

October, 2008



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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS—APPLETON, WI

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President's Corner

By Carolyn Mewhorter



Autumn is here. It is beautiful. The election is close. Everyone is busy. And the LWV-Appleton is busiest of all. Please note the activities listed in this issue of the **Bulletin** and plan to participate in those of interest to you, which will, hopefully, be all of them.

Shirley Abrahamson and James Alexander will be in Appleton on October 6 heading a public forum on Judicial Independence.

On Thursday, October 16th, LWV-Appleton will hold a general membership meeting to consider action on the library facility.

Winnie Doxxie, Membership, opens her home to members and friends of League on Tuesday, October 21. An invitation is enclosed.

League members continue to register voters at various sites in Appleton and to respond to calls coming in for speakers prior to the election. Shirley Adams has been involved in putting together and/or working on public debates for district and state candidates coming up for election in November.

It is time to renew our membership in the LWV-Appleton and to promote membership to others who might also be interested in league. Renewal materials are enclosed.

Please call me if you have comments, questions, or concerns regarding our upcoming events, 739-0000. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Carolyn Mewhorter

Election Activities

The League's Special Registration Deputies are registering voters in many locations. Eighty UW-Fox Center and FVTC students have taken advantage of our voter registration service. Other sites include the library, Harmony Café and the Farmer's Market. Several of the Registration Deputies will receive further training by the city clerk and will assist with registration at the polls on Election Day.

A forum is scheduled with candidates for the 57th WI Assembly seat. Peggy Bernard Schabo and Jo Egelhoff will be at the Appleton Public Library on October 30th at 7PM to inform us of their views.

At this writing, efforts continue to schedule a Kagan/Gard debate.

League members to consider action on library facility

Submitted by Nadine Miller, Vice President-Action

All members are strongly encouraged to help decide on the action our Appleton League will take on a proposed new library facility. Please attend a general membership meeting on **Thursday, Oct. 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the library** (watch for signs; we expect to be in one of the children's program rooms on the first floor). Library Director Terry Dawson will recap the consultant's recommendations, provide an update on the proposed project's status and answer questions.

Following Dawson's presentation, members will discuss what action League will take in light of our current position (reprinted below as section VIII). Your opinion is important – please come and participate!

For background information on the library's proposed expansion, go to the library Web site at: http://www.apl.org/facility_study.asp You can read the consultants' full reports or executive summary, Dawson's blog and other pertinent information.

VIII. APPLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY (1975) (D,E,F,G 1992)

- A. Develop programs to meet needs of special groups, for example: elderly, disabled, children, high school students, diverse communities, and new patrons.
- B. Bring staffing and funding up to levels recommended by the American Library Association.
- C. Encourage the Library Board to aggressively communicate its needs to both the Common Council and the public.
- D. Provide adequate materials in children's and young adult's sections.
 - 1. Update material.
 - 2. Explore utilizing Appleton Area School District libraries, particularly during summer months.
- E. Continued growth of Appleton requires a serious look at expanding the library or planning for branch library.
- F. Provide adequate funding for staff development.
- G. Publicize programs, collections, and services so that the public is aware of ways in which to use the library.

Please contact Vice President-Action Nadine Miller 920-733-0012 or nadinemiller@tds.net with any questions.

LIBRARY FACILITY STUDY – July 2008

Executive Summary SECTION 3

The people of the Appleton area demonstrate the importance they place on high quality library services in many ways. First and foremost is the vote they cast with their feet. The steady increase in the number of people who pass through the Appleton Public Library's (APL) doors and the number of items that are checked out each day provide strong evidence of the public support. Public input gained through the surveys, focus groups and interviews that were conducted as a part of this study underscore the value that people associate with their library and offer insight into the deficiencies of the existing library facility and the need for additional space.

Based on the heavy demand for library service and clearly demonstrated community needs, we therefore recommend the following short- and long-term actions. The short-term actions are designed to help APL deal with existing customer, facility and staff efficiency issues within the existing building; however, several of these actions would require major changes to the floor plan layout and may not be cost effective as standalone items. They are essentially "band-aids" that may alleviate some critical situations without truly addressing the core issues related to the inadequacy of the space available in the existing facility. Other recommendations are steps that will serve APL in both the short and long term. In summary, the short-term actions alone will not meet all of the facility and efficiency requirements identified in the study.

Long-term actions focus on major strategic initiatives that should be pursued in creating the APL of the future. They are offered to inform the decision-making process that must take place if APL is to retain its place as one of the Appleton area's most valuable assets. This study concludes that the best option to meet long-term needs is the construction of a totally new structure. A second option that would meet most of the long-term needs is the construction of a major addition coupled with extensive reprogramming of space and renovation to the existing building. Many of the needs identified in the study cannot be addressed effectively within the confines of the existing building footprint even if a modest "fill-in" second floor addition is erected.

Short-Term Actions

- Begin the process of tagging the collection with radio frequency identification (RFID) targets to facilitate the implementation of an automated material handling system (AMHS) and more efficient and effective system of self-service checkout.
- Begin planning for the acquisition and implementation of an automated material handling system that includes a conveyor and sorter to handle returned material.
- In concert with the RFID tagging and the implementation of AMHS, replace the existing self-service checkout units with newer, smaller, more functional units
- (compatible with RFID) to alleviate staff workload and to allow service staff to perform other duties and improve the level of customer service.

(LIBRARY FACILITY STUDY—Continued on page 4)

- Upgrade bandwidth and the technological infrastructure to accommodate heavier computer usage and increased throughput demands created by the media-rich content being accessed by library users.
- Replace existing seating (both table seating and lounge seating) with new, more comfortable seating featuring integrated power and data and the power distribution system to support computer use (both library-owned and customer-owned) by those using the new seats.

Long-Term Actions

- Consider the construction of a new facility approximately 138,000 square feet in size. The study concludes that this is the best option in terms of delivering maximum efficiency and the amenities most desired by the public. This new structure could be located in the central business district or elsewhere in the downtown area.
- Continue to maintain a service model that employs one centralized downtown library to meet the 20 year projected need for space, future expansion, and parking.
- Reject a service model that includes the construction of branch library facilities due to increased operational costs and the need to duplicate core services.
- Employ “green” building technology and strategies to create an energy efficient building and provide a healthy indoor environment. Use the construction of a new Library facility to illustrate the benefits of sustainable design to the community.
- Provide adequate interior public open space and expanded shelving areas to:
 1. Ensure full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act
 2. Accommodate the expansion of collections
 3. Ensure accessible and attractive display of collections
 4. Optimize the effective and efficient use of limited staff resources
 5. Improve the public’s ability to find what they are looking for independently and maximize their enjoyment of this important civic space
- Consider the inclusion of a drive-up window for customer convenience.
- Increase the number and variety of types of technology workstations, e.g. workstations designed for multiple users, workstations featuring a broader array of software to facilitate the redevelopment of content, etc.
- Expand the quantity of public meeting spaces and design these spaces to accommodate extended hours.
- Develop a comprehensive security plan for collections and operation of the building for independent library and meeting room use.
- Provide exterior public open space for social gathering at or near the library.
- Implement all of the short-term actions.

Elections in el Salvador

Dear Friends,

Would you like to do something specific to promote democracy in the world?

If your answer is “yes” consider being an election observer or volunteer in El Salvador in 2009 as a participant in the Election Observer Mission sponsored by the [Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad](#) (CIS).

If you go to El Salvador for this important mission you will be contributing to free and fair elections.

There will be two missions to El Salvador : January 12–20, 2009 for the *Mayoral and Legislative Assembly Elections* and March 9–17, 2009 for the Presidential *Election*.

After years of a civil war in that nation in which the U.S. supported anti-democratic forces and about 75,000 people died, the **Peace Accords** were signed 17 years ago.

Since then changes in El Salvador 's economy have left poor people on the outside looking in and with fewer opportunities to make changes that would help them and their families.

You can help to reverse this process.

In the elections to come, the presence of international observers will play an important role in strengthening and safeguarding the civil and political rights set forward by the Peace Accords.

An international presence will increase voter confidence especially in the countryside where people still are afraid to participate politically, not unlike the situation in the rural south of the U.S. when African-Americans were kept from the ballot boxes.

Contact <http://www.cis-elsalvador.org/> for a description of CIS' varied humanitarian activities, deadlines for applications, application forms, and much more background information.

As one who has traveled to El Salvador I highly recommend their programs which provide a way to learn about the Salvadoran reality and a way to build international solidarity with the people of El Salvador .

In conclusion, please let others know about this opportunity. Feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Yours in the struggle for justice and peace

James A. Lucas

<http://september11coalition.org/>

<http://www.resistersbook.org/>

Judicial Independence

A Public Forum

Sponsored by
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Appleton and Neenah-Menasha

Monday October 6, 7:00PM-8:30PM
Appleton Public Library, 225 N. Oneida Street, Appleton, WI

Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court
Shirley Abrahamson

and James Alexander, Director of the Judicial Commission have been invited by the League of Women Voters of Appleton and the League of Women Voters of Neenah-Menasha to speak on the topic of judicial independence.

Justice Abrahamson states that judicial independence is important to the people to ensure a fair and impartial proceeding. In her presentation, *An Impartial Judiciary*, Justice Abrahamson will point out that cases should not be decided on the basis of personal agenda or ideology or on the basis of outside special interest groups. Mr. James Alexander will speak on the role of the Judicial Commission to investigate and prosecute judicial misconduct cases in order to protect the independence and impartiality of Wisconsin's judicial system.

Further information contact: Shirley Strange 920-730-8774



Your Representatives

President Bush
president@whitehouse.gov

Senator Russell Feingold
feingold@feingold.senate.gov

Senator Herbert Kohl
kohl@kohl.senate.gov

Representative Steve Kagen
www.house.gov

Governor James Doyle
wisgov@mail.state.wi.us

State Senate - Michael Ellis
sen.ellis@legis.state.wi.us

State Assembly - according to district
search <http://waml.legis.state.wi.us/Index.aspx>

October Calendar - 2008

Time	Event	Location
Friday & Saturday, October 3 rd and 4 th	Democracy Summit	Stevens Point
Monday, October 6 7:00-8:30PM	Judicial Independence Forum	Appleton Public Library, lower level
Tuesday, October 14 6:00-7:30PM	Board Meeting	Appleton Public Library, lower level
Thursday, October 16 5:30PM	Library Expansion Study Meeting	Appleton Public Library
Tuesday, October 21 7:00-8:00PM	Membership Meeting	Winnie Doxsie 1708 N. Hall Ave, Appleton



2008-09 Program Calendar

November 2008

- ★ Tuesday, November 4, **Election Day**
- ★ Tuesday, November 11, 6PM-7:30PM, **Board Meeting**,

December 2008

- ★ Saturday, December 6, **Holiday Brunch.**
- ★ Tuesday, December 9, 6PM-7:30PM, **Board Meeting.**

January 2009

- ★ Tuesday, January 13, 6PM-7:30PM, **Board Meeting**
- ★ Saturday, January 24, 10:00AM, **Lively Issues**, Appleton Public Library

February 2009

- ★ Tuesday, February 10, **Board Meeting**, 6PM-7:30PM

March 2009

- ★ Tuesday, March 10, **Board Meeting**, 6PM-7:30PM

April 2009

- ★ Tuesday, April 14, **Board Meeting**, 6PM-7:30PM
- ★ Thursday, April 23, **Annual Dinner and Meeting**, 5:30PM

For further information contact:

shirleystrange@yahoo.com 920-730-8774

It's time to renew your membership!

It's fall already and time to renew your membership. You will belong to an organization dedicated to promoting active participation of citizens in government, a priceless activity. Appleton LWV members have been busy registering voters and doing other election related activities this summer and fall.. Please fill out the *Join the League of Women Voters* flyer attached to this newsletter and return it. I hope you will join as a Sustaining Member and invite a friend. Don't forget about the gathering on October 21st.

If you have questions please call Winnie Doxsie at 739-7593 or e-mail winnie@mapsolutionswi.com

October Outing

And Membership Event

After the summer we all need to reconnect. Come for a casual evening to meet prospective new members and get reacquainted with “veteran” members of the Appleton LWV. It works like this:

Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2008

Place: 1708 N. Hall Ave. – Appleton

Time: 7:00 to 8 p.m. – staying longer to visit is encouraged

Bring: Yourself and a friend who is interested in League.

This is designed to introduce new members to League AND to offer an opportunity for some social interaction among members.

I look forward to seeing you!

Winnie Doxsie

739-7593

Voter Registration Calendar

Thursday, October 2 6:30PM-8:00PM	Harmony Cafe	Carolyn Mewhorter Miriam Douglass
Saturday, October 4 9:00AM-12:00PM	Farmer's Market	Carolyn Mewhorter Vicky Olenski Sara Companik
Thursday, October 9 6:30PM-8:00PM	Harmony Café	Carolyn Mewhorter Ann Patros
Friday, October 10 10:30AM-12:30PM	Paper Valley Hotel	Carolyn Mewhorter Pat Schinabeck Shirley Strange
Friday, October 10 5:00PM-8:00PM	Paper Valley Hotel	Shirley Adams Cindy Carter Shirley Strange
Saturday, October 11 11:30AM-1:30PM	Paper Valley Hotel	Barb Dorzweiler Shirley Strange
Saturday, October 11 9:00AM-12:00PM	Farmer's Market	Shirley Adams Sue Silton
Saturday, October 11 6:00PM-7:00PM	St. Therese Catholic Church	Barb Dorzweiler Ann Patros Pat Schinabeck Vicky Olenski Shirley Strange

Join The League of Women Voters of Appleton

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



Benefits of Membership

- ★ Information and Advocacy activities of the National LWV
- ★ Information and Advocacy activities of the Wisconsin LWV
- ★ Opportunities to participate in studies that are National, State or Community focused.
- ★ Opportunities to join one of many committees working to support the mission of LWV
- ★ Social activities such as the Holiday Brunch and Annual Dinner.

Please fill out the information below and mail it to:

Winnie Doxsie
1708 N. Hall Ave
Appleton, WI 54911

**For more information call 738-7766
or go to www.lwvappleton.org**



I am interested in information about:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observer Corps: Attend 1 or 2 meetings annually of local or regional branches of government or education and report. | <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Service: Voter registration and education services such as candidate debates and community forums. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in a Study: By indicating your interest in studies someone will contact you with information on current opportunities. | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy: Receiving e-mails from LWV about pressing issues at the local, state or national level and acting on the request |

Please make checks payable to **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF APPLETON**

Name _____

Address _____

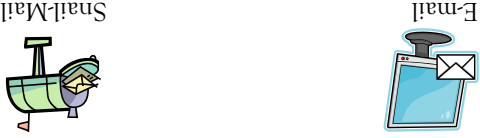
Phone (H) _____

Phone (W) _____

E-mail _____

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 - Sustaining Membership
Covers the full cost of Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$55 - Regular Membership
Covers most, but not all, of the cost of membership. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$70 - Household Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Look At League — \$30
<i>A one time only opportunity to participate in Appleton LWV activities for a full year before joining.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax deductible contribution to LWV Appleton \$ _____ |

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(Your address will not be shared)



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LWV of Appleton

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