

The *informed* Voter



League of Women Voters of Appleton, Wisconsin

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

March 21, 2012

Calendar of Events

March

- Wednesday, March 28, 6:00pm – 8:30pm, Appleton Mayoral candidate and AASD School Board candidate forum. Appleton Public Library.

April

- Tuesday, April 3, 11:30am-1:00PM, **Board Meeting**
- Wednesday, April 4 **Observer Corps** dinner at Cheyenne's at 5:30pm. Appleton Council Meeting at 7pm. Contact Sara Companik 731-0663.
- Tuesday, April 10 **Observer Corps** dinner at Cheyenne's at 5:30pm. Appleton School Board Meeting at 7:00pm. Contact Shirley Strange 730-8774.
- Tuesday, April 10 **Observer Corps** dinner at Cheyenne's at 5:00pm. Outagamie County Board Meeting at 6:30pm. Contact Marlys Fritzell 731-0736.
- Wednesday, April 18, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, **Food for Thought Luncheon**
Karen Harkness and Julie Filapek: "Neighborhoods as the Heart and Soul of community Development and Civic Engagement. (Restaurant to be announced)
- Thursday, April 26, 1:30pm, **General Membership meeting** on LWVUS Privatization Study. Harmony Café, 233 E College Ave, Appleton. 2nd floor conference room. Details in this newsletter.

May

- Thursday, May 10, 5:30 pm -8:30 pm, **Annual Dinner and Meeting**. See reservation form in this newsletter if you have not signed up yet!



March Event

APPLETON MAYORAL and SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM

Wednesday, March 28
Appleton Public Library

AASD SCHOOL BOARD FORUM

6:00pm-7:00pm

John Devantier
Kay Eggert
John Mielke

MAYORAL FORUM

7:15pm-8:30pm

Mayor Timothy Hanna
Alderman Curt Konetzke

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Mayoral Forum Many thanks to Irene Strohbeen for planning and organizing this event which took place February 13 at the Appleton Public Library. The audience of 107 people had an opportunity to hear the three candidates who are running in the Primary Election, Donald Geenen, Mayor Timothy Hanna, and Alderperson Curt Konetzke. Irene moved the candidates through the questions expertly. Questions were offered by the League and from the public. The public was invited to send in questions to our email address or submit them at the forum. There was a plethora of questions covering several topics.

Food For Thought Luncheons March 14 and April 11, 11:30am, Check in with Sara Companik.

Annual Dinner May 10, 5:30pm..Mark your calendars!! Make your reservations!! Annual Meeting Discussion: RTA Position, Local Study Items, Slate of Officers, Budget and more!!!

Women's Equality Day, August...Specific Date To Be Determined-- Forming a committee and you're invited to join it. Check in with Shirley....shirleystrange@yahoo.com/920-730-8774.... Terry Bergan has offered us the venue (History Museum at the Castle) and program (Woman Suffrage in Wisconsin). What's left to do???? Decide on food and beverage, publicity, invitations, etc. and have fun planning it!!

Thanks to everyone who continues to work on committees, attend events, and offer financial and moral support. Together we make a difference in our community.

Food For Thought Luncheon by Shirley Strange

We had a wonderful turn-out---40 women gathered at Jonathon's restaurant for lunch and a wonderful program. Amy Oberg spoke on "The Future of Women". Many thanks to Sara Companik who made the arrangements for our first "Food for Thought Luncheon". We found that many women are interested in learning and enjoying the company of other women. The next luncheon is scheduled for April 11. We will determine the site when Sara returns from Spain. That is the reason I am writing this report. Hope you will be able attend the next one, Karen Harkness and Julie Filapek will speak on "Neighborhoods as the Heart and Soul of Community Development and Civic Engagement".

Voter Service *by Irene Strohbeen*

Many people are not aware that the Voter ID law also made significant changes in how voters register to vote. The LWV committee of Voter Registration volunteers has spent much of this year becoming familiar with what information voters need, and how we can help. We are helping voters to complete their Mail-In registration forms since becoming a Registration Deputy has become more complicated*. Here is a summary of current requirements for registration:

- Early/Mail-In Registration is strongly recommended, because Proof of Residence is not required for address or name changes, only for New Voters. The Early Registration period is from the day after an election until 20 days prior to the following election, thus the next period will be from April 4 through April 18 (assuming the next election is the Recall primary on May 8).
- For New Voters or people registering after the Early Registration cut-off, there is a long list of documents that can serve as proof of residence such as Driver's License, bank statement, paycheck stub, utility bill, etc. These are listed on the Instructions for the Voter Registration form (under Forms, GAB-131 on GAB website: www.gab.wi.gov).
- All Voter Registration forms must be sent to the municipal clerk where the voter lives. To verify the municipality, the Voter Public Access website is a great resource, accessible via the GAB website or at <https://vpa.wi.gov/>.

*Registration Deputies must be deputized by the clerk within each municipality, thus within the Fox Valley, a Deputy would need to be deputized by multiple cities, villages and townships.

During the March Early Registration period leading up to the April 3 election, our LWV volunteers were at local high schools and colleges to help voters to register. We assisted over 160 voters with their Registration forms, plus helped several others determine their polling places using Voter Public Access. It was a rewarding and gratifying (and busy) 2 weeks of Voter Registration Assistance.

AASD School Board and Mayoral Candidates Forums

Mark your calendars for Wednesday March 28—6:00-8:30 at the Appleton Public Library! Your LWV will be hosting a “double header” event for the upcoming Spring election on April 3:

- The evening will start off with the “opener” of the School Board Candidates Forum from 6:00-7:00: John Devantier, Kay Eggert and John Mielke will answer questions from the LWV moderator, some of which will be posed from the audience.
- Then the Mayoral candidates will take the stage for a second Candidates Forum from 7:15-8:30: Mayor Tim Hanna and Alderperson Curt Konetzke will answer questions prepared by a panel consisting of Dan Flannery of the Post-Crescent, Mike Kemmeter from WHBY, and Irene Strohbeen from LWV, moderated by our president Shirley Strange.

Please send your questions for the School Board candidates to our LWV mailbox:
league.appleton@yahoo.com.

Observer Corps – County Government

The Appleton League of Women Voters has several positions regarding Outagamie County government and we, with some regularity, observe the Board meetings. It has come to my attention, however, that many of our newer members may not be familiar with county government, both its make-up and its functions. To increase our understanding of counties, I have summarized the following information from the UW Extension Local Government Center Fact Sheet. I hope this information will be helpful for all of us in understanding the vital services provided by our local counties

County government is the oldest form of local government in Wisconsin. The first three counties were formed in 1818, before statehood. After statehood was granted in 1848, Wisconsin's new constitution called for the establishment of counties throughout the state. Wisconsin now has seventy-two counties. Counties contain towns (unincorporated areas), and villages and cities (incorporated municipalities).

The governing body of the county is the county board of supervisors. Supervisors are elected from geographic districts, not at large. Supervisory elections are conducted in the spring general elections in April of even-numbered years. Supervisors serve two-year terms. Outagamie County currently has 36 supervisors. The board meets after each election to select a board chairperson. League member, Helen Nagler, presently holds that position. State law requires that county committees be established for major social service programs such as Social Services, Developmental Disabilities, and Sec. 51.42 (Mental Health) programs, and that a separate Highway Commission be created. Additional committees may include those dealing with finance, personnel, public safety, and planning and zoning.

Prior to 1960, Wisconsin county boards functioned as both the legislative branch and the executive branch. Milwaukee county was then permitted to create the position of county executive and in 1969 that authority to create an executive position was extended to all counties. County executives are elected in the general non-partisan election on the first Tuesday in April and serve four year terms. Other elected county officials are the clerk, treasurer, sheriff, clerk of circuit courts, register of deeds, and district attorney.

Counties may only undertake functions that are expressly granted them by state statutes so counties are often referred to as an "arm of the state". Major responsibilities required of the county include the provision of most social service programs (child welfare, juvenile justice, senior citizen services, public health, mental health, jail, developmental disabilities, etc.) and for local and state road maintenance. Many of these functions are addressed in our local League position statements. Observing county board and committee meetings is an important way to learn about county government I would encourage all of our members to attend a meeting and see government in action.

LWV Observer Corps: Dinner and an opportunity to see local government in action.

Enjoy the company of fellow members of the Appleton League of Women Voters and attend one of the following:

Appleton Common Council meeting 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00pm;

Appleton School Board meeting, 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:00 pm;

Outagamie County Board meeting, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6:30 pm.



Invitation to Members

Privatization Study

The national League of Women Voters is conducting a study of Privatization, whose scope is to identify those parameters and policy issues to be considered in connection with proposals to transfer federal, state, or local government services, assets and/or functions to the private sector. The consensus deadline is May 1, 2012.

Our Appleton League members will participate in reading the materials from the national study for discussion and consensus. You are invited to join this discussion group.

The Winnebago League of Women Voters has a talk planned by Dr. Jack Norman "Privatization Study and Consensus", Wednesday, April 11 @ 12 noon, Vitale's Italian Restaurant, 215 W. Murdock Ave., Oshkosh.

This is a link to the national study. <http://www.lwv.org/content/about-privatization-study>

Appleton League of Women Voters Discussion - Privatization Study Group

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Harmony Café, 233 E. College Ave.

Second Floor Conference Room at 1:30 pm

Appleton League of Women Voters Program 2012-2013

2012 RECOMMENDED PROGRAM

UPDATING THE APPLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY POSITION

This is a study to look at current library positions and recent Appleton Public Library research, in order to determine possible support position updates.

Local Support Position on the Appleton Public Library

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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

- A. Develop programs t meet needs of special groups, for example: elderly, disabled, 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.
- D. Continued growth of Appleton requires a serious look at expanding the library or planning for a 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.

2012-2014 Nomination Slate

Vice President: Irene Strohbeen
Treasurer: Barb Kelly
Director 2 yr: Stephanie Malaney
Director 2 yr: Stevie Schmidt
Director 2 yr: Penny Robinson
Director 1 yr: Lee Snodgrass
(remainder of Irene's term)

Nomination Chair: Jan Quinlan

Nomination Committee: Nadine Miller

Nomination Committee: Sue Eich

Continuing Board Members (year 2 of 2)

Shirley Strange, President
Sara Companik, Program Vicepresident
Miriam Douglass, Secretary
Barb Dorzweiler, Director
Carolyn Mewhorter
Irene Strohbeen

Respectfully submitted

Beth English, Marcia Hittle, Barb Kelly, Jan Quinlan and Carolyn Mewhorter

Appleton League of Women Voters Proposed Budget 2012-2013

INCOME	Budget for	Actual as of	Draft of 2012- 13
	2011-12	3/11/2012	Budget
A. Dues	2,510.00	2,600.00	2,515.00
B. Contributions			
1. Member Contributions	1,500.00	961.46	1,500.00
2. Non-member Contributions	500.00	200.00	750.00
3. State & National Ed Fund	250.00	25.00	
C. Event Income			
1. Holiday Brunch	550.00	447.00	550.00
2. Annual Meeting	550.00		550.00
3. Women's Equality Day		575.00	500.00
D. Other Income			
1. Interest	50.00	85.07	50.00
2. Transfer from Savings	4,226.00		2,356.00
3. Merchandise Sold		45.00	-
TOTAL INCOME	10,136.00	4,938.53	8,771.00
EXPENSES	Budget for	Actual as of	Draft of 2012- 13
	2011-12	3/11/2012	Budget
A. Operating Costs			
1. General Supplies	250.00	139.30	250.00
2. Telephone Answering Svc	300.00	201.89	300.00
3. Post Office Box	96.00	96.00	96.00
4. Insurance	250.00	250.00	250.00
5. Scholarship	180.00	30.00	180.00
6. PayPal Fees		12.03	100.00
7. Corporate Filing Fee	10.00	10.00	10.00
B. Board and Committees			
1. Fund Raising	100.00	354.75	100.00
2. Membership	100.00	61.00	100.00
3. President	250.00	45.00	250.00

C. Delegates, Travel & Workshop			
1. State Annual Meeting	1,000.00		1,000.00
3. National Convention	2,000.00		-
4. Workshops	500.00		500.00
D. Financial Support for League			
1. Lake Michigan Interleague	25.00	-	25.00
2. State PMA	1,200.00	1,230.00	1,230.00
3. National PMP	1,200.00	1,230.00	1,230.00
E. Communication			
1. Newsletter	100.00	19.75	100.00
2. Website	250.00		250.00
F. Educational Activity			
1. Program			
a. National	50.00		50.00
b. State	50.00		50.00
c. Local	75.00	91.82	75.00
2. Voter's Service	750.00		750.00
3. Observer corps			75.00
4. Archive	200.00	162.75	50.00
G. Position Advocacy	100.00		100.00
H. Event Expenses			
1. Holiday Brunch	550.00	409.95	550.00
2. Annual Meeting	550.00		550.00
3. Women's Equality day		560.67	500.00
4. Food for Thought Luncheons			50.00
I. Merchandise Bought		380.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	10,136.00	5,284.91	8,771.00

LWV Appleton Annual Meeting and Dinner

Thursday, May 10, 2012

**Liberty Hall Banquet and Conference Center
800 Eisenhower Drive
Kimberly, WI 54136**

**5:30 PM Social with cash bar
6:00 PM Dinner
6:45 PM Annual Meeting**

Family Style Dinner

Please complete and return form below with check by Wednesday, May 4, 2011 to

Sara Companik
889 Kernan Ave., Menasha, WI 54952
Questions- 920-731-0663 or scompanik@yahoo.com

Please make check for \$15.00 (per person) payable to LWV-Appleton.

LWV APPLETON Annual Meeting and Dinner Thursday, May 10, 2012 RESERVATION FORM

Your Name: _____

Guest(s) Name(s): _____

Total Attending: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Your Representatives

President Barack Obama

president@whitehouse.gov

US Senators

Wisconsin Senator: Herb Kohl

Wisconsin Senator: Ron Johnson

US House Representatives

6th Congressional District, Thomas Petri of Outagamie County

8th Congressional District, Reid Ribble of Outagamie County.

Governor: Scott Walker

Lt. Governor: Rebecca Kleefisch

Attorney General: J.B. Van Hollen

Secretary of State: Doug La Follette

Wisconsin State Senators:

Senate District 19 – Michael Ellis

Wisconsin State Assembly

57th - Penny Bernard Schaber

56th - Michelle Litjens

40th - Kevin Petersen

6th - Gary Tauchen

5th - Jim Steineke

3rd - Alvin Ott

State Assembly – according to district

search <http://waml.legis.state.wi.us/Index.aspx>

Board of Directors

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