

January, 2009

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS—APPLETON, WI

Visit our website at www.lwvappleton.org

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

President's Corner

By Carolyn Mewhorter



Happy New Year.

Carolyn Mewhorter

Mental Health Action

By Barb Dorzweiler

If you would like to advocate for improved mental health services in Outagamie County, please consider letting the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors know that county mental health services should take priority over a new jail. Two letter templates are included in the bulletin that you can use or modify. Feel free to write your own opening paragraph to personalize it. One letter is suggested for League members to send. The second letter is for non-League members to send. Choose either. Address it to one member of the Board or to all members of the Board. This is a voluntary action. Encourage your family members, friends, and neighbors to join in the letter-writing campaign.

In addition, the mailing addresses of the County Executive and the County Supervisors is included for your convenience from the Outagamie County website.

LETTER TO OUTAGAMIE COUNTY COUNTY BOARD FROM LEAGUE MEMBER

Dear Outagamie County Board Member:

I am writing to urge you to look closer at the county budget to find room for centralized mental health services for Outagamie County citizens.

The League of Women Voters-Appleton supports a 5-point platform on our mental health services. I would like to highlight just 2 of those.

1. We support a mental health care system which is community based and includes financial and geographic accessibility for residents of all ages. This system should include same day service availability and immediate care options insuring that no person in need of services would be turned away or made to wait. Appropriate on-going, affordable treatment options for all persons should be available regardless of one's ability to pay.

2. We support a mental health crisis care system that is responsive, well staffed and adequately supported.

In addition, the League of Women Voters-Appleton advocates for better alternatives to incarceration.

All too often, county residents suffering from mental health problems end up in a crisis situation. Jail is not the place for these individuals. Neither is a waiting list nor a neighboring county the place for them. Community based treatment - in addition to mental health crisis beds - is the answer. Centralized mental health services in Outagamie County is long overdue.

In the time you take to consider funding a new jail, I urge you to consider a better alternative for this money.

Please consider supporting centralized mental health services in Outagamie County instead of a new jail. The League of Women Voters will be awaiting your action.

Your thoughtful consideration and focused effort to address this need for centralized mental health services will benefit our neediest citizens and improve the quality of life for all in our county.

Sincerely

League Member

LETTER TO OUTAGAMIE COUNTY COMMON COUNCIL FROM NON-LEAGUE MEMBER

Dear Outagamie County Board Member:

I am writing to urge you to look closer at the county budget to find room for centralized mental health services or a mental health treatment facility in Outagamie County.

All too often, county residents suffering from mental health problems end up in a crisis situation. It seems our too-frequent response is to place these individuals in jail. Jail is not the place for these individuals. Transferring these individuals to another county is a disservice to them and their families. Immediate and community-based treatment in addition to mental health crisis beds is the answer.

Our county mental health system should include same day service availability and immediate care options insuring that no person in need of services would be turned away or made to wait! This speaks loudly to our citizens, our visitors, and our business community that the quality of life in our county is a high priority.

A mental health treatment center or centralized services in Outagamie County is long overdue. In the time you take to consider funding a new jail, I urge you to consider a better alternative for this money.

Please consider supporting funding for centralized mental health services instead of a new jail. I will be awaiting your action.

Your thoughtful consideration and focused effort will benefit our neediest citizens and improve the quality of life for all in our county.

Sincerely,

Joe or Judy Citizen

LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN – MENTAL HEALTH ACTION

Suggested list of County officials to send letter to:

County Executive

Robert “Toby” Paltzer, Jr.
Outagamie County Administration Building
410 South Walnut Street Appleton, WI 54911

MEMBERS OF THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District No., Name, P.O. Address

1. Charles R. Schmidt, 717 N. Richmond St., Appleton 54911; Tel. 733-7069
2. Helen J. Nagler, 932 E. Commercial St., Appleton 54911; Tel. 739-8053
3. James Mahan, 103 S. Joseph Street, Appleton 54915; Tel. 734-6539
4. Wayne Defferding, 43 S. Meadows, Appleton 54911; Tel. 731-6944
5. Kathleen Thunes, 1724 S. Sundown Lane, Appleton 54915; Tel. 734-3489
6. Tanya Rabec, 821 N. Division St., Appleton 54911; Tel. 882-1255
7. John R. Mueller, 1621 E. Lindbergh St., Appleton 54911; Tel. 734-5990
8. Peter Beckley, 624 W. Seymour St., Appleton 54915; Tel. 739-2426
9. Peter Stueck, 822 W. 3rd Street, Appleton 54914; Tel. 734-1888
10. Anne M. Strauch, 1137 W. Lorain St., Appleton 54914; Tel. 475-0268
11. Dianne Herner, 208 E. Glendale Avenue, Appleton 54911; Tel. 731-3632
12. Richard Gosse, 1334 W. Cloverdale Drive, Appleton 54914; Tel. 739-8425
13. Diana L. Janssen, 1001 N. Greengrove Road, Appleton 54911 ; Tel. 739-7508
14. Stephen C. Ware, 4300 N. Windcross Drive, Appleton 54913; Tel. 830-4055
15. Jim Pleuss, 1400 W. Woodstone Dr., Appleton 54914; Tel. 731-8645
16. Patricia Stevens, 3400 W. Florida Ave., Appleton 54914; Tel. 734-3577
17. James Duncan, 2646 W. Spencer Street, Appleton 54914; Tel. 831-9521
18. Donald De Groot, 407 Kadinger Way, Little Chute 54140; Tel. 788-4177
19. Ken Vanden Heuvel, 604 VanBuren Street, Little Chute 54140; Tel. 788-2272
20. Clifford Sanderfoot, 316 S. Helen St., Kimberly 54136; Tel. 734-0718
21. Lee Hammen, 232 S. Washington St., Kimberly 54136; Tel. 788-9024
22. Paul Hirte, 2200 Hendricks Ave., Kaukauna 54130; Tel. 766-1663
23. Dan Schommer, 2414 Riverside Dr., Kaukauna 54130; Tel. 766-3827
24. James McDaniel, 311 W. Third St., Kaukauna 54130; Tel. 766-3345
25. Mark McAndrews, W2419 Falcon Court, Appleton 54915; Tel. 687-8305
26. Jim Steineke, N2352 Vandenbroek Road, Kaukauna 54130; Tel. 427-2477
27. Charles Kramer, W2508 Center Valley Rd., Kaukauna 54130; Tel. 788-2152
28. Norman Austin, N5160 Advent Rd., DePere 54115; Tel. 788-2145
29. Judith Schuette, 137 W. Walnut Street, Seymour 54165; Tel. 833-6433
30. Bob Weyenberg, 410 High Ridge Lane, Black Creek; Tel. 984-1184
31. Nicholas Hofacker, N3618 St. Rd. 47, Appleton 54913; Tel. 733-7245
32. Alan Schmidt, 5461 Serenity Court, Appleton 54914;
Mailing address: 920A South Mayflower Dr., Appleton 54915; Tel. 428-4567
33. Dean Culbertson, N824 Brookview Drive, Hortonville 54944; Tel. 757-5511
34. Marvin Obry, 115 Crystal Spring Dr., Hortonville 54944; Tel. 779-6436
35. Ralph Thern, W10170 Cty Rd. S, New London 54961; Tel. 982-5621
36. Carl Anthony, N5904 State Road 76, P. O. Box 6, Shiocton 54170; Tel. 986-3949

LWV Observer Corps

By Barb Dorzweiler

This is a reminder that we have lots of opportunity to volunteer small amounts of our time. You are not obligated to a fixed schedule. In fact, if you are interested in just one meeting, please attend and report to bjdorz@yahoo.com. Meeting agendas are available online. See links below.

Our observer program is a structured way for individuals to exercise their right to know. It also provides a service to our community through education and information sharing. Please see the tips for observers on the reporting form in this bulletin.

An observer is an individual who attends a governmental meeting, notes what happens at the meeting, and reports back to the League. Reporting can be as easy as an email. The League also has short and quick guides for the new observer. Take a friend or neighbor with you! Contact bjdorz@yahoo.com if you need more information.

You can be an Observer if:

- You are a good listener and can summarize proceedings in a fair way
- You are interested in local government
- You can be an “ambassador” for the LWV
- You are not working a personal or partisan agenda while serving as an observer

Meetings the LWV-Appleton observes:

Appleton Common Council

Call 832-6445 for info or www.appleton.org/departments/clerk/council/

Outagamie County Board

Call 832-5054 for info or www.co.outagamie.wi.us/county_clerk/services/ccmain.htm

Appleton Area School District Board

Call 832-6126 for info or www.aasd.k12.wi.us/Schoolboard/

January meetings

Wed, Jan 7, 2009	App Common Council	7:00 pm	
Mon, Jan 12, 2009	AASD Board	7:00 pm	122 E College Ave, Scullen Leadership Center
Tues, Jan 13, 2009	Outagamie Co Board	6:30 pm	County Building 410 S Walnut St Appleton
Wed, Jan 21, 2009	App Common Council	7:00 pm	
Mon, Jan 26, 2009	AASD Board	7:00 pm	Huntley Elementary School
Tues, Jan 27, 2009	Outagamie Co Board	6:30 pm	County Building 410 S Walnut St Appleton

Appleton League of Women Voters
Observer's Report
2009

Meeting attended: (check one) City Council___ County Board___ School Board___

Date: _____ **Location:** _____

Your name: _____

Major actions taken or issues discussed:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Were there any items on the agenda relevant to LWV-Appleton positions or programs?

- _____

Issues pertinent to the Appleton League of Women Voters: *Alternatives to Incarceration, Natural Resources, Land Use, Fox River Development, Energy, Voter rights, Mental Health Services, Transportation, Education quality & equity, the Appleton Public Library.* (Refer to our League positions)

Other observations to consider (optional):

Were all members present? Attentive? Prepared?
Did presiding officer have meeting under control?
Was there adequate discussion? Public comments encouraged?

Here are a few tips for observers:

- You are encouraged to "sign in" before the meeting and when called, introduce yourself as a LWV observer or "sign in" as representing the League and indicate you will not speak.
- Wear the red, white, & blue button if you have one that says "League of Women Voters, Appleton, WI" so that Council and Board members know our organization is present and active.
- League executive board members speak on behalf of the organization at public meetings as necessary. If you think a League member needs to speak on a topic at a future meeting note it on your form.
- Here are links to Web sites where each body posts agendas, minutes & other reports:
 - City council: <http://www.appleton.org/departments/clerk/index.shtml>
 - County board: http://www.co.outagamie.wi.us/county_board/cbinfo.html
 - School board: <http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/SBA/boardmeet.htm>

Please e-mail this completed form to bjdorz@yahoo.com or send to Barb Dorzweiler, 802 E Harrison St, Appleton WI 54915.

Thank you for attending this meeting on behalf of the League of Women Voters!



Make Your Voice Heard!

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26TH
6:30 – 8:00 PM**

**ST. MARK'S CHURCH
140 South Green Bay Road,**

ADVOCACY

2ND ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TRAINING

Join local Representatives and Senators, along with Forbes McIntosh of Government Policy Solutions, in a lively discussion on why it is important for citizens to get involved in the legislative process as well as how to get involved.

- Learn the basics of the legislative process
- Find out who you need to contact about issues of concern
- Discover methods to get your voice heard to create lasting change

State and federal laws affect and protect us all . Join us for this training.

Event is free and open to the public. Questions? Contact us: esther.foxvalley@gmail.com

Directions: Take Highway 41 to Winneconne Exit into Neenah. Turn left onto S. Green Bay Road. St. Mark's Lutheran Church will be on your right.

Advocacy program sponsored by ESTHER, an interfaith social justice organization in the Fox Valley, Alliance for Retired Americans ensure social and economic justice and full civil rights for all citizens, and Citizen Action of Wisconsin, organizing people to make Wisconsin a better place to live and work.

OBSERVER CORPS



Sunshine Week March 15-21 2009

Source: From: LWVUS President Mary G. Wilson
LEADERS' UPDATE: December 11, 2008

As the LWV Education Fund continues its work on **openness in government**, we will once again co-sponsor a panel discussion on this important topic in Washington, DC, during Sunshine Week. Scheduled for March 20, this year's event will include national policymakers and journalists. It will be web cast live.

also go to
<http://www.sunshineweek.org/>
for more information

Lively Issues

Submitted by Shirley Strange

Saturday, January 24, 10:00AM
Appleton Public Library

What topic will Appleton study this year???

New Members: Please consider attending. This is your opportunity to observe and participate in a local grassroots planning process. Ideas are expressed and discussed. The Appleton League's local study evolves from this process and ultimately, our League Positions. League Positions provide the basis for action taken by our local League. This may be in the form of letter writing, speaking at city council or county board meetings, letters to the editor and the like. The membership, at the annual meeting, votes on recommendations that come from this grassroots meeting that we call *Lively Issues*.

State and National Studies

At the state level, the Election Administration study is in its second year. At the national level, the study on Immigration was completed and a position was adopted.

LWVUS Position on Immigration - Apr 01, 2008

The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the U.S. on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

WisDOT Seeks Public Comment on Connections 2030 Schedules Public Information Meetings

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is seeking public input on its long-range transportation plan, *Connections 2030*. Public meetings have been scheduled in numerous locations throughout the state:

January 7, 2009 - Madison - Alliant Energy Center

January 8, 2009 - La Crosse - UW-La Crosse, Cartright Center

January 21, 2009 - Milwaukee - Milwaukee County Downtown Transit Center

February 3, 2009 - Kenosha - UW-Parkside

February 11, 2009 - Superior - UW-Superior, Rothwell Student Center Ballroom

February 12, 2009 - Eau Claire - Sacred Heart Conference Center

February 18, 2009 - Rhinelander - Rhinelander High school

February 19, 2009 - Wausau - North Central Technical College

February 25, 2009 - Green Bay - St. Norbert College

February 26, 2009 - Oshkosh - Park Plaza Hotel

All meetings will be held from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Residents are invited to attend to learn about the plan, ask questions, and submit comments.

WisDOT also welcomes comments and questions via phone at 608.266.8108 and the *Connections 2030* web site: www.wiconnections2030.gov until the end of the comment period, February 27, 2009.

Connections 2030 is a statewide, multimodal transportation plan that provides a vision for highways, local roads, air, water, rail, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit through the year 2030. Its policies and recommendations direct WisDOT's activities in areas such as preserving transportation infrastructure and services, promoting transportation safety, and supporting economic growth.

The plan will guide transportation decisions over the next 20 years. It focuses on the transportation systems ability to support the preservation of transportation services and infrastructure, safe travel on all modes, mobility for all citizens, security and efficiency in all areas of operation, and economic growth throughout Wisconsin.

January Calendar - 2009

Time	Event	Location
Wednesday, January 7 7PM	Appleton Common Council	Council Chamber, 6 th floor, City Building, 100 N. Appleton Street
Monday, January 12 7PM	Appleton Area School Board Meeting	Administrative Center, 2 nd floor, suite 216, City Center Plaza, 10 College Avenue
Tuesday, January 13 6PM-7:30PM	LWV Board Meeting	Appleton Public Library, lower level
Tuesday, January 13 6:30PM	Outagamie County Board Meeting	Board Room, 2 nd floor County Administration Building, 410 S. Walnut Street
Wednesday, January 21 7PM	Appleton Common Council	Council Chamber, 6 th floor, City Building 100 N. Appleton Street
Saturday, January 24 10:00AM	Lively Issues	Appleton Public Library, lower level
Monday, January 26 7PM	Appleton Area School Board Meeting	Administrative Center, 2 nd floor, suite 216, City Center Plaza, 10 College Avenue
Tuesday, January 27 6:30PM	Outagamie County Board Meeting	Board Room, 2 nd floor County Administration Building, 410 S. Walnut Street



2009 Program Calendar

February 2009

- ★ Tuesday, February 10, **Board Meeting**, 6PM-7:30PM
- ★ Saturday, February 14, League Birthday

March 2009

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

April 2009

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

June 2009

- ★ 13th – 15th LWVUS Council meeting, Washington, DC

2nd and 4th Mondays – Appleton Area School Board Meetings
 2nd and 4th Tuesdays – Outagamie County Board Meetings
 1st and 3rd Wednesdays – Appleton Common Council Meeting

Please see January calendar for City, County and School Board Meetings

Please note date change for the Annual Meeting.

For further information contact:
shirleystrange@yahoo.com 920-730-8774

Election Activities

The League's Special Registration Deputies registered over 200 voters. Many were first time voters who registered at Neenah High School, Fox Valley Technical College and University of WI – Fox. Thank you to League members who participated in this important effort: Shirley Strange, Carolyn Mewhorter, Beth English, Barb Dorzweiler, Pat Schinabeck, Winnie Doxsie, Miriam Douglass, Vicky Olenski, Jody Van Domlen and Shirley Adams.

As a community service, we supported two candidate debates organized by the WI Alliance for Retired Citizens. President Mewhorter moderated an empty chair debate with Penny Bernard Schaber on Sept 22nd at the library and a Kagen/Gard debate on Oct 6th. Although the debates were held in morning hours, the Thompson Center was packed to overflowing for the Kagen/Gard debate.

We were unable at a last minute opportunity to sponsor a Kagen/Gard debate but Lawrence University, AARP-WI and the Post Crescent cooperated to provide the debate. It offered an interesting inter-generational flavor with questions and helpers from students to elderly folks. The Post Crescent made the debate available on their web site.

With the Appleton Library we co-sponsored a debate between Jo Egelhoff and Penny Bernard Schaber, candidates for the 57th WI Assembly, on Oct 30th at the library. 220 were in attendance.

The Nov. 4th election was supported by League poll workers, Nancy Graham, Shirley Adams and voter registration deputies Winnie Doxie and her husband.

Candidates for local offices have a Jan. 2nd deadline for filing. Please consider sponsoring a “meet candidates for alderperson” gathering in your odd numbered city district this year.

Interesting, Enjoyable Read

In her recent presentation in Appleton on Judicial Independence, Chief Justice of the WI Supreme Court, Shirley Abrahamson recommended the book by John Grisham, [The Appeal](#). Although fiction, and now available in paperback, the book provides a realistic look at how the election of justices is being manipulated throughout the country by outside, special interests. See LWV-WI website for positions on public financing of supreme court elections and suggested recusal rules to prohibit justices ruling on cases involving their major campaign contributors. Justices and judges will be elected in the April 7, spring election.

Did you renew your membership yet?

We are coming up on the end of our membership renewal “drive”. Please take a few moments to send in the renewal form included with this Bulletin. This has been a great time to belong to Appleton League – and the Board has plans to keep you interested and informed in 2009. Someone will call and remind you soon, so please save us a phone call and renew now!

Thanks for your support. Winnie Doxsie, Membership Chair

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

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.

**Join us
today!**

Please fill out the information below and mail it to:

Winnie Doxsie
1708 N. Hall Ave
Appleton, WI 54911

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.

For more information call 738-7766 or go to lwwappleton.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 _____

\$75 - Sustaining Membership
Covers the full cost of Membership

\$55 - Regular Membership
Covers most, but not all, of the cost of membership.

\$70 - Household Membership

Send me the Bulletin and other LWV information via e-mail. *(Your address will not be shared)*

Tax deductible contribution to LWV Appleton \$ _____



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>

Welcome 2009