



Dear Friends in League,
We're gearing up for the 2022 General Elections!

Please respond with an open heart to Lisa Johnson's request for volunteers to help with a multitude of Voter Service activities coming up in the next two months. National Voter Registration Day/Week/Fortnight is coming soon.

It's been fun for us who have provided information about voting and the elections at the National Night Out, Tallman Arts Festival, Farmers' Market, etc. We encourage citizens to exercise their right and responsibility learn about the candidates and vote—and we also make the League of Women Voters more visible in the community. When you receive one of Lisa's emails, FROM: lwvj.voterservice@gmail.com, kindly read it and consider how you can help.

Be sure to read our Voter Guide contained in the **VOTE411.org**. You will be able to make side-by-side comparisons of candidates running for national, state,

and local offices. VOTE411.org is a product of the League of Women Voters Education Fund, so it has a national scope. Be sure to encourage your friends and family who live in other states to check out the candidates running for office where they live.

Our League's Observer Corps has been re-vitalized, and several members will become regular attendees at meetings of local government boards and committees, serving as the "the eyes and ears" of the League. If you would like to take an active interest in the deliberations of local government agencies, please consider becoming a League observer. Contact Debby Griffith (debragriffith052@gmail.com) for more information.

Circle **Thursday, October 6** on your calendar. The Voter Services crew is organizing a big "**Election Officials Appreciation and Voter Registration Extravaganza**" that evening from 5-7 pm in the City Council Chambers of the Janesville City Hall from 5-7 pm.

Linda

New Members and New Board Director

I am pleased to be able to announce that our League has grown by ELEVEN new members over the Summer months, and that one of them, Rich Harper, has been appointed by the Board of Directors to a one-year term on the Board.

The new members are: Ann Berger, Marcia Butler,

Vivian Creekmore, Jennifer Cunningham, Maryam Enterline, JoAnne Franzene, Julie Garvin, Rich Harper, Katrina Harwood, Tomas Lepinski, and Kris McDaniel.

Because our membership is changing so quickly, we have postponed printing a print membership directory indefinitely. I will send members an updated Email and Phone Directory by email periodically so members can more easily record—and make welcome—our new members.



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Status of Candidate Forums

To provide an update on Candidate Forums for the November 2022 General Election, I thought I would share with you the email message I sent to Tim Bremel of WCLO radio on September 14 in response to his interest in collaborating with the League of Women Voters:

Hi Tim,

I'm sorry that it has taken me so long to get back to you with an update. Frankly, after investing a lot of time and effort into the process of scheduling candidate forums for the November general elections, we are disappointed in what we've been able to accomplish.

Immediately following the August primary elections, a committee representing the LWV-Janesville, LWV-Beloit, LWV-Whitewater Area, LWV-Dane County, and the NAACP of Beloit began work to set up candidate forums for EIGHT county-wide and state legislative races:

Rock County Sheriff
Senate Districts 11 and 15
Assembly Districts 31, 33, 43, 44, and 45

Because we have been unable to obtain the cooperation of the candidates of both parties, we will be able to hold only THREE of the EIGHT forums:

Rock County Sheriff: Fell (D) vs. Keller (I) on Wednesday September 28, 6:00-7:30 pm, Hedberg Public Library, Janesville (broadcast live, live-streamed on YouTube, and recorded by JATV)

Assembly District 33: Vruwink (D) vs. Johnson (R) on Thursday, October 6, 6:00-7:30 pm, Ft. Atkinson Library.

Assembly District 45: Anderson (D) vs. Klett (R) on Wednesday, October 12, 6:00-7:30 pm, School District of Beloit School Board Room

We have had to cancel the other five forums because only one of the candidates running for office in each of those races has agreed to participate

The failure of candidates to participate in League of Women Voters forums deprives the voters of an opportunity to hear the candidates' responses to voters' questions, and deprives their opponents of an opportunity to present their positions to the voters in a fair and equal space.

Fortunately, voters can compare candidates side-by-side and read their views on important issues in their own words on **VOTE411.org**, the League of Women Voters' premiere website for election information.

We would certainly welcome whatever assistance WCLO could give for promoting attendance in the forums. If you think you would be interested in recording the Rock County Sheriff's forum, I believe we would need to get the approval of JATV.

If you have questions for the candidates that you would like to submit, we welcome them. We're setting up a web-based form for area residents to submit questions for candidates running for Rock County Sheriff. I'll be sure to send you the link.

If YOU are more successful in gaining the cooperation of all the candidates than we have been, we would certainly do what we can to encourage our members and the general public to tune in to your live and taped broadcasts.

The forum committee is in the process of drafting a "letter to the editor" expressing our disappointment that so many of the candidates were unwilling to cooperate with our organizations. Accomplishing the League of Women Voters' mission "Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy" is made more difficult when candidates for office deny voters opportunities to learn their positions.

We're looking forward to having more (and better?) opportunities to work with you.

Linda

Linda Reinhardt
President, LWV-Janesville
Janesville, WI

270 by 2024



NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE FOR PRESIDENT

“270 by 2024” National Popular Vote for President

The League of Women Voters is working for the direct election of the President of the United States. The **National Popular Vote Interstate Compact** can accomplish this without an amendment to the US Constitution to abolish the Electoral College—although abolishment of the Electoral College is the ultimate goal

The LWVWI has presented four webinars on the National Popular Vote during the past few months, You

can watch the series of one-hour videos and learn what it will take to get the National Popular Vote bill passed in Wisconsin. HINT: It requires voting for candidates for the state legislature who will support the legislation.

Check out the [National Popular Vote Interstate Compact \(NPVIC\) Toolkit](#) on the LWVWI website, and visit the [National Popular Vote](#) website for more information—and ideas for taking action.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

Each month we will be placing our position on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Voter, as a service to our members.

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to the organization’s current and future success in

engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

The Janesville LWV commits to the diversity of Janesville and fully endorses the LWV’s DEI policy.

LWV



Youth Engagement in the Democratic Process

By Susan Amber Johnson
Convention Report

At our state LWV convention this year, four young women from Wisconsin participated on a panel discussion entitled, “Youth Engagement in the Democratic Process.” Madeleine McDermott, of Bellevue (near Green Bay), has dedicated the last three years of their life to creating change in their community. They began organizing with the “Fridays for Future” movement, and continue to fight for a sustainable future as a Clean Energy Fellow with the Wisconsin Conservation Voters. Mandeep Kaleka is a former Youth Governor of Wisconsin and intern at the Outagamie County District Attorney’s office. Next year, she will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she is planning on double majoring in political science and international business. Ivy Evrard is the Vice President of the Political Science club at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Fox-Cities campus. She has taken an active role in organizing voter registration drives on campus, and is currently pursuing a degree in political science. Eeshani Buddi is a freshman at Carleton College (MN), and intends to major in biology. She has participated in both Wisconsin Youth In Government, and has been a Diversity Intern for the City of Appleton.

Jeanne Roberts, Community Alliances Committee co-chair, LWV Appleton-Fox Cities, served as moderator for the discussion, and asked each one several questions about how current League members can better reach out to the young people in their local communities. McDermott talked about reaching out to young people “where they are.” If they are in school, go to the schools. If they are attending personal interest clubs, reach them there. “Reach out to them through music and art. Have meetings at times when young people can attend.” After all, they can’t attend meetings during the day when they are in school.

Kaleka emphasized that there are plenty of young people out in their communities who are already organizing and organized with various issues. Join with them! Many are passionate about social issues of today, but they don’t know how to sustain their momentum. They need help with translating their passion into concrete measures that make a difference. Adult mentors could teach them how to connect their passion with regular democratic processes, so their actions will be sustained and lead to something.

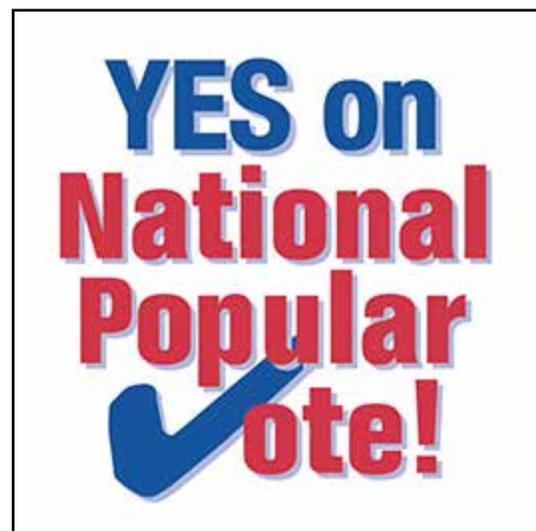
Evrard, too, emphasized that young people, “ARE out there.” Have them present at your local functions! Reach out to them at local universities and other post-secondary institutions. Young people in Appleton, who are interested in promoting social change, tend to hang out in Houdini Plaza. It’s wise to go to these places, and get to know them. Gen Zers are doing much activism right now, but they do need someone to teach them the importance of voting! Teach them how to regis-

ter, and where to vote! Observe who is being active, and use them in your league work. She is passionate about working for systematic change to take place, especially in the area of environmental justice, and climate change.

Buddi credits her mom in teaching her how to be civically-engaged, and with learning how important it is to vote. Much like the others, Buddi too, pointed out that young people are already organizing themselves around various issues, and interests. We need to just reach out to them where they are! In terms of the question of how current members can become more relevant to young people, she advised them to be present and visible in the schools, so young people can see who they are and what the league is doing to inform voters. Current league members need to inform themselves of what young people are already doing politically. Get to know them, and help the activists you already know.

Kaleka noted how closely tied her generation is to technology. They’ve especially been using it even more during the COVID pandemic. Kaleka and Buddi both talked about how important it would be for current league members to follow young people on social media. In this way, we can all get to know one another better. Young people would then be more open to learning what the League has to teach them. Trust among the generations would have the opportunity to develop on social media. The League could even be sending out mass emails to students in schools, and universities.

In addition, the young women suggested that state and local Leagues should offer more internships for young people, both unpaid, or minimally paid. They want to learn from us, not only how to vote, but how to run for office! To sum it all up, more league members need to be more directly, and actively involved with young people, and serve as mentors to them. Young people are looking for it!



Wanted: Eyes and Ears!

Debby Griffith
Committee Chairperson

This year the League of Woman Voters-JVL is reviving a working committee from the past; an Observer Corps. This is a vital part of the League of Woman Voter's Sunshine Policy that "government bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible."

The purpose of our Observer Corps is to have members volunteer to attend governmental meetings in our local area on a regular basis and report back to the Observer Committee. This is especially important when issues of interest to the League come

up for discussion. Members of the Observer Corps can choose whatever Board/s, or committee/s they would like to attend. If you would like to choose one, or more, you are welcome to do so. You do not have to attend every meeting, but you should attend fairly regularly, so you will want to choose a committee and/or board that meets at a convenient time for you. The Corp will gather together monthly to discuss the information gathered. This will be decided by the group once the Corp is up and running.

If you are interested in more information or to be a part of the Corp, please contact the Observer Chair: Debby Griffith @ debragriffith052@gmail.com.

Voter Services Report – September 19, 2022

Lisa Johnson
Voter Service Chairperson

Welcome, welcome, welcome to our new members! It is great to see the League's growth these last few months!

Voter Services has been working this summer through the primary and towards the midterm elections!

Candidate Forums

One of our projects has been working on co-hosting candidate forums with the Beloit, Whitewater, Dane County Leagues and the Beloit NAACP #3251. The committee planned eight forums county-wide forums but will host only three. Regrettably, the other five forums had to be cancelled because only one of the candidates running, in each of those races, agreed to participate. The Leagues and NAACP are forwarding a joint letter to the editor on the outcome of our planning with and a statement thanking those that have accepted the invitations as well as a statement of our policy of not holding "empty chair forums". The letter explains that proceeding with only one candidate would give an unfair advantage to the sole participating candidate, risking the League's compliance with FEC and or IRS rules as well as the League's nonpartisan policy.

The three scheduled forums that will take place are:

Rock County Sheriff – Wednesday, September 28 – 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. hosted at Hedberg Library Live Stream and record by JATV

Assembly District 33 Thursday October 6 - 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. hosted at the Dwight Forster Public Library, Fort Atkinson, filmed by Whitewater Community TV

Assembly District 45 Wednesday October 12, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. hosted in the School Board Room, School District of Beloit. Video recorded.

Email requests will be sent to invite our member to assist at these forums in various capacities. This is a great opportunity to meet the candidates as well as other area League members and see firsthand how our forums are conducted. We will need several volunteers and hope everyone will consider working at a forum.

Voter Services Events – (Past and Future)

Thank you to all members who have volunteered for these events in the past as well as in the future.

National Night Out – Traxler Park – Huge success...!

Tallman Art Festival – Another successful day ---warm but we had a great team working and we handed out loads of information to the public!

Tallman Arttrageous Event – Evening event... another great opportunity! Thank you RCHS!

4th Ward New Park Opening –



* Voter

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great to support the neighborhood and the City of Janesville Parks and Recreation!

We also did a June teeth joint league event at Riverside and Telfer Parks in June with the Beloit League and in July the Rock County Pride Fest at Telfer Park.



Rock County Senior Fair – Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center- We had several hundred conversations that day! Another well attended event and many voters had great questions on polls, redistricting etc.

Future:

Janesville Farmers Market – Saturdays – Until the election.- Signups will be sent via email

Hispanic Heritage Fiesta Noon to 4pm Sunday, September 24 at the Premier Bank. We could use some additional volunteers.

In the planning stages:

We are also working with the local high schools and charter schools and U-Rock scheduling Voter Services Days at each of their campuses now until the on-line registration deadline of October 19.

We are working with local churches, YWCA and the Job Service offices to share Voter Registration/Are You Ready to Vote materials electronically and with in person staff training on the “how tos”.

Overall, at each of these events, there are loads of questions from voters. There have been so many

changes in polling places, the redistricting and changes in election rules, etc. that there have been a lot of things to discuss and continue to discuss!!

We have been reminding them where and how to verify their registration, polling places etc through on-line resources or phone numbers for the City or County Clerk’s offices.

We are using a “buddy system for new members, pairing new members with current members and have some “Voter Services Scripts” suggestions. We may not have to have all the answers at these events, but we do focus or identify the questions and provide the information on how the voter may contact their City Clerk for further information and clarification.

We are very fortunate to be supplied effective LWV branded handouts, Vote 411 pens to use at our events. The LWV branded materials are quality handouts and make the Voter Services event process very painless and a breeze!

Door Hangers Projects

Thank you to those members that have been participating in this project!

We have also received from the National LWV primary and election door hangers – which remind voters of the either the primary date or election date, and list online resources for registration, vote411.org and Voter Helpline phone number. In late July, we had formed a committee and hung 500+ door hangers

We have 2000 more for the General Election on November 8.

A signup email will be sent out to plan and schedule for our next project in October. The hangers are well made and provide good reminders of our resources available and a reminder of the dates of the primary or general election.

Last Event To Mention – Community Event

Voter Services/JLWV is hosting open house with the City of Janesville, on Thursday, October 6, 2022 in the Council Chambers in City Hall, Janesville.



The event is open to the public. The event is to celebrate the work of our clerks and poll workers and increase election awareness in the community.

The first portion of the event will be an “Ask the Clerks” panel discussion. At 5 p.m. JATV who will record a few clips to use as a “commercial” or educational piece where the City Manager states the

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importance of elections and community involvement, the County and City Clerk promote participating in elections and provide any updates in the election/voting process and answer questions. This will be broadcast on the League's website, social media, JATV, etc.

The second portion of the event will be focused on answering one on one questions and sharing handouts at tables to assist voters in getting ready for the election!

Planned Tables:

1. Register to Vote & and preview your ballot
2. Sign up to work election
3. Ask the Clerks
4. Touch and explore election equipment.
5. Learn about www.myvote.wi.gov; know where to go, and request an absentee if needed
6. Learn more about the Janesville League of Women Voters
7. New Voter specific information table!
8. Youth – Get Out the Vote Initiatives

After the taping, and during the “table time” we will furnish light refreshments in the break room while attendees circulate through the election resource tables until around 6:30 p.m.

We have asked the clerks throughout the county to invite their staff and poll workers.

The event details are being finalized this week. Please watch your email for volunteer/committee invitations to work or attend this event!

Yard Signs

Reminder – do you need any League yard signs? Please contact Lisa Johnson for more information! We have several options.....and they are again great quality and certainly are effective!

At-Home Voter Service Opportunities

If you are interested in “At- home Voter Services Opportunities” please go to the State website for opportunities or contact Lisa Johnson, Voter Services. (<http://my.lwv.org>)

NEXT Voter Services Meeting – October 11

If any of these activities are of interest to you, please join us! We have a great team and everyone shares in the focus to promote voter registration and help make democracy work!

2nd Tuesdays – Via Zoom 6-30-7:30.

You will be receiving emails on Voter Service opportunities !

Please contact Lisa Johnson at 608-333-8105 with questions!

Thank you all for your support!

Note:

Still working on LWV banner across the back or hanging from the roof! But it's coming together!



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Directors for 2022-23 are:

President—Linda Reinhardt

VP—Susan Johnson

Secretary—Renee Kalvestrand

Treasurer—Sabrina Siker Bowerman

Directors: Deb Griffith, Lisa Johnson, Heide
Keith, Sue Scott and Rich Harper

Web addresses of National, State and Local Leagues:

To check out the action go to: **LWV-US**

<www.lwv.org>

LWV-WI *<www.lwvwi.org>*

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