

The *informed* Voter



League of Women Voters of Appleton, Wisconsin

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

September 20, 2012

Calendar of Events

September

- Sept 25, National Voter Registration Day. View movie "Iron Jawed Angels" at Appleton Public Library, 6:00 pm. Voter registration assistance after the movie.

October

- Oct 4, Board Meeting, 9:00 am to 11:00 am.
- Oct 30, 56th Assembly District Candidate Forum at the Bordini Center, 7:00 pm.

November

- Nov 1, Board Meeting, 9:00 to 11:00 am.
- Nov 6, election day.

December

- Dec 6, Board Meeting, 9:00 to 11:00 am.
- Dec 8, LWV Appleton *Holiday Brunch*



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September Event

LWV-Appleton and Appleton
Public Library present:

Movie: "Iron Jawed Angels"
Tues Sept 25, 6pm

Voter registration assistance will be
available after the movie.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Women's Equality Day—A wonderful day at the History Museum with League members and women from the community. Many thanks to the committee: Sue Sifton, Sara Companik, Irene Strohbeen, Renee Gralewicz, Lois Bressette, Stephanie Malaney, Kim Wetzel, and Carolyn Mewhorter. More on the celebration in this newsletter. Thanks to Lois Bressette and her husband, Jeff, for donating the cheese and crackers. And thanks to Larry and Sue Sifton for donating the bottled water as well as food items. Thanks to other committee members who donated food and wine.

FUND RAISING -You have received your letter from the Fund Raising Committee. We have had some nice response. Thank you for your generous donations. *Please consider contributing* if you have not returned your envelope. We, the Appleton League must raise part of our funds to carry on our work. We begin with our membership because it is the membership response that proves to the rest of the community how we value this organization and its work. As the Fund Raising Committee now turns to the community to solicit donations, we have proof that our membership is our foundation. Our membership steps up to support the League! Thank you!!

If you have not contributed, please consider making a donation.

LWV APPLETON 75th ANNIVERSARY-Yes!! May 15, 1939 is the official marking of the first meeting of the Appleton League of Women Voters!!! Therefore, May 15, 2014 designates 75 years!!! It will take a year of preparation to make this celebration worthy of our 75 years!!! Be thinking about saying "Yes, I'd like to be on the planning committee". Let's think about getting the committee in place by March 2013. That is only five months away!! See how time flies...

PROGRAM AND VOTER SERVICE- We have a big year ahead. Many thanks to Sara Companik and Irene Strohbeen for the time and effort in organizing the coming events. Please respond to their call when they ask for help. We need each other to carry on our good work, and as Mom always said, "many hands make light work."

OBSERVER CORPS- Please think about attending some city council, school board, or county meetings this year. If you want to go with a league member, call me 730-8774 or Sara Companik. Or email. Schedule for these meetings is found in this newsletter.

Shirley Strange
September 2012



Voter Service *by Irene Strohbeen*

VOTER SERVICE – A BUSY TIME!

The news media keeps reminding us of how many weeks we have until the November elections—less than 8 weeks as of this writing! We therefore have only that many weeks to help our voters with education on the voting process, voter registration, and candidate information.

Luckily we have an active group of volunteers willing to help voters with their registration forms: we have 8 Voter Registration Assistance sessions scheduled so far at the local high schools and colleges, involving 9 volunteers putting in significant amounts of their time. We will also be helping voters at the Community Health Center, an effective way to reach low-income eligible voters.

A new initiative this year is being led by Jacqui Klimaszewski: we are working to assemble Spanish and Hmong language videos to de-mystify the voting process, from voter registration to what to expect at the polls to depositing the ballot in the box. This should go a long way to helping first-time non-English speaking voters to feel comfortable with the entire process.

Finally, Candidate Forums are being scheduled in October—check our website for dates, locations and times. With redistricting, the Fox Valley area is represented by Districts 3, 5, 55, 56, and 57. Your LWV-Appleton will host Candidate Forums for Districts 3, 5, and 56; District 55 will be handled in Neenah-Menasha, and District 57 is Penny Bernard-Schaber who is unopposed.

Thanks to all our volunteers who make Voter Service work for our voters!

Voter Registration Assistance Dates:

Sept 25	11 am – 1 pm at FVTC spectators lounge. Co-sponsored by AAUW.
Sept 25	11 am – 1 pm at UWFV union cafeteria
Sept 26	11 am – 1 pm at FVTC. Co-sponsored by AAUW.
Oct 2	10:30 am – 1:30 pm at Appleton West High School

Contact Irene Strohbeen with for further information.

Fox Valley Women's Health Issues

The Appleton League along with the co-sponsorship of the Appleton Library had a presentation on September 12 about Women's Health Issues in the Fox Valley.

Susan Garcia Franz, Director of the Wisconsin Well Woman Program in Winnebago County, shared her public health expertise. Susan's program works daily to help women find affordable health care for themselves and their family and to navigate through the system. She gave the audience many reasons why Wisconsin women will gain with the new health care law. The law is already making health care more affordable by requiring insurance companies to cover women's preventive health services without additional charges, like co-pays and deductibles. As of this summer 413,000 women have already been receiving these preventive services without financial barriers: mammograms; sexual health screenings; anemia & hepatitis B screening for pregnant women; blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol testing; counseling about quitting smoking, losing weight, choosing healthy foods, treating depression, reducing alcohol use. Susan emphasized the need to make the health care and insurance systems less complicated for everyone.

Websites of interest: www.raisingwiwomensvoices.org
www.supportwomenshealth.com



*Women's Health Issues
Discussion, September 12,
Appleton Public Library*



*Susan Garcia Franz presenting information on
Women's Health Issues*

Women's Equality Day

The third annual Women's Equality Day celebration took place at the History Museum. Women's Equality Day is a day when we can come together to celebrate an important anniversary...passage of the 19th amendment. It gives us the opportunity to recognize women in elected office and to talk about League with other women in the community. And of course it is a time to get together with old friends and make new friends. We had 75 reservations, the maximum capacity for the room. Nineteen league members were registered to attend though nine of these made up the committee. We have 55 members at this count so a little over 30% attended. This means we were able to present ourselves to about fifty five women in the community. We look forward to continuing this event due to its success and the opportunity for us as the League of Women Voters to get out our message. Due to a death in the family, our speaker was unable to present the planned program. Terry Bergan, Director of the History Museum, filled in and did a wonderful presentation on the history of Appleton.

Submitted by Shirley Strange



Women's Equality Day Committee

Shirley Strange, Lois Bressette, Sue Silton, Renee Gralewicz, Carolyn Mewhorter, Sara Companik, Kim Witzel, Irene Strohbeen (not pictured)

Women's Equality Day Celebration

Hors d'oeuvres Table

*Renee Gralewicz, Carolyn Mewhorter,
Lois Bressette*



*Miriam Douglass and Marge Koepke at
Women's Equality Day Celebration.*

OBSERVER CORPS MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER

AASD meets at 7 p.m. every other Monday

October 8 and October 22

City Council meets at 7 p.m. every other Wednesday

October 3 and October 17

Outagamie County Board meets at 6:30 p.m. every other Tuesday

October 9 and October 23

Refer to the individual websites for further information.

AASD: www.aasd.k12.us/Schoolboard/

Appleton City Council: www.appleton.org

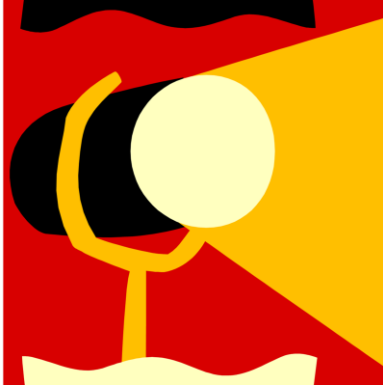
Outagamie County Board: www.outagamie.org

Local Study for 2012 - 13 by Miriam Douglass

Updating the LWV Position on the Appleton Public Library

Much has changed in the world of libraries since 1975 and 1992 when our League studied and developed positions in support of the Appleton Public Library. The local program for this year is to update our library positions based on a study of current technology and needs so that we can take informed action when an expanded library is again proposed and/or a library referendum occurs.

If you are interested in being on this study committee contact Miriam Douglass, Chair, by telephone 757-7776 or email mdouglass@new.rr.com.



Spotlight on My League Story...

Joining The League
By Shirley Strange

I knew I wanted to join the League of Women Voters when I retired from teaching. We lived in Green Bay and upon retiring, Dave and I decided to move south...you know where it's warm and sunny and people live a leisurely life...we ended up going as far south as Appleton and on the *north* side! Actually it was by choice, and what a lucky decision it was for me. The first thing I did was to sign up for an exercise class, and it was here that I started making inquiries about the league. Well who should be in that class but Marlys Fritzell, Marcia Hittle, Sue Silton and Sue Kinde, all long-time league women! (I was looking at the face of the League!) It was in the cards! I became a member and soon was asked to join the board. It was all so new, so foreign, but being a teacher, I knew not to be anxious as a neophyte. Learning is a process. As league became more familiar, leisure became more foreign. Again, by choice! So many interesting, substantive, meaningful issues and activities. Stimulating! I look forward to the studies where colleagues research and gather information in an unbiased manner in order to help educate the public, make informed decisions, and advocate on issues.

League is about speaking out and defending what we believe. What I value highly is being a woman who, because of the League, is recognized for being well-informed, strong and courageous. This is every league woman I know! And the league process -- unmatched anywhere. *Consensus building is the hallmark.* The women in the league of women voters work collaboratively toward a solution. That does not mean wishy-washy, mamby-pamby, we always agree...on the contrary. Because we're informed and seek solutions from all angles, we have very spirited discussions. The underpinning here is mutual respect, recognizing the value of another's opinion, and recognizing the importance of what others bring to the discussion. I am very proud to be a member of the League of Women Voters, especially, Appleton LWV!! It has been one of the best decisions of my life!

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>

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