

The League of Women Voters

of Appleton, Wisconsin

November 2005

Visit our website at www.lwvappleton.org

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The President's Message

November is typically the month League spends focused on elections. With no fall elections yet (smoking ban referendum not withstanding) we have the opportunity to focus our energies elsewhere.

- Shirley Adams is looking for volunteers for the ever popular Observer Corps. The city and county are in the midst of their budget process. This is an interesting time to attend city council and/or county board meetings. Millions of dollars of our money is at stake. LWV will be speaking at the public hearings. Let Shirley know if you want to buddy up with a more experienced League member and observe. No particular talent is required.
- The Board is planning an upcoming general meeting regarding electronic communication. All levels of League are relying on electronic means of communicating to members. This meeting will be both a training session and an opportunity for feedback for the website and our email communication. It will be a wonderful hands on working meeting. Look for details in the Bulletin.

League Calendar		
Date	Event	Meeting Place
Thursday, October 27 6:30-8:00 PM	Fox River Corridor Meeting	Appleton Public Library Lower Level Meeting Room
Tuesday, Novemeber 8 6:00-7:30 PM	Appleton LWV Board Meeting	Appleton Public Library Lower Level Meeting Room
Thursday, November 17 7:00-8:00 PM	Web Meeting	Lawrence Library College Ave and Lawe St
Saturday, December 10 10:30 AM – 1 PM	Holiday Brunch	Radisson Paper Valley Hotel

- Susi Alger's Education Study committee is putting together a general meeting. Our current positions are so out of date that they plan a general overhaul of our LWV education positions. This meeting will be a great kickoff to that effort. Don't miss it.
- Finally, don't miss the October 27th general meeting on the Fox River corridor, a joint presentation by the Appleton and Neenah Menasha LWV. The Fox River is an important element of our community. How we use it as a resource affects our quality of life.

This month's program is filled with variety! There is something for every interest. Any of the meetings would be a good way to introduce a friend to League. You can't go wrong. Put the dates on your calendar and bring a friend.

See you at the next meeting!

Beth



What Can Our Website Do For You?

How can our Appleton League's Web site be more useful to you? Do you want to get Action Alerts on federal issues from the national League or a monthly update from its president? What's on the state League's Web site? The answers to these and other questions will be answered at our November membership meeting, followed by a social gathering. Bring a friend to see the power of the resources the League has to offer at all levels.

Who: Open to all members and guests. For the Web savvy and Internet challenged alike.

What: Together we'll tour the national, state and local Web sites, with an emphasis on what you'd like to see on our local site. We want your ideas!

When: Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7-8 p.m.

Why: To get the most value from your League membership, see what's on each Web site that might be useful to you. We'll also gather for conversation and refreshments afterwards at the Lawrence Memorial Union, a short walk from the library.

How: We'll use high-speed lines in the Lawrence Information Technology Center (ITC) and learn how to use these sites at home. The ITC is on the second floor (turn left from the elevator or stairs) in room 214 in the Lawrence Library, at the corner of College Ave. and Lawe St. Parking is available on College Ave. after 7 p.m., in a small lot east of Lawrence Chapel and disabled parking is off of Lawe St. behind the library.

For details: Contact Jan Quinlan at home in the evenings, 734-4808, or by e-mail at janice.d.quinlan@lawrence.edu; or Winnie Doxie at 739-7593 or winnie@mapsolutionswi.com



Fox River Corridor Update

On Thursday, October 27, 2005 the Leagues of Appleton and Neenah-Menasha invite you to a presentation by Robert Stark and Bill Bush of the Friends of the Fox. Their topic will be "Aquatic Invasive Species and an Update on the Locks." The presentation will be held in the Appleton Public Library from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. A Power Point presentation and a question and answer session will be offered. At this time I do not have a room number, but it will be held on the ground floor of the Library.

The Fox River Corridor: The Fox River and Its Banks was a joint study by the Appleton and Neenah-Menasha leagues in 1991-92 and was updated in 2001. The Oshkosh and Green Bay leagues (part of the "River Leagues") collaborated on a joint study regarding the PCB issues and it was discussed that the above topic would be of interest in determining if all four River Leagues would have a study on the Fox River Corridor. The next topic of interest could be the Fox Wisconsin National Heritage Corridor.

For more information on the current Locks situation please go to www.postcrescent.com and review the special reports section. Copies of this and the current updated study will be handed out at the meeting.

Peggy Cox, President-LWV Neenah Menasha



League of Women Voters of WI ISSUES BRIEFING 2005

The highlight for me of the October 15th Issues Briefing was the Legislative Committee Update. The committee demonstrated their meeting process by members reporting on their portfolio of legislative bills which ranged from mental health, to taxation, to energy, campaign finance reform, social policy, individual rights and reproductive health. League statements on the state budget proposal were provided along with the Advocacy Agenda for this year. This well informed, industrious League committee deserves our sincere appreciation and support. It was disappointing to see that my representative cointroduced two of the three bills opposed by the League relating to reproductive health, AB 207 the Patient Abandonment Bill and AB 285 a Prescription Denial Bill. See www.lwvwi.org legislative activity for more committee detail and http://ethics.state.wi.us/ lobbying, for League positions on legislation.

Other interesting items at the Briefing included a forum of two legislators and a governor's liaison discussing how pending legislation would impact voters and elections and a speaker on WI energy regulation and policy. The Issues Briefing was most informative and highly recommended for all league members.

Shirley Adams, Appleton LWV

LWV of Appleton



Just a reminder to pay your annual dues (\$45 regular, \$60 household, \$65 sustaining). Please consider paying the sustaining membership amount as it allows us to cover most of the costs associated with your membership in league. If you lost your envelope from the September Bulletin, send the dues to Barbara Hoffman, 627 E Brewster St, Appleton, WI 54911.

If you have an email address, include it with your dues, so that we can send you Action Alerts. Please mail your dues ASAP as we need to get the count of members accurate for purposes of state and national dues. THANKS!

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