

*The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.*  
**2018 CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT AWARD RECIPIENT**

**🎀 Marian Matthews 🎀**

We are very fortunate that the older sister of this year's award winner decided to come from Pennsylvania to the UW–Madison. Marian Matthews followed her sister to the UW and got a degree in behavioral disabilities.

After graduation, Marian began work for the Madison School District. One day, a music student who was earning money as a school bus driver saw her wheeling a student out to the bus. Fortunately, a couple of weeks later Eric and Marian met each other as they were going into the Willy Bear Bar, which led to a long and happy marriage.

Marian's career at the Madison School District was interrupted by a short stint as a chef at the Second Story restaurant, but she spent many years as a program support teacher. Her hobbies include cooking and gardening.

When Marian retired she became a voter registration expert, training campaign volunteers to register voters. She occasionally volunteered with League members at non-partisan events, and gradually shifted her focus to voter outreach with the League.

Over the last decade Marian has mentored dozens of volunteers, always with a supportive, positive attitude. When Proof of Residence and voter photo ID became requirements, Marian took on the complex task of explaining the different documents and processes involved in both, writing "Making it Clear" for volunteers.

Marian chairs the Community Partnerships team for the Voter ID Coalition, organizing voter outreach liaisons to various community groups. She co-chairs the League's library liaison project.

Marian organized the League's voter registration efforts at Epic, which registered hundreds of employees at events prior to online registration. She has organized dozens of other registration efforts, often with a focus on underrepresented communities.

This spring, she has developed an online voter registration training that is designed as a follow-up to the Madison City Clerk's Voter Education Ambassador training. This involves hands-on and self-test components so volunteers can actually practice.

All of this substantive, careful work is done with a sunny, pleasant demeanor. If Marian says she will handle something, you know it will be done and done well and done on time.

We are honored to name Marian Matthews the 2018 Carrie Chapman Catt award winner.