



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:

Aileen Nettleton, President
Brook Soltvedt, Vice President
Helen Horn, Assistant Treasurer
Mary Anglim, Program Director

September Forum

Mary Anglim, program@lwvdanecounty.org

Join us for our first issues forum of the 2018-2019 season. Our topic was chosen based on the responses to our July survey. The majority of respondents, 60 of 78, selected *Protecting our Wisconsin Elections* as their top choice. The forum will consider these questions. What do we expect of our elections? Do they need protection to ensure acceptable performance? What are the most significant risks? How can the risks be mitigated? What can citizens do? **Study materials will be available at www.lwvdanecounty.org.**

Before the forum we will celebrate the new season with an open house and social hour.

Skip dinner! The League will provide substantial hors d'oeuvres. Your potluck salad, dessert, or beverage, if you would like to bring one, will contribute to the event. Reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Bring someone new to introduce to the League. **Our forums are free and open to the public.**

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Open house with snacks – 5:30 p.m.

Program with our speakers – 7:00 p.m.

Protecting Our Wisconsin Elections

Barry C. Burden

Professor of Political Science UW-Madison; Director
of the Elections Research Center

Dee J. Hall

Journalist, Co-founder and Managing Editor of the
Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

Richard Rydecki

Assistant Administrator, Wisconsin Elections
Commission

**The Capitol Lakes Grand Hall,
333 West Main St., Madison**

(Free parking in the ramp across the street)

Study materials will be available on the website.

President's Message

Aileen Nettleton, president@lwvdanecounty.org,
608-238-6053

Help Voters Register and Make an Impact!

Have you been meaning to get involved in helping voters to register, be informed and succeed in casting a ballot, but just can't figure out where to start? We need you! In the next two months there will be many opportunities to volunteer with the League, the Dane County Voter ID coalition, and municipal Clerks' offices throughout the county.

You need training first. Sign up NOW for the excellent City of Madison [Voter Education Ambassador](#) training that will be offered on September 5 and October 2. Then you'll be ready to sign up to help residents register to vote. The League Voter Services Team will offer follow-up training, ["Everything You Wanted to Know About Helping Voters But Were Afraid to Ask"](#) on September 17. Access training sign-up through the LWV Dane County website under [Voter Service Central](#).

Once trained, you can sign up for as many or as few opportunities as you would like. More experienced volunteers will be there to help. The League voter outreach extends from food pantries and farmer markets to high schools, Madison College and the UW, to neighborhood events such as the Tenney-Lapham Centennial, and the upcoming HopCat Registration Party. While volunteering for one of these events, you are expected to be completely non-partisan, although you are free to volunteer for a candidate or party at other times. The League is ambitious: we want **every** eligible voter to cast a ballot and have that ballot count!

You might prefer being a poll worker at the November 6 General Election. Sign up with your municipal clerk for training and get an inside view of how elections work. Or [volunteer to be an Election Observer](#) for the LWV Wisconsin to help monitor the election process.

You will be rewarded knowing you have assisted individuals in your community prepare to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming election! Ask around and you will find that voter registration work is one of the volunteer activities that many of us find most meaningful.

References for Training Information

City of Madison Clerk Voter Education Ambassador Training

www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/elections-voting/election-officials/voter-education-ambassadors

City of Madison Clerk Election Officials

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/elections-voting/election-officials>

LWV Dane County Training

www.lwvdanecounty.org/voter-service

LWV Wisconsin Election Observer

<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/employment-and-volunteer-opportunities-league>

Writers Wanted

Interested in contributing to the League's monthly Bulletin? We are looking for volunteers to write articles about League events, forums, issues, news, government meetings and more. Contributing writers could submit articles regularly, or on a one-time basis. Contact bulletin@lwvdanecounty.org for more information.

All Welcome Info-Social

New Member Orientation

Saturday, October 27, 2018

10 a.m. – 12 noon

Goodwill Community Room, 2901 North Sherman Ave., Madison

(Located at the Northside Town Center complex at the corner of Sherman Ave. and Northport Dr. [See Map.](#))

Calling all new members! Come for the coffee; stay for the sweets. Treat yourself to a welcoming community with discussion of the League of Women Voters of Dane County. Our many faces will trace the League's wide and deep impact on Dane County. Have fun meeting new and old League members and those interested in joining, while learning about the League's work.

Voter Registration at The Beacon

Gail Bliss

The LWVDC has been working with various homeless services agencies to register individuals and help with obtaining IDs since 2011. The Beacon opened in the fall of 2017. LWVDC members Gail Bliss and County Board Supervisor Yogesh Chawla, who represents the area, spoke to Beacon staff about hosting a registration drive on-site. The event was held on July 11.

Supervisor Chawla arranged for a tabulator for a mock vote to be provided by the County Clerk's office. The city clerk sent three deputized individuals to handle on-site registration. Several news outlets covered the July 11 registration drive, including WISC Channel 3, *The Capital Times*, *The Wisconsin State Journal*, and a reporter with the *Catholic Herald*. The event helped to highlight obstacles that could prevent homeless individuals from registering to vote. The event resulted in some people registering to vote for the first time, as well as some people registering to vote again after being ineligible for a period of time.



Gail Bliss, Kathy Shurts and Gloria Meyer participating in the voter registration drive at The Beacon.



All smiles while getting voters registered!

About 25 people were registered the day of the event. Volunteers returned on other days at times suggested by clients in order to help register additional people whose work schedules prevented them from making the July 11 event. At least 10 additional people were registered during these later visits.

We appreciate the flexibility of volunteers to meet the needs and schedules of those being served. We'd also like to thank everyone for having the persistence needed to help people work through issues that may have otherwise prevented voter registration.

LWVDC will return in early October to register individuals prior to the November 6 General Election.

Statement to the Ad Hoc Review Committee on Madison Police Department Policies and Procedures

The following is the statement submitted by LWVDC to the citizen committee that is overseeing the study of Madison Police Department policies and procedures. Kathleen Fullin appeared in support of the statement.

Statement to the Ad Hoc Review Committee on Madison Police Department Policies and Procedures July 26, 2018

The League of Women Voters of Dane County supported the original resolution establishing this committee. We also testified to the Common Council in June 2016 in support of increasing the appropriation for the Request for Proposal from \$50,000 to \$400,000.

In October of 2016, we contacted Council members to urge them to approve the Committee's recommendation to select OIR to review the Madison Police Department.

The League has worked to ensure 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 League's focus has been on the process, and we have not so far asked this committee to support or oppose specific proposals.

Tonight we are urging you to improve the process you are using to develop your report to the City Council. The green/red color coded chart has been very useful as an internal working document.

However, there is no draft report which documents all your decisions so far concerning the OIR recommendations. You have modified some recommendations rather than adopting them as worded. You have adopted some recommendations during meetings this summer.

Anyone who wants to know exactly what you have done must rely on their personal notes, or painstakingly compare the chart to the minutes of specific meetings.

If any member of the committee or the public wanted to know what decisions had been made as this committee was developing the RFP, that information was available for each meeting. The draft RFP was updated prior to each meeting to reflect the committee decisions.

Lara Mainella from the City Attorney's Office was instrumental in documenting your decisions on the RFP, and is familiar with this committee's mission and working procedures.

The League encourages you to request staff assistance immediately to compile your report to the Common Council. The League believes such assistance is essential to provide clarity and public transparency to the process.

Voter Services Impact

Paul Lindquist

Voter Services activities are in full swing. Here is a summary of the impact Voter Services has had from July 1 – August 6.

- 21 Venues
- 40 Dates
- 75 Volunteer Shifts
- 189 Voters Registered
- 279 Voters Received Information

Check out this [Capital City Hues article](#) about the important work being done by the Dane County Voter ID Coalition. LWVDC is a member of this coalition.

We also presented 2 training sessions attended by 56 volunteers. Our next training session is scheduled for September 17.

Upcoming Voter Services Engagements

August 27 – September 14 UW Bus Pass Distribution
September 9 Tenney-Lapham Centennial Celebration
September 25 UW Hospital
September 25 Madison College Truax
September 26 Madison College Downtown
October 6 HopCat Registration Party
October 27 Wisconsin Early Childhood Conference
October 27 UW Odyssey Project

Dane County Community Engagement Plan

The Dane County Board is beginning a process to develop a community engagement plan ([read about it here](#)). They have developed a survey to seek public input on their plan. Access the survey at <https://board.countyofdane.com/engage-dane>.

We encourage all of our members to participate. Those members who have attended government meetings over the last few years may have insights into what was most helpful to them in deciding what meetings to attend.

Help Plan Our Centennial Celebration!

Are you curious about the history of the LWV of Dane County? When and how it began? Who were the women who had the vision? How did it fit with the overall Suffrage Movement in the US? Do you know when Wisconsin ratified the Nineteenth Amendment giving women the right to vote?

Join our Centennial Planning Committee! It's time now to plan events for 2020! Contact Vice President Brook Soltvedt, soltvedtbrook@gmail.com, to let her know of your interest, or contact the League office.

Early Investments Prevent Violence

Letter to the Editor of Wisconsin State Journal

The following letter to the editor was published in the Wisconsin State Journal on 7/26/2018.

The League of Women Voters of Dane County commends the State Journal for its series "Gun violence in Madison | Cycles of trauma."

We appreciate the focus on childhood trauma, which often leads to violence later in life. Our organization notes that research conducted in recent decades on two programs show that the interventions significantly improved the lives of poor children, including reductions in juvenile and adult violence. The research compares participants randomly assigned to intervention and control groups.

Home visiting programs supporting young, isolated and poor pregnant moms and new parents have been shown to return at least \$1.75, and up to \$5.70, for every dollar spent, due to reduced costs of child protection services, special education and criminal justice. High-quality early childhood programs increase high school graduation rates and financial earnings and reduce violent crime. Between \$7 and \$14 are saved for every dollar invested, depending on the study.

We are encouraged that Dane County, the city of Madison, local school districts and the United Way are focused on preventing gun violence. Further investments in home visiting and early childhood programs would be important strategies.

Aileen Nettleton, Madison, president, League of Women Voters of Dane County

Membership Renewal

Sally Gleason and Mary Ellen Schmit, membership@LWVdanecounty.org

As of August 20, 201 members have renewed with LWVDC, in addition to the 29 lifetime members. If you have not yet renewed, it's easy to renew online with a credit card. Just go to www.lwvdanecounty.org and click on the Join/Renew tab.

Let us know your interests using the online questionnaire. If you have questions, please contact Sally Gleason, Mary Ellen Schmit or the League office. If you wish to complete a written form, the renewal form was mailed to all members with an interest survey enclosed. If you did not receive the form and wish to mail in your renewal, please call the office.

New Members!

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

Steve Bower
Carolyn Casey
Susan Dinauer
Laurie Egre
Carl Glassford

Debra Hanrahan
Nancy Julien
Larry Larson
Cindy Lindquist
Cynthia Mealy

Karen Numbers
Linda Orr
Paul Sondel
Sylvia Stalker
Marilyn Stephen

Contributions

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

General or Other Donations

Margaret M. Amlie
Mary M. Bean
Susan Bruckman
Harriette Burkhalter
Christine Clements
Cheryl Furstace Daniels
Beverly C. Davison
Susan M. Fadness
Susan C. Fulks
Kathleen C. Fullin
Peggy A. Glassford
Sally T. Gleason
Marcia Griskavich
Karen Gunderson
Hazel C. Hiemstra
Helen L. Horn
Shirley S. Inhorn
Elizabeth A. Jensen
Charlotte Jerney

Rita J. Kades
Judith Kleinmaier
Joyce Clark Knutson
Gail J. Krc
Jennie L. Larson
Sue A. Larson
Caroline R. Liedtke
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Gloria K. Meyer
Marta Meyers
Christine A. Milligan-Ciha
Mary Clare Murphy
Helene Nelson
Aileen Nettleton
Joan K. Niebauer

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Poppelbaum
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Rose C. Sime
Rose Stephenson
Trevor Stephenson
Edith T. Sullivan
Priscilla G. Thain
Carol T. Toussaint
Carol A. Van Hulle, Ph.D
Sandra A. Vandervest
Julia L. Weiser
Dorothy C. Wheeler

Candidates' Answers

Elizabeth H. Askey

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

Unit Meetings

West / Middleton

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

Location: Gardd Parc Community Room,
6767 Frank L. Wright Ave., Middleton

Leader: Priscilla Thain (233-5578)

Oakwood

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

Location: Oakwood West, 6205 Mineral Point Rd.
September's meeting will be held in the Oakwood Party Room. Following meetings are planned to be held in B39.

Leader: Kathy Johnson (238-1785)

Parking on grounds or in P1 Heritage Oaks Parking Ramp.

Northeast Side

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

Location: Lakeview Public Library

Leaders: Karen Gunderson (729-4351) and Dorothy Wheeler (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 (556-3174)

Unit Meeting Changes in the Works!

Mary Anglim and Diane Liebert

Unit meetings will be a bit different this fall. Besides discussion on the forum topic at the September meetings, we'll be asking for your input to the Program and Advocacy Committee about the success of the forum, League positions and what actions, if any, you or the League might consider.

We also hope that a "subject expert" will attend each unit meeting to provide more background or answer hard questions.

We invite all members to find a unit meeting that fits your schedule. If you would like a unit discussion group set up at another time or place, contact our Unit Coordinator, Diane Liebert, at dwliebertlwvdc@gmail.com. If there is interest, we may be able to start a new unit.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 05	Open House, 5:30 p.m. (Capitol Lakes)
Sept. 05	Issues Forum: <i>Protecting Our Wisconsin Elections</i> , 7 p.m. (Capitol Lakes)
Sept. 12	Board Meeting, 2 p.m.
Oct. 03	Issues Forum: <i>Safety from Gun Violence in Our Schools</i> , 7 p.m. (Capitol Lakes)
Oct. 10	Board Meeting, 2 p.m.
Oct. 27	All Welcome Info-Social 10 a.m. (Goodwill Community Room)
Nov. 06	General Election
Nov. 07	Issues Forum: <i>The National Popular Vote Compact</i> , 7 p.m. (Capitol Lakes)

2018 Elections

November 6 General Election

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.