

The *informed* Voter



www.lwvappleton.org

League of Women Voters of Appleton, Wisconsin

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

JULY 2013



*The Appleton League of Women Voters Invites You To
Women's Equality Day 2013*

Monday, August 26, 4:30pm-6:00pm

*The History Museum, 330 East College Ave, Appleton
(At the Castle)*

Refreshments and Social 4:30-5:00pm

Program 5:00-6:00pm

Reservations required due to limited seating

Reservations to: league.appleton@yahoo.com

Kickoff to 75th Anniversary

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Companik

Dear League Members,

The Appleton League has an exciting, action packed year ahead with our program, the Library Study, voter services, Women's Equality Day 2013, our 75th Anniversary in 2014, a fund raising campaign, and hosting the State convention May 2014. WOW !!! Thank you for your support and by being an informed member of the Appleton League.

Thank you to the 2012-2013 Board of Directors who planned and created a noteworthy year and the proposals for the 2013-2014 LWV Appleton to carry out. Past President Shirley Strange and the Board actualized goals of visibility and program with enthusiasm, energy, and diligent work. The new Board continues these goals.

As a member you belong to all three levels of the League- local, state and national. Your membership dues supports the Appleton League, LWV-Wisconsin www.lwvwi.org and national LWV www.lwv.org Everything a League does involves communications. As a member you should be receiving updates from the local, state, and national leagues.

Subscribing to the National Leaders' Update For non-officer board members and every other member who would like to subscribe, please send an email to database@lwv.org and put "Subscribe to Leaders' Update" in the subject line. Let me know if I can help.

In July, you will receive a fund raising letter. Your total donation will go to the Appleton league to support continued efforts to educate and inform the public on important issues, to offer informational and candidate forums, to do voter service work, and local study work. Your donation will ensure that we can accomplish our ambitious schedule of upcoming events and promote visibility in the community for our 75th Anniversary year.

Our dues support the national and state leagues for their efforts on lobbying, legal information, support services to local leagues, access to pass through grants, program study research materials, and training. We benefit from updates on bills and legislation action. National and state power gives visibility and credibility to LWV-Appleton. We benefit from this partnership and willingly support both state and national because of the value they provide our local league.

Our membership dues do not provide the Appleton league with adequate funds to run the programs that educate and inform the public.

National LWV dues is \$31.00 and WI State LWV dues is \$30.00 = \$61.00.

Appleton League dues is:

\$60.00 for Regular Membership

\$75.00 for Sustaining Membership

Thank you for any extra contribution you can make.

There is a need for the reasoned, factual and civil voice the League of Women Voters brings to our community.

LEAGUE

Upcoming Events

2014

Appleton League of Women Voters' 75th Anniversary

We are starting
our celebration
planning.



We have identified 5 subcommittees that we feel will be needed. They are:

- 1) Coordinator Gayle Hardt will work with the state League
- 2) Members to work on the power point presentation
- 3) Public Relations
- 4) Hosting the Friday night social
- 5) Fundraising

Pick one that interests you and sign up with the Anniversary Committee. This is a celebration for all of us!!

Sue Eich sioux122@new.rr.com 731-1855

Anniversary Committee





2014

Appleton League of
Women Voters

Hosts League of Women
Voters Wisconsin

Annual Meeting

May 30-31, 2014

National League Responds:

**Supreme Court Ruling Opens
Door to Widespread Voter
Suppression**



To protect our democracy, the League will redouble our efforts in the states to **fight** restrictions like voter ID, limits on early voting and unfair redistricting. Leagues across the country will continue to encourage voters to challenge attacks on voting rights in their communities and work to ensure that our voter registration efforts reach all eligible voters.

<http://www.lwv.org/blog/supreme-court-ruling-opens-door-widespread-voter-suppression>

Thank you to Dave Strange

Visit www.lwvappleton.org

The WEBSITE Story **Report by Shirley Strange** www.lwvappleton.org

The Appleton League website was shut down! Shortly after I volunteered to take over the website following Barb Dorzweiler's retirement from this position, we learned that the website had to be shut down due to security reasons. Decisions had to be made. Three League women, Sara Companik, League President, Barbara Kelly, League Treasurer and computer expert, and Shirley Strange, new League website manager along with Dave Strange (more about him later) set up a meeting with the webmaster hosting our website. Our intent was to understand the event which led to the demise of our website, to gather information and evaluate our options. After a two hour meeting, we were satisfied with what we heard and ready to move forward.

One option was to have our webmaster put our website back up. This would require extensive revamping and the cost would have been around \$1600.00.

As luck would have it, Dave Strange was looking for something to occupy his time away from the gym. Dave's professional work was always with computers, albeit not websites. Setting up a website would require research and study. As luck would have it, Dave had the time to do it and the inclination to help the League of Women Voters of Appleton! (He had become quite a league chauvinist over the past four years). I came into the picture when it was time to add the content. We spent several weeks developing and editing.

We are proud to present the website to you and proud of the work we've done. We fully expect the website to continue to develop and change to meet the ongoing needs of the League. Dave is already researching sliders.....those moving photos you see on the front pages of some websites such as on the National League and Outagamie County websites.

So there you have it. That's the story.

Please check out the website and say thanks to Dave Strange next time you see him.

www.lwvappleton.org

Annual Meeting Minutes, May 16, 2013 *Miriam Douglass, Secretary*

Present: Members Penny Bernard-Schaber, Lois Bressette, Sara Companik, Miriam Douglass, Sue Eich, Beth English, Marlys Fritzell, Gayle Hardt, Marcia Hittle, Karen Jansen, Barbara Kelly, Stephanie Malaney, Helen Nagler, Amy Oberg, Janice Quinlan, Cheryl Reissmann, Penny Robinson, Colleen Rortvedt, Richard Schoenbohm, Sue Siltan, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen, Kim Wetzal; Nonmember Jeff Crumbaugh.

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. Parliamentarian Marlys Fritzell briefly reviewed procedures of Robert's Rules for running the meeting. According to Bylaws Article VIII. Section 2. C. a recommended program is to be adopted by a majority vote; adoption of a non-recommended requires a two-thirds vote. Sara Companik added the non-recommended item "Vouchers" to the agenda. Irene Strohbeen moved adoption of the agenda. Stephanie Malaney seconded and the motion carried.

The minutes of the May 10, 2012 Annual Meeting were read by a committee, approved and filed. The President appointed a committee of Marlys Fritzell, Marcia Hittle and Sue Siltan to review and approve the minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting. Barbara Kelly presented the Treasurer's Report which was accepted.

In her President's Report Shirley Strange described a creative, productive year for the Appleton LWV due to Board leadership and membership support. She highlighted a very successful Women's Equality Day, marvelous programming by Sara Companik, herculean voter service efforts by Irene Strohbeen, a new Board position of Legislative Director filled by Penny Robinson who also attended State Legislative Committee meetings, and the local study to update our library positions led by Miriam Douglass. Shirley also thanked Communications Director Barbara Dorzweiler who was website manager, newsletter publisher, Facebook content creator and in charge of publicity.

The Membership Report by Stephanie Malaney showed 56 current members as of January 31, 2013. National dues for the next FY were paid by that date and were based on that number of members, as is customary. Any new member dues paid after January 31 do not go to the National League, but remain in our local League. The names of new members are immediately entered in the National data base so they are recognized by the local, state and national organizations as active members and entitled to all benefits of that membership. To prorate dues for members who join during the FY the following policy was adopted by the Board: "Members of the Appleton

LWV who join during February 1 – June 30 pay for a full-year membership for the current membership year. Members who join during the period July 1 – December 31 pay \$35 for the current membership year. Members who join during January pay dues for the next membership year February 1 – January 31". Efforts next year will focus on retention of existing members, increasing membership and providing new members information on programming, policies, position statements and other materials beneficial to a new member. Barbara Kelly reviewed the budget contained in the meeting packet. Item 5 of Event Expenses was corrected to read "Anniversary". This is an ambitious budget created by a committee made up of Sara Companik, Barbara Dorzweiler, Miriam Douglass, Barbara Kelly, Shirley Strange and Irene Strohbeen.

Vice President Sara Companik presented the 2013-14 local program. The local study to update our library positions has a strong committee with Miriam Douglass (Chair), Barbara Dorzweiler, Barbara Kelly, Carolyn Mewhorter, Jan Quinlan, Colleen Rortvedt, Sue Siltan and Shirley Strange. Miriam said that several recent studies have shown that libraries will not only survive in the digital age, but thrive. The LWV study has been enhanced by its coincidence with the planning for a future library being carried out by the staff and Board of Directors of the APL and the Friends of APL. Jan Quinlan, Executive Director of the Friends of the APL, talked about the twenty Community Conversations that she and Colleen Rortvedt, APL Director, have had with many diverse groups to learn what people think of Appleton, their hopes for Appleton's future and how the APL can help realize their hopes.

A motion to consider the non-recommended item "Vouchers" was made by Helen Nagler and seconded by Richard Schoenbohm. The motion carried. During the discussion Helen Nagler said that a lot of out-of-state money is being spent to promote vouchers. Assemblywoman Penny Bernard-Schaber reported that there is a big push in the state legislature to legalize the funding of vouchers in more school districts and for children in families with incomes well above the poverty line. The public has very little understanding of what vouchers are and how they would affect public school funding. Sara Companik pointed to a LWVWI position that "no tax dollars should be given to private schools". Irene Strohbeen said that a new study is not necessary because of the State position and Marcia Hittle suggested that the Appleton LWV adopt "Vouchers" as an action item, not a study item. A motion to provide information to Appleton LWV members and the public on public-funded school vouchers and to advocate in support of the LWVWI position was made by Helen Nagler and seconded by Cheryl Reissmann. The motion carried.

Jan Quinlan moved the re-adoption of local program positions. Stephanie Malaney seconded and the motion carried. Sue Siltan moved adoption of the budget. Sue Eich seconded and the motion carried.

Sue Eich reported on progress made on the 75th Appleton LWV Anniversary celebration. The committee has as members Sara Companik, Sue Eich, Marcia Hittle, Shirley Strange (Chair) and Irene Strohbeen. The celebration will coincide with the 2014 LWVWI Annual Meeting if it is held in Appleton, as is hoped. A Democracy Award will be given to a person nominated and chosen by the Appleton League members. Sue asked members to participate in the five planning subcommittees – Coordination with the State League convention planners, Power Point Presentation, Public Relations, Friday Night Social and Fundraising.

Jan Quinlan presented the Nominating Committee Report.

The slate of officers and directors for 2013-2015 is:

President: Sara Companik; 2nd Vice President: Kim Wetzel; Secretary: Lois Bressette

Directors (2 years): Karen Jansen; Jacqui Klimeszewski; Gayle Hardt; Director (1 year): Miriam Douglass

2014 Nominating Committee: Shirley Strange (Chair), Nadine Miller, Jan Quinlan There were no nominations from the floor. Unanimous acceptance of the Nominating Committee's slate was moved by Sue Eich and seconded by Helen Nagler. The motion carried.

Sara Companik led a celebration of Shirley Strange' 4 years as President. Sara led the group in singing a song.

“Hail to our chief, our dear Shirley, we applaud you, You’ve been so faithful and loyal to the cause, All of the issues you’ve faced with grace and vigor. Today, we honor our Leader, Shirley Strange. Yours was the aim to make this grand LEAGUE grander. This you achieved, that’s our strong, firm belief. THANKS to the one we selected as commander, Hail to our President. TOAST to our Chief.”

Sara presented a scrapbook containing thank you notes to Shirley, including one from LWVWI President Melanie G. Ramey. Sue Silton presented flowers in a vase inscribed “Shirley Strange, Appleton League of Women Voters, President 2009-2013”. Irene Strohbeen gave Shirley a blue and gold Congressional Club Friendship pin. Shirley thanked the assembled members for the gifts and “for four years of a glorious run” as President.

Directions to the Board:

Helen Nagler emphasized the importance of the Appleton League’s presence at Outagamie County Board meetings, especially to address the good and bad parts of the budget. **Jan Quinlan** congratulated the Board on a successful year. **Irene Strohbeen** will be Action VP next year and is eager to do more advocacy and lobbying in support of League positions. **Gayle Hardt** stressed that it is important to know the restrictions associated with being a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization when lobbying. **Kim Wetzel** is looking forward to being on the Board. **Cheryl Reissmann** has just joined and is eager to learn more about League. **Lois Bressette** is looking forward to being on the Board. **Colleen Rortvedt** appreciates the efforts of the Library Study Committee. **Penny Bernard-Schaber** encouraged League to get more young people involved. **Karen Jansen** will be on the Board focusing on environmental issues and welcomes suggestions. **Penny Robinson** is excited to anticipate more advocacy of League positions. **Shirley Strange** will be available to take on any work. **Marlys Fritzell** commended the outgoing Board and hopes that local positions will be included in future advocacy activities. **Richard Schoenbohm** shouted out commendation of Irene Strohbeen for her Voter Service efforts. **Barbara Kelly** has learned a lot as Treasurer this year and looks forward to continuing in that position. **Sue Eich** congratulated the outgoing Board for a successful year. **Beth English** thanked Sara Companik for taking on the Presidency.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Douglass, Secretary



Meet New Board Members

President

Sara Companik

scompanik@yahoo.com

Vice-President – Action

Irene Strohbeen

ibstrohbeen@new.rr.com

Vice-President- Voter Service

Jacqui Klimeszewski

jjklim@new.rr.com

Vice-President – Program

Kim Wetzel

kwetzel@new.rr.com

Secretary

Lois Bressette

lbressette@alumni.nmn.edu

Treasurer

Barbara Kelly

bkelly48@gmail.com

Legislative Director

Penny Robinson

pennyrobinson1@gmail.com

Natural Resources

Karen Jansen

kajansen@ymail.com

Library Study Chair

Miriam Douglass

mdouglas@new.rr.com

Director

Gayle Hardt

gayle.hardt@gmail.com

Membership

Stephanie Malaney

smalaney5@aol.com

Website

Shirley Strange

shirleystrange@yahoo.com



Kim Wetzel

VP Program

As the Director of the Bemis Company Foundation, I'm very involved in the community, and can see the power of citizen volunteerism and engagement. Educating the public on community, state, and national issues is vitally important because it promotes intelligent, informed participation in government, and that benefits us all. Comprehensive issue research and public education are the primary reasons I'm so supportive of the League of Women Voters, and why I chose to become involved with the League at the board level.



Jacqui Klimeszewski

VP Voter Services

Jacqui is a retired Curriculum Director from the Appleton Area School District. She still does part time teaching for Concordia in their Teaching Accreditation program. She is also involved with AAUW, Toward Community, the Wisconsin State Reading Association and on the Board at the Paper Discovery Center. Retirement has allowed the time for travel to many fascinating places with her husband, Jim.



Karen Jansen
Natural Resources

After growing up and having gone to college in Appleton, I decided to move to the city which skews all state demographics to find opportunities for growth. Living in Milwaukee was a shock, but a good one; for 18 years my home was in what's been called one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the country, which has produced its own vibrant internal network of environmental and social advocacy. I worked for a Medicare fiscal intermediary, earned a graduate certificate in nonprofit management, was on board committees for Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee, became Treasurer and Development Chair for LWV Milwaukee County, and am still part of the MBA program at UW Milwaukee. My interests have brought me back again, and I am honored to be participating in LWV Appleton and in the upcoming state Water Position Update Committee.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

President Barack Obama

president@whitehouse.gov

US Senators

Wisconsin Senator: Tammy Baldwin (202-224-5653)

Wisconsin Senator: Ron Johnson (202-224-5323)

US House Representatives

6th Congressional District, Thomas Petri (202-225-2476)

8th Congressional District, Reid Ribble (202-225-5665)

Governor: Scott Walker (608-266-1212)

Lt. Governor: Rebecca Kleefisch

Attorney General: J.B. Van Hollen

Secretary of State: Doug La Follette

Wisconsin State Senators: (Madison Phone)

Senate District 19 - Michael Ellis (608-266-0718)

Senate District 1 - Frank Lasee (608-266-3512)

Wisconsin State Assembly : (Madison Phone)

57th - Penny Bernard Schaber (608-266-3070)

56th - David Murphy (608-266-7500)

40th - Kevin Petersen (608-266-3794)

6th - Gary Tauchen (608-266-3097)

5th - Jim Steineke (608-266-2418)

3rd - Alvin Ott (608-266-5831)

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

president@whitehouse.gov



LWV of Appleton

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