

La Crosse Wisconsin Voter

No. 120

League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Area Newsletter

Winter 2013



THE PRESIDENT'S PODIUM

By Jane Klekamp, President, LWV of La Crosse Area

The election season is over – for now! No matter if one is disinterested in politics or a political junkie there is a certain amount of relief to know the elections are over and the League accomplished amazing things through volunteerism. The following is a short list of the work we did:

- League members registered hundreds of voters at UW-La Crosse, Viterbo University, Western Technical College, the transit center, the Salvation Army, Gundersen Lutheran, La Crosse Public Library, Central High School, and Logan High School – not to mention the League members who registered people on election-day.
- Many Leaguers worked at the polls.
- League members volunteered as poll watchers on election-day.
- We co-sponsored numerous debates.
- League members, and friends of the League, provided rides to vote.

We were also fortunate to be asked to work with Almagamated Transit Unit – Local 519 to offer free bus rides the day of the election. Members of the union were trained to register voters and publicized voting on the buses.

There are so many people who assist with elections – there is no way I will remember to identify everyone who volunteered during the election season. Thanks to everyone who provided time, energy, and talent on behalf of the League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Area.

Opportunity for Involvement!

To help promote open government, the Observer Corps was initiated a few years ago by Mary Beth Clark as a way to monitor meetings to help ensure fair and open access to meetings. Volunteer observers attend various city, county, and school board meetings to monitor the process. After attending, the observer writes a short review of the meeting.

The League is looking for a volunteer to organize the volunteers and the written reports into a document for release to the committees observed. Please contact Jane Klekamp if you are interested in this opportunity to help out.

January Program

La Crosse River Wetland Protection Plan

One of the Midwest's finest urban wetlands, the La Crosse Marsh has served to both galvanize and divide the community. Historically viewed as an impediment to progress, the "marsh" has become one of La Crosse's most notable features. Despite having lost half of its original acreage to development, the marsh continues to provide vital environmental services – floodwater retention, surface water purification and provision of fish and wildlife habitat - while serving as a destination for thousands of outdoor enthusiasts.

Come join Craig Thompson of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 where he will share a rare glimpse of this wetland gem's wild inhabitants and discuss efforts afoot to ensure its long-term protection and management.

The program will be held at The Radisson Hotel from noon to 1:00 pm. An optional buffet lunch is available at 11:30-Please RSVP Nancy Hill, at (608) 782-1753 or nfhill@centurytel.net.

Holiday Party

You are invited to a Holiday Party on Sunday, January 6, 2013, anytime between 2 and 5pm, at 1936 State Street, La Crosse. Hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and good company. Bring your spouse, your significant other, or a possible new member. RSVP by January 3 to Ellen Frantz at ellen@johnsflaherty.com.

New League Member



Lois Harr: For most of my life I have been called, “Miss Larsen or Mrs. Harr” as my background in Fort Atkinson led me to choose teaching as my career. After graduating from UW Platteville I taught at the elementary level in Janesville, Elroy, McFarland and later at Martin Luther Christian Preschool, also in McFarland. Then after a move to Sparta at the age of 50, I returned to college at UW LaCrosse to become a reading specialist and finished my career as a reading teacher in Sparta.

My husband, Jack and I, married in 1960, are “born travelers” as we have been to all of the fifty states and have visited forty countries. Together we have walked the towns of our forefathers, presented books to children in villages in Laos, volunteered internationally for two weeks in Costa Rica, journeyed in the steps of St. Paul in Greece, saw the pyramids and the Holy Family’s home in Egypt, climbed Mt. Sinai and touched the holy places in Israel. The love of animals took us to Tanzania for a safari, schools, and to the ‘cradle of mankind’ and also we have seen the isolated species on the Galapagos Islands. Every place is historical but some are more revered like: Pompeii, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Normandy Beaches, Baltic countries, and Russia. My adventure list continues ... *We find that Global travel is about receiving the friendships from people of other cultures that in turn strengthens our relationships and creates an awareness of others and their way of life.*

My ongoing personal mission in life has been to serve God and my church, to care for my family and home and to volunteer my services in our community and abroad. Throughout my working and retirement years I have worked alongside many people in garden clubs, on committees and service work projects, including two Katrina Disaster Relief trips. I have always been interested in our governing bodies and feel that all should be knowledgeable about the issues, be active in your beliefs and to participate so that all are informed. It is every citizen’s responsibility. I look forward to meeting and joining in the activities of the League of Women Voters.

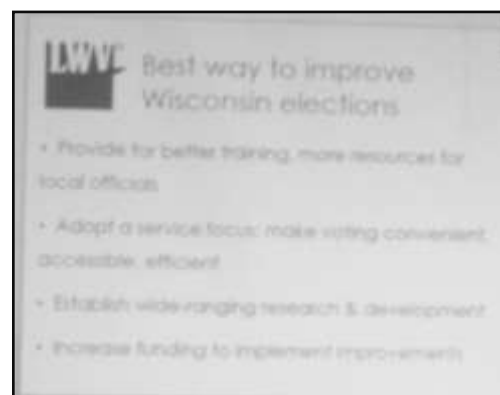
Election Activities

The past few months were very busy with many opportunities for volunteering! Many League and non-League members were busy registering and educating voters. A big thanks goes to them, the municipal clerks and poll workers and observers. Special thanks to Teri Lehrke who came to our Board meeting and helped us identify where we could best use our resources.

League was a co-sponsor of four debates at UWL. We had a representative on the panel of questioners; thanks to Ellen Rosborough and Jane Klekamp for agreeing to sit at the table with the media representatives. Wisconsin Eye contacted us and recorded 2 of the debates for broadcast to an even larger audience.

Notes from November:

Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, spoke at the November 13th Lunch and Learn at the Radisson on the topic of *Voter Identification: LWV Lawsuit and Observer Report.* Andrea Kaminski is pictured with Ellen Rosborough.



Contact Info for National Issues

League of Women Voters <http://www.lwv.org/>

Library of Congress site <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Senate <http://ronjohnson.senate.gov>
<http://kohl.senate.gov/>

House of Representatives
<http://www.kind.house.gov/index.html>

Supreme Court <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>

Contact Info for State Issues

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin
<http://www.lwvwi.org/>

Governor's Office <http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/>

Government Accountability Board
<http://www.gab.wi.gov>

Court System <http://www.wicourts.gov/>

State Senate:

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senhome.htm>

- District 31 Senator Kathleen Vinehout, 608-266-8546 or 877-763-6636,
Sen.Vinehout@legis.wisconsin.gov
- District 32 Senator Jennifer Shilling, 608-266-5490 or 800-385-3385;
Sen.Shilling@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Assembly:

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/asmhome.htm>

- District 91 Rep. Chris Danou, 608-266-7015 or 888-534-0091, Rep.Danou@legis.wisconsin.gov
- District 92 Rep. Mark Radcliffe, 608-266-7461 or 888-534-0092,
Rep.Radcliffe@legis.wisconsin.gov
- District 94: Rep. Steve Doyle, 608-266-0631 or 888-534-0094, Rep.Doyle@legis.wisconsin.gov
- District 95: Rep. Jill Billings, 608-266-5780 or 888-534-0095, Rep.Billings@legis.wi.gov
- District 96: Rep. Lee Nerrison, 608-266-3534 or 888-534-0096,
Rep.Nerrison@legis.wisconsin.gov

Local Contact Information

League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Area
<http://www.lwvlacrosse.org/>

La Crosse County:

Staff <http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/directory.htm>

County Board <http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/CoDirctry/2SupervDist.pdf>

City of La Crosse

Staff <http://www.cityoflacrosse.org/index.aspx?nid=94>
Council

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org/index.aspx?NID=338>

For neighboring counties, check websites [[Buffalo](#),
[Crawford](#), [Eau Claire](#), [Jackson](#), [Monroe](#), [Pepin](#), [Pierce](#),
[Trempealeau](#), [Vernon](#) Counties]

2011-2012 League of Women Voters of La Crosse Area

Board:

Jane Klekamp, President

president@lwvlacrosse.org

Dee Peacock, Treasurer

Sandy Sechrest, Secretary

Carolyn Mahlum-Jenkins, Membership Chair

membership@lwvlacrosse.org

Sheila Garrity, Program Chair

Ellen Frantz

Nancy Hill

Maureen Kinney

Peg Perri

Carla Townsend

Note that the website addresses are linked in the electronic version of this document – available on our website

Calendar for December 2012 & January 2013

League of Women Voters La Crosse Area

December 11th, noon

Civility in Public Discourse, Radisson

January 6, 2-5 pm

La Crosse LWV Holiday Party

January 18th, noon

La Crosse River Wetland Protection Plan, Radisson



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE LA CROSSE AREA
P.O. BOX 363, LA CROSSE, WI 54602-0363