

February, 2008



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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS—APPLETON, WI

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# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

## President's Corner

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**T**hree weeks without a computer left me with over 875 bulk messages and 81 regular emails. My phone contact with my sole source of help had me dismantling my computer, ordering new equipment, and waiting for a return call that never came. One of our members recommended a local computer repair service – which I raced to – which solved my problems. That, and a new mouse, had me up and running a week ago. This Bulletin is not intended to promote any businesses, however, if you need help in this department, please call me.

Where has the time gone? Our meeting on Immigration was well attended and the work done in a timely and most interesting fashion. Thanks go out to Shirley Strange for being so well prepared and able to facilitate a meeting that brought different opinions to the fore. Lively Issues, also put together by Shirley and facilitated by Beth English, got the work done. As in the past, the weather was dreadful and thought has been given to changing future dates for this important activity.

Mental Health unit meetings are scheduled for Thursday, February 7, and Thursday, March 6, 2008. The meetings are scheduled to begin at 11:30 am and run until 1:00 pm. We will be meeting in the Multicultural Center at the Harmony Café, across from the bus station and just outside the north entry to the mall. Jody Van Domelen, our esteemed website manager, is putting up information pertinent to these meetings. Work done by the Community Foundation, United Way, the Mental Health Study Committee and directions to additional information are available. The Mental Health Study and our resulting position are important and I encourage you to attend these meetings and give your input.

( President's Corner Continued on page 2)

**A draft of the Mental Health Care position reads:**

“LWV-Appleton is in support of

A mental health care system which is community based and includes financial and geographic accessibility for all area residents. This system should include same day service availability and immediate care options for all. This system should be adequately staffed in both the in-patient and out-patient care arenas insuring that no person in need of services would be turned away or made to wait. Long term, affordable options for all persons should be available regardless of one's ability to pay.

A mental health system where care is coordinated between the providers of services to publicly insured, privately insured and uninsured consumers. Coordination should exist between primary health providers, mental health providers, pharmaceutical providers and public and private insurers.

A mental health system in which all providers have knowledge of the complete delivery system in the community and are purposeful in understanding the ability to pay of all consumers,.

A mental health system in which referrals between private, no-profit, and for-profit providers are utilized to ensure the best overall patient care and least duplication within the mental health delivery system.

The current mental health crisis care system, as it is well functioning and responsive. This crisis system should be adequately supported.”

Compare this draft to our existing position on health, as well as the National and State positions to see the importance of the work being done by the League of Women Voters-Appleton.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

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# League Calendar

| <u>Date</u>                                  | <u>Event</u>                            | <u>Meeting Place</u>                             |
|--|---|--|
| Thursday, February 7<br>11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. | <b>Mental Health Study Unit Meeting</b> | Harmony Café/Multicultural Center                |
| Tuesday, February 12<br>6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.  | <b>Board Meeting</b>                    | Appleton Public Library, lower level             |
| Tuesday, February 14                         | <b>League Birthday</b>                  | (You're on your own-eat chocolate on the Avenue) |

# February 14th Happy Birthday League

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## 2007-08 Program Calendar

### February 2008

- ★ Thursday, February 7, **Mental Health Study Unit Meeting**, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Harmony Café/Multicultural Center
- ★ Tuesday, Feb. 12, 6:00-7:30 PM, **Board Meeting**, Appleton Public Library, lower level
- ★ Thursday, Feb 14, **League Birthday**, Event TBA

### March 2008

- ★ Thursday, March 6, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., **Mental Health Study Unit Meeting**, Harmony Café/Multicultural Center
- ★ Tuesday, March 11, 6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m., **Board Meeting**, Appleton Public Library, lower level

### April 2008

- ★ Tuesday, April 8, 6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m., **Board Meeting**, Appleton Public Library, lower level.

- ★ **April League Event**, Update and Discussion of State Study, Election Administration (Watch for confirmation of date, time and meeting site)

### May 2008

- ★ Tuesday, May 13, 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m., **Board Meeting**, Appleton Public Library, lower level
- ★ Thursday, **May 15**, 5:00 p.m. **League Annual Meeting**, Red\*

For any additions or corrections please contact:

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# Lively Issues

By Shirley Strange

**F**ive brave League women met at the Multicultural Center on that cold Saturday morning with a below-zero temperature. It was that kind of cold where your nostrils stick together when you inhale. Needless to say we all considered our president, Carolyn, a genius when she made the first suggestion for consideration. Posing it in the form of question she asked, "Must we have the Lively Issues meeting in the middle of January?" A February temperature of twenty degrees would feel positively balmy, we agreed.

At 10:15 a.m. over steamy warm drinks, Beth English began the meeting. She brought a prospective member and took the opportunity to explain how the League works with regard to Program. She explained studies, positions, and action. Beth also shared information about national, state and local levels of League. We were reminded that the state League is in the first year of a 2-year state study, Election Administration. The state League is also working to educate LWV members and the public about healthcare reform. Before recommending a new state study, the state Board asked local leagues to carefully consider the capacity to carry out an additional study. We chose not to recommend a study to the state League. Further, we chose not to recommend a local study.

We are in the process of completing the Mental Health Study and believe that we should put our energies in this area. Winnie made a motion that in place of a study, we take action on the results of the Mental Health Study. Carolyn seconded, and the motion passed. This will be taken to the Board for their consideration. We also discussed the National Immigration Study, and that we might want to participate in activities to help our community become informed on this issue. And looming before us are local and state elections as well as the national election. There are many places to put our energies. We have a busy year ahead of us.

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## Appleton League Receives Grant

Your LWV has applied for and received a grant from Time Warner Cable to produce a 15 second public service announcement (PSA) that will support our efforts to recruit more poll workers. The Poll Worker Project PSA is already being shown on Time Warner Cable Channel 4 as well as on Wisconsin On Demand, Time Warner Cable's free, local video on demand channel. Tune 1111, select the Public Affairs Category, select the All PSAs category and watch the spot any of the day or night. The PSA will also play on most of the 28 television channels that Time Warner Cable offers for local advertising.



The PSA promoting poll workers will continue to be seen through the November election. If you want to see the PSA contact Winnie Doxsie at 739-7593

We appreciate the support Time Warner Cable gives to the Appleton League of Women Voters through programs that present candidate



## **Your Representatives**

**President Bush**  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

**Senator Russell Feingold**  
[feingold@feingold.senate.gov](mailto:feingold@feingold.senate.gov)

**Senator Herbert Kohl**  
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**Representative Steve Kagen**  
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**Governor James Doyle**  
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**State Senate – Michael Ellis**  
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**State Assembly – according to district**  
search <http://waml.legis.state.wi.us/Index.aspx>

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