



The League of Women Voters

of Appleton, Wisconsin

September 2005

Visit our website at www.lwvappleton.org

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English Rhetoric



The President's Message

I was at the Appleton Farmers Market downtown on Saturday. It is a wonderful experience to see the diversity of products and the people that bring it. Fresh ripe tomatoes, piles of sweet corn, baby bok choy, oyster mushrooms, flowers and other more unfamiliar produce is sold by farmers, students, butchers, etc from all ethnic backgrounds. Being there is an opportunity to see the richness of our community. We don't need an invitation to dig in!

League, itself, contributes to that rich display in the community. We are fortunate to have such involved members contributing in so many ways. We are planning a full League program for the year. On a local level, we intend to examine our positions on education. Susan Alger is looking for interested members to be on the committee. It's a great way to introduce new members to League or get involved yourself. So whether you are new or want to bring a prospective member along to a meeting, this may be the place. Give Susi a call.

There will be 2 State LWV studies for 2005-07. One will examine Voting Rights and the other will take a fresh look at Leagues positions on Energy. The state LWV committees are just getting started. If you would like to chair the committee that brings the information to our local League, let me know. Both are fascinating topics. Keep your eye on the Bulletin for more information.

League Calendar

Date	Event	Meeting Place
Monday, September 12 6:00-7:30 PM	Appleton LWV Board Meeting	Home of Beth English 3650 N Chappell Drive
Saturday, October 15 7:30 PM	Issues Briefing LWV Wisconsin	Madison

(Beth's message continued)

Miriam Douglass, our Bulletin editor, tells me we are sending the Bulletin electronically to about a quarter of our membership. Did you know that receiving the Bulletin electronically is a great way for us to keep our costs down? If you are plugged in and don't mind getting an electronic copy of our newsletter, why not consider giving up your paper copy of the Bulletin.

League is not just local. For the state perspective we invite you to tap into the state LWV website www.lwvwi.org. Or sign up for action alerts from the national LWV at www.lwv.org. There is a wealth of information at your fingertips. The information is well researched and timely.

Welcome to a new year of League activities. League can be a great source of material and inspiration, but it takes members to get the full benefit. I challenge each of you to commit to come to at least one activity this year. You'll be glad you did!

See you at the next meeting!

Beth

Membership Dues

This is the month to renew your LWV membership. An envelope to be returned to the Treasurer is enclosed for your convenience. The regular membership dues to the Appleton LWV are \$45. They do not cover our expense for dues to the State (\$27.00 per member) and National (\$23.80 per member) Leagues, which are a part of your membership with the local League. The \$65 sustaining membership provides \$14.20/member for our Appleton League expenses. Please consider paying sustaining dues to cover our obligation to the State and National Leagues and help with our local League's expenses.

Please provide your e-mail address when you submit your dues,. *This will only be used by our local League to send you Action Alerts and other information of interest to you. We will not provide this address to any other groups.* **THANKS** for your continued LWV-Appleton membership.

Report from the State LWV Convention

Beth English

Five LWV-Appleton delegates participated in the 59th LWV-WI Convention June 3 and 4 in Janesville. Wonderful speakers presented on topics such as TABOR (taxpayers bill of rights), civil liberties, comparing municipal finances and an update on the Great Lakes from the Alliance for the Great Lakes. Discussion of the budget was lively due to the state League's new structure. Staff and operations are coming out of the Ed Fund (501C3) instead of the LWV (501C4). Presentations, with ample time for questions and answers, clarified the change.

A new state LWV president (Melanie Ramey-Dane County) and 8 others were elected to fill the Board of Directors openings. Our own Deb Cronmiller continues as 1st VP on state board. Delegates approved 2 state studies for 05-07. They are listed in another article. Members are needed to work on a state by-laws committee. Diane Beres-Ripon will chair the by-laws committee.

- Appleton LWV won an award for a 29% membership increase for 04-05! Wonderful job everyone!

I'd like to thank Shirley Strange, Marcia Hittle, Marlys Fritzell and Barb Hoffman for responding to the call. With their help we were able to send our full slate of delegates. And had a great time doing it.

LWV-WI 2005-07 STATE STUDY

Delegates to the LWV-WI Convention voted two studies for the 2005-2007 biennium.

The first, “evaluate the current position on Voters Rights to determine if any portions should be deleted, revised or expanded. Evaluate the various proposals for changes to voting laws that are under consideration both within Wisconsin and nationally and potentially add language to our position to support or oppose them.”

The second study came to the floor as a non-recommended item from the Dane County LWV. “Review LWV’s current position on energy policy. Review recent legislation and administrative rules and actions that impact energy choices and which may have restricted public participation.

Report on the LWV Appleton Annual Meeting

Gayle Hardt

On Tuesday, May 3rd, twenty members of the League of Women Voters of Appleton gathered at Mark’s East Side for the Annual Meeting. In typical League fashion, the dialog was rigorous and the socialization with old and new League friends was grand. Outgoing president, Karen de Young reviewed the activities of the past year and thanked the membership and board for their support and involvement. In return, all those present expressed their appreciation to Karen for her excellent leadership over the past year. The 2005 – 2006 budget as presented by treasurer, Barbara Hoffman was amended and approved to cover the additional costs of \$1,100 for the archive project. Also approved was the slate of officers. Incoming officers are president – Beth English, 1st vice president – Jan Quinlan, 2nd vice president – Nadine Miller, secretary - Shirley Strange, and directors – Miriam Douglass, Suzi Alger and Carolyn Mewhorter. The 2006 nominating committee will include Pat McConnell - Chair, Marlys Fritzell and Karon Sandberg. Continuing members on the board are Barbara Hoffman, Winnie Doxsie and Shirley Adams. Following extensive discussion, the local study was adopted for the next year. The local study will be on education – a review of our local support positions with a view for future studies of local educational programs. The bylaws were accepted as they exist, and the League’s local support positions were approved. President, Beth English commented that the new board will meet for training and long-range planning during the summer. Several board positions remain vacant and any members interested in serving should contact Beth.

2005 Nominating Committee

Pat McConnell, Chair
Marlys Fritzell
Karon Sandberg

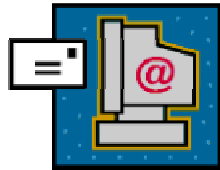
Finance Drive Nearing Completion

Shirley Adams

In early June, Chair of the Finance Drive Karen De Young and committee members Barbara Hoffman, Gayle Hardt and Shirley Adams sent one hundred letters of solicitation to present and former League members and other friends of the League. Twenty five contributions, totaling \$1,490 (update: \$1665 as of August 25, ed.) have been received to date. It is not too late to consider a contribution. If you have misplaced your letter and envelope, a check to the LWV-Appleton with a notation of Finance Drive may be mailed to Treasurer Barbara Hoffman. Thanks to your contributions and the efforts of this committee the operating expenses of the League will nearly be covered this year.

LWV of Appleton

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Snail-Mail

E-Mail saves us nearly \$10 in printing and postage costs per person per year. It also speeds delivery. If you are willing to receive the Bulletin by E-Mail, send your E-Mail address to Miriam Douglass at mdouglass@new.rr.com. If you prefer to only *try* this version of the Bulletin, say so and we will send two copies, one by the traditional hard copy snail-mail route and the other as the electronic version to your E-Mail address.

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