

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS- APPLETON ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 16, 2013



Table of Contents

	Pages
Agenda	1
2012 Annual Meeting Minutes	2-3
Lively Issues Minutes January 19, 2013	4-5
Financial Statement and 2013-2014 Budget	6-7
REPORTS	
President Shirley Strange	8-9
Treasurer Barb Kelly	10
Membership Stephanie Malaney	11
Membership List	12-13
Voter Services Irene Strohbeen	14
Program Vice-President Sara Companik	15
Legislative Director Penny Robinson	16
Local Study Miriam Douglass	17
Nominating Committee Jan Quinlan	18
Fund Raising Committee Shirley Strange	19

Printing of Annual Packet
Thank you to Sue and Larry Silton

League of Women Voters-Appleton

Annual Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 16, 2013, Liberty Hall

Social Hour:5:30 pm, Dinner 6:00 pm, Business Meeting 6:45 pm

Presiding: President Shirley Strange Recorder: Secretary Miriam Douglass

Agenda

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Shirley Strange |
| 2. Briefing of Parliamentary Procedure | Marlys Fritzell |
| 3. Adoption of Agenda | Shirley Strange |
| 4. Minutes: Appt. of Committee to Approve | Shirley Strange |
| 5. Treasurer's Report | Barb Kelly |
| 6. President's Report | President |
| 7. Membership Report | Stephanie Malaney |
| 8. Budget Presentation | Barb Kelly |
| 9. 2013-2014 Local Program | Sara Companik |
| ➤ Report on 2013-2014 Local Study | Miriam Douglass |
| ➤ Consideration of Non-Recommended Program | Sara Companik |
| ➤ Discussion of Recommended Program | |
| ➤ Discussion of Non-Recommended Program | |
| ➤ Adoption of Non-Recommended Program | Shirley Strange |
| 10. Re-Adoption of Local Positions | Shirley Strange |
| 11. Adoption of Budget | Shirley Strange |
| 12. League Anniversary Committee Update | Sue Eich |
| 13. Nominating Committee Report | Jan Quinlan |
| Nominations from the floor | |
| 14. Adoption of Board Nominees | Shirley Strange |
| 15. New Business | President |
| 16. Directions to the Board | President |
| 17. Motion to Adjourn | President |

League of Women Voters Appleton
Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 10, 2012
Liberty Hall, Kimberly
Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting 6:45 p.m.

Present: Sara Companik, Barbara Dorzweiler, Miriam Douglass, Beth English, Marlys Fritzell, Rosann Geiser, Marcia Hittle, Barbara Hoffman, Barbara Kelly, Stephanie Malaney, Dottie Mathews, Carolyn Mewhorter, Nadine Miller, Vicki Olenski, Janice Quinlan, Penny Robinson, Colleen Rortvedt, Stevie Schmidt, Sue Silton, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Parliamentarian Marlys Fritzell briefly reviewed procedures for running the meeting. According to Bylaws Article VIII. Section 2. C. a recommended program is to be adopted by a majority vote; adoption of a non-recommended requires a two-thirds vote.

Carolyn Mewhorter moved adoption of the agenda. Stevie Schmidt seconded and the motion carried.

The minutes of the May 12, 2011 Annual Meeting were read by a committee, approved and filed. The President appointed a committee of Marlys Fritzell, Carolyn Mewhorter and Sue Silton to review and approve the minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting.

In her President's Report Shirley Strange highlighted the expanded program schedule organized by Sara Companik. The second annual celebration of Women's Equality Day was successful. Irene Strohbeen ramped up the Voter Service program to provide several informational and candidates' forums and to meet the challenges imposed by the new Voter ID law by assisting voter registration. Consensus on the local study of an RTA was reached under Carolyn Mewhorter's capable direction. As Membership chair Stephanie Malaney brought new ideas, records organization and new members. Barb Dorzweiler significantly expanded our communication capabilities. Shirley thanked outgoing Board members Marlys Fritzell, Sue Silton and Jan Quinlan for their wisdom, knowledge and support.

The Membership Report by Stephanie Malaney showed 56 current members. To protect confidential information the hard copy distributed in the meeting packet is the only list that shows name, home address, telephone number and email address of members. Dues notices are sent in September-October followed by personal phone calls to those who do not respond. A person whose dues are not received by January 31 will be dropped from the membership roll. (A grace period is added to the bylaws requirement of due's payment by January 1.)

Sue Silton reviewed the budget contained in the meeting packet. In-kind donations to the League are now deductible because of its status as a 501 c 3 organization. The budget format now shows these donations.

Shirley Strange was presented a rosebush from outgoing Board members Sue Silton, Marlys Fritzell and Jan Quinlan with thanks for her capable leadership.

Vice President Sara Companik presented the program report. At the Lively Issues meeting the group recommended a new study "Updating the library position in light of the possibility of a proposal for building a new library in the future as well as a possible library referendum". A non-recommended item "The big picture of women in the health system and their access to health care" also emerged. Beth English moved to consider the non-recommended item at the Annual Meeting. Irene Strohbeen seconded and the motion carried. During discussion of the recommended item it was pointed out that much has changed in the world of libraries since

League's last study 20 years ago and a new look is needed. An objection to the non-recommended item as a local study was that women's access to health care is a regional, state and national issue and a better League effort would be to sponsor speaker forums on the topic to educate both League members and the public. A motion to adopt the recommended program on the library was made by Sue Silton and seconded by Stevie Schmidt. The motion carried. A motion to adopt the non-recommended program on women's access to health care was made by Irene Strohbeen and seconded by Penny Robinson. The motion did not carry.

Beth English presented the Nominating Committee Report. The slate of officers and directors for 2012-2014 is:

Vice President Action: Irene Strohbeen

Treasurer: Barb Kelly

Directors (2 years): Stephanie Malaney, Stevie Schmidt, Penny Robinson

Director (1 year, second year of Irene Strohbeen's term): Lee Snodgrass

2013 Nominating Committee: Jan Quinlan (Chair), Nadine Miller, Sue Eich

Unanimous acceptance of the Nominating Committee's slate was moved by Beth English and seconded by Marcia Hittle. The motion carried.

Jan Quinlan moved the re-adoption of local program positions. Vicki Olenski seconded and the motion carried.

Carolyn Mewhorter moved adoption of the budget. Irene Strohbeen seconded and the motion carried.

There was no new business.

Directions to the Board:

Dottie Mathews and Rosie Geiser supported investigation of women's health issues.

Nadine Miller encouraged individual action based on League positions.

Jan Quinlan will make a financial contribution to the League in honor of Shirley Strange.

Colleen Rortvedt is grateful for League's support of the library. She believes a focus on health care will attract new members.

Carolyn Mewhorter supported League involvement in women's' health issues.

Vicki Olenski has learned a great deal from her involvement in the League.

Irene Strohbeen knows that other members are interested in women's health issues. She wants the awesome Lunch and Learn to continue. A regular meeting schedule would encourage member involvement. She encouraged education on how to contact legislators and support action on League positions.

Penny Robinson is excited to be on the Board. She believes it is hard to pigeonhole many issues as local, state or national.

Stephanie Malaney is glad to be part of the League.

Barb Dorzweiller wants League to promote the non-recommended item in the form of an educational series.

Continue Lunch and Learn. Seek marketing expertise to promote the League.

Sara Companik thanked Shirley for being an energetic leader. The Lunch and Learn series will continue and help to attract new members. A focus on women's health issues is important.

Beth English commended the membership chair for organizing the process and attracting new members.

Barbara Kelly asked for tolerance for people who don't yet understand the League process. Women's health issues are very important. Look for other Leagues' studies with which to concur

Sue Silton emphasized use of the Leagues 501 c 3 status in seeking financial support.

Barbara Hoffman wants programs scheduled with advance notice so that members get the dates on their calendars. Information should be sent before the meeting.

Marlys Fritzell thinks that League members are a great group of people.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Douglass, Secretary

The League of Women Voters of Appleton
Lively Issues
January 19, 2013

Present: Cathy Johnson, Sue Kinde, Barbara Kelly, Helen Nagler, Irene Strohbeen, Leslie Taylor, Karen Jansen, Miriam Douglass, Penny Robinson, Shirley Strange, Sara Companik, Deb Cronmiller, Jan Quinlan

Sara Companik: Presider

Sara opened the meeting at 10:30AM.

National –LWVUS

Two new positions have been added to national positions

Privatization <http://www.lwv.org/content/privatization-position>

Federal Role in Public Education <http://www.lwv.org/content/federal-role-public-education-position>

National Program for 2012-2014

- Concurrence with the Sentencing Policy position of the LWVDC

Sentencing Policy: The LWVUS believes alternatives to imprisonment should be explored and utilized, taking into consideration the circumstances and nature of the crime. The LWVUS opposes mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses.

- Educate members and communities on the issue of campaign finance.

- A decision to update the Agriculture Position

(The 1988 Agriculture Policy: Promote adequate supplies of food and fiber at reasonable prices to consumers and support economically viable fares, environmentally sound farm practices and increased reliance on the free market.)

Such a review would investigate genetic modification, consolidation in the food industry, money in the regulatory process, and the consumer's right to accurate and comprehensive food labeling.

Resolution: Do as much as we can for campaign finance reform.

State Program: The state league recommended not to have a new study largely due to absence of input from local leagues regarding details for a study and committee leadership in managing a study.

The state league is asking local leagues to review three positions for updating:

1. Natural Resources Position
2. Redistricting
3. Administration of Justice

Sara asked Miriam Douglass, Leslie Taylor, Sue Kinde and Barb Dorzweiler to take an initial look at the Natural Resources Position. They, along with Leslie's guest, Karen Jansen, provided valuable background, and we had a very good discussion.

Areas of concern were noted: mining, energy, rail, air, water, land planning, bus transportation. We were reminded that environmental issues are interconnected and one often influences/affects another.

More information will be coming to the full membership for your input on these issues.

VOUCHERS

A long involved conversation took place around the voucher issue. Helen Nagler shared her concern that the vouchers (as well as mining bill) are on the fast track in the legislature. We must be prepared to act soon.

ACTION

Discussion ensued around what we should or could do....considered ideas:

Get educational forum going, Rather than present a pro and con forum, this time use our position and present more information on the consequences of vouchers

Invite Post Crescent to interview an expert speaker

Contact legislators, especially key legislators: Mike Ellis, Luther Olson, Robert Cowles, Steve Kestell

Provide membership with our position and talking points to contact their legislators

Kathleen Dunn show, January 17, had excellent program on vouchers

Press Release

Letters to editor

Asking Andrea Kaminski, LWVWI Director, for talking points

Pam Rewey on state legislative committee is following budget issues on education, on state board

ACTION---PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

PENNY ROBINSON REQUESTED THE "GO-AHEAD" TO PROPOSE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE LEAGUE TO ADVOCATE FOR SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Commission's recommendation for legislation to allow for regional or local transportation initiatives supported by county or local sales taxes.
2. The Commission's recommendation for an additional \$36.3 million over ten years for public transit.
3. In the least, restoring the ten percent funding that was cut from the transit budget in the last biennium.

Penny also informed us that Rep. Penny Bernard Schaber and Senator Mike Ellis are collaborating on TRA legislation to be introduced very soon (similar to their last bills).

LOCAL STUDY

MIRIAM UPDATED THE GROUP ON THE LOCAL STUDY...LIBRARY STUDY...COMMITTEE IS ESTABLISHED AND STUDYING. MEMBERS ARE STILL WELCOME. FOCUS: WHAT WILL THE FUTURE LIBRARY LOOK LIKE? COLLEEN IS GOING TO GIVE A TALK, FEB 26TH. COMMITTEE WILL ATTEND LIBRARY FUTURE CONFERENCES.....

MAY 23, TRIPS TO LIBRARIES PLANNED TO SEE OTHER LIBRARIES...ELGIN AND SKOKIE—ELGIN BUILT A NEW BUILDING AND SKOKIE RENOVATED AN EXISTING BUILDING.

MARCH 21, TONY NELESSEN, FROM LITTLE CHUTE, NOW WORKING IN PRINCETON ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, WILL BE HERE TO SPEAK ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR 21ST CENTURY

APRIL 10, FUTURIST, GARRY GOLDEN, WILL SPEAK ON THE 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY. HE SPOKE TO NEW NORTH LAST YEAR.

MAY 23, LIBRARY VISITS TO SKOKIE AND ELGIN

SEPT CONSENSUS QUESTIONS READY

NOV CONSENSUS MEETING

2014 ANNUAL MEETING TO ADOPT POSITION

SUMMARY: ADDRESS VOUCHERS, CONTINUE WITH LOCAL STUDY, RESPOND TO LWVWI REQUESTS ON REDISTRICTING, ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

ADJOURNMENT: 1:00 PM

League of Women Voters Appleton

5/3/2013

EXPENSES	2012-13 Budget	Actual YTD	In Kind	Total	
Board and Committees					
1. Fund Raising	\$ 100.00	\$ 32.40		\$ 32.40	\$ 100.00
2. Membership	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
3. President	\$ 250.00			\$ -	\$ 250.00
4. Board	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Communication					
1. Newsletter	\$ 100.00	\$ 23.39		\$ 23.39	\$ 100.00
2. Website	\$ 250.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
Delegates, Travel & Workshop					
1. State Annual Meeting	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 75.00		\$ 75.00	\$ 1,000.00
3. National Convention				\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
4. Workshops	\$ 500.00			\$ -	\$ 500.00
					\$ 500.00
Educational Activity					
1. Program				\$ -	\$ 300.00
a. National	\$ 50.00			\$ -	\$ -
b. State	\$ 50.00			\$ -	\$ -
c. Local	\$ 75.00			\$ -	\$ -
2. Voter's Service	\$ 750.00	\$ 638.38	\$ 62.85	\$ 701.23	\$ 750.00
3. Observer corps	\$ 75.00			\$ -	\$ 50.00
4. Archive	\$ 50.00			\$ -	\$ 20.00
Event Expenses					
1. Holiday Brunch	\$ 550.00	\$ 342.14		\$ 342.14	\$ 550.00
2. Annual Meeting	\$ 550.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 550.00
3. Women's Equality day	\$ 500.00	\$ 57.18	\$ 271.88	\$ 329.06	\$ 500.00
4. Lunch and Learn	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,514.96		\$ 1,514.96	\$ 1,320.00
5. 75th Anniversary					\$ 1,000.00
Financial Support for League					
1. Lake Michigan Interleague	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
2. State PMA	\$ 1,230.00	\$ 1,545.00	\$ -	\$ 1,545.00	\$ 1,545.00
3. National PMP	\$ 1,230.00	\$ 1,596.50	\$ -	\$ 1,596.50	\$ 1,595.00
Operating Costs					
1. Corporate Filing Fee	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 250.00
2. General Supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 341.24	\$ 23.49	\$ 364.73	\$ 300.00
3. Insurance	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 120.00
4. PayPal Fees	\$ 100.00	\$ 12.88	\$ -	\$ 12.88	\$ 250.00
5. Post Office Box	\$ 96.00	\$ 120.00	\$ -	\$ 120.00	\$ 180.00
6. Postage		\$ 20.50	\$ 18.00	\$ 38.50	\$ 100.00
7. Telephone Answering Svc	\$ 300.00	\$ 274.73	\$ -	\$ 274.73	\$ 10.00
8. Scholarship	\$ 180.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
9. Projector (One time cost)		\$ 361.59	\$ 99.98	\$ 461.57	\$ -
Position Advocacy	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 8,771.00	\$ 7,340.89	\$ 526.20	\$ 7,867.09	\$ 14,415.00

Handwritten notes:
 Budget for 2013-2014
 5/3/2013

Financial Statement
 2013-2014 Budget
 Page 6

League of Women Voters Appleton

5/3/2013

INCOME

**2012-13
Budget**

**Actual
YTD**

	2012-13 Budget	Actual YTD		
A. Dues	\$ 2,515.00	\$ 3,495.00	\$	3,500.00
B. Contributions				
1. Member Contributions	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,735.00	\$	3,000.00
2. Non-member Contributions	\$ 750.00	\$ 350.00	\$	4,000.00
3. State & National Ed Fund	\$ -		\$	-
C. Event Income				
1. Holiday Brunch	\$ 550.00	497.00	\$	550.00
2. Annual Meeting	\$ 550.00	\$ 236.00	\$	550.00
3. Women's Equality Day	\$ 500.00	\$ 61.30	\$	-
4. Lunch and Learn		\$ 1,502.00	\$	1,020.00
D. Other Income				
1. Interest	\$ 50.00	\$ 39.93	\$	50.00
2. Transfer from Savings	\$ 2,356.00		\$	1,745.00
3. Merchandise Sold				
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 8,771.00	\$ 7,916.23	\$	14,415.00

President's Report
Shirley Strange
2012-2013

It has been a creative, productive year for the League of Women Voters of Appleton. The outstanding work accomplished in the name of the League of Women Voters is due to the leadership of the Board and the support of the membership.

Board members took on their portfolios with gusto and the successful outcome of their work reflected each woman's commitment, strength and skills. The response of the membership in volunteering at various times made it possible to sponsor events. Thank you for the support you have shown during the year. Volunteering even for one event a year is of great service to our organization.

We started out 2012 with another celebration of Women's Equality Day at the History Museum at the Castle. An energetic committee made it happen offering lovely hors d'oeuvres and wine. All without a kitchen. Our featured speaker had to back out at the last minute, but we made it happen with a report on women in politics and a walk down memory lane with slides of historical Appleton. This is a can-do organization!!

Marvelous programming by Sara Companik and herculean voter service efforts championed by Irene Strohbeen were the beams of light highlighting the league in our community. Read of the accomplishments in their reports.

Community Presentations is the name we have given our latest endeavor. We have put together a powerpoint presentation describing the history of the league, explaining who we are and what we do. We have given presentations to the Arc group of Menasha, a Professional Insurance Group, and the Fox Cities Rotary Club. In June we will do a presentation at the Lion's Club in Appleton.

Legislative Director...a new board position was established this year. I mentioned that it was a creative year...Irene Strohbeen was asked to take on the position of vice president. She agreed to take the position but wanted to maintain the voter service portfolio. She was in the middle of establishing a solid framework for voter service and did not want to abandon the work. That left open a portfolio on action and advocacy. We decided to add a Legislative Director. I set my sights on Penny Robinson. She agreed after some persuading. She had the opportunity to begin something new at the grassroots level. We gave her free reign. And what a job she did. She got herself on the state legislative committee and attends their monthly meetings. This first hand connection to information from the state committee has been invaluable to our local league. We are kept abreast of bills and legislative action. Thank you, Penny!

The local study to update our library position is the hands of our very capable Miriam Douglass and she has a strong committee. The information that has been forthcoming on the future of libraries has been fascinating. Our imaginations have been allowed to soar.

PRESIDENT SHIRLEY STRANGE

PAGE 8

Stephanie Malaney and the board have tackled the slippery schedule system of membership dues. The board has approved a policy regarding the intake of dues at different times of the year since new members join throughout the year. Our renewal schedule begins in October and is completed by January 31st. Our conundrum has always been that if a new member joins in the middle of the year, does she have to pay dues again by the end of the year when we complete our roster for state and national member payments. Stephanie's report will include this explanation.

Fund Raising...We have established a Fund Raising Committee. This committee is charged with bringing in funds to support the budget. One of the goals of this committee is to communicate the good work the league provides to this community and give organizations and individuals an opportunity to support us. We have worked seriously to track our expenditures including in-kind expenditures in order to present a realistic budget for the operations of the league. And to that, we thank Barbara Kelly who has managed the treasury with precision and expertise.

Anniversary Committee---The Steering Committee has met several times to begin planning for the 75th Anniversary Celebration which will take place in 2014. We have established several subcommittees giving members an opportunity to participate. We have placed a request with the state league to host the 2014 LWVWI State Annual Meeting. Our plan is to make this event part of the anniversary celebration and showcase that week in June as the highlight and culmination of our celebration.

We have had many success stories, but we do have areas that are open and waiting for enthusiastic individuals looking for new horizons. The observer corps is one of our most important areas needing attention. Attending meetings, gathering information, keeping current with city council, county board and school board decisions and policy-making is vitally important as it allows us to speak out on important issues. A committee of several members would reduce the work load and allow individuals to take on a manageable portion of the year to fit her schedule. Even one month a year would be helpful.

Another area and one that is multi-faceted is the work of the Communication Director. Practically there should be three to four people working in this area. Barb Dorzweiler has undertaken all of the roles-website manager, newsletter publisher, facebook and publicity. You can see it would be very helpful to have a few more people participating here. Our thanks to Barb for her work in each of these roles. This area is crucial to spreading the word about the League, informing the public on issues, legislation and forums. Barb is stepping down this year, so here is a great opportunity for several candidates. Our thanks, Barb, for your time and work on the board.

I too, step, down from my post this year. At my last board meeting, Thursday, May 7, it struck me that after eight years of attending monthly league board meetings, this was my last. What have I gained? Let me count...too long a list...I said once that joining the League of Women Voters was one of the best choices I made in my life. I stand by that!! Thank you for the privilege of being at the helm of this outstanding organization whose members are informed, engaged, motivating, strong, courageous, inspiring, and brilliant. I could go on...

Thank you.

Shirley

**Treasurer's Report
LWV Appleton
May 16, 2013**

The 2012-13 financial report and the proposed budget for 2013-14 are included in this annual meeting packet. Thanks to Shirley Strange, Barb Dorzweiler, Miriam Douglass, Sara Companik and Irene Strohbeen for serving on the budget committee. Next year's budget is a bit aggressive, seeking to raise significantly higher funds from donations, and fully covering costs without depending on members to make as many in-kind contributions. The budget proposal document includes actual YTD (through May 3) expenses including in-kind for each line item.

Because of our own 501(c)(3) status now, we no longer need to put monies into the LWV Education Fund in order to maintain deductibility. So that is no longer reflected in the account balances below. The funds that were there last year were credited to our first state per member payment this fiscal year.

Account Balances as of 5/3/2013

CD 18955	\$5,000.00
Checking Account	\$4,687.69
Total	\$9,687.69

I have enjoyed this first year serving as your treasurer, and wish to thank Sue Silton for all of her help getting started, and her good record keeping in the past, which made my job so much easier.

Treasurer
Barb Kelly
Page 10

Membership

Stephanie Malaney

This year Membership worked on updating our roster to only actively paid members. Your League membership runs from January 31 to January 31. Last I developed a plan for getting membership dues paid on time for our National organization so that we are only assessed for members who actually paid dues for 2013. As of January 31, 2013 we had 56 active members. Since then we lost a lifetime member Corrine Goldgar and added a new member Cheryl Reissmann, so we remain at 56 members. Marge Koepke supports our local organization by her donation.

Since the membership dues cycle is from January 31 to January 31 of each year, we are assessed only once for active members listed on the roster on January 31th of each year. Any new members' dues after January 31 do not go to the National organization but remain in our local league. The Appleton LWV board approved the following policy change for payment of membership dues of new members joining in the middle of the National membership dues assessment cycle. This is to insure that new members whenever they join are entered in the National data base so they are recognized by the local, state and national organizations as active members and entitled to all benefits of that membership.

The policy change reads as follows *"Members of the Appleton LWV who join during February 1 - June 30 pay for a full-year membership for the current membership year. Members who join during the period, July 1 - December 31, pay \$35 for the current membership year. Members who join during January pay dues for the next membership year February 1 - January 31."* To clarify members who join during January pay full dues and these dues will take the member through the full membership year February 1st of the present year to January 31st of the next year.

Next year we need to work on retention and increasing the membership. I would also like to see new members receive a packet with information such as programming, policies, position statements, and other materials that would be beneficial for a new member. I invite members to join the Membership Committee for next year.

MEMEBERSHIP

STEPHANIE MALENEY

PAGE 11

LWV-Appleton Voter Service Report—2012-2013 Fiscal Year

Submitted by Irene Strohbeen

Dear LWV-Appleton members,

This was the 2nd year of my Voter Service position, and it was a very busy year for LWV-Appleton as you know. In addition to supporting key elections in Fall 2012 and Spring 2013, we were very active and visible in our statements against proposed voter suppression legislation. We still have so much more work to do to support our voters and voting rights, but we will persevere! See below for a summary of Voter Service action.

Irene Strohbeen

SUMMARY OF ACTION 2012-13

Voter Registration:

- Held 20 Voter Assistance sessions at high schools, local colleges and in the community
- Helped 132 voters to register prior to Fall 2012 election, plus another 12 for Spring 2013
- Thanks to our dedicated volunteers: Jacqui Klimaszewski, David Haas, Shirley Strange, Sara Companik, Penny Robinson, Miriam Douglass, Martha Swanson, Connie Kanitz, Judy Gaines, Louise Eklund, Judy Christensen, Anne Ahrens, Nancy Schanke, Deb Werth, Kay Roberts, and Leslie Taylor.

Candidate Forums:

- Provided two candidate forums for the Fall 2012 election for the 3rd and 56th WI Assembly Districts
- Provided two candidate forums for the Appleton City Council races plus the Board of Education prior to the Spring 2013 election
- Published Candidates Guides for the 2013 City Council and Board of Education races

Voter Education:

- Created voter video showing how to register to vote, translated into Spanish and Hmong languages
- Received a \$200 Joyce Foundation grant to complete video project, adding 2nd video on the voting process at the polls, also in Spanish and Hmong

Press Conferences/Media Events:

- Hosted a press conference in support of Election Day Registration, gaining attention from all local print and on-air media
- Spoke at Madison press conference against restricting in-person Early Voting hours

VICE PRESIDENT VOTER SERVICES

IRENE STROHBEEN

Vice President Program 2012-2013

Sara Companik

The Appleton League of Women Voters continued its celebration of **Women's Equality Day** on August 22, 2012, by inviting community members to the Appleton History Museum for a presentation "Forward: An Early History of the Women's Rights Movement in the Fox Cities". The Keynote speaker had a family funeral on that date, and the Museum Director took his place, giving a history of downtown Appleton.

Our League's Non-recommended Program this year was the concern of **Women's Health Issues in the Fox Valley**. This issue was addressed with two presentations. On September 12, at the Appleton Public Library, a program for the public was presented by Susan Garcia Franz from the Wisconsin Well Women Program. She talked about WWWP which provides preventive health screening services to women with little or no health insurance coverage. In December at the **Holiday Brunch**, our speaker was Kristine Stacker Director of the Fox Cities Community Health Center.

"Your Future, Your Vote" Why the 2012 Election Matters to You! was the theme of the League cosponsored event with AAUW and UW- Fox on September 19 at UW-Fox. Jay Heck, Executive Director of Common Cause Wisconsin; Justin Nickels, Mayor of Manitowoc; and George Waller, UW Fox professor offered dialogue about the importance of voting. During the week, the movie *Iron Jawed Angels* was shown at UW- Fox and Fox Valley Technical Schools along with voter registration.

National Voter Registration Day was celebrated with the showing of the movie *Iron Jawed Angels* at the Appleton Public Library on September 25 with voter registration assistance.

On January 19, League members met at the Appleton Library to bring their ideas for **Lively Issues** to our League program. Members discussed the Local Study, Updating the library position in light of the possibility of a proposal for building a new library in the future as well as a possible library referendum. There is no new recommended study for 2013-2014. Members will vote at the Annual meeting on the Non-recommended Program to provide the membership and the public with information on the issue of vouchers and public education.

On the first Tuesday of February, March, and April the Appleton League sponsored **Lunch and Learn** at the Radisson Hotel. In **February** we heard from Jane Anne Morris, a corporate anthropologist and author from Madison who wrote Gaveling Down the Rabble: How "Free Trade" is Stealing Our Democracy. In **March** we learned about COTS and Riverview Gardens from Cindy Sahotsky and Oren Jakobson. The **April** Lunch and Learn was a discussion with Becky Boulanger the Director of the Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region.

The May 16 Annual Meeting will finalize the 2012-2013 League program. The Appleton League will honor and celebrate the leadership of President Shirley Strange for four years of dedication. The membership will vote and give the Board direction for 2013-2014.

League of Women Voters - Appleton
2013 Annual Report – Legislative Director
Penny Robinson

1. This was a new position this year, so I began by attending meetings of the LWVWI Legislative Committee in Madison the fourth Wednesday of every month while the legislature is in session and bimonthly otherwise.
2. The following portfolios have been on the agenda for the LWVWI Legislative Committee: Campaign Finance, Redistricting, Election law/Voting Rights, Health Care/Aging, Mental Health, Reproductive Rights, Children & Families, Education (K-12), Antidiscrimination, Tax Policy, and Predatory Lending/Consumer Protection. Corrections/Juvenile Justice, Natural resources, Regional Transit, Lake Michigan
3. At the LWVWI Legislative Committee meetings, I reported on Regional Transportation, and for the 2014-2015 budget the LWVWI agreed to support my proposals as follows:
 - a. Keep funding for public transit within the Segregated Transportation Fund,
 - b. Restore the ten percent funding that was cut for the current biennium.
4. I will also propose that the League support RTA legislation when it is submitted by Senator Ellis (It is almost identical to legislation he submitted previously.)
5. Other activities:
 - Attending and submitting reports to each of the board meetings of the League of Women Voters – Appleton;
 - Submitting articles to the LWV Appleton newsletter as well as information for the website, and posting short notes on the Facebook page.

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR PENNY ROBINSON

Local Study Report 2012-13

Miriam Douglass

Much has changed in the world of libraries since 1975 and 1992 when our League studied and developed positions in support of the Appleton Public Library. The local program for this year has been to update our library positions based on a study of current technology and needs so that we can take informed action when an expanded library is again proposed and/or a library referendum occurs.

We have been very fortunate that our local study to update our positions on the APL coincides with planning for a future library being carried out by the staff and Board of Directors of the APL and the Friends of APL. One step in their process has been to hold Community Conversations with representatives of many diverse groups in Appleton to learn what people think of Appleton, their hopes for Appleton's future and how APL can help realize their hopes. In the February issue of *The Informed Voter* Colleen Rortvedt, the APL Director, described the results of these Community Conversations.

At a membership meeting on February 26 Colleen provided a tour of the library and gave a presentation on 21st Century libraries. League members were invited to hear two guest speakers – urban planner Tony Nelessen and futurist Gary Golden - who described how global trends, societal changes and technology might affect the future for libraries. This month committee members will tour libraries in Elgin and Skokie, IL which have been redesigned as 21st Century libraries.

Can libraries survive in the digital age? The committee has found that the answer is Yes, not only to survive but to thrive. Several resources that have been explored are results of the Community Conversations in Appleton, a Pew Research Center study on library services in the digital age, a New York Times article based on interviews with experts asking the question “What are libraries for and how should they evolve?” and radio interviews with experts in the field.

The study will continue into the fall when a membership discussion and consensus meeting will be held. Members of the committee are Miriam Douglass (Chair), Barbara Dorzweiler, Barbara Kelly, Carolyn Mewhorter, Jan Quinlan, Colleen Rortvedt, Sue Silton and Shirley Strange.

2013-2015 Nomination Slate

President: Sara Companik
2nd Vice-President: Kim Wetzel
Secretary: Lois Bressette
One year Director: Miriam Douglass
Two year Director: Karen Jansen
Two year Director: Jacqui Klimeszewski
Two year Director: Gayle Hardt

Continuing Board Members (year 2 of 2)

Vice President/Action/VS: Irene Strohbeen
Director/ Membership: Stephanie Malaney
Treasurer: Barb Kelly
Directory/Legislative: Penny Robinson

Nominating committee 2014:

Nomination Chair: Shirley Strange
Nomination Committee: Nadine Miller
Nomination Committee: Jan Quinlan

Respectfully submitted, 2013 LWV Nominating Committee

Jan Quinlan, chair, Sue Eich, Nadine Miller, Irene Strohbeen, Penny Robinson

**Fund Raising Committee Report
LWV Annual Meeting 2013**

The Fund Raising Committee was established this year. We wanted to have a new approach, we wanted to learn about fund raising efforts and strategies, and we wanted to engage the whole board so that messaging would be consistent. The Committee members included Jan Quinlan, Kim Wetzel, Barb Dorzweiler and Shirley Strange. Jan led the board in a half-day training workshop on fund raising . We began the process of developing a case statement. A case statement is a two-three minute schpiel on who we are and what we do and our importance to the community. It might be called the parking lot speech. Picture this, you're on your way to your car from the grocery store, PAC, library, etc and you have a conversation with a friend or acquaintance who asks you, "Well just what is the League of Women Voters?" We are all ambassadors for the league and should have a few statements thought out and memorized to share with prospective members. In addition to the half-day workshop, the Board watched a webinar on fund raising produced by the national league which offered good information on strategies for fund raising. Jan Quinlan, Kim Wetzel and I will remain on the committee for 2013-2014.