



# Bulletin

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

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### May, 2010

#### Executive Committee:

- President** – Kathy Johnson
- Pres-Elect** – Earnestine Moss
- Secretary** – Helen LeRoy
- Treasurer** – Pat Levin

**Editor** – Brook Soltvedt

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#### Office Hours:

MWF through May 7, 2010:  
12:30 PM–3:30 PM  
MWF beginning May 10, 2010:  
9:00 AM–12:00 PM  
TR: 9:00 AM–12:30 PM

#### Office Administrator:

Sara Markham

## President's Message

*Kathy Johnson*

When I said yes to taking over as president a year ago, I didn't think the time would go so quickly. But this is my last message to you all, since the new president will be taking over after the annual meeting May 5th. We hope to see many of you at the Doubletree Hotel at 5 pm to do the business of the League, but also to celebrate our 90th year as a local League. 1920 was a year to remember, especially for women, as we got the vote. The 75 years it took to accomplish this was a real struggle, with some women jailed because they tried to vote.

I would like to thank many people who have helped make this year easy for me. First is the board of directors who handled so many aspects of League—publicity, the *Bulletin* and Web site, our finances, voter service, fundraising, and program. I also need to thank our Office Administrator, Sara Markham, who does so many things behind the scenes. Many state Leagues do not have staff, so we in Dane County are very fortunate. I also want to thank those of you who contribute beyond your dues, since this allows us to have an office and staff.

Hope to see you May 5<sup>th</sup>!

### Annual Meeting

May 5, 2010

### Celebrating 90 years of League!

- 5:00 p.m. – Social Time and Cash Bar
- 5:30 p.m. – Business Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. – Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. – Program » League's 90th Anniversary «  
A suffrage quiz, singing, and League history.

Reservations due April 30!

**Doubletree Hotel, 525 W. Johnson St.**

**Free parking**

## New Member Profiles

### A Native and a Newcomer

*Gloria Meyer, 288-8160, [gkmeyer68@gmail.com](mailto:gkmeyer68@gmail.com)*

**Esther Hedfield** of Middleton joined the Dane County League this year because of her interest in politics and her friends who are League members. Esther, a Madison native, spent most of her life after college in Detroit teaching English to a variety of students, from middle school to adults. She and her husband decided to return to Madison when they retired in 1993. Although she has not been able to attend all the League activities because of conflicts, she has been pleased by the events she has attended.

**Kate Mulligan**, who joined our League about two weeks ago, came to Madison to retire. After living in Washington, DC, for many years and working as a staff writer for *Psychiatric News*, Kate found Madison listed as one of the top ten places to retire. Having attended Carleton College in Minnesota, she was not put off by the winter weather. She visited, found Madison met her criteria, and moved here about a year ago.

Kate joined the Dane County League because of her experience with Great Decisions. She found the women there to be intelligent, interesting, and congenial. Although she plans to do quite a bit of traveling, she would like to participate in some League activities, especially Voters' Service.

## Grateful to Our Donors

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributors who responded to the annual Valentine-Birthday appeal since March 2, 2010.

**Kay Ahern**  
**Ellouise Beatty**  
**Peggy Glassford**  
**Margi Kindig**  
**Pam Rewey**  
**Rose Sime**

We also thank **Joan K. Niebauer** for her contribution in recognition of *Candidates' Answers*.

## Annual Meeting to Celebrate League History

This year's annual meeting will celebrate 90 years of our Dane County League with a suffrage quiz, a short League sing-along, and the high points of our history. The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel on 525 West Johnson Street (the old Howard Johnson's). The Hotel has free parking. Come see your friends, honor 50-year members, and meet new members! Reservations needed by April 30.

## Voter Service News

*Priscilla Thain, 233-5578, [priscillathain@gmail.com](mailto:priscillathain@gmail.com)*

Thank you to the following members who moderated candidate forums:

For the spring primary election  
**Earnestine Moss** in Stoughton

For the spring general election  
**Mary Bean** in Monona  
**Carol Carstensen** in Monona  
**Helen Horn** in Stoughton  
**Pat Levin** in Cottage Grove  
**Priscilla Thain** in Shorewood Hills.

The League will again be registering voters from June through September at the Capitol Square Farmers' Market and the Westside Farmers' Market at the State Office Building parking lot. A signup sheet will be available at the annual meeting. If you need to renew the certification for Special Voter Registration Deputy to register voters anywhere in Wisconsin, please check [www.gab.wi.gov/](http://www.gab.wi.gov/) and fill out their survey. Those not certified since January 1, 2009, need to be recertified. Classes will be scheduled starting in May based on the demand shown by their survey.

The campaigns for the fall elections will be gearing up soon. The fall elections include Wisconsin Governor, US Senator, US Representative, District 2, and many other offices (details posted on our Web site). It is expected that there will be a large demand for voter registration.

## May Challenge Grant

Fred Wade, [fred.wade@mtownlaw.com](mailto:fred.wade@mtownlaw.com)

### Please Help LWVDC Obtain \$5,000 in May!

Two members of the Dane County League have offered to match donations from current members to the LWVDC during the month of May, to a maximum of \$2,500, for a total of \$5000 in contributions and matches. These generous offers present a wonderful opportunity for the League to raise needed funds during the current fiscal year. Please consider making a donation, either to the LWVDC (*not* deductible) or to the LWV Education Fund (tax deductible).

The donors are concerned that the League has a substantial operating deficit in the current fiscal year, which includes the cost of *Candidates' Answers*. They hope that other members will respond to this challenge knowing that their donations will be matched—dollar for dollar—and go twice as far, up to a maximum of \$2,500.

*[Please mail contributions to the League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc., 2712 Marshall Court, Suite 2, Madison, WI 53705.]*

## Update on WYOU

There is good news and bad news for WYOU, the Madison public access channel that broadcasts League forums and lends us their equipment to record the events. The good news is that League members stepped up and contributed \$565 to WYOU during their recent fundraiser. This exceeded the minimum \$400 that the station requested of each group with programming on WYOU. The bad news is that the legislature did not vote on the cable repair bill that would have restored funding to WYOU, Madison City Channel, and other public access stations around the state. We expect the legislation will be brought up again next year.

## League Members Meet with African Delegation

At the request of the International Institute of Wisconsin, LWVDC members met with a delegation of government officials, publishers, and other leaders from a number of African countries on April 20. **Kathy Johnson, Clare McArdle, Brook Soltvedt and Priscilla Thain** and spoke about what the League does to inform voters, register citizens to vote, study and develop positions on issues, and press government to enact laws and policies to support these positions. A lively question-and-answer period followed.

## Brat Fest

Please remember that Brat Fest is Memorial Day weekend. If you have signed up to volunteer on behalf of League, thank you! And please remember your shift. If you have not volunteered, sign-up information is on our Web site. Available shifts may be limited, but are always in flux. Questions? Contact Fred Wade at [fred.wade@mtownlaw.com](mailto:fred.wade@mtownlaw.com) or (608) 957-9927 or Nicole Hall at (608) 236-2041 or [Nicole.H@ShopMetcalfes.com](mailto:Nicole.H@ShopMetcalfes.com).

## Sandra Day O'Connor to Address Fair Courts Issue

As part of its annual convention, the Wisconsin State Bar is sponsoring a presentation on fair courts by retired US Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Thursday, May 6, from 10–11:30 am at the Monona Terrace Convention Center. League of Women Voters members have been invited to attend. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about approaches to making our justice system fair!

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **May 5** – LWVDC Annual Meeting
- **May 11** – LWVDC Board Meeting
- **June 18–19** – LWVWI Annual Meeting, LaCrosse
- **July 1** – LWVDC membership renewal due for 2010–2011

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2712 Marshall Court, Suite 2  
Madison, WI 53705

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## Volunteers Needed for Fall *Candidates' Answers*

Our Fall election work gets underway again in the summer, with voter registration, and with preparations for LWVDC's Fall voters' guide, *Candidates' Answers*. Please consider marking your calendar for a summertime commitment to this longstanding voters' guide project *and* letting Sara in the LWVDC office know when you could volunteer: 232-9447; [lwvdc@chorus.net](mailto:lwvdc@chorus.net).

The Fall primary is September 14, 2010, and the Fall general election is November 2, 2010. This summer we will need volunteers for the following tasks and dates:

**8/5 Thursday: First proofing of *all* candidate responses (Primary & General) [2 hours]**

**8/6 Friday: Second proofing to ensure corrections from 8/5 were made [2-hours]**

If LWVDC produces a paper-insert Primary Election edition of *CA* in *Isthmus*:

**8/27 Friday: Third Proofreading—the Primary galleys [2-hours]**

**9/2 Thursday: Pulling, folding, and counting *CA* inserts at Walsh St., 8–10 a.m.**

**9/2 Thursday: Bulk-mailing at LWVDC office, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.**

**9/9 Thursday: Pulling and folding remaining *CA* inserts at LWVDC office, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Thank you for planning LWVDC into your summertime activities!