



# Bulletin

## League of Women Voters® of Dane County, Inc.

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Office hours: Monday–Thursday, 8–1

## December 2018

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### Executive Committee:

Aileen Nettleton, President

Brook Soltvedt, Vice President

Helen Horn, Assistant Treasurer

Mary Anglim, Program Director

## \*New Unit Meetings\*

We have two new unit meetings forming to meet the diverse needs of our growing membership.

**Southern Dane County** held its first meeting on November 14 at the Fitchburg Library. [Diane Liebert](#) is working with our Southern Dane County members to identify a regularly scheduled day and time for this unit.

**UW Campus Area** held its first meeting on November 18. Coordinator [Laura Grueneberg](#) is excited to offer a unit that is convenient to students and young professionals.

Contact the coordinator if you are interested in participating in either of these units.

## Connect with us



## Saturday January 12, 2019

### Lively Issues Luncheon

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### Sagashus T. Levingston

Author of *Infamous Mothers*,  
Social Entrepreneur and Educator

**Capitol Lakes Grand Hall,  
333 West Main St., Madison**  
(Free parking in the ramp across  
the street)

Watch your email for registration  
information and more details.

Reservation  
Required for  
Luncheon

# President's Message

Aileen Nettleton, [president@lwvdanecounty.org](mailto:president@lwvdanecounty.org), 608-238-6053

As I write this a few days after the Fall Election, my thoughts run back to the news that 93% of registered voters in Madison cast ballots in the election! You can take pride in the part that members of the LWV of Dane County played in this historic accomplishment of democracy in action. Our Voter Services Committee and volunteers responded to requests to assist with voter registration at numerous events, partnered in the Voter ID Coalition, staffed one location on the UW campus for early In Person Absentee Voting (IPAV) and reached out to hospital patients to assist them cast a vote. Many League members assisted with IPAV for the City Clerk at libraries and were election officials at the polls.

Now it's time to ask, "What's next?" If you thought we'd just relax after the election, not to worry. The purposes of the LWV of Dane County are to **"promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected government issues."**

How can you become engaged in local government issues? Visit a county committee meeting related to a local League position. Be part of an observer corps at a county or city committee. Or learn from a mentor how to address League positions at a school board, city council or county board committee meeting. We have a well-versed, but small, group of members who are active in city, county and state government issues and hope we can recruit and train more interested members. You can start by reading our *Policies* and *Positions* on our website under *About Us*. Past president Kathy Fullin offers her tips for attending county board committee meetings below.

If your interest is in state legislation such as Fair Maps, you can connect with the state LWV Legislative Committee. If you wish to follow up on the Electoral College forum, find the PowerPoint under the forum on our website and share it with your organization or friends and organize a letter-writing campaign. Or send a note to me with your questions or suggestions, and I will forward it to the appropriate contact. Do you wish to check or change the interests you indicated with your membership? The weekly LWVDC email update contains a link to revise your member interests.

## Tips for Attending County Committees from Veteran Kathy Fullin

**\*\*To begin, attend as an interested individual, rather than being an official LWV observer. You should NOT identify yourself as observing for the League and should NOT wear an LWV button as an individual.**

**\*\*Before you become an official League Observer who can interact with committee members, you need to become well-versed with the guidelines. (See *Policies and Procedures, Speaking for the League* under *For Members* on the website.) We can refer you to a mentor who can support you at this level of involvement.**

**\*\*If you learn that an upcoming issue of a committee is related to a relevant League position, you can alert the League Executive Committee, help draft a statement or plan a response for approval by the Executive Committee or Board.**

County committees in areas where the Dane County League has positions:

- **Health and Human Needs:** This standing committee oversees issues under the purview of the Human Services Department. In the past, this committee has dealt with issues concerning Joining Forces for Families, behavioral health contracts, contracts with Madison Urban Ministry for jail to community re-entry services, Family Care and trauma informed care.
- **Environment, Agriculture, and Natural Resources:** This standing committee oversees issues under the purview of the Land & Water Resources Department. It has dealt with flooding and lake level management, urban water quality, land purchases for parks/trails, erosion control and grants for lake planning.
- **Public Protection and Judiciary:** This standing committee deals with issues concerning the jail, the district attorney's office and the 911 Center. This committee has reviewed jail population reduction strategies. This committee will have major oversight in the upcoming juvenile justice program development.

**Check the time, place, and date of a meeting before attending.** Google "Dane County Committees" to get <https://dane.legistar.com/Departments.aspx> Click on the committee name for a calendar of upcoming meetings.

# The Electoral College: Bad for Our Democracy?

Karen Gunderson, [jokarjen@gmail.com](mailto:jokarjen@gmail.com)

The November LWVDC forum, 'The Electoral College: Bad for Our Democracy' consisted of a presentation created by the League of Women Voters of Illinois. The script for the presentation was aptly read by LWVDC President Aileen Nettleton and LWVDC member Joy Cardin. At the end of the presentation, Andrea Kaminski, past Executive Director and current Secretary of LWVWI, discussed how the LWVDC could work with the Wisconsin state legislature to get a bill introduced for Wisconsin to join The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC). As most of us know, the Electoral College can result in a presidential candidate winning the popular vote but losing the election because another candidate captures at least 270 of the Electoral College votes; that happened in the last presidential election.

The League of Women Voters of the United States urges that the Electoral College be abolished; they have held this position since 1970. This will require an amendment to the U.S. Constitution and would likely take a number of years. As the League continues to advocate for abolishing the Electoral College, they also voted at the 2010 LWVUS convention to support the NPVIC as an interim measure.

The NPVIC is an agreement among participating states that each state would give all of their electoral votes to the presidential candidate who won the national popular vote, regardless of the popular vote in the individual state. The Compact would not go into effect until the participating states have a majority of electoral votes; that is currently 270 votes. Until then, all states would continue to assign their votes as they currently do. As of September, 2018, eleven (11) states and the District of Columbia have adopted the NPVIC, representing 172 electoral votes. Wisconsin, which has ten (10) electoral votes, has not joined the Compact.

Andrea discussed a number of actions we can take right now. We can contact our state elected representatives and encourage them to propose legislation for Wisconsin to join the NPVIC and a bill to abolish the Electoral College. We can also get the word out to friends and neighbors.

This forum, as the majority of our League forums do, resulted in some very interesting questions and comments from a large, engaged audience. Andrea thought a suggestion that the League attempt to get a referendum on the ballot was a good idea. This would require leagues at the local (generally county) level to propose the referendum. There were several suggestions that we should try to get young people interested in this; there was general agreement that that would be a good idea. How do we go about doing that? It was suggested that teachers be provided with this information, perhaps in a game format, for helping students understand how the Electoral College can fail voters and how the NPVIC would work.

One attendee asked if there are other groups that are working to abolish the Electoral College and suggested we should see if we can work cooperatively. One group that is working on more accurate voter representation is Fair Vote. Do you know of other organizations that are working on these issues? Would there likely be more recounts with this model? That isn't clear, but one audience member pointed out that the Electoral College already has this issue.

It seems that the Electoral College perpetuates racial discrimination in voting. Much of voter suppressions does indeed target people of color – voter purges, restricting prisoners from voting, etc. There is likely racial bias in selecting the Electoral College electors, too. How about getting Ken Burns to do a documentary on the Electoral College and its flaws? Great idea. Ingrid Rothe suggested a movie called, 'Electoral Dysfunction'. To see more about this movie, check out the website, [electoraldysfunction.org](http://electoraldysfunction.org).

We ran out of time to discuss this issue further. But we have more chances to discuss this topic– at our unit meetings! Be sure to attend one of these and join the discussion.

# How Secure Are Our Elections?

Monica Bykowski, PhD, [monica.bykowski@gmail.com](mailto:monica.bykowski@gmail.com)

Americans have been on alert following the revelations of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. This interference proved to be a multi-pronged attack on our democratic system including infiltrating and releasing the emails of top officials of the DNC, campaigns to influence public opinion on social media and the hacking of local voting systems, including our neighbor to the south, Illinois. Amidst these concerns, the League of Women Voters sat down with Meagan Wolfe, the Interim Administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission, to discuss the measures keeping our elections safe. These include pre-election analysis of voter systems, training of local clerks and volunteers and post-election audits.

After 2016, federal resources and funds became available for states to secure their elections. Each state has different protocols, procedures, and voting systems, which means different risks and challenges for national security. Wisconsin benefits from having built its own statewide elections administration system. Wisconsin does not rely upon a private vendor to supply its voting system which means it cannot be bought into by foreign actors. This precise scenario occurred in Maryland where a Russian oligarch with close connections to Vladimir Putin bought out a parent company of the company that provides election services for Maryland. Maryland only learned of this conflict of interest after being approached by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

Because Wisconsin maintains its own voter registration system, it does not have to worry about these sorts of manipulations in its registration database. Nonetheless, it has worked closely with the Department of Homeland Security to analyze and monitor potential system vulnerabilities. The DHS has also scanned for dormant viruses which could later be activated. In addition to the DHS, the Wisconsin Elections Commission works closely with other state and national resources to maintain the security of its system including the FBI, Wisconsin Emergency Management, the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Division of Enterprise Technology (DET), and state and local police enforcement.

Wisconsin has also received federal funds for election security. These funds have largely been used to train local clerks. The Wisconsin Election Commission has adapted its training method from a table-top exercise

designed by Harvard University. This method applies a scenario-based approach to teach clerks and volunteers how to get help if there is a local event. This approach is especially important because most personnel and volunteers are not informational technology experts; but there are a lot of resources available to them in the case of an event, including the National Guard. Before the most recent November 6 election, seven training events were held by the Wisconsin Election Commission to train county staff from Wisconsin's 72 counties. Those trained at the county level then trained volunteers and personnel within Wisconsin's 1,853 municipalities. This training should prepare us, at the local level, to respond to any circumstance that could occur on election day from not having a building key to having a broken ballot counter. While these measures prepare municipalities for election day, procedures are also in place to ensure the accuracy of our voting system after the election.

After each election, the Wisconsin Elections Commission conducts an audit of voting equipment. These random audits, put in place by Wisconsin statute 7.08(6), occur before the certification of results and are designed to confirm the accuracy of our voting systems. Additionally, counties can request post-election audits which compare the electronic count to a full hand count. The importance of these types of audits are highlighted by the problems faced by Florida after this election cycle. In Florida, the overheating of electronic ballot counters led to count errors, necessitating hand counts and resulting in distrust of the voter system. With these audits, we can be certain that our vote is being counted accurately in Wisconsin. Moreover, systematic audits mean that we can continue to be certain of our elections in the future.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission has worked hard to ensure our elections and maintain public confidence in them. They have coordinated efforts with the Department of Homeland Security to scrutinize our unique voter administration system. They have used federal funds to train voting personnel and volunteers. And they have conducted post-election audits. Nonetheless, Meagan Wolfe argues that we still face challenges. Importantly, she argues, the Wisconsin Elections Commission does not have a steady flow of income which has led to high turnover. Wolfe argues that funds to the Commission should be guaranteed by state legislation, ensuring that the office has adequate funds to ensure election security in the future.

# High School Voter Registration and Peer Training

*Susan Fulks, Facilitator, High School Voter Education Action Team, [susanfulks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susanfulks@sbcglobal.net)*

Members of the LWVDC High School Voter Education Action Team met this summer to develop a comprehensive training program for high school students interested in encouraging and assisting peers with voter registration. In addition, student registration instruction cards and other volunteer support materials were developed to facilitate group registration opportunities within local high schools. Committee members were actively involved this fall in partnerships with seven Dane County High Schools: Cambridge, MMSD East, MMSD Memorial, MMSD West, Monona Grove, and Sun Prairie, including Prairie Phoenix Academy. Volunteer contacts worked with teachers and student groups to develop schedules for voter registration and training opportunities unique to each school. While the total number of voter registrations was small as eligible students had to be 18 by November 6, student awareness and enthusiasm was evident. Three of our fall partnerships are highlighted below.

## **MMSD Memorial High School (Justine Malinski, coordinator)**

On October 1, 2018, the event at James Madison Memorial High School registered 33 students. The process took advantage of English being the one class required for all seniors. Therefore, in one day every eligible senior had the opportunity to register to vote. Assisted by LWVDC and Student Activist Club volunteers, along with optional use of cards that contained detailed "how-to-register" instructions, the process was successful. The classroom setting has some distinct advantages: the relatively small number of students per class means that individual attention could be provided, student attention was focused on voting and voter registration, i.e., not divided as in a lunch hour event and, when necessary, proof of residence documents were readily obtained from school records. Full credit for the format goes to the Social Studies teachers who got support from the administration and the English teachers who gave up a day of teaching time. The Social Studies teachers also provided contact with the Student Activist Club members and time to train them in the registration process. It is noteworthy that the Student Activists interested in helping their peers register and vote are not only seniors but sophomores and juniors, too. Interaction with the student volunteers will continue into and beyond 2019 to support their leadership roles in future events.

## **MMSD West High School (Laura Gottlieb, coordinator)**

Laura and LWVDC colleagues provided training for students and coordinated both voter registration assistance and voter education presentations for social studies classes. The Capital Times published an excellent article describing the West High School student involvement: [\*18 in 2018: Madison high schoolers prepare to vote in their first election.\*](#)

## **Monona Grove High School (Joan Provencher, coordinator)**

On October 8 Joan Provencher and Pat Patterson met with an afterschool group at Monona Grove High School called the Girls Empowerment League (GEL). This group had expressed an interest in learning how to assist their fellow students to register to vote. Social Studies teacher Brian Jefferson had contacted the LWVDC HS Education Team for assistance. Joan and Pat met with the girls for about an hour and went over the registration form, the MyVote website and all the requirements for voter registration. The two seniors in the group arranged to have a table in the cafeteria during the lunch hours on October 10. These young women also took on all responsibility for getting the word out about the registration drive and arranged for tables, copies of registration forms and laptops. Joan, Pat and Carol Weiss were in attendance during the registration event, but the GEL team did most of the work! It was very impressive to see the dedication and enthusiasm of these students. Since it is early in the school year (and not many students are 18), we only did about 6-8 actual applications, but many students stopped by to get information for when they become eligible. We hope to be back at Monona Grove in the spring.

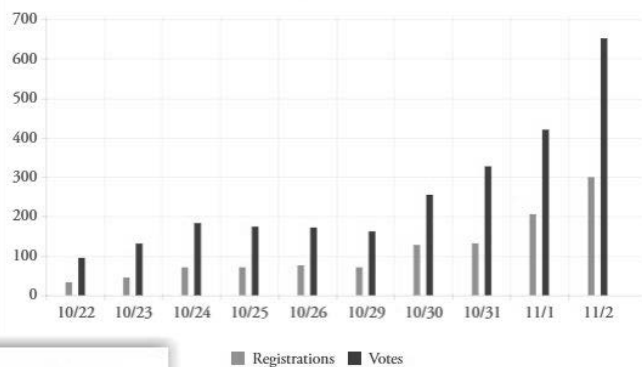
Our High School Voter Education Action Team is beginning to schedule high school activities to get ready for the spring 2019 elections. Student trainings and registration assistance can be scheduled from November 7, 2018, to January 30, 2019, and also from February 20 to March 13, 2019. Interested high schools and coordinators of student groups should contact Susan Fulks, High School Voter Education Action Team Facilitator, at [susanfulks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susanfulks@sbcglobal.net).

## In-Person Absentee Voting Statistics

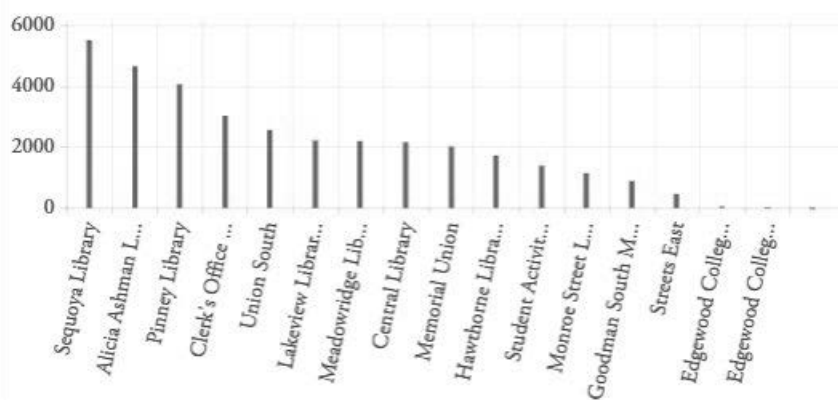
Brook Soltvedt, [soltvedtbrook@gmail.com](mailto:soltvedtbrook@gmail.com)

In-Person Absentee Voting, or IPAV, contributed to record-setting voter turnout in Dane County this November. Here are some charts that show registration and voter totals in Madison. Additional charts showing data for the UW Madison IPAV sites have been posted at [www.lwvdanecounty.org/assisting-uwmadison-students/](http://www.lwvdanecounty.org/assisting-uwmadison-students/)

REGISTRATIONS COMPLETED AND VOTES CAST AT UNION SOUTH



TOTAL IPAV BALLOTS CAST THROUGH 11/2/18 (GRAND TOTAL = 34,527)



## LWVDC Assists Hospitalized Voters

Gail Bliss, [Secretary@lwvdanecounty.org](mailto:Secretary@lwvdanecounty.org)

In 2016 we worked with all the local hospitals picking up and delivering ballots for those unexpectedly hospitalized. In 2018 the Veterans Administration and UW Hospital both contacted us to work with them again.

At the VA Lisa Offord, Volunteer Services Specialist for Community Relations, was quite proactive. She helped request absentee ballots for hospitalized veterans from around the state well before the election. In some cases ballots were faxed or emailed. If time was short, a visiting relative could hand carry the ballot back to the local clerk. In the final week, she had six veterans from Dane County who still needed ballots. Gail Bliss and new member Aleasha Anderson were able to help 5 of the 6 veterans vote. One had no ID available.

Michael Rosenblum, Volunteer Services Manager at UW Hospital, contacted LWV seeking assistance. Just a week before the election, Joe Lalli, a third year medical student, offered to organize med students to do rounds seeking people who needed help voting. LWVDC provided training to the students on November 4. New League member Nancy Gunder coordinated with Joe and drove ballots back to polling places. With the help of these students, we reached about 20 individuals at UW Hospital and at the Unity Point maternity ward. This work was well covered by local TV. See [NBC 15 Medical Students Help Hospital Patients Vote](#).

*Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

# Getting to Know Mary Anglim

Meg Gordon, [mbgordon721@gmail.com](mailto:mbgordon721@gmail.com)

LWVDC Executive Committee member and new Program Director Mary Anglim can't help but smile, expressing her delight that the organization is attracting younger members. "It was a common pattern to join the LWV after retiring," says Anglim. "But lately we are attracting younger members looking for ways to come to terms with the current political climate." Anglim emphasizes in the same breath that the League is refreshingly non-partisan. "We don't have to be spinning the facts when in the company of the group—talking points are not popular in the League," an organization committed to giving everyone room to breathe.



Anglim, a French history scholar and retired manager of the University of Wisconsin 403(b) Program, currently finds her time consumed with logistical details for putting together the forum program. The League typically holds 7 programs per year. Her biggest challenges involve helping members define the issues they would like to emphasize and reach a consensus on whom to invite as speakers.

"It takes a long time to talk things through, because everyone brings a unique professional or occupational background and set of life experiences," says Anglim. Additionally, with such a diverse group, everyone moves in different circles, knowing and trusting different experts. As the leader, "I have to broaden myself, and that is good," she says.

Anglim joined the LWVDC in 2009. She initiated herself by attending Issues Forums, a fall issues briefing and then joining the membership outreach committee. In 2014 she joined the LWVDC Board as the Membership Chair, focusing efforts on learning about our members and trying new strategies for attracting and engaging new ones. Anglim has also been a long-term observer of County and City government and currently is a member of the city's Public Safety Review Committee.

Anglim's youth was spent in Chicago's ethnic and racially rich south side. Her mother, who loved the city, had left her family farm to study nursing in Chicago. Her father worked for the city water department. "People would tell stories about how he could walk down any street and report the pipe size laid below because he'd seen it all," she says. Anglim received her bachelor's degree in history from Loyola University, a masters at the University of Iowa and ABD at the University of Michigan. She moved to Madison in 1971, where she taught history and later worked in the UW Library System, the Department of Employee Trust Funds, and UW System. She met her husband here and the two made Madison their permanent home.

Recently widowed, Anglim finds tremendous comfort in the volunteer community of which she is integral. Her old cat Ben keeps her home cozy. To cope and maintain motivation in the face of the political anxiety she, like many, is experiencing, Anglim draws upon a tenet of French history, the *longue durée*, or the long term—what really counts are the physical climate and geographic characteristics, trade patterns, crops, weather and culture, rather than any individual leader be they Nero, Napoleon, or someone current.

“Religion is not going away as a motivator, nor is the need to move to another geographic region when the one you are in is no longer livable.” On the other hand, the increasing speed of change in climate, technology, and communications means that small elites have much more power to do damage than in the past.

The League's programs should be provocative, timely and lively. If you want to organize a forum, or help research or publicize one, Anglim would love to hear from you. Other kinds of educational opportunities, including alternatives to the traditional format, time or place are welcome too!

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## Support the Safety of Immigrant Children

*The following public comments, prepared by member Ingrid Rothe on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Dane County, was submitted to the Department of Homeland Security on October 30, 2018.*

DHS Docket No. ICEB-2018-0002

To Whom It May Concern:

The League of Women Voters of Dane County believes that the immigration policies of the United States should promote family reunification and should be responsible to those facing political persecution or a humanitarian crisis. The 1997 Flores Settlement Agreement has provided protections for children for 21 years, including forbidding the government from detaining them for a period longer than 20 days, and providing that such detention could only occur in facilities that meet certain minimum standards for food and clothing, emergency and medical care, and access to education and recreation.

Research demonstrates the detention of children, especially when separated from their families, can result in long-term damage to their health and future well-being. Children could be spared this trauma if the government would adopt well-known alternatives to detention. Yet this proposed rule will eliminate existing protections and expose children to the possibility of indefinite detention in facilities not subject to minimum standards.

We urge you to fight to maintain all the safeguards contained in the Flores Settlement Agreement, included limited detention of children. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Aileen Nettleton, president  
LWV Dane County



# Madison Police Department Policy and Procedure Review

*This statement was presented to the Common Council regarding the Madison Police Department Policy and Procedure Review Ad Hoc Committee. Kathleen Fullin read the statement on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Dane County on October 30, 2018.*

## **Statement to Common Council concerning the final report of the Madison Police Department Policy and Procedure Review Ad Hoc Committee** October 30, 2018

I am Kathleen Fullin, speaking tonight on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Dane County.

The original resolution establishing the committee and providing funding noted that “the City of Madison is committed to involving the community in advising and making recommendations to the Mayor, the Common Council, the Police and Fire Commission and the Madison Police Chief on matters of setting policies and procedures that reflect our city’s longstanding tradition of community policing.”

The resolution further said “the City of Madison is committed to transparency of policies, procedures, culture and training within the Madison Police Department.”

The League of Women Voters has been observing the committee’s deliberations for the last three years. Our focus has been on the process rather than on specific recommendations.

Our goal is that the concerns and insights of communities that are particularly affected by the criminal justice system, including people of color and people with mental health issues, are considered seriously, as the city reviews the policies and procedures of its police department.

The committee has painstakingly reviewed each of the 146 recommendations of the OIR consultants. They have determined their position on almost all of them, with a few requiring further discussion.

The committee has also discussed the items referred to them by the President’s Work Group on Police and Community Relations, and has determined their responses.

However, there is no draft report which documents all the decisions made so far. If any member of the public, or member of the committee, wants to know what decisions have been made by the committee, they must compare the recommendations to the minutes of each meeting, a daunting task.

It is imperative that a report be compiled quickly, so that the committee members themselves, the public, the Common Council, and the Mayor’s Office have an understandable, readable, accurate report of the Committee’s decisions.

The League urges you to support the service contract to write the final report of the Ad Hoc Committee, in order to provide clarity and public transparency to the process.

# Budget Testimony to the Dane County Board

*Mary Anglim presented the following testimony to the Personnel and Finance Committee of the Dane County Board of Supervisors on October 29, 2018.*

## **Budget Testimony to the Personnel and Finance Committee Amendments EXEC-O-02 and EXEC-O-09 2019 Dane County Budget October 29, 2018**

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Dane County. The League believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation by citizens.

The Dane County League applauds Chair Corrigan's creation of Engage Dane, a team of Board Supervisors, charged with developing strategies to encourage citizen participation. Based on our experience attending county meetings and publicizing meeting opportunities to our members, we support several initiatives to make it easier for Dane County citizens to become involved in county issues.

The Dane County League supports EXEC-O-02, the Executive Committee amendment to the Operating Budget that provides funding for public outreach to encourage citizen engagement. In particular, we support appropriating \$10,000 to cover the cost of a pilot project to video-record two meetings per month of one County standing committee. Committee meetings, particularly meetings of standing committees, are where the work that citizens need to see is done. The League believes that video access to the deliberations of these committees is necessary to engage citizens who cannot attend in person due to family, health, or work commitments, especially rural citizens who would need significant travel time to attend.

Rooms 201 and 354 in the City-County Building already have the equipment needed for video recording. A standing committee, for example the Health and Human Needs Committee, could choose to meet in one of those rooms for those meetings it holds in the City-County Building. We understand that \$10,000 would be adequate to fund video recording by City Channel staff of two two-hour meetings per month. City Channel recordings are available on demand on the City Channel website.

We would support future expansion of video access to deliberations of other County standing committees over the next few years. This would require an expanded arrangement with City Channel for staff to manage the recording.

In addition, the League supports appropriation of \$10,000 for video services in support of meetings related to juvenile justice, and the other appropriations for outreach spending detailed in EXEC-O-02. We also support amendment EXEC-O-09, to add \$10,000 to provide Spanish-language ballots in the April 2019 elections.

Finally, we wish to remind the Committee and the Board of Supervisors of our advocacy for two cost-free ways to improve communication and engagement with the public:

- a) The public needs a method to communicate with all citizens who serve on committees and boards. Currently, the email addresses of most county staff and elected officials are identified on Legistar committee listings, but contact information for most other members or for the committee staff is often missing. Please see our email of September 13, 2018 to county board members that presented three solutions to this problem.
- b) The public needs timely publication of meeting dates, times and location. Some committees make this information available well in advance, but others do not publish it until the Friday before the meeting. Such abbreviated notice gives citizens and even other supervisors very little time to arrange schedules for child care, work, other meetings, or personal matters, and makes attendance less feasible. While agendas may not be finalized until shortly before the meeting, the dates, times, and locations, if known, should be published on Legistar so that citizens who care about that committee's issues have an opportunity to plan to attend.

Thank you for your consideration.

# Our League in the News

Brook Soltvedt, [soltvedtbrook@gmail.com](mailto:soltvedtbrook@gmail.com)

Our League and the work of its members through the Dane County Voter ID Coalition has been featured in the news quite a bit lately. Although our members have done far more than these press accounts cover, it helps to let the public know what we do to defend our democracy.

- Patty Peltekos interviewed vice president Brook Soltvedt and LWVWI voter education coordinator Eileen Newcomer about getting ready to vote on [A Public Affair on WORT-FM](#). October 15
- [Badger Report](#) quotes Marian Matthews (as Marianne Matthews) on the opportunity that voting offers students. October 19
- [Neil Heinen's Channel 3000 editorial](#) lauded our *Candidates' Answers*. October 23
- [Capital Times front page article on Epic Voting](#) several times mentioned our voter registration drives with their employees. October 24
- Andrea Kaminski wrote an op-ed that was published in the [Capital City Hues](#) on why people should vote. October 29
- Ingrid Rothe, representing our League as co-chair of the Dane County Voter ID Coalition, spoke at an Urban League press conference encouraging African Americans to vote. The event was covered in the [Capital City Hues](#). October 29
- [Capital Times article on West High School students](#) organizing to register and vote with help from our League. October 31
- [Brava magazine](#) featured our League as their nonprofit for the month of November (page 71). November 1
- [WKOW TV filmed a segment](#) at the Student Activity Center in-person absentee voting location about the B1G voting challenge. Many League volunteers were pictured assisting voters at this polling place that our League organized and staffed for two weeks. November 2
- [Julia Gilden was profiled](#) in the Wisconsin State Journal's Know Your Madisonian feature on November 2
- [Democracy in Peril: The War on Voting Rights](#) is a CNN special report focused on Wisconsin. Ari Berman and UW professors Ken Mayer and Barry Burden were interviewed, and Mayer's study on voter suppression is explained. Long segments feature Molly McGrath and other coalition members doing voter ID outreach work. Nick Stephanopoulos and Ruth Greenwood, who spoke at the LWV [National Convention](#), discussed their role leading the legal team for the Wisconsin partisan gerrymander case, Gill v. Whitford.
- Ingrid Rothe, co-chair of the Dane County Voter ID Coalition, spoke about voter suppression in Wisconsin on two WORT-FM programs: [Labor Hour](#) on November 2 and [Her Turn News](#) November 4
- [NBC 15 reported](#) on UW medical students who assisted hospitalized voters to cast ballots after being trained by LWVDC volunteers. November 6
- Brook Soltvedt and Ingrid Rothe were interviewed by the Badger Report, a production of UW Journalism students, about the importance of student voting, with a focus on the importance of this election for women.

## New Members

We welcome these new members who joined us in October. An [updated member directory](#) is available on our website. If you have forgotten the password, there is a link to contact the webmaster for help.

Elizabeth Anajovich  
Marilyn Bazinski  
Laura Berger  
Ruth Brown  
Nancy Chybowski  
Katherine Fincutter  
Margaret Gordon

Laura Grueneberg  
Stephanie Hall  
Lisa Hassenstab  
Corliss Karasov  
Katherine Kvale  
Katherine Lauth  
Joan Martin

Michele Metz  
Kim Miller  
Jocelyn Riley  
Allison Trapp  
Kristina Vaccaro  
Kate Wheeler  
Veronica Winslow

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## Contributions

Our work is supported by financial contributions beyond membership dues. Thank you to these members (bold) and nonmember supporters who donated in October.

### General or Other Donations

Irene Durbak  
Edith First  
Jesse Kehres

Alice Kissling  
Carol Palmer  
Marjorie Passman

Deborah Turski

### Candidates' Answers

Cornelia Bakker  
Paul Buckner  
Susan Dottl  
Jean Espenshade

Ilse Hecht  
Sheila Leary  
Holly McEntee  
Deborah McNeil

Mary Palmer  
Guy Plunkett III  
Raymond Roder  
Ruth Sybers

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## Thank You Volunteers!

Thank you to the following members for volunteering their time and resources in the office, towards *Candidates' Answers* and at our forums.

Sally Carpenter  
Linda Dietrich  
Judi Dilks  
Christine Einerson

Margaret Fuguitt  
Eileen Hanneman  
Geogianna Hernandez  
Jean Jacobson

Sue Larson  
Barbara Mortensen  
Barbara Wolfe

We would also like to send a big **thank you** to all of our voter service volunteers.

# Unit Meetings Schedule

Diane Liebert, [dwliebertlwvdc@gmail.com](mailto:dwliebertlwvdc@gmail.com), 608-698-4143

Unit meetings are **not scheduled in December**. Contact your coordinator to find out when your unit's next meeting will be held.

## \*New Unit\*

### Southern Dane County

**Time:** Next Meeting February 20 at 7 p.m.

Regular Time TBD

**Location:** Fitchburg Library, 5530 Lacy Road

**Leader:** [Diane Liebert](#) (608-698-4143)

## \*New Unit\*

### UW Campus

**Time:** Regular Time TBD

**Location:** Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St,  
Madison; check Today in the Union for room

**Leader:** [Laura Grueneberg](#) (502-235-0023)

### West / Middleton

**Time:** 6 p.m., third Monday of the month

**Location:** LWVDC Office

4513 Vernon Boulevard, Ste 106

**Leaders:** [Priscilla Thain](#) (608-233-5578)  
and [Merilyn Kupferberg](#) (608-831-3269)

### Oakwood West

**Time:** 12:45 p.m., third Tuesday of the month

**Location:** 6205 Mineral Point Road

Parking on grounds. Enter through the unlocked doors in the Tower, located near the intersection of Mineral Point Road and Island Drive. Take the elevator to 2nd floor and turn right, following signs to the Garden Terrace Bistro.

**Leader:** [Kathy Johnson](#) (608-238-1785)

### Northeast Side

**Time:** 3:30 p.m., third Wednesday of the month

**Location:** Lakeview Public Library

**Leaders:** [Karen Gunderson](#) (608-729-4351)  
and [Dorothy Wheeler](#) (608-244-4711)

### Downtown Dinner

**Time:** 5:15 p.m., third Wednesday of the month

**Location:** Capitol Lakes Retirement Center  
private dining room

**Leader:** [Ingrid Rothe](#) (608-556-3174)

**Thank you** for your support and contributions over the past year!

Because of you, the League of Women Voters of Dane County continues to promote active and informed participation in our democracy. As you consider your end-of year gifts, please consider a gift to the League.

## Upcoming Events

Dec. 12	Board Meeting, 2 p.m.
Dec. 24—Jan. 1	Office closed
Jan. 9	Board Meeting, 2 p.m.
Jan. 12	Lively Issues Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.

## 2019 Elections

Feb. 19	Spring Primary
Apr. 2	Spring Election

