for municipalities/offices.

Funnel information to Vote411 computer manager.

Youth Outreach

Connect with an individual school (high school or post-secondary) to be a conduit with student groups and/or faculty for voter registration/promotion and other similar projects.

Be a liaison with the Willems Student Marketing group in the development of projects.

Contribute information from student events to Youth portion of League web page.