

The *informed* Voter

"Serving the citizens of the Appleton area & Outagamie County"

March, 2010



Strange Remarks from the President

March 2010 Greetings,

Returned from Africa on a dead run with League events and business...your Board has been busy...

Cake: Cake at City Center to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the League of Women Voters was enjoyed by over 100 people. Thanks to all of the League members who came for cake and those who helped serve. A big thank you to Barb Dorzweiler for organizing the event. Donna and Len Weis shared the same piece of cake. One ate the frosting, the other ate the cake. Now who ate that frosting?

Census Forum: Please mark your calendars for March 24, 6:30PM for an important Census forum at the Appleton Public Library. This is our big push to make an impact on our community regarding the 2010 census. We have an illustrious panel. See more on the event in this newsletter. Please try to attend. It only happens once every ten years. This is an opportunity for us to shine as a League.

Financial Contributions: Thank you for the wonderful response to the 90th Anniversary fund raiser. We will honor your generosity with hard work and careful stewardship. Thank you to Jan Quinlan and her committee for the time and effort to make this a successful campaign. There is still plenty of time to make a contribution. We will gratefully accept your donations throughout the month.

Annual Meeting: Thursday, May 13th, Red Ox Supper Club, 5:30PM. Cocktails, dinner and meeting. Nadine Miller and Leslie Taylor will share information on "The Natural Step Framework" a comprehensive model to integrate sustainable development. More information in this newsletter.

Shirley Strange
March 2010

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Vice-President Program NEWS

Submitted by Barb Dorzweiler.

90th Anniversary Celebrations

- The LWV-Appleton will be serving cake to the public on Tuesday, February 16 at 11:00 am in the downtown City Center mall main entrance. Come join us for cake. Wear your League pins, hats, and t-shirts.
(Don't have one? Go to <http://store.lwv.org/>)
- LWV-Appleton will host a parade unit in the Flag Day Parade. It won't happen without you! Contact Barb at bjdorz@yahoo.com or league.appleton@yahoo.com if you can
 - o walk in the parade and carry a sign
 - o ride in a vehicle for the parade
 - o donate a vehicle for the parade
 - o help make signs for the parade
 - o provide treats to throw during the parade (with our website address or LOGO on them)
 - o Provide flags

We're a fun group! Thanks for bringing the Appleton League out into the sunshine.

Our Lively Issues meeting on Sat Jan 23 was a lively success! We had great attendance by many League members and several guests (prospective members?).

Lively Issues, like other work the League does, is a group effort. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to these members who lent a hand: Marlys Fritzell, Winnie Doxsie, Shirley Strange, Beth English, Leslie Taylor, Deb Cronmiller, Nadine Miller, and Marcia Hittle. Thank you so much for your wisdom and for sharing your talents! I couldn't have done this alone.

The Board will determine the final recommended and non-recommended items from Lively Issues at the Feb 9 Board Meeting. The March *"Informed Voter"* will publish the Board's decision for your vote at the LWV-Appleton Annual Dinner.

The LWV-Appleton Annual Dinner will be held at the Red Ox Supper Club in Appleton on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

Cocktails at 5:30

Dinner at 6:00

Business Meeting at 6:45

Natural Resources

Food, Inc

Submitted by Cindy Carter

Lawrence University will be showing "Food, Inc" a new documentary about our food and how it is processed. Filmmaker Robert Kenner provides us with information on how our food supply is controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health. Showing will take place on February 3, 8PM at the Warch Campus Cinema. Free and open to the public.

Encouraging individual action

Submitted by Nadine Miller, Vice President-Action

Member Miriam Douglass brought a bright idea to Lively Issues: How can an individual member get coordinated League action on an issue?

The League's process to take legislative action is: Study, Positions, Action. Because we have too many local, state and federal positions to act on all at once, Miriam has outlined a plan to encourage more involvement by individual members on the timely issues about which you care the most.

The board will review the proposal at its February meeting, so watch for an update in the next issue of the *Informed Voter*. In the meantime, start thinking about issues you'd like to see the Appleton League take legislative action on this year. We'd like to help you make things happen!

Legislative notification service makes it easy to follow state legislation

Action alerts via e-mail have made it easier than ever for the national, state and local League to communicate with members when it's time to take action on pending legislation that fits within our position statements.

However, as your VP-Action, I've found another tool that might be useful to individual members. If you have Internet access (it's always on at the Library), you can use the Wisconsin Legislative Notification System to follow legislation by signing up for daily or weekly e-mails for specific legislative activities.

You can choose items by **Proposal** (bill numbers), **Committee**, **Author** or **Subject** and can select the activities for which you would like to receive notifications.

For example, authors I'm following include:

- State Representative Penny Bernard Schaber
- State Senator Mike Ellis

Proposals I'm following include:

- AB 392 Finance charges for licensed lenders. (Payday lender interest rate cap);
- AB 458 Relating to providing instruction in human growth and development (Comprehensive sex education bill going to the governor's desk.)
- AB 649/SB 450 Clean Energy Jobs act

You then can check what activities trigger a notice to you such as when a bill is introduced, a public hearing scheduled, the bill is scheduled for floor action or signed by the governor. I just left the default selections in place, which are all actions.

Do you want all this information in one weekly e-mail or at the end of the day? I signed up for daily notices, as things can move fast as on AB 458.

Take a look at the site and sign up if there's a bill, legislator or committee you want to follow. You can always modify your selections after you use the service for a while. <http://notify.legis.state.wi.us>

As always, if you have any suggestions for legislative action or how to make our efforts more effective such as Miriam Douglass did, please contact me at 920-733-0012 or nadinemiller@tds.net.

Meet the Candidates

Submitted by Beth English

Monday, February 8 from 5 pm till 6:30 pm come and meet the candidates running for the Outagamie County District 1 Supervisor's seat. A discussion of issues over wine and cheese will take place at **20 Lawrence Ct**, Appleton, the home of Diane Ragus. The candidates for the District 1 seat are:

Charles Schmidt (incumbent)

Michael Potter

Suzan Wollersheim

District 1 includes the Appleton aldermanic wards 1 and 2. It is bordered (irregularly) on the south by the Fox River, on the north by Winnebago and Atlantic St, on the west by Memorial Dr, and on the east by Morrison and Durkee St. Outagamie County District 1 is the only primary race to be covered by the Appleton League of Women Voters for the February 16, 2010 Primary Election. Inform your friends and coworkers who live in the district. We would *love* to have a good turnout for this event.

Voter Service 2010

Hi, I am Beth English, chair of Voter Service for the Appleton League. There was little voting activity in 2009 and the reason we didn't have a committee up and running. That will change in 2010 with the primary race in February. I am looking for members passionate about voter education who can give a little time. The Voter Service committee will meet as needed to draft candidate questions, plan voter guides and plan events. This is a great opportunity for new and current members looking for a way to get involved.

Please contact me if interested. Our 1st event will be the candidates meeting February 8. See details elsewhere in the Informed Voter. Come on out and have a great time.

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Meet the Member

Submitted by Winnie Doxsie

We have had several women join our Appleton LWV over the past year. In the next few months I will be introducing them to you.

Rosie Geiser

Rosie was born and raised in Wisconsin, on a farm outside of Chilton. She spent time in other states for education and work and returned to Wisconsin in the early 90's. Rosie and her partner Dottie Mathews live in Appleton. They have 3 young adult children and recently became proud grandmothers of their first grandchild. Rosie is a nurse and currently teaches nursing at UW Oshkosh. She also has a private practice doing energy healing work and other complimentary healing practices.

Rosie says was attracted to the League by the women she knew who were members. She said, "As I got to know the work of the League, I realized how the issues that the organization takes a stand on resonate with my values and concerns. I'm glad to be part of and support the League."

Leslie Taylor

Leslie chose to move to Appleton 15 years ago after selling a dairy farm. She liked this college town that seemed to have smart caring people. The Unitarian Church was also an attraction.

Leslie works as a grant writer for Clarity Care. She is interested in non-profit development and sustainable community development. Her hobbies include outdoor activities such as hiking and kayaking. Her two daughters attend college on the west coast.

Leslie's mom was in League so she says she became reacquainted with League working with Sue Kindey and liked meeting League women. When Nadine invited her to the Holiday Brunch she was hooked and is happy to be a member.

As membership chair I want you to note that they joined because of you, a member, who asked them to. We are a group of bright, strong, interesting women and men, lets spread the word!

Observer Corps

Submitted by Marlys Fritzell

Appleton City Council:

Allocated \$600,000 of Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to organizations in the community. Received a request from the Appleton Redevelopment Authority to look at a study on the feasibility of building a convention center in the Fox Cities. A presentation on the study is scheduled for the February 3rd meeting of the City Council.

Appleton Area School District:

The School Board held community meetings in January to get feedback from the public on various proposed budget cuts for the 2010-2011 school year. The Board is also looking at the possibility of closing one of the four middle schools in the future, a move administrators say would require much community-wide input and planning.

Town of Grand Chute:

The Town Board is proceeding with the hiring process for a new police chief. Community leaders interested in promoting community pride and identify are planning for a September festival to be called Grand Chute West Fest that they hope to make an annual event.

Outagamie County Board:

The current County Board chair has announced that he will not be seeking reelection to the Board. All county supervisory seats are up for election this spring.

Observer Corps Schedule

Event	Day	Location
Appleton Common Council Meeting	1st and 3rd Wednesday @ 7p.m.	Council chamber, 6th floor, City Building, 100 N. Appleton Street
Outagamie County Board Meeting	2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 6:30p.m.	Board Room, 2nd floor County Admin. Building, 410 S. Walnut
Appleton Area School Board Meeting	2nd and 4th Mondays @ 7p.m.	Board Room, Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Center, 122 E. College Ave. Suite 1A. or at an Appleton School

www.appleton.org/departments/clerk/council/
www.aasd.k12.wi.us/Schoolboard/
www.co.outagamie.wi.us/county/



Your Representatives

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

