

# The *informed* Voter



League of Women Voters of Appleton, Wisconsin

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

**December 20, 2012**

## Calendar of Events

### January

- NO JANUARY NEWSLETTER!
- Jan 3, Budget Meeting
- Jan 19, Lively Issues, 10:30 am
- Jan 31, Board Fundraising Workshop, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. All Board Members to attend

### February

- Feb 5, Lunch and Learn
- Feb 7, LWV Board Meeting, 9:00 to 11:00 am.
- Library Study update meeting for all LWV members. Date TBD.

### March

- March 5, Lunch and Learn
- March 7, LWV Board Meeting, 9:00 to 11:00 am.



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## January Event

**LWV-Appleton**

**Lively Issues!**  
**Saturday, Jan 19**

**10:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Appleton Public Library**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Happy Holidays!!*

**Lively Issues:** Mark your calendars for January 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am, library. We will discuss the local current concerns and issues.

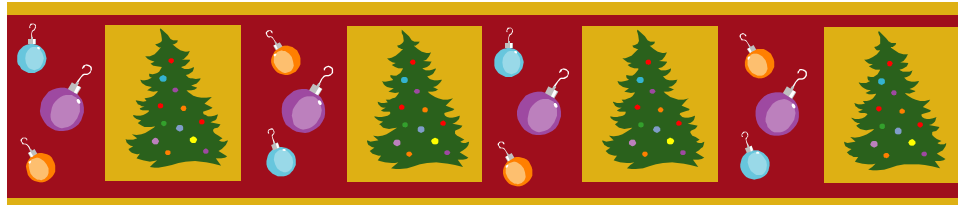
**Local Study:** Study to update our library position is underway. Miriam's study group will be keeping you abreast of information and possible field trips to libraries.

**Nominating Committee:** The nominating committee will be meeting in January to fill Board positions. If you are interested in serving or have a nomination to offer (please check with person before you offer her name) contact Jan Quinlan, chair of the nominating committee. [jldquinlan@gmail.com](mailto:jldquinlan@gmail.com)

**Membership Renewal:** Please take a moment and renew your membership. We are the League and it doesn't work without all of us. Must have final numbers toward end of January. Thanks!

**Anniversary Celebration Committee:** Would like to meet in March, 2013 to begin planning for celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the LWV Appleton in 2014. Please call me if you can offer some time. We need to brainstorm ideas. I promise it will be great fun and most assuredly a walk down memory lane. You can participate as much as you are able. I know many of you are very busy with work and family. We'll work around schedules.

Shirley Strange  
December 2012



## IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

It is time to pay your membership dues. The League needs members to pay dues by [December 31](#) so we sufficient funds for our dues assesment in January. We currently have 57 members of which 33 have already paid their dues. The remaining 24 members have received an email and a mailing to remind them to get their dues paid with follow up calls. Karla Blumreich is our newest member.

[smalaney5@aol.com](mailto:smalaney5@aol.com)  
Stephanie Malaney  
Membership Director

## VOTER SERVICE CONTINUES

One more voter service project quietly took shape over the past several months, under the capable leadership of Jacqui Klimaszewski: Jacqui worked with talented video professional Dan Lynch and numerous volunteers to create a video to educate new voters on how to register to vote. The English version of this video has been completed, and Hmong- and Spanish-language versions are in progress. In addition, a companion video is being produced depicting what voters can expect at the polling places, targeted to helping new voters feel comfortable and confident the first time they go to vote.

The sheer amount of work in assembling the information, script, props, actors, voice-overs, and translations was enormous but these videos will provide excellent voter service in the years to come. The videos will be posted on YouTube to maximize their reach—to be announced here once we figure out how to do so.

## CORRECTION

In the November issue of *The Informed Voter*, Jacqui Klimaszewski was mistakenly left off of the list of volunteers who helped with Voter Registration Assistance sessions. In fact, Jacqui was instrumental in allowing us to hold 17 VRAs, since she helped at 11 of these. Thanks Jacqui!

Irene Strohbeen  
Voter Services Director



## Holiday Brunch December 2012



The tradition continues. Appleton League members and guests gathered for the 2012 Holiday Brunch on December 8 at the Radisson Hotel. Our newest member, Faye Howell was able to join us. (see next page)

League Members and Friends of Mary Cronmiller had an opportunity to honor Mary Cronmiller for her 50 years of membership and service with the Appleton League. Deb Cronmiller, Mary's daughter-in-law shared words of thanks and respect. Mary is the person who connected Deb with the League. Deb Cronmiller is a State of Wisconsin League of Women Voters Board Member. Mary responded that Deb was her greatest gift to the League. Thank you, Mary, for your steady engagement in the Appleton League. ( Please see more photos of the Holiday Brunch in the separate attachment to this newsletter!)

Miriam Douglas informed us on the ongoing 2 year local study to review and update our library positions about the Appleton Public Library. Irene Strohbeen shared the Voter Service happenings this year with candidate forums and voter registration assistance. ALWV assisted over 300 people with voter registration.



A Huge Thank you to Kristine Stacker for her informative and passionate presentation about the Fox Cities Community Health Center. FCCHC has been a well kept secret to many members of the community because unless you need its services, you may not know of its existence.

The FCCHC was founded in 1997, as a free clinic, but has grown into a full service medical provider for patients living in Outagamie, Winnebago, and Calumet counties. The health clinic is located in Menasha within the Goodwill Community Center campus which houses over 20 not-for-profit organizations and the Goodwill store. Fox Cities Community Health Center opened a dental clinic in 2009 for the tri-county area, which is located near the airport. The Appleton League served both locations with voter registration assistance during the fall. Kristine asked that League members spread the word and need of the FCCHC in the community.

Happy Holidays to All.  
Sara Companik  
Program VP



## LWVWI Legislative Committee looking at redistricting

**At the LWVWI Legislative Committee meeting on November 28, Margi Kindig and Clare McArdle gave a presentation on redistricting.** They reviewed the following:

- the LWVWI's 25-year-old redistricting position
- recent LWVUS activities on redistricting, including a report called Shining a Light: Redistricting Lessons Learned in 2011 (<http://www.lwv.org/content/shining-light-redistricting-lessons-learned-2011>), which resulted from a July 2009 conference with other organizations at the Pocantico Conference Center in Tarrytown, NY (more information here: <http://www.campaignlegalcenter.org/attachments/2062.pdf>).
- LWVUS recommendations for action on redistricting:
  - Collaborate with other organizations;
  - Conduct polling and focus groups;
  - Engage in activities that build organizational capacity at the state and local levels;
  - Act now, while the results of the last redistricting are fresh in people's minds.
- Recent proposals in the Wisconsin Legislature to reform redistricting: 2011 SJR 68 and AJR 78, which would have amended the constitution to create an independent commission

Committee members discussed possible action in support of an independent commission. Carolyn Castore said Citizen Action will push for a constitutional amendment. Kindig and McArdle will seek a meeting with Common Cause and Wisconsin Democracy Campaign to explore possible collaboration.

The committee discussed possible edits to update the current LWVWI position.

**Motion (SueLloyd/Caryl Terrell): Propose an amended version of the LWVWI redistricting position to the state board. Passed unanimously.** McArdle, Kindig and O'Meara will draft a revised version for committee approval, and this will be submitted to the state board. Ultimately it is intended that the updated version will go to the state Annual Meeting for concurrence.

### **Portfolio Reports included the following:**

**Lake Michigan:** Art and Marge Palleon called for an updating of the natural resource positions regarding wastewater standards, water usage, water-related infrastructure, Great Lakes Compact compliance and monitoring NR programs.

**Lending/Consumer Protection:** Dorothy Dean reported that Payday loans are morphing into a different kind of loan, called installment loans, with 287% interest, and all of that revenue goes out of state.

**Healthcare/Aging:** Patricia Finder-Stone reported that changes to Badger Care pose unanswered questions. She believes much more emphasis must be placed on clean air and related health implications.

**Voting/elections:** Kit O'Meara expects another voter ID bill and a challenge to Election Day Registration.

**Regional Transportation:** Penny Robinson reported that WISDOM was having a statewide meeting Nov. 29 to focus on two goals: restore the ten percent funding that was cut from public transit in the last budget and RTA enabling legislation. This will be a statewide effort through WISDOM's affiliates and allies.

*Penny Robinson  
Legislative Director*

We offer a relevant League article on Congressional budget discussions for your reading pleasure:

<http://www.lwv.org/content/league-sends-letter-us-congress-fiscal-cliff-taxes-and-budget>

## Program by Sara Companik

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### January

#### **Lively Issues**

Saturday, January 19 @ 10:30 AM

Appleton Public Library

Discussion of Local, State, and National Positions,  
Library Study progress, and New Study Proposals

### February

#### **Lunch and Learn**

Tuesday, February 5 @ 11:30-1:30 PM

Radisson Hotel, Lawrence Room

Speaker: Jane Anne Morris

Corporate Anthropologist

Author of *Gaveling Down the Rabble: How "Free Trade" is Stealing Our Democracy* Website: [democracythemepark.org](http://democracythemepark.org)

A Program Note from Sara:

The movie Patriocracy will be shown on Thursday, February 28, 2013, 5 p.m., at the Menasha Public Library. Coffee, water and cookies will be available. Patriocracy explores the extreme polarization in America that cripples the country from tackling its most serious problems.

More money than ever was spent on the 2012 election season and Patriocracy sits in the dead center of this monumental tug-of-war, educating viewers so they do not fall victim to manipulation whenever they cast ballots.

### March

#### **Lunch and Learn**

Tuesday, March 5 @ 11:30-1:30 PM

Radisson Hotel, Lawrence Room

Speakers: Cindy Sahotsky and Oren Jakobson

Riverview Gardens Appleton

Executive Director and Manager

### April

#### **Lunch and Learn**

Tuesday, April 2 @ 11:30-1:30 PM

Radisson Hotel, Lawrence Room

Speaker: Becky Boulanger

Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, Executive Director

AASD Board meets at 7 p.m. every other Monday

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

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

Refer to the individual websites for further information.

AASD: [www.aasd.k12.us/Schoolboard/](http://www.aasd.k12.us/Schoolboard/)

Appleton City Council: [www.appleton.org](http://www.appleton.org)

Outagamie County Board: [www.outagamie.org](http://www.outagamie.org)

The Appleton League of Women Voters can use the help of its members to observe at the Appleton City Council meeting, the Outagamie County Board meeting or the Appleton Area School meeting sometime during the League calendar year. League visibility all year long keeps the Appleton League vital to the community as a watchdog group, an outreach group, and a citizen action group. The following League members have signed up to observe at these government meetings. Would you consider joining in? [Contact Sara Companik.](#)

Month	City Council	Appleton Area School Board	Outagamie County Board
	<i>Meeting location: Council Chamber, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Building, 100 N. Appleton St.</i>	<i>Meeting location: Board Room, Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Center, 122 E. College Ave. Suite 1 A or at a school; check website</i>	<i>Meeting location: Temporary offices will be established within City Center - East Building at 122 E College Ave. Use the Washington Street entrance (corner of Washington &amp; Morrison) The entrance is located below the walkway for the parking ramp. Take the elevator to the lower level.</i>
January	Penny Robinson	?	?
February	Lee Snodgrass	?	?
March	?	?	?
April	?	?	?



## Your Representatives

President Barack Obama

[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

### US Senators

Wisconsin Senator: Tammy Baldwin

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 – David Murphy

40th - Kevin Petersen

6th - Gary Tauchen

5th - Jim Steineke

3rd - Alvin Ott

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

## Board of Directors

### President

Shirley Strange

730-8774

[shirleystrange@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleystrange@yahoo.com)

### Vice-President – Action and Voter Service

Irene Strohbeen

[ibstrohbeen@new.rr.com](mailto:ibstrohbeen@new.rr.com)

### Vice-President – Program and Observer Corps

Sara Companik

[scompanik@yahoo.com](mailto:scompanik@yahoo.com)

### Secretary and Library Study Chair

Miriam Douglass

[mdouglas@new.rr.com](mailto:mdouglas@new.rr.com)

### Treasurer

Barbara Kelly

[bkelly48@gmail.com](mailto:bkelly48@gmail.com)

### Transportation Study Chair

Carolyn Mewhorter

[mewhorter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mewhorter@sbcglobal.net)

### Legislative Director

Penny Robinson

[pennyrobinson1@gmail.com](mailto:pennyrobinson1@gmail.com)

### Membership

Stephanie Malaney

[smalaney5@aol.com](mailto:smalaney5@aol.com)

### The Informed Voter

Barb Dorzweiler

[bjdorz@yahoo.com](mailto:bjdorz@yahoo.com)





**LWV of Appleton**  
P.O. Box 1281  
Appleton, WI 54912-1281