

The League of Women Voters

of Appleton, Wisconsin

March 2005

Visit our website at www.lwvappleton.org

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Local Study

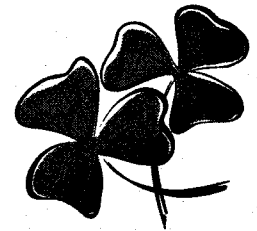
Off-Board, Open

Bulletin

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From Karen

The President's Message

This month I thought I would give you a list of options so that you can be actively involved in our League. There are lots of ways you can participate. Please look over the list below and check off those activities that interest you.

Check one or more:

Vote on April 5th and take a friend to the polls.

Call Karen (739-3079) and volunteer your yard for a "Vote Tuesday" yard sign.

League Calendar

Date	Event	Meeting Place
Tuesday, March 22	Wisconsin Women Forward	Madison
Tuesday, April 5	Election	Polls
Thursday, April 7, X 7:00 PM	Education Funding Forum	Appleton East High School Commons
Tuesday, April 12	Legislative Day 2005	Madison
Tuesday, April 12 7:30 PM	AAUW Program on Carrie Chapman Catt	Appleton Public Library
Tuesday, May 3 X	LWV Appleton Annual Meeting	Mark's East Side 1405 E Wisconsin Ave Appleton
Saturday, June 4	LWV State Convention	Janesville

- _____ Join other local Leaguers by attending Wisconsin Women Forward 2005 Convention in Madison on March 22nd (details in this bulletin.)
- _____ Attend the AAUW event on April 12th, "A Talk with Carrie Chapman Catt, the Winning Plan: Women Get the Vote!" (Details in this bulletin.)
- _____ Sign up for Legislative Day 2005 on April 12th (registration in this bulletin). Carpooling is available.
- _____ Join Board members in organizing a Finance Drive in April. Give Karen a call and volunteer.
- _____ Call Carolyn Mewhorter (739-0000) with the name of a prospective LWV member. Winnie Doxsie will do the follow-up.

Thanks for your help!! That little "stroke of the pen" will ensure that our League will continue to be a vital community asset.

Karen

WW = P

A Great Opportunity

The Institute for Women's Policy Research gave our state a low C- grade for the status of Wisconsin women. In May of 2003 an influential group of women, leaders from around the state, were determined the report be put to use to inform private practice and drive better public policy. They gave shape to **Wisconsin Women = Prosperity**, an economic development initiative launched from the office of Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton. Today, this unprecedented, non-partisan public/private partnership to "raise the grade" for Wisconsin women regularly turns diagnosis into action and challenges into solutions. *WW=P* has evolved into a broadband movement whose very existence catalyzes progress for women in diverse situations, inviting citizens at every turn in the road across the state to make their own contribution to raising the grade for Wisconsin's women – once and for all, for us all.

Appleton League members have the opportunity to participate in this process by attending *Wisconsin Women Forward 2005* on March 22 at Monona Terrace, Madison.

Wisconsin Women Forward 2005 will bring women of all ages, diverse by any measure, from every region of this state, to power up implementation of our shared agenda. The aim is to set this state on track to be the best in the nation where women may work, raise a family, and live out their dreams. More information on the conference can be found at:

www.wisconsinwomenequalsprosperity.org/convention.html

The registration fee for the conference will be paid for you by the Appleton League, so we hope many Leaguers will be able to attend. We plan to get together and car pool down to Madison for the day. To reserve your space contact Winnie Doxsie at 739-7593 or Karen de Young at 739-3079 by **March 3rd** to give us your registration information.

Related link - Center for Public Policy and the Status of Women

<http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/womenspolicy/WWPP.html>

Education Funding Forum

There will be a forum on public education funding Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Appleton East High School Commons. This forum will cover some history of public education funding; the problems faced by school districts today, proposed solutions and actions we can take to effect change. More information will be available in the next newsletter or contact Winnie Doxsie at 739-7593 or winnie@mapsolutionswi.com.

2005 – 2007 State Budget Review

The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families and League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is sponsoring a series of 10 Brown Bag lunch meetings across the state. Bring a bag lunch and learn about what the budget means in understandable terms. Each session will feature an overview of the 2005-07 State Budget, the ongoing fiscal challenges and an analysis of provisions that impact children and families. The meetings are scheduled from noon to 2:00PM and will include time for questions and answers about the state budget document and the budget process.

See the Brown Bag schedule below:

Madison -- March 7 (Room 202 in the downtown library, 201 West Mifflin Street)

Waukesha - March 8, 2005, Milwaukee - March 10, 2005, Portage - March 11, 2005, Sheboygan - March 14, 2005, Neenah - March 15, 2005, Green Bay -- March 16, 2005, Wausau - March 21, 2005, Menomonie - March 22, 2005, La Crosse - March 23, 2005

You can find additional details and site addresses on our WCCF website at:

<http://www.wccf.org/projects/brownbagschedule.htm>

Annual Meeting and Dinner

May 3, 2005

The LWV of Appleton will hold its annual meeting and dinner at Mark's East Side Restaurant, Appleton. A reservation form will be included in the April Bulletin.

In preparation for this meeting please review the 2004 update of the local support positions of the LWV of Appleton included with this mailing. Those of you who read the electronic version of the Bulletin will receive the update in a separate mailing.

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate for the 2005-2006 League year. All positions are for two years except where noted.

President	Beth English	2006 Nominating Committee
1st Vice President (1 year)	Jan Quinlan	Pat McConnell, Chair
2nd Vice President	Nadine Miller	Marlys Fritzell
Secretary	Shirley Strange	Carolyn Sandberg
Directors	Miriam Douglass	
	Carolyn Mewhorter	
	Susi Alger	

LWWWI Education Study 2003-2005 Consensus Response Sheet

League: Appleton LWV Date: February 3, 2005

Meeting type:

General Meeting _____ How many members participated? 9

Specific Meeting x How many members responded? _____

E-Mail _____

Consensus Questions

Virtual Charter Schools and Milwaukee Parental Choice Schools (Private Schools that Students Attend with Public School Vouchers)

1. Should any institution or organization receiving public funds or educating publicly funded students for K-12 education be held to the same requirements as K-12 public schools in
- accounting for the use of those public funds? yes x no _____
 - performance standards for their students yes x no _____

Home School

2. Should the law be changed so that the Department of Public Instruction requires for the home-schooled student the following:
- qualification guidelines for the person providing instruction? yes _____ no x
 - record keeping of student's learning? yes x no _____
 - assessment of student's learning on a standardized test? yes x no _____

Enforcement of these requirements should be

- at the local school district level yes _____ no x
- at the Department of Public Instruction yes x no _____
- a shared responsibility of both state and local yes _____ no x

Charter Schools

3. Should charter school authority be given only to K-12 public school districts?
yes x no _____

Public School Employee Requirements

4. Should employees of Wisconsin schools receiving public funds or educating publicly funded students (including Milwaukee Parental Choice schools) meet the same state standards as those that are required of all public school employees?
yes x no _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE APPLETON CONSENSUS MEETING. Question 2 for Home school section of Consensus questions. The only question which we did not agree on consensus is for the League to require guidelines for the person providing instruction for home schooling.

We would hope that the parent at least has a high school education him/herself and we would really not like to see a cognitively impaired individual home school a child or for example a deaf parent home school a hearing child. However seeing that many of the states that do have more legislation than Wisconsin regarding home schooling focus more on the accountability aspect, perhaps this is the best way to start. Any minimal requirements of the person responsible for home schooling will not ensure quality education. Looking at the outcome appears to be a key focus and one that is lacking in current WI requirements of home schooling.

Question 2. c of Home school section

We would like to add "or other assessment"

We understand that the standardized test would be easiest to require and evaluate and we understand that anything more would require money and someone's time to perform, evaluate, and follow up on an assessment but many of us struggle with the limited value of a standardized test.

We do think it is important for all students to have experience in taking standardized tests, as this will be required of them in pursuing higher education also.

A Talk with Carrie Chapman Catt

The Winning Plan: Women Get the Vote

This program sponsored by the Appleton chapter of AAUW will be held at 7:30 PM on April 12 at the Appleton Public Library. League members are welcome to attend.

Voters Guide to Judicial Elections

(The following information was excerpted from information provided by the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles.)

Judges are different from other elected officials; their role is to uphold the law, not represent voters. This difference can make it challenging to make decisions in a judicial election.

What should the public expect from a judicial candidate?

- Impartiality
- Commitment to the law, rather than public or personal opinion
- Campaign conduct consistent with judicial rules and ethics

What should the public look for in a judge?

- Experience: demonstrate exposure to legal issues and substantial and diverse experience with the justice system
- Integrity: high moral character, honesty, dedication and diligence
- Judicial temperament: unbiased, courteous, open-minded, understanding, fair attitude and commitment to the rule of law
- Professional competence: intellect, knowledge of the law, writing and analytical capability, judgment, and courtroom and trial experience
- Service: demonstrated commitment to justice for all

What standards should a voter consider when voting on judges? Voters who place a very high value on judicial independence may want to use the type of job performance standards that many bar associations recommend. They will expect judges to decide the cases as they think the facts and law require without regard to their personal views on the issue and without bending to public or political pressures. They think that elections should not be referendums on a judge's philosophy.

Voter who place a higher value on political accountability will also take into consideration specific decisions made by judges. Voters may look for a candidate whose views on social issues match their own. They may think this is especially relevant for Supreme Court justices because their decisions are binding on major constitutional issues and in the lower courts.

Why vote for judges? Judges decisions have as great an impact on our lives as decisions made by the governor or legislator. Voting for judges exercises an important opportunity to maintain the balance between judicial independence and accountability.



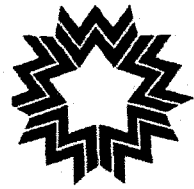
Legislative Day 2005

Tuesday, April 12, 2005

Inn on the Park, 22 S. Carroll Street, Madison

Co-sponsored by

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin & Wisconsin Women's Network



Agenda

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
8:30 a.m.	Welcome Julie Armeth, President, League of Women Voters WI Mary Ann Fahl, Chair, Wisconsin Women's Network	Room 1
8:40-9:30 a.m.	Keynote: Financing Wisconsin's Future Andrew Reschovsky, Professor, La Follette School of Public Affairs, UW-Madison	Room 1
9:45-10:45 a.m.	LWVWI/WWN Advocacy Agendas Rep from LWVWI Legislative Committee; Rep from WWN Have an Impact: How to Lobby and Monitor the State Legislature Caryl Terrell, Director, Sierra Club John Muir Chapter	Room 1
10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Visit Legislators Visit your legislators or their staff. Tell them how you hope they will vote, and why.	State Capitol
12:30-1:45 p.m.	LUNCH Keynote: Health and Health Care in Wisconsin Patrick Remington, M.D., Ph.D., UW Medical School	Luncheon room
2:00-3:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS - CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: School Finance Reform Jeffrey Leverich, Research Coordinator, Wisc. Education Association Council A Five Point Plan to Reclaim Democracy in Wisconsin Debby Meyer and Beverly Speer, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign	Room 1 Room 2
3:00 p.m.	Report-back session Discuss your lobbying experience with others and plan for future action. Facilitated by Melanie Ramey, LWVWI Board of Directors	Room 1
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

Registration (please print legibly)

Name _____
 Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____

Continental Breakfast (circle one): Yes No
 Lunch (✓): Classic Deli Buffet (includes soup, bread, fruit salad, meat & cheese, cookie, & beverage)

Postmarked by March 1 \$40 LWV or WWN Member \$45 Non-Member
 After March 1 \$45 LWV or WWN Member \$50 Non Member
 After April 8 \$55 LWV or WWN Member \$60 Non Member

Total payment enclosed: \$ _____ (registrations must be postmarked by March 1 for lowest rates)

Valet parking at Inn on the Park for \$1.00/hour - or read about parking at: <http://www.ci.madison.wi.us/parking/parkinfor.html>.

Make payment & return form to: LWVWI 122 State Street Madison WI 53703-2500
 (one copy per registrant) Call WVN at 608/255-9809 or LWVWI at 608/256-0827

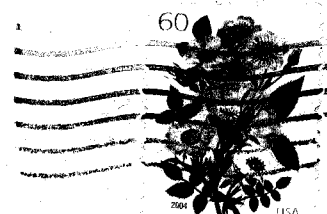
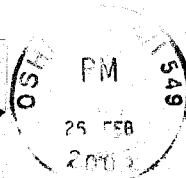
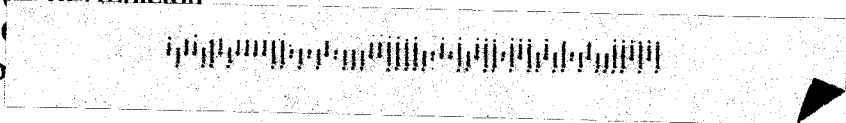
Think Spring!!!



LWV of Appleton

P.O.

Appleton



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