

LWV – Whitewater Area Newsletter

“GARAGE SALE FUND RAISER”
Saturday, August 15th 8 AM – 3 PM
230 South Cottage Street, Whitewater



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Garage Sale Fund Raiser



Join us for a fun day with your fellow League members on August 15th. We’ll sell stuff, catch up on the summer activities, and enjoy our bi-annual fund raiser.

The event will be held at Betsy and Tom’s home located at 230 S. Cottage Street in Whitewater. It starts at 8 am and all are welcome. We’ll plan on some pizza around lunchtime and would welcome any munchies for the morning as well. Bring your lawn chairs and beverages too.

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Garage Sale Fund Raiser

Drop off time for the sale will be on Sunday, August 9th, from 1 - 4 pm. If that time doesn't work, you can call 262-473-3443 to set up a different time. We would like all items dropped off by Wednesday, August 12.

We would love help during our prep/set-up times which will be:

- Wednesday, August 12, 6-9pm
- Thursday, August 13, 5-7pm
- Friday, August 14, 3pm on

Again, just call Tom or Betsy at 262-473-3443 with any questions. Let us know if you will be able to attend and what times you can help with the event. See you at the Garage Sale Fund Raiser ... **DON'T MISS IT!**

Celebrate the 95th Anniversary Women's Suffrage Movement August 26, 1920



right to vote, the women's suffrage victory. Votes for women were first seriously proposed in the United States in July, 1848, at the **Seneca Falls Woman's Rights Convention** organized by **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and **Lucretia Mott**.

Recap of Whitewater Area League Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 16th, 10 a.m.

At the annual meeting at Fairhaven on Saturday the 16th of May 2015 with Tom Drucker presiding, seventeen people were in attendance (including two guests).

After the approval of the minutes, Emma Lou Sederholm was recognized for her long service (and for having received the Making Democracy Work award in December). Jane Roberts (incoming secretary), Winona Campbell (election night reporting), Ginny Laurent (publicity), Anita Loch (newsletter), Julia Ross (treasurer), and Ellen Penwell (immediate past president) were acknowledged for their many hours of service.

Ellen Penwell thanked the outgoing president and came up with a characteristically thoughtful gift. She also spoke about her responsibilities as voter services director. In Stacey Lunsford's absence she was thanked for her having made the Web site such a success.

Programs for the year past included the 50th anniversary in the fall, candidates' forum, two sessions on redistricting, high school students on the issues facing them, and the University of Wisconsin—Whitewater's outgoing Chancellor. The financial report and budget were approved, with the familiar issue of dues' not covering what the local League owes to the state and national Leagues. That will be considered once again by the Board in the coming year.

The slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee was unanimously approved. In particular, Mary Beth Byrne will be taking the presidency with the hope that the challenges facing her will be no greater than what she faced in Zimbabwe.

After a small change of bylaws, various topics for programs for the next year were proposed: voter ID, the impact of the state budget, and public health. It was also suggested that the new Chancellor might be a good choice for a speaker.

Wisconsin League's Annual Meeting Recap

The shores of Lake Superior provided the perfect backdrop for the League's state Annual Meeting, which featured presentations about economic inequality and the environment. More than 90 League members and guests joined our hosts from the Ashland-Bayfield counties League.

The meeting started Friday evening the 5th of June with dinner and a welcome by the mayor of Ashland, who was herself a member of the League. The evening program was a lecture by Jody Knauss of the Center for Media and Democracy on the issue of economic growth and inequality in Wisconsin.

Saturday morning began with talks on the socioeconomic value of healthy ecosystems. One of the speakers had rather a spiritual approach to the environment, but the other (Esteban Chiriboga) gave more of the details, including areas at risk from development.

We then heard from our state Membership & Leadership Development team, who organized a series of presentations by local League leaders on how they attracted new members and cultivated membership. They were followed by Madelain Herder and Lois Albrecht, members of LWV Ashland-Bayfield Counties, who drew upon their professional fund development experience for a presentation called "Fund Raising 101 for Local Leagues."

Lunch was in the middle of the Parade of Leagues, during which the leagues present talked about some of their major activities. Tom Drucker represented Whitewater and shared the success of our 50th anniversary program, voter services activities and our attempt to create a mixture of social and political events.

In the Plenary Session, delegates elected new state leaders, updated our Equal Rights and Social Policy positions, adopted new program items and approved a budget to fund the state League's work. Our new state President is Debra Cronmiller who will be leading the state team over the next few years. Go to the state LWV website for details on all of our newly elected officers.

Saturday's meeting ended on a high note with awards and recognition for Membership & Leadership Development, Leadership Recognition and the Meg McLane Award for Advocacy.

News from National

At Convention 2014, delegates chose Key Structures of Democracy for the national program for the 2014 – 16 biennium. LWVUS committees have begun to collect and disseminate information on three areas of focus established for this program:

1. Money in politics;
2. The process of amending the Constitution;
3. Redistricting in the states.

The structures of democracy operate at all levels and reform is needed everywhere. As the LWVUS committees go about their work, Leagues in Wisconsin can inform our members and the public about these important topics.

Leagues can begin right away to gather information at the state and local levels about laws governing campaign finance and the constitutional amendment process.

Leagues can also form study committees and identify expert speakers for community education forums.

2015 - 2016 Board Planning Meeting

Our new Board for the Whitewater Area, led by Mary Beth Byrne, will be meeting on August 8th for a planning session. The agenda includes looking at programs for next year, discussing voter services in a Presidential election cycle, and taking priorities at all levels of the League into account for our decisions. These priorities include the following:

National: Voter Services, Voting Rights, Money in Politics, Redistricting, Diversifying Membership & Leadership Development

State: Urban Policy Position Update, Infrastructure/economy, Protection of Water Resources, Redistricting

Local: Voter ID, Impact of State Budget on Local Community & University, Public Health, Programs for Senior Citizens

If you have suggestions or specific programs you'd like to recommend, please contact a Board member directly. Also, we are always looking for volunteers to support our programs as well as other activities and would welcome your participation. Just let us know how you'd like to be involved in our League!



Whitewater Area's LWV Facebook is up and running! Visit our LWV – Whitewater Area website and “like” us on Facebook!

2015-2016 Board Members

President

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Vice President

Ellen S. Penwell (2015-2016)
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