



# Bulletin

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

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Office hours: Monday–Thursday, 8–1

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### Executive Committee:

Christine Clements, President  
Maria Spinozzi, Vice President  
Jean Jacobson, Vice President  
Georgiana Hernandez, Program Chair

### Bulletin Editors

Maria Spinozzi, [bulletin@lwvdanecounty.org](mailto:bulletin@lwvdanecounty.org)  
Lauren Surovi, Copy Editor  
Lisa Janairo, Editor



## Tuesday, March 9, 2021

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

### How Does a Divided Wisconsin Move Forward?

The November election results show that the cities and suburbs in Wisconsin voted in greater numbers for Democratic candidates and the rural areas came out strongly in favor of Republican candidates. This divide was even more pronounced in 2020 than it was in 2016. Why is there such a wide urban-rural divide in Wisconsin? Did the pandemic and unrest over racial justice play a role? How might have partisan media and disinformation influence this divide? What needs to happen to heal the social and racial divides in Wisconsin? What issues can Wisconsinites agree on as we try to recover from the economic and societal injuries suffered in the past year?

**Katherine Cramer**, Professor of Political Science and the Natalie C. Holton Chair of Letters & Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Philip Chen**, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Beloit College

**Julie Keown-Bomar**, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Farmers Union

**Angela Lang**, Executive Director of Black Leaders Organizing for Communities or BLOC

**Masood Akhtar**, president and founder of We Are Many: United Against Hate

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Click [here](#) for more information about the forum.

# President's Message

Christine Clements, [president@lwvdanecounty.org](mailto:president@lwvdanecounty.org)

On February 14, the League of Women Voters celebrated its 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. What better way to celebrate our next century than by welcoming Kate Vickery, our new executive director! Kate's first day on the job was February 13, when she joined the Board of Directors for their Board Planning Retreat. I hope you all had the chance to read Kate's bio on our [homepage](#). Kate brings exceptional experience and skill to the job, and we are excited to work with her on expanding the impact of the League in empowering voters and defending democracy. She is equally excited to meet all of you, and in order to begin meeting our membership during this time of quarantine, Kate will be hosting a Meet-and-Greet Zoom event on Thursday, March 4 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. I hope you will be able to join her for some informal Q&A. Watch for the link in e-News!

## New Bulletin Editor

Please welcome **Lauren Surovi**, our new incoming *Bulletin* editor. Lauren has been serving as our *Bulletin* copy editor for the last year and is now taking on the role of coordinating and producing the *Bulletin*. She will be starting in this role with the April issue of the *Bulletin*.

As we celebrate Kate's arrival, we must also say good-bye to our Vice President of Governance, Marilyn Stephen. Marilyn joined the LWVDC Board two years ago as action chair and developed our observer corps. In her VP role, she wrote the proposal for the new bylaws that we will be voting on this spring and drafted the proposed policies and procedures that would support these bylaws. Marilyn has been a wise and informed member of the board and we will miss her enthusiasm and equanimity. We wish her well in her move to Michigan, where she will no doubt find other League opportunities to engage with. We are very grateful for all she has done for us.

Stepping in to take Marilyn's place is Maria Spinozzi. Maria has been our *Bulletin* editor for the past three years, and she is currently chairing the research group studying ranked choice voting. She is also a past DEI committee chair. Maria will guide us through the decision on our new bylaws. I hope you had an opportunity to read the article in the February *Bulletin*, which focused on one aspect of our proposed new bylaws: board structure. A second piece appears in this March *Bulletin* and a third will be in next month's edition. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and get feedback before the official vote takes place with the annual business meeting in May.

Over the next month, we will be preparing for our second annual business meeting in the COVID era. As part of this process, board members will be developing reports to share on the accomplishments of the last year, and no small part of our accomplishments as a League will be all that we were able to accomplish despite a quarantine and numerous restrictions. Since we will once again be unable to meet in person, we will follow the guidelines provided by the State League and the model utilized for last year's business meeting for our own Dane County League and will send you the reports and ballots by mail. Stay tuned for more information about this process and an accompanying meeting of the membership.

We have much to celebrate as we move forward into our second century, but we also have much work to do on the democracy front. Fortunately, we will do so with the excellent leadership of our new executive director and the enthusiastic and committed participation of our volunteers. We're grateful for the contributions of our past and present Dane County League members as we work to become more diverse and inclusive and to create a more perfect democracy.

# Wisconsin Needs Clean Energy

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

If you missed the February 9 LWVDC forum, “C’Mon—Wisconsin Needs Clean Energy!”, I encourage you to watch the [recording](#). It is well worth an hour of your time.

This was a catchy title for an informative discussion about Wisconsin’s transition to clean energy, which gave us an update on where we are in that transition and outlined some of the challenges ahead.

We had three knowledgeable, engaging, and enthusiastic presenters: **Sam Dunaiski** from RENEW Wisconsin, **Scott Coenen** from the Wisconsin Conservative Energy Forum (WICEF), and **Dr. Kenneth Walz** from Madison College. The forum was very capably hosted by **Carol Barford**, LWVDC member on the Climate Crisis Subcommittee and Director of the Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment (SAGE).

For those of us who haven’t been following this topic closely, there was a lot to learn and think about. Several points caught my attention, including the fact that Wisconsin has already made significant steps toward more renewable energy, renewable energy has become even cheaper than coal, and the renewable energy field is creating many well-paying jobs.

The bulk of our energy in Wisconsin still comes from the burning of coal. Since Wisconsin does not have any coal deposits, all of that coal has to be shipped into our state, at a cost of \$14.4 billion annually. Shifting to local, sustainable energy will lower the cost of utilities and save customers money. Instead of investing money in upgrades to aging coal-burning plants, Wisconsin utility companies are slowly shutting these plants down. Just this month, Alliant Energy announced it will be shutting down its Columbia power plant near Portage by 2025. In 2018, the Pleasant Prairie and Pulliam coal plants retired, and the Edgewater 5 and Genoa coal plants are set to retire in 2022.

**Dr. Walz** told us that the fastest-growing jobs segment is currently the renewable energy field, with many well-paying jobs. These jobs will continue to increase as more communities commit to cleaner energy. Currently, 170 cities in the U.S. have committed to 100% renewable energy. In 2010, the U.S. was using 10% renewable energy; as of 2020, that percentage has grown to 25%.

## *In Case You Missed It...*

Have you seen the League’s Blog, *Swinging for the Fences*, lately?

In [Climate Change Drama with a Roll of the Dice](#), League member Ralph Petersen explains why we need to know if the CO2 level–atmosphere interaction is functioning like a loaded die.

In [People in Crisis—Law Enforcement’s Response Matters](#), Discussion Unit Coordinator and retired psychotherapist Patricia Miles Patterson highlights what is being done in Dane County to improve outcomes for people in crisis and for the law enforcement officers called upon as first-responders.

In [Gerrymandered Maps—Too Good to be True](#), League member Paige Goodhew argues for the importance of a fair and transparent redistricting process in Wisconsin.

In an effort to help League members make sense of the latest impeachment trial, LWVDC Board member and attorney Joan Schwarz penned, “[Does the Senate Have Constitutional Authority to Convict Donald Trump for Impeachment Now That He is No Longer President?](#)”

February forum videos are also available online.

[C’Mon—Wisconsin Needs Clean Energy!](#) and [Crisis Cops: Creating Communities of Care](#)

Madison College offers programs to teach students how to install and maintain renewable energy components. They even have a large solar array on the rooftops at the Truax campus, which provides 25% of their annual energy. That array is primarily for summer when their electric needs are greatest because of air conditioning.

**Sam Dunaiki** shared that there are a number of renewable energy projects currently under development, along with several that have recently begun producing renewable energy for Wisconsin. Many of you are probably aware of the solar array near the Dane County airport which went online in December 2020. It will produce nine megawatts of sustainable energy, providing Dane County with about 40% of the energy used by all County-owned facilities. The 150 MW Two Creeks solar array in Manitowoc County began producing sustainable energy in November 2020. Solar arrays that will produce 900 megawatts have been approved and/or are under development. An additional six projects totaling 1100 megawatts are currently awaiting approval. And there are three wind energy projects in the pipeline, which will produce about 300 megawatts of energy.

**Scott Coenen** told us that WICEF represents the new conservative voice in renewable energy. Their goals of affordable, reliable, clean, and efficient energy can be met by a transition to renewable energy. Many elected officials, along with many of us, are not aware that renewable energy technology has become cheaper than fossil fuel energy, even without government subsidies. Solar is now the cheapest energy source. WICEF works to educate conservative elected officials about this change in the energy field.

Scott also pointed out that Wisconsin needs to build the infrastructure required for renewable energy. This includes the electric grids to connect all of the new solar and wind farms, battery backup capability, and electric vehicle charging stations. He pointed out that government policy and leadership are lagging behind the technology.

Scott has found that the strongest resistance to solar and wind farms comes from the people who would live closest to these farms. Most fossil fuel energy is produced at a handful of very large power plants and the people who use the energy never see the plant. It is unsettling for them to see acres of land next to them sprouting solar panels or wind turbines.

The audience had a number of questions. Here are just a few of them, along with panelists' responses:

Isn't there a problem with intermittent production of electricity from solar and wind? Yes, and we need more and better battery backup, which has improved greatly in the past several years.

Does snow affect solar panels? Yes, if the snow covers the panels. If panels are set at a 60% slope, snow does not accumulate. Also, most of the time snow melts off the panels fairly quickly.

How much land does a solar farm take up? Seven acres of land per megawatt. So, according to Scott, 0.3 % of Wisconsin land would be needed to produce 50% of our energy from solar.

It is heartening to hear how much progress has already been made in renewable energy and how much more is planned. This is definitely a topic worth following closely.

*Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

## Nominations from the Floor

Christine Clements, [president@lwvdanecounty.org](mailto:president@lwvdanecounty.org)

Each year the nominating committee develops a slate of candidates for open board positions by accepting nominations from members and assuring consent of the nominee has been secured. This year the following board terms are up for election: Vice President–Governance, Secretary, Voter Service Director, and Membership Director. The nominating committee has identified qualified and willing candidates for each of these positions.

This year's nominated candidates are as follows:

- VP Governance - Maria Spinozzi
- Secretary - Joan Provencher
- Voter Service - Barb Feeney
- Membership - Amber Rottier
- Nominating Committee - Jan Van Vleck, Elizabeth Kanne, Gail Krc

Normally, these candidates are presented in the annual meeting packets and voted on in person at the annual meeting. Prior to voting, we also allow 'Nominations from the floor' so that additional candidates may be proposed. Since voting will happen by written ballot *prior to* our virtual meeting this year, the 'Nominations from the floor' process needs to be handled differently. Please follow the steps below if you would like to nominate an additional person for any of the board positions up for election this year.

Steps to Nominate from the Floor:

1. Read the [description of position responsibilities](#).
2. Get the consent of the person you are nominating.
3. Submit nomination with a biographical paragraph of the nominee to [president@lwvdanecounty.org](mailto:president@lwvdanecounty.org).

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## Why I Give – John Boyer

Megan Severson, [meganseverson@gmail.com](mailto:meganseverson@gmail.com)

Photo provided by John Boyer

I donate to the League of Women Voters of Dane County because of its mission statement: Defending democracy, empowering voters. I am deaf, blind, 84 years old, and use a wheelchair. Nevertheless, I live alone and am a retired software engineer; I have several computers for work and play and enjoy writing my blog.

I have long said that the greatest threat to liberty is the person or group who is in power at the moment. The League of Women Voters of Dane County is a bulwark against attempts to destroy democracy and disenfranchise the people.



Member and Donor John Boyer

My personal priorities for the LWVDC are redistricting and healthcare. I believe that the way our district maps have been drawn in the past has given too much power to decision-makers to favor their own interests. I appreciate the League's work to ensure future maps are fair and representative of all citizens' interests.

The issue of healthcare interests me because everyone should have adequate access to medical care, especially now, during a pandemic.

I am happy to give to the League because women have played major roles in my life. I grew up with three older sisters who were gentle, but there was no question who was bigger and stronger. I also am using my gift to honor my late wife, Hazel, who inspired me in so many ways.

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## Amended Bylaws Part 2 – Committees

This is the second of three articles you will see in the *Bulletin* about proposed amendments to the LWVDC Bylaws. Members will be asked to approve these amendments by written ballot prior to our Annual Meeting in May. Bylaws provide a broad blueprint for how the board operates, and in our League, the bylaws can only be amended by a vote of the members. Links to the current bylaws as well as the draft being submitted to the members for approval are at the end of this article.

### CURRENT BYLAWS

The current Bylaws provide for four “standing” committees. A standing committee is a permanent committee that oversees the work of the organization. The four committees are the Executive Committee, the Finance-Development Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Program and Advocacy Committee. In addition to naming the standing committees, the current Bylaws specify how the Executive Committee functions.

### RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

The amendments to the Bylaws set forth only three standing committees: the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Nominating Committee. These three committees form the base of our organization and will always be required for the board to function.

In addition to the three standing committees, the amendments provide for two operational committees: the Program and Advocacy Committee and Voter Service Committee. These two committees oversee the work that we do. The amendments also provide that the Board may create, designate, and disband additional committees as needed for LWVDC to conduct business. Each committee reports to the Board about its activities. Our hope is that permitting the Board to provide service through a strong committee structure will engage more members and will allow LWVDC to continue to be a highly regarded organization in these complex and fast-changing times.

Article X of the amended bylaws briefly describes the activities of the Voter Service Committee and the Program and Advocacy Committee.

[Current Bylaws](#)  
[Amended Bylaws](#)

The amended bylaws will be submitted to the members for approval with the 2021 Annual Meeting materials. Please contact Maria Spinozzi at [mspinozzi@gmail.com](mailto:mspinozzi@gmail.com) if you have any comments or questions about these bylaws. We will also be hosting an online Q&A prior to our annual meeting to discuss the bylaws.

# Quarterly Cafés Serve Up DEI Discussion Opportunities

Lisa Janairo, [ljanairo129@gmail.com](mailto:ljanairo129@gmail.com)

The LWVDC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee hosted the first quarterly DEI Café of 2021 on January 28. A dozen members came together on a Saturday morning to discuss what we had learned two weeks earlier from Dr. Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins's talk "Finishing the Fight" during our January 16 Lively Issues Conversation. Most of the attendees were from the Dane County League, but we were very pleased to open up the conversation to members from elsewhere in Wisconsin, too.

Aileen Nettleton and I co-hosted the Café, facilitating the discussion of what we all took from Dr. Jefferson-Jenkins's presentation. Central to the conversation was how we, as a League and as individual members, can answer her call to help the League become an organization that recognizes "the value of all people in reality, not just rhetoric; in value, not just voice/visuals; and in beliefs, not just benefits."

The members had a number of ideas to share, from the wide ranging and complex to the very specific and seemingly simple. An example of the latter was the very first suggestion made: that, in light of statements that LWV founder Carrie Chapman Catt made in support of white supremacy, it might be a good idea to consider changing the name of our chapter's annual award to honor a different member of the League. As it turns out, the DEI Committee has this suggestion on our draft list of recommendations for the Board, which we will be submitting this spring.

Café participants also thought it would be a good idea to hold an informational session on what it means to be "transformative" in our work versus "transactional." (Dr. Jefferson-Jenkins mentions this distinction frequently throughout her book, *The Untold Story of Women of Color in the League of Women Voters*.) We all were interested in taking up the call to be more transformative, and we agreed that having some concrete examples of exactly what this means and how to achieve "transformation" will increase our chances of success.

Another suggestion was to look for opportunities to partner with other organizations to dismantle voter suppression laws and gerrymandering. If our collective efforts don't succeed at first, then the meaningful partnerships we build will make it possible for us to work together to counter the effects of these two threats to democracy and help people exercise their right to vote despite the barriers.

Finally, we talked about the importance of educating ourselves about the history of racism, about government policies and programs that are inherently racist, and — for white members — about how growing up and living in a society in which systemic racism is pervasive has influenced how we think about and navigate issues of race. Members brought up the [LWVUS modules, webinars, and other DEI-related resources](#) as a good place to begin one's exploration of race and racism. Books like [Me and White Supremacy](#), [Stolen Justice: The Struggle for African American Voting Rights](#), and previous LWVDC discussion books, [Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents](#) and [How to Be an Antiracist](#), also came up as recommendations from the members. While individual learning is important, it's helpful to take this difficult journey in the company of others. For group training, members mentioned the Nehemiah Center's course "[African American History for a New Day](#)" and the "[Witnessing Whiteness](#)" workshops that take place periodically in Dane County. We also discussed training that we hope the LWV Dane County or LWVWI may one day make available to members on a regular basis.

The DEI Committee will be discussing these ideas during our next meeting, scheduled for 12 - 1 pm on March 10. We'll also be gearing up for the next quarterly DEI Café, which will take place on Saturday, April 24, from 10 - 11:30 am. The Café will be an extended discussion of the book club selection for April, [The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America](#) by Richard Rothstein. The book discussion sessions will take place on April 17 and April 19 from 10 - 11:30 am. All members are welcome to attend the DEI Café on April 24 even if they don't attend one of the book discussion sessions. Registration for all three sessions will open soon, so watch the weekly LWVDC emails or the [calendar](#) for the link to sign up.

Next month in the *Bulletin*, I'll preview *The Color of Law* and share some of the questions and themes we'll be exploring during the book club discussion and the DEI Café.

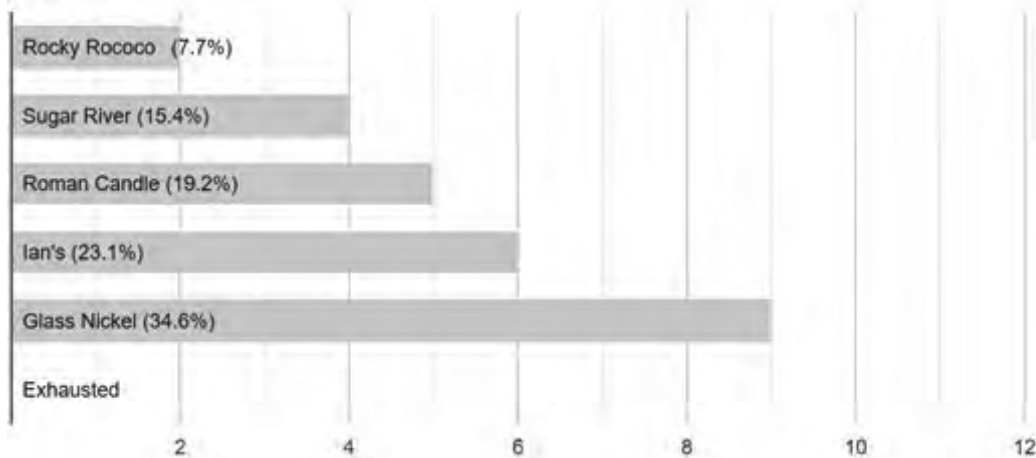
## Mock Election Results – RCV

Matt Szczepankiewicz, [matt.szczepankiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:matt.szczepankiewicz@gmail.com)

Thanks to all who participated in this month's online mock election using ranked-choice voting! There were 26 ballots cast. Below are the results. You can also see the results and raw data [here](#).

### Round 1

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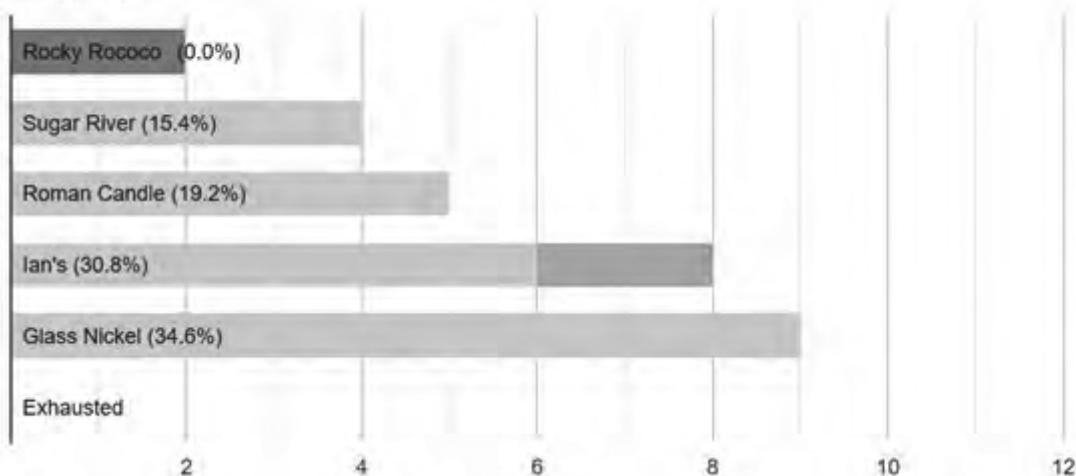


A plurality of voters indicated Glass Nickel as their top choice. However, because no pizzeria passed the 50% threshold for a majority, the pizzeria with the fewest votes (Rocky Rococo) was eliminated. Of the two voters who listed it as their first choice, both listed Ian's as their second choice, and so their votes were transferred to Ian's.

50%  
threshold,  
13 votes

### Round 2

[\(prev\)](#)[\(next\)](#)

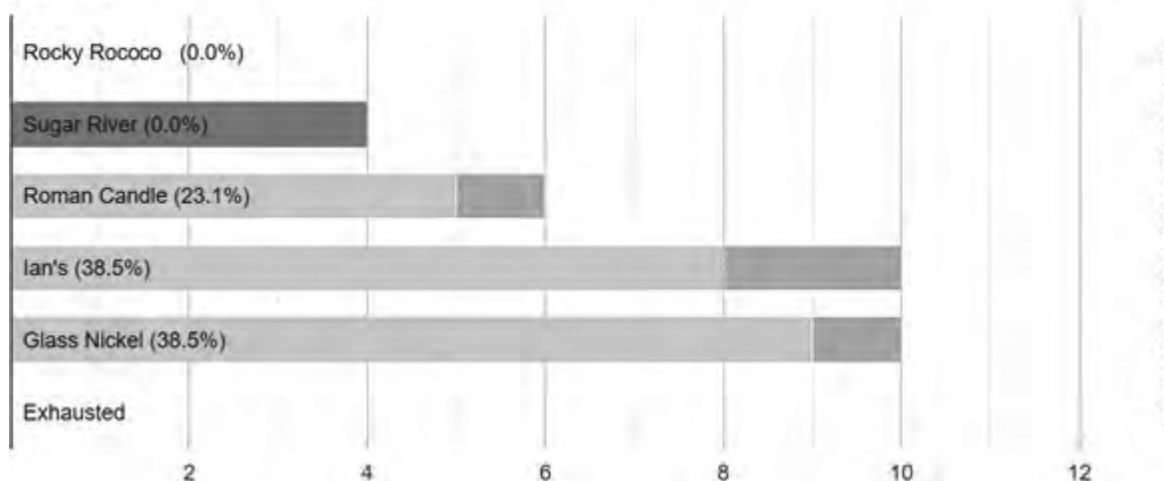




Next, Sugar River was eliminated, and its four votes were transferred to each voter's next choice.

### Round 3

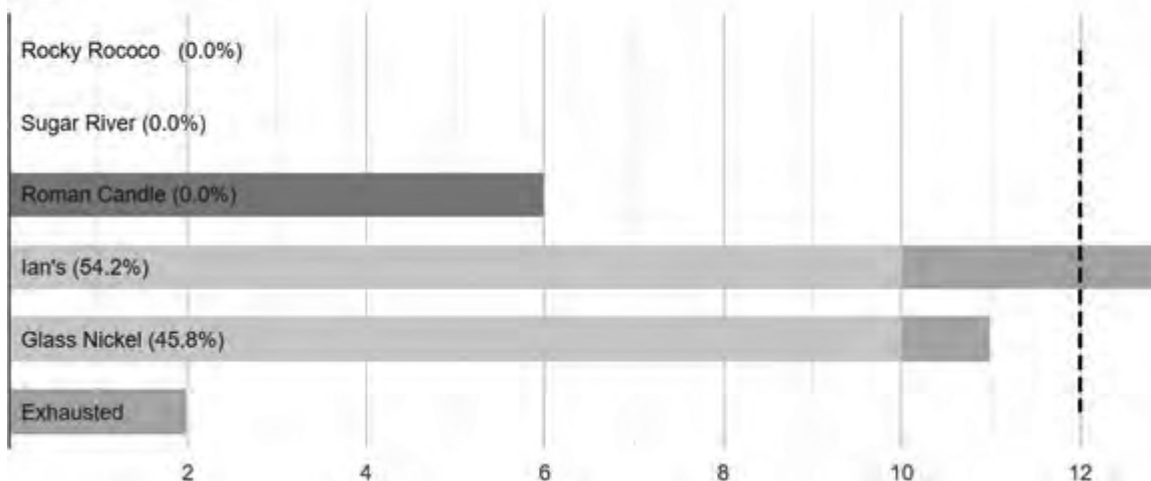
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And finally, Roman Candle was eliminated as it now had the fewest votes. Once it was eliminated, two of the ballots that listed Roman Candle as their top remaining choice were exhausted. These voters didn't express any preference between the remaining two options. That is, they left them blank rather than rank the remaining options. Exhausted ballots can occur in real-life implementations of ranked-choice voting whenever a voter chooses not to fully rank the slate of candidates. Once a ballot is exhausted it no longer affects the outcome of the election.

### Round 4

(prev)



However, of the four non-exhausted ballots, one vote was transferred to Glass Nickel and three votes were transferred to Ian's. This put Ian's over the threshold of majority support, making them the winner!

The outcome of this election demonstrates the key difference between ranked-choice and plurality voting: a candidate with a plurality of support in the first round of voting may still lack majority support if voters are split over which of two or more alternatives they prefer. However, when voters are able to express their second (and third, etc.) choices, a different candidate may ultimately prove to have been more popular overall.

To explore ranked-choice voting further, please register for the [info-session on ranked-choice voting](#) on Sunday, March 7 at 4 p.m.

## Mock Election – Approval Voting

Matt Szczepankiewicz, [matt.szczepankiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:matt.szczepankiewicz@gmail.com)

After last month's ranked-choice selected Ian's as the most popular local pizzeria, this month's poll provides an example of approval voting, a system most recently approved by voters in St. Louis, MO for use in municipal elections (in Fall 2020's [Prop D](#), which was [endorsed](#) by the Metro St. Louis LWV).

Which of the following toppings do you like on pizza? Select as many as you'd like; the top two will be declared the winners! [Vote here.](#)

### Your ballot:

- ☐ Mushrooms
- ☐ Olives
- ☐ Pepperoni
- ☐ Pineapple
- ☐ Anchovies

## What is Proportional Representation?

Maria Spinozzi, [mspinozzi@gmail.com](mailto:mspinozzi@gmail.com)

As of the 2020 National Convention, LWVUS has taken a position supporting the use of electoral systems “that elect policy-making bodies—legislatures, councils, commissions, and boards—that proportionally reflect the people they represent.” This is commonly referred to as proportional representation. But how is it achieved? Which electoral systems allow for proportional representation?

Proportional representation allows groups of like-minded voters to have representation on governing bodies even if that group represents a minority of the voters. Single-winner elections elect only one candidate in a winner-take-all style, so proportional representation cannot be achieved in single-winner elections. Multi-winner elections can result in proportional representation, but not all electoral systems allow multi-winner elections to result in proportional representation.

The way seats are defined on policy-making bodies determines whether they use single-winner or multi-winner elections. Wisconsin relies heavily on geographically apportioned seats. Wisconsin’s US Congressional seats, WI State Assembly seats, WI State Senate seats, and WI County board seats are all apportioned into single-member geographic districts. These require single-winner elections, which prevents the possibility of proportional representation on any one of these policy-making bodies, regardless of the electoral system used.

Aside from geographically defined districts, there are two other ways the seats of multi-member governing bodies can be defined: numbered or at-large. The rarest seat definition, numbered seats, is seen locally in MMSD School Board elections. Numbered seats convert each seat to its own single-winner election as candidates are required to declare a specific seat. At-large seats use multi-winner elections in which all candidates run in the same election and the number of winners is determined by the number of open seats.

At-large seats are the only seat definition that allows for multi-winner elections and therefore allows for the possibility of proportional representation. However, not all electoral systems allow for proportional representation even when using at-large seats.

At-Large Seats	Numbered Seats	Apportioned/Geographic Districts
Multi-Winner Elections	Single-Winner Elections	Single-Winner Elections

In plurality voting, multi-winner elections use block voting. Voters vote for the number of candidates that will win. If there are three seats open, then voters select three candidates. Block voting creates another winner-take-all scenario where any size majority (or plurality if there is no majority) can determine 100% of the seats since each voter gets to contribute a whole vote to each of three candidates. Block voting does not result in proportional representation.

Approval voting can be implemented similarly to plurality block voting, preventing proportional representation. In the example of having three open seats, if the top three vote-getters in an approval vote are selected, it still allows for any size majority to win 100% of the seats.

However, Sequential Proportional Approval Voting (SPAV), sometimes called Reweighted Approval Voting (RAV), is an implementation of approval voting that supports proportional representation. In SPAV, each ballot's weight is reduced once that ballot contributes to the win of a candidate. Re-weighting ballots down after they have contributed to a candidate's win limits the maximum voting weight of an individual voter. After re-weighting, the ballot of a voter that did not yet contribute to a winner would be worth more, since they have their full voting weight left to give. Re-weighting can result in minority groups of like-minded voters achieving some representation on policy-making bodies.

Ranked choice voting (RCV) also limits the maximum voting power of each voter, so that each voter contributes a total weight of one vote. As voters' ballots are tallied, if their first-ranked candidate wins, then their vote is counted toward that candidate. If that candidate has more than the necessary number of votes to win, then a fraction of that voters' vote is still available to be contributed to another candidate, but the voter cannot contribute more than one whole vote in total. MPR has published an easy-to-follow 3-minute [video](#) showing how to tally votes in an RCV multi-winner election. Like SPAV, RCV can allow a minority group of like-minded voters to achieve some representation on policy-making bodies.

	At-Large Seats	Apportioned/ Districts	Numbered Seats
<b>Plurality</b>	Block voting does not allow for Proportional Representation.	No Proportional Representation - Single Winner	No Proportional Representation - Single Winner
<b>Approval</b>	Allows for proportional representation using Sequential Proportional Approval Voting (SPAV).	No Proportional Representation - Single Winner	No Proportional Representation - Single Winner
<b>RCV</b>	Allows for proportional representation.	No Proportional Representation - Single Winner	No Proportional Representation - Single Winner

The LWVDC study on alternative voting systems will have more detailed examples showing how these different voting systems tally votes in multi-winner elections. To discuss this topic further, please register for the [info-session on proportional representation](#) on Sunday, March 14 at 4 p.m.

## New Members

We welcome these new members who joined us in January. 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.

Do you want to join the League?  
[Sign up for a membership online.](#)

Sarah Crittenden  
Mara Eisch  
Katherine Fitzgerald  
Molly Fulton

Janice Grant  
Kimberly Hinz  
Marcia Kasieta  
Sandra Pfahler

Bonnie Sommers-Olson  
Judith Strand

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## Contributions

Our work is supported by financial contributions beyond membership dues. Thank you to these supporters who donated in January.

### Mary Bean Memorial

Kelly Deines  
Karen Gunderson

Audrey Klement  
Ann Nelson

Carol Toussaint  
Dorothy Wheeler

### Valentine's Campaign

John Boyer

### General or Other Donations

Lori Cayton  
Vivian Chappell  
Sheila Coyle  
Katherine Fitzgerald  
Susan Harvey

Colectivo Coffee Roasters  
Cara Lee Mahany  
Douglas Maynard  
Gene Musser  
Sandra Pfahler

Joan Provencher  
Jonah Rank  
Amy Schulz

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## In Memory of Shirley Munson

We were saddened to hear of Shirley Munson's passing. Shirley was a 50-year member. She joined LWVDC when she moved to Madison in 2014. Her full obituary can be found [here](#).



## Discussion Units

Many League members meet in one of six units to discuss the topic of each forum, using the study materials provided by the program planners to guide the conversation. Each discussion concludes with recommendations for further study or action. Units meet regularly at different times and locations (all are in Madison unless otherwise noted). Find a unit meeting that's convenient for you and participate! Visit this [web page](#) for more information.

**During the pandemic, all unit meetings will be held virtually. If you are new to a unit, please let the host know that you plan to attend so they can send you a link to the Zoom meeting.**

Please consult the [calendar](#) for details about specific meetings.

**Unit: Prairie Ridge (Oakwood Village).** *This group is open to Prairie Ridge residents only.*

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

**Leaders:** [Dorothy Wheeler](#) (608-630-5163)

**Unit: West / Middleton**

**Time:** 6:30 p.m., third Monday of the month

**Leader:** [Merilyn Kupferberg](#) (608-831-3267) and [Gloria Meyer](#) (608-288-8160)

**Unit: Central West**

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

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

**Unit: Northeast Side**

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

**Leaders:** [Karen Gunderson](#) (608-729-4351)

**Unit: Downtown Dinner**

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

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

**Unit: Campus**

**Time:** 6:30 p.m., third Sunday of the month

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

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## Upcoming Events

Mar. 7	Info-Session on Alt. Voting, 4 p.m.
Mar. 9	Public Issues Forum, 7 p.m.
Mar. 10	Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Mar. 14	Info-Session on Alt. Voting, 4 p.m.
Mar. 20	Book Discussion, 10 a.m.
Mar. 22	Book Discussion, 10 a.m.
Apr. 14	Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.



## 2021 Elections

Spring Election – Tuesday, Apr. 6

