

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS- APPLETON ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 17, 2014



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**Printing of Annual Packet
Thank you to Sue and Larry Siltan**

League of Women Voters-Appleton
Annual Meeting Agenda
Thursday, April 17, Liberty Hall
Social Hour: 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:00 pm, Business Meeting 6:45 pm
Presiding: Sara Companik Recorder: Secretary Lois Bressette

Agenda

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|---|-------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Sara Companik |
| 2. Briefing of Parliamentary Procedure | Deb Cronmiller |
| 3. Adoption of Agenda | Sara Companik |
| 4. Minutes: Appt. of Committee to Approve | Sara Companik |
| 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 | Kim Wetzel |
| ➤ Report on 2013-2014 Local Study | Miriam Douglass |
| ➤ Discussion of Recommended Program | Kim Wetzel |
| ➤ Adoption of Recommended Program | Sara Companik |
| ➤ Discussion of Recommended Action | Kim Wetzel |
| ➤ Adoption of Recommended Action | Sara Companik |
| 10. Re-Adoption of Local Positions | Sara Companik |
| 11. Adoption of Budget | Sara Companik |
| 12. League Anniversary Committee Update | |
| 13. Nominating Committee Report | Shirley Strange |
| Nominations from the floor | |
| 14. Adoption of Board Nominees | Sara Companik |
| 15. New Business | President |
| 16. Directions to the Board | President |
| 17. The Future of Libraries Presentation | Colleen Rortvedt |
| 18. Motion to Adjourn | President |

League of Women Voters Appleton
2013 Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 16, 2013
Liberty Hall, Kimberly
Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting 6:45 p.m.

Present: Members Penny Bernard-Schaber, Lois Bressette, Sara Companik, Miriam Douglass, Sue Eich, Beth English, Marlys Fritzell, Gayle Hardt, Marcia Hittle, Karen Jansen, Barbara Kelly, Stephanie Malaney, Helen Nagler, Amy Oberg, Janice Quinlan, Cheryl Reissmann, Penny Robinson, Colleen Rortvedt, Richard Schoenbohm, Sue Siltan, Shirley Strange, Irene Strohbeen, Kim Wetzel; Nonmember Jeff Crumbaugh.

President Shirley Strange called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Parliamentarian Marlys Fritzell briefly reviewed procedures of Robert's Rules 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.

Sara Companik added the non-recommended item "Vouchers" to the agenda. Irene Strohbeen moved adoption of the agenda. Stephanie Malaney seconded and the motion carried.

The minutes of the May 10, 2012 Annual Meeting were read by a committee, approved and filed. The President appointed a committee of Marlys Fritzell, Marcia Hittle and Sue Siltan to review and approve the minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting.

Barbara Kelly presented the Treasurer's Report which was accepted.

In her President's Report Shirley Strange described a creative, productive year for the Appleton LWV due to Board leadership and membership support. She highlighted a very successful Women's Equality Day, marvelous programming by Sara Companik, herculean voter service efforts by Irene Strohbeen, a new Board position of Legislative Director filled by Penny Robinson who also attended State Legislative Committee meetings, and the local study to update our library positions led by Miriam Douglass. Shirley also thanked Communications Director Barbara Dorzweiler who was website manager, newsletter publisher, Facebook content creator and in charge of publicity.

The Membership Report by Stephanie Malaney showed 56 current members as of January 31, 2013. National dues for the next FY were paid by that date and were based on that number of members, as is customary. Any new member dues paid after January 31 do not go to the National League, but remain in our local League. The names of new members are immediately 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. To prorate dues for members who join during the FY the following policy was adopted by the Board: "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". Efforts next year will focus on retention of existing members, increasing membership and providing new members information on programming, policies, position statements and other materials beneficial to a new member. Barbara Kelly reviewed the budget contained in the meeting packet. Item 5 of Event

Expenses was corrected to read "Anniversary". This is an ambitious budget created by a committee made up of Sara Companik, Barbara Dorzweiler, Miriam Douglass, Barbara Kelly, Shirley Strange and Irene Strohbeen.

Vice President Sara Companik presented the 2013-14 local program. The local study to update our library positions has a strong committee with Miriam Douglass (Chair), Barbara Dorzweiler, Barbara Kelly, Carolyn Mewhorter, Jan Quinlan, Colleen Rortvedt, Sue Siltan and Shirley Strange. Miriam said that several recent studies have shown that libraries will not only survive in the digital age, but thrive. The LWV study has been enhanced by its coincidence with the planning for a future library being carried out by the staff and Board of Directors of the APL and the Friends of APL. Jan Quinlan, Executive Director of the Friends of the APL, talked about the twenty Community Conversations that she and Colleen Rortvedt, APL Director, have had with many diverse groups to learn what people think of Appleton, their hopes for Appleton's future and how the APL can help realize their hopes.

A motion to consider the non-recommended item "Vouchers" was made by Helen Nagler and seconded by Richard Schoenbohm. The motion carried. During the discussion Helen Nagler said that a lot of out-of-state money is being spent to promote vouchers. Assemblywoman Penny Bernard-Schaber reported that there is a big push in the state legislature to legalize the funding of vouchers in more school districts and for children in families with incomes well above the poverty line. The public has very little understanding of what vouchers are and how they would affect public school funding. Sara Companik pointed to a LWVWI position that "no tax dollars should be given to private schools". Irene Strohbeen said that a new study is not necessary because of the State position and Marcia Hittle suggested that the Appleton LWV adopt "Vouchers" as an action item, not a study item. A motion to provide information to Appleton LWV members and the public on public-funded school vouchers and to advocate in support of the LWVWI position was made by Helen Nagler and seconded by Cheryl Reissmann. The motion carried.

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

Sue Siltan moved adoption of the budget. Sue Eich seconded and the motion carried.

Sue Eich reported on progress made on the 75th Appleton LWV Anniversary celebration. The committee has as members Sara Companik, Sue Eich, Marcia Hittle, Shirley Strange (Chair) and Irene Strohbeen. The celebration will coincide with the 2014 LWVWI Annual Meeting if it is held in Appleton, as is hoped. A Democracy Award will be given to a person nominated and chosen by the Appleton League members. Sue asked members to participate in the five planning subcommittees – Coordination with the State League convention planners, Power Point Presentation, Public Relations, Friday Night Social and Fundraising.

Jan Quinlan presented the Nominating Committee Report. The slate of officers and directors for 2013-2015 is:

President: Sara Companik

2nd Vice President: Kim Wetzel

Secretary: Lois Bressette

Directors (2 years): Karen Jansen, Jacqui Klimeszewski, Gayle Hardt

Director (1 year): Miriam Douglass

2014 Nominating Committee: Shirley Strange (Chair), Nadine Miller, Jan Quinlan

There were no nominations from the floor. Unanimous acceptance of the Nominating Committee's slate was moved by Sue Eich and seconded by Helen Nagler. The motion carried.

Sara Companik led a celebration of Shirley Strange's 4 years as President. Sara led the group in singing a song.

"Hail to our chief, our dear Shirley, we applaud you, You've been so faithful and loyal to the cause, All of the issues you've faced with grace and vigor. Today, we honor our Leader, Shirley Strange. Yours was the aim to make this grand LEAGUE grander. This you achieved, that's our strong, firm belief. THANKS to the one we selected as commander, Hail to our President. TOAST to our Chief."

Sara presented a scrapbook containing thank you notes to Shirley, including one from LWVWI President Melanie G. Ramey. Sue Silton presented flowers in a vase inscribed "Shirley Strange, Appleton League of Women Voters,

President 2009-2013". Irene Strohbeen gave Shirley a blue and gold Congressional Club Friendship pin.

Shirley thanked the assembled members for the gifts and "for four years of a glorious run" as President.

Directions to the Board:

Helen Nagler emphasized the importance of the Appleton League's presence at Outagamie County Board meetings, especially to address the good and bad parts of the budget.

Jan Quinlan congratulated the Board on a successful year.

Irene Strohbeen will be Action VP next year and is eager to do more advocacy and lobbying in support of League positions.

Gayle Hardt stressed that it is important to know the restrictions associated with being a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization when lobbying.

Kim Wetzell is looking forward to being on the Board.

Cheryl Reissmann has just joined and is eager to learn more about League.

Lois Bressette is looking forward to being on the Board.

Colleen Rortvedt appreciates the efforts of the Library Study Committee.

Penny Bernard-Schaber encouraged League to get more young people involved.

Karen Jansen will be on the Board focusing on environmental issues and welcomes suggestions.

Penny Robinson is excited to anticipate more advocacy of League positions.

Shirley Strange will be available to take on any work.

Marlys Fritzell commended the outgoing Board and hopes that local positions will be included in future advocacy activities.

Richard Schoenbohm shouted out commendation of Irene Strohbeen for her Voter Service efforts.

Barbara Kelly has learned a lot as Treasurer this year and looks forward to continuing in that position.

Sue Eich congratulated the outgoing Board for a successful year.

Beth English thanked Sara Companik for taking on the Presidency.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Douglass, Secretary

Present: Cathy Thompson, Barbara Kelly, Irene Strohbeen, Maryls Fritzell, Karen Jansen, Miriam Douglass, Marcia Hittle, Sara Companik, Deb Cronmiller, Katie Cronmiller, Gayle Hardt, Amy Oberg, Colleen Rortvedt, Stevie Schmidt, Sharon Fenlon, Christine Williams (guest), Kim Wetzel.

Sara Companik: President

Sara opened the meeting at 10:30AM.

National –LWVUS

Current Priority Issues of the National League

- Protecting and Engaging Voters
- Reforming Money in Politics
- Defending the Environment
- Gun Safety

State Program

Through the LWV Appleton member's review of the state league's positions, the following recommendations were made:

Administrative Justice – retain all

Citizen Rights (retain) – update Individuals; update Voting Rights; update Rights to Privacy Reproductive Choice

Government Finance – (to be reviewed)

Government Structure/Procedure – retain Legislature; retain Civil Service & Appointment

Social Policy – retain Education; retain UW System Financing (line edit of UW Center facilities); retain Marital Property Reform; retain Lending Industry Practices

Natural Resources – update Pesticides; update Water (Karen Jansen suggested that with new technologies being introduced, review and updating is necessary. Karen suggested that the position on Natural Resources should be better written to reflect the synergy between all the positions [Energy, Air, Land, Solid Waste Management, Water, Pesticides, Standards of Enforcement] the League takes in this area.) This will come to a vote at the upcoming state convention.

Irene Strohbeen moved that we accept the state positions as stated above.

Amy, Barb, Sara, and Gayle will meet to review and decide what LWV Appleton suggests for the remaining state positions on which we didn't take a stance (retain, update, etc.)

ACTION

- Irene informed the group about Family Medical Leave legislation (people needed to sign petitions in favor of Family Medical Leave reform).
- Irene updated the group on Affordable Care enrollment action – she and Cathy are continuing to enroll new people through March 1st into the new healthcare system. Cathy talked about the different populations that they were trying to help enroll, including young people.
- Miriam reminded the group that the Library Consensus Study will be presented February 27th, 4:00-6:00 at the Library, meeting room C. At that time, the group will update the League position on libraries. Miriam encouraged everyone to read the consensus material that was sent to League members via email.

LOCAL STUDY

NEW STUDY: Human Trafficking

- Irene wondered if we should propose a study concerning Sex Trafficking and Mental Health issues, as the League has had speakers present on these topics.
- Amy Oberg discussed that Human Trafficking touches so many aspects of life (socio-economic; law enforcement; sexual abuse; education; etc.) that we should undertake a study. Deb Cronmiller suggested a review of the League's policy position to address trafficking issues in our local area. This was suggested as a new League study.

Study Committee consists of: Stevie, Amy, Cathy, Karen, and Irene

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Non-public Transportation

Colleen suggested non-public transportation (bike lanes, street parking, ramps, etc.) as a possible local issue that is being discussed by several groups within the city community. The group was unsure that the League could complete a comprehensive study and influence this issue because so many other groups are already working toward improvement concerning different areas of non-public transportation. Marlys spoke from the perspective of a Greenways and Sustainable Fox Valley board member, that the League could undertake an Action item on this issue. Deb Cronmiller suggested that the League should be there to remind local government to follow through with the decisions/plans they have already made instead of revisiting the value of the plan. Miriam suggested a core group within the League know and understand the city's plan on non-public transportation.

Action Committee consists of: Sara

UPDATES

- Sharon Fenlon talked about the Appleton Area School District's referendum vote in February. She spoke of the goals of the referendum, including renovation of science labs, building safety, building energy efficiencies, technology improvements and greater accessibilities, technology staff additions, etc.
- Sara reminded the committee of the refugees who are arriving from the Congo, and she passed a list of needed items to donate.
- Colleen informed the group that the city council meetings are now live-streamed on-line for remote viewing. Cathy Thompson suggested that this is a good way for League members to keep abreast of city officials and city business.
- Sara reminded the group of upcoming meetings, as listed on the League's website. Sara was asking for volunteers to walk in the May 26th Memorial Day Parade to represent the League.

SUMMARY: STUDY HUMAN TRAFFICKING; ACT UPON NON-PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ISSUES; CONTINUE REVIEW OF STATE POSITIONS NOT COVERED AT TODAY'S LIVELY ISSUES MEETING.

Adjournment: 12:45

Submitted by: Kim Wetzel

President's Report
Sara Companik
2013-2014 Fiscal Year

The League of Women Voters of Appleton has been active, innovative, visible, and persevering in our role in the community in 2013-2014. Thank you to the members for your support with your membership dues and your donations to the 75th Anniversary Fund Raising Campaign.

During the last year we welcomed new members into the Appleton League: Karla Blumreich, Marcia Engen, Cindy Fallona, Janice Gerlach, Marge Koepke, Cheryl Reissmann, Liga Rivera, Deb Werth, and Deb Wetter. We value your support. Membership Director Stephanie Malaney has worked toward organizing the membership calendar to get the dues in by the National league deadline.

Thank you to the League 2013-2014 Board officers and directors. Each one has given their time, dedication, and hard working investment to make this a productive and progressive year for our league. Thank you to Treasurer Barb Kelly who keeps on top of the many details of treasurer and to Lois Bressette who is keeping league records for the future archives. The Board has moved into more use of technology with our improved website, use of email for *The Informed Voter*, Facebook, and the use of Dropbox to share reports and save paper.

In August of 2013 we celebrated Women's Equality Day at the History Museum at the Castle. That day LWV of Appleton made the official announcement of our upcoming 75th Anniversary and celebration plans. Curator Nick Hoffman shared the history of Progressive Appleton, and its connections to women's suffrage.

In 2013 Shirley and Dave Strange worked persistently to launch a bold and structured LWV of Appleton website, lwvappleton.org. It is easy to navigate, and they are keeping it up to date for league events. Shirley has also chaired the Fund Raising Committee and the Anniversary Committee. Their dedication to the league is much appreciated.

During the program year, VP Program Director Kim Wetzal planned informative and topical programs on the Affordable Care Act, Human Trafficking, and Mental Illness with excellent speakers. Action VP Irene Strohbeen has been active in keeping the league informed and involved with our positions on health care, Family Medical Leave, and voting rights. Irene has given presentations to local groups about the league and the state Redistricting proposal.

Voter Services Director Jacqueline Klimaszewski organized and trained voter assistant teams to assist voters. Possible changes in election laws meant there were many details for her to keep track of. Jacqueline organized two candidate forums and voter guides for the April election. She has begun our league's involvement with the state VOTE411 program.

Gayle Hardt has coordinated the process for our league's inaugural *Making Democracy Work Award*. Partnering with the Post-Crescent Media, the *Making Democracy Work Award* will honor an individual who has helped to make our community strong, vibrant, and fair. The first award will be presented at our 75th Celebration on May 30.

The local Library study committee led by Chair Miriam Douglass completed their work this year with a well-organized study. They prepared members with "Countdown to Consensus" materials for a efficient consensus discussion. The 2014 revised Library position will be added to our local position statements, and the league has started to advocate on the position.

Legislative Director Penny Robinson has kept the local league informed on state legislative issues. She is on the state legislative committee and has the Transit portfolio.

Natural Resources Director Karen Jansen attended the LWV Lake Michigan Annual meeting as our delegate. Karen served on the state committee during the rewriting of the Water position. The revised water position will be voted on at the State Annual Meeting on May 31 right here in Appleton.

LWVWI program this year has focused on Redistricting. The Holiday Brunch in December featured a presentation on Redistricting. In February the Appleton league was pleased to work with supervisors of the Outagamie County Board to approve a county Resolution on Redistricting. Outagamie County is one of four state counties to approve a Redistricting Resolution.

LWV of Appleton Speakers' Bureau has formed to give presentations to local organizations. Thank you to Chair Amy Oberg, and presenters Richard Schoenbohm, Irene Stohbeen, and Jacqueline Klimaszewsik. Presentations were given at the Lion's Club, Fox Valley Technical School, and the Manitowoc League. The group is contacting local organization to schedule presentations on Redistricting and other League topics.

The Observer Corps is one of the best ways to improve the quality of government by "putting it in the spotlight". League has long believed in the value of an observer corps to maintain a presence at government meetings and keep current with the Appleton Common Council, the Appleton School District, and the Outagamie County Board. This is an area of our program where sharing the load would keep the league informed and keep the league visible in local government. With a commitment from members to attend one local government meeting during the year, the league would keep current with decisions and policy making. That is important information, which allows us to speak out and act on our positions.

Hats off the 75th Anniversary Committee who have working to acknowledge our 75th Anniversary year. Events have been planned to be visible in the community, to toot our own horn, and to share our successes. From the official announcement in August of 2013, the committee has been making plans in the community and with the state league. May 2014 is "visibility" month in the community for the Appleton League. On May 21st, Mayor Hanna will proclaim the week of May 26- 31 to honor our league. The League will have a presence in the Memorial Day Parade. WHBY will interview league members and the Post Crescent will feature the league. The 75th Celebration Dinner will bring members, former members, community members, elected officials, and state league delegates together to honor 75 years of civic service and shared commitment to our community. And we plan to have fun.

Treasurer's Report

Barb Kelly

The 2013-14 financial report and the proposed budget for 2014-15 are included in this annual meeting packet. Thanks to Shirley Strange, Miriam Douglass, Sara Companik and Sue Kinde for serving on the budget committee. We hope that next year's budget more nearly reflects likely expenditures. For this year we sought to raise significantly higher funds from donations and although member donations were close to projected amount, non-member donations were not. Since next year will no longer be our 75th anniversary we felt that it would be even less likely that we could count on donations that high. We still believe that our budget should fully cover costs without depending on members to make as many in-kind contributions. The budget proposal document includes actual YTD (through mid March) expenses including in-kind for each line item.

Account Balances as of 4/1/2014

CD 18955	\$5,000.00
Checking Account	\$8276.28
Total	\$13,276.28

I continue to enjoy serving as your Treasurer, and hope that my reports are helpful to all of our understanding of LWV Appleton operations.

Membership Report

Stephanie Malaney

We currently have 60 active members. 5 are second household and 2 are life time members. Life time members are Joy Povolny and Donna Weis.

We added several new members this year to the league in 2013 and this membership year. New members are Cindy Fallona, Cathy Thompson, Jan Gerlach, Deborah Wetter, Majorie Koepke, Cheryl Reissmann, Deborah Werth, and the newest member Ligia Rivera.

We changed the yearly dues to \$75 dollars so our Appleton league has funds to support our programming. We have established partial dues payment for members who join ½ through the year. Equity Day in August will again kick off our process for collecting dues by January 2015 for the next year.

I will be looking for volunteers to help to serve on a committee to increase membership and develop a plan for scholarships for dues assistance.

Treasurer's Report

Membership Report

Appleton League of Women Voters
Membership 2014-2015

First Name	Last Name	Address 1	City	ZIP	Phone Number	Email
Shirley	Adams	921 W. Ridgeview Drive	Appleton	54914	(920) 731-2811	shiradams@sbcglobal.net
Penny	Bernard-Schaber	815 E. Washington Street	Appleton	54911	(920) 739-6041	pennybernardschaber@athenet.net
Karla	Blumreich	W7217 County Road F	Shiocton	54170	(920) 525-3713	Karla_Blumreich@secura.net
Lois	Bressette	28 West Street	Clintonville	54929	(715) 701-0361	lbressette@alumni.nmu.edu
Sara	Companik	889 Kernan Ave.	Menasha	54952	(920) 731-0663	scompanik@yahoo.com
Debra	Cronmiller	3209 White Birch Lane	Appleton	54915	(920) 830-2284	debracronmiller@yahoo.com
James	Cronmiller	3209 White Birch Lane	Appleton	54915	(920) 830-2284	cronmillerjames@gmail.com
Kate	Cronmiller	3209 White Birch Lane	Appleton	54915	(920) 830-2284	ktcron@gmail.com
Mary	Cronmiller	131 E North Water St Apt 212	Neeah	54956	(920) 886-1237	mcronmiller@new.rr.com
Phyllis	Dintenfass	19 S Meadows Drive	Appleton	54915	(920) 731-0297	phyllis@dintenfass.com
Barbara	Dorzweller	802 E. Harrison St.	Appleton	54915	(920) 993-9620	bldorzw@yahoo.com
William	Douglass	1900 N. McCarthy Road	Appleton	54913	(920) 757-7776	mdouglass@new.rr.com
Susan	Elch	1233 W Nicolet Circle	Appleton	54914	(920) 731-1855	sloux122@outlook.com
Marcia	Engen	4734 N. Stargaze Dr.	Appleton	54913	(920) 739-7887	mengen@new.rr.com
Beth	English	4033 Trailway Ln	Appleton	54913	(920) 735-9917	mb3nglish@yahoo.com
Cindy	Fallona	301 Morningsside Dr.	Kaukauna	54130	(920) 766-3475	cbfallona@hotmail.com
Sharon	Fenlon	207 N Green Bay Road	Appleton	54911	(920) 734-0864	sfens@athenet.net
Marlys	Fritzell	1015 Nawada Court	Appleton	54911	(920) 731-0736	pmfritzell@att.net
Rosann	Gelser	N161 Kamkes Ave	Appleton	54915	(920) 830-1632	rosie@associatesforlife.com
Jan	Gerlach	3600 W. Woodman Dr.	Appleton	54914	(920) 731-2960	jgerlach@new.rr.com
Renee	Gralewicz	1803 S. Memorial Drive	Appleton	54915	(920) 427-5400	renee.gralewicz@uwc.edu
Gayle	Hardt	2171 Sunrise Drive	Appleton	54914	(920) 731-9547	gayle.hardt@gmail.com
Karen	Harkness	25 King Ct.	Appleton	54915	(920) 832-0478	kharkness@new.rr.com
Martha	Hemwall	126 Alton Court	Appleton	54911	(920) 205-5484	mhemwall@gmail.com
Marcia	Hittle	4606 Timber Row	Appleton	54913	(920) 731-8876	mmhittle@new.rr.com
Faye	Howell	W4887 Brdle Dr.	Sherwood	54169	(920) 989-2646	faye3@tds.net
Karen	Jansen	1616 Acorn Ct.	Menasha	54852	(414) 469-5647	karen.jansen@att.net
Barbara	Kelly	2645 Sunnyview Road	Appleton	54914	(920) 731-2610	bkelly48@gmail.com
Susan	Kinde	250 W. River Road	Appleton	54915	(920) 734-5759	sdeck@aol.com
Jacqueline	Klimaszewski	1717 S. Rebecca Lane	Appleton	54915	(920) 830-2919	jklm@new.rr.com
Marjorie	Koepeke	20 Bellaire Court	Appleton	54911	(920) 734-9628	ok319@aol.com
Mike	Malaney	307 E. McArthur St.	Appleton	54911	(920) 734-6750	
Stephanie	Malaney	307 E. McArthur St.	Appleton	54911	(920) 734-6750	smalaney5@aol.com

Appleton League of Women Voters

Membership 2014-2015

Dottie	Mathews	N161 Kamkes Ave	Appleton	54915 (920) 830-1632	dotmathews@gmail.com	
Patricia	McConnell	W2642 Brookhaven Drive	Appleton	54915 (920) 788-5423	dprat8@new.rr.com	
Carolyn	Mewhorter	33 South Meadows Dr	Appleton	54915 (920) 739-0000	mewhorter@sbcglobal.net	
Vickie	Milde	W5465 Mielke Road	Menasha	54952 (920) 730-0596	vicmilde@hotmail.com	
Nadine	Miller	914 Fox Street	Appleton	54911 (920) 733-0012	nadinemiller@tds.net	
Ann	Muenster	3528 Hillsborough Dr.	Appleton	54911 (920) 731-7210	themuensters@sbcglobal.net	
Helen	Nagler	932 E Commercial Street	Appleton	54911 (920) 739-8053	hnagler@mac.com	
Amy	Oberg	908 N. Harriman St.	Appleton	54911 (781) 229-2925	a.oberg@sbcglobal.net	
Vicky	Olenski	229 E. Franklin Ave.	Neenah	54956 (920) 729-5506	victoriaolenski@new.rr.com	
Joy	Povolny	131 E. North Water St.	Neenah	54956 (920) 739-3846		
Janice	Quinlan	322 South Court	Appleton	54911 (920) 205-4659	jldquinlan@gmail.com	
Cheryl	Reissmann	16 E. Silverspur LN	Appleton	54915 (920) 574-3301	CherylRonR@gmail.com	
Ligia	Rivera	1900 N. McCarthy Road	Appleton	54913 (920) 605-0106	lrivera@new.rr.com	
Penny	Robinson	1708 S. Weimar St	Appleton	54915 (920) 364-0079	pennyrobinson1@gmail.com	
Colleen	Rortvedt	326 S. Summit St.	Appleton	54914 (920) 954-1855	crtortvedt@gmail.com	
Stevie	Schmidt	910 S Midpark Drive	Appleton	54915 (920) 733-8782	steviecreates@gmail.com	
Richard	Schoenbohm	1331 N. Ballard Rd. #1	Appleton	54911 (920) 843-1595	rschoenbohm@gmail.com	
Sue	Silton	540 W. River Road	Appleton	54915 (920) 739-4898	susansilton@gmail.com	
Shirley	Strange	W3435 Equestrian Trail	Appleton	54913 (920) 730-8774	shirleystrange@yahoo.com	
Irene	Strohbeen	W6400 Firelane 8	Menasha	54952 (920) 733-2232	IBSTROHBEE@NEW.RR.COM	
Leslie	Taylor	1411 E. Apple Creek Rd.	Appleton	54913 (920) 739-7307	leslietaylor@retail@gmail.com	
Cathy	Thompson	330 E. Winnebago St.	Appleton	54911 (920) 319-4388	wl_rtrc@yahoo.com	
Donna	Weis	120 N Green Bay Road	Appleton	54911 (920) 733-4790	donnaweis19@gmail.com	
Deborah	Werth	4836 N. Sourapple Dr.	Appleton	54913 (920) 954-1936	dwerth@new.rr.com	
Deborah	Wetter	800 E. Woodcrest Dr.	Appleton	54915	deborahswetter@gmail.com	
Kim	Wetzel	2800 Schaefer Cir	Appleton	54915 (920) 997-9350	kwetzel@new.rr.com	
Beverly	Wieckert	N 2720 Evergreen Lane	Appleton	54913 (920) 739-2773	bwieck@yahoo.com	

LWV-Appleton Action Report--2013-2014 Fiscal Year

Submitted by Irene Strohbeen

Dear LWV-Appleton members,

The VP of Action role can be very broad, as there is so much going on requiring our action within the state of WI. While I tried to remain active around Voting Rights, I also participated in two action-oriented coalitions to support enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace (implementation of the Affordable Care Act), and to support legislation to create a Family Medical Leave Insurance plan to provide partial wage replacement during extended periods of leave. Please see below for a summary of our action.

Irene Strohbeen

SUMMARY OF ACTION 2013-14

Voter Rights:

- Several of us attended the Supreme Court hearing for the LWV lawsuit contesting the voter photo ID requirement. A ruling is not expected until June or later.

ACA Enrollment:

- LWV was part of a coalition led by Cathy Thompson, League member and lead Mobilizer. We put out the call for volunteers to help at the Partnership enrollment center: several League members came out to help with greeting enrollees, answering phones, and confirming appointments: Rosie Geiser, Ann Muenster, Gayle Hardt, Cathy Thompson, and Irene Strohbeen.

Family Medical Leave Insurance (FMLI):

- I was an active participant in the Keeping Families First (KFF) coalition to draft legislation which would establish FMLI to provide partial wage replacement for workers who need to take Family Medical Leave due to illness or to take care of a family member. The drafted bill was based on research from other states that have enacted a FMLI plan (CA and NJ). The insurance fund would be totally employee-funded with only 0.1% of wages, equating to around \$50 per year for an average salaried worker.
- During March (the last month of the Assembly session), KFF discovered that Rep. Soudy Pope was circulating a bill for sponsorship for a FMLI plan that was totally based on the New Jersey law, and not as broad-reaching as the KFF draft. We agreed to work to integrate the two bills for introduction to the next Assembly session in January 2015.

Action Vice President

LWV-Appleton Voter Service Report

2013-14 Fiscal Year

Jacqueline Klimaszewski

Dear LWV-Appleton members,

This was the 1st year of my Voter Service position, and it was a very busy year for LWV-Appleton as you know. I would like to thank all of the mentoring and support provided by Irene Strohbeen throughout the year. We have many challenges and much work to do to support our voters and voting rights: "The fight continues." Voter registration activities will be adjusted to accommodate the newly enacted Proof of Residence requirements.

See below for a summary of Voter Service action.

SUMMARY OF ACTION 2013-2014

Voter Registration:

- Held 11 Voter Assistance sessions at high schools, local colleges and in the community.
- Helped 95 voters to register prior to the February election plus another 6 were assisted with address changes or absentee ballots.
- Thanks to our dedicated volunteers: Irene Strohbeen, David Haas, Shirley Strange, Sara Companik, Penny Robinson, Lois Bressette, Gayle Hardt, Miriam Douglass, Judy Christensen, Anne Ahrens, and Deb Werth.

Candidate Forums:

- Provided two candidate forums for the April 1 election: one for Alderperson for Districts 2, 4 and 10 and the other for the Appleton Area School Board.
- Published Candidate Voter Guides for these races which were posted on our website along with the video of the Alderperson forum.
- Thanks to all those who helped with the forums: Irene Strohbeen, Sara Companik, Shirley Strange, Gayle Hardt, Lois Bressette, Amy Oberg and Deb Werth.

Voter Education - VOTE411

- Loaded GIS information into the VOTE411 program. This on-line program was made available to us through the state League.
- Three of the four school board candidates and seven of the eight alderperson candidates submitted their information to VOTE411.

LWV of Appleton- VP of Program

Kim Wetzel

2013-2014 Fiscal Year

During the 2013-2014 year, our LWV Appleton held a total of six events, including the Annual Meeting in April. Here are the highlights:

Last fall we had speakers who helped us better understand:

- The Affordable Care Act (Sara Finger, Michael Bare, Lisa Lamkins)
- Human Trafficking (four person panel)
- Redistricting (Carolyn Castore)

And this winter, we had considerable numbers turnout for:

- Lively Issues
- Mental Health, Crisis Intervention, and Law Enforcement (NAMI speakers)
- Library Consensus Study (LWV Appleton committee, chair: Miriam Douglass)

We've had excellent community attendance and involvement with our programs, with much of the accolades going to the Appleton Public Library for not only hosting our events, but broadly marketing them, as well. A sincere thank you especially to Elizabeth Eisen of APL for her help.

As I will be completing my tenure as VP of Programs this year (a year earlier due to an increase in my Foundation job responsibilities), I want to sincerely thank Sara Companik for all of her guidance and help throughout the past year, and a grateful thank you to Gayle Hardt for agreeing to step in as VP of Programs for the remainder of my term.

LWV of Appleton -2014 Making Democracy Work Award

2013-2014 Fiscal Year

Gayle Hardt

In October 2013, the board of directors approved convening a committee in order to develop a process for a local Making Democracy Work Award program. A committee composed of Sara Companik, Marti Hemwall, Beth English, Marcia Engen and Gayle Hardt met in November to review the information and guidelines provided by LWVUS. The committee then developed screening questions for a nomination form, created a distribution list for seeking nominations, and secured a partnership with Post-Crescent Media.

The Making Democracy Work Award celebrates community leaders; individuals who have envisioned a way to improve the Fox Cities community and have mobilized others to effect change that has benefitted the broader community. The inaugural award will be presented May 30, 2014 at a dinner celebrating our league's 75th anniversary and in conjunction with the LWVWI annual meeting. Members of the committee along with Dan Flannery, Executive Editor, Post-Crescent Media will select the winner of the 2014 award.

Submitted by Gayle Hardt

Program Vice President
Making Democracy Award

LWV of Appleton Legislative Report

2013-2014 Fiscal Year

Penny Robinson

This was the second year for this position. The LwVWI Legislative Committee in Madison changed its meeting date to the fourth Monday of each month during the legislative session and bimonthly. I attended mostly by phone because of other conflicts.

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, Correction/Juvenile Justice, Natural Resources, Regional Transit, Lake Michigan

At these meetings I reported on Regional Transportation, and I proposed that the League support the RTA bill submitted by Senator Ellis and Representative Penny Bernard Schaber. They Agreed. The bill passed the Senate, but Rep. Robin Vos refused to allow a vote on it in the assembly.

I believe that this legislative session has been disastrous for most of the League's positions, especially voting rights. Hopefully, they will be tied up in litigation and declared unconstitutional.

Other activities include attending and submitting reports to each of the Appleton board meetings, submitting articles to the Appleton League newsletter and posting short notes on the Facebook page. Future activities should include more information for the website.

LWV of Appleton Natural Resources Report

2013-2014 Fiscal Year

Karen Jansen

This year the Natural Resources program was all about water, and its importance to the quality of life in our state. All state Leagues were asked to participate in updating the state-level position on water. Articles published in our local newsletter were used to explain laws and treaties central to water monitoring on the federal level by the EPA and shared responsibility with the DNR within our state. The proposed draft of the updated position will be put to a vote at the Annual Meeting to be held at Appleton's Radisson Hotel in May 2014.

Moving forward we will be looking for speakers who can inform the community about environmental issues impacting water management. However, we will also be looking for opportunities to network, and to explore issues impacting other natural resources here and around the state.

Please be sure to watch for upcoming activities, and I hope to see you there!

(Note: This new support position was written by the 2012-14 APL Study Committee based on membership consensus reached on February 27, 2014 and approved by the Appleton LWV Board of Directors on March 5, 2014. It replaces the position based on 1975 and 1992 studies.)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

VIII. APPLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY (2014)

- A. The League of Women Voters of Appleton supports the Appleton Public Library as a basic community service that provides the following essential components:
 - 1. Be a center of life-long learning providing access to the world of information
 - 2. Offer digital resources to people of all incomes
 - 3. Be a safe and welcoming place in a central location that provides access to all members of the community and is accessible by public transportation
 - 4. Serve as a collective purchasing agent for information resources
 - 5. Provide access to the important history of the community
- B. The Appleton Public Library should provide programs and services, using its own resources and through collaboration with others, that meet the needs of the community in the following areas (some examples are listed in each area):
 - 1. Technology
 - a. Remain up to date with cutting-edge technology
 - b. Have proficient staff capable of using high level technology and assisting and advising the public in its use
 - 2. Arts
 - a. Provide space for exhibits of works by local artists and for drama and musical performances
 - b. Collaborate with others to provide activities and classes in the arts
 - 3. Literacy
 - a. Help the public search and evaluate information
 - b. Build early literacy for babies, toddlers and preschoolers
 - c. Collaborate with others to provide instruction in English and other languages
 - d. Offer programs and services in multiple languages
 - e. Provide opportunities for engaged learning and civil discourse in the humanities, social science and physical science
 - 4. Career
 - a. Provide tools for adults to access appropriate technology to apply for jobs, do homework, get information about health care, learn about government benefits and manage finances
 - b. Provide help in accessing job databases and online employment services
 - c. Provide support for small businesses and entrepreneurs
 - 5. Leisure and Diversion
 - a. Provide stimulating and engaging resources in a wide array of formats for enrichment and enjoyment

C. The League believes that the physical space of the Appleton Public Library should provide:

1. Flexibility to adapt to future needs and changes
2. Space for
 - a. all phases of life – preschool, elementary, teens, adults and retired adults
 - b. special user groups
 - c. large and small groups to gather, some of which is accessible when the library is closed
 - d. the use of new technology
 - e. creativity and innovation
3. Separate spaces for both quiet and noisy activities
4. An abundance of natural lighting
5. Sustainable design concepts in any remodeling and/or new construction

D. The Appleton Public Library should be financed through a combination of sources:

1. Operational funding for the library should be primarily public money, with private donations serving as the "extra edge" for special programs, activities, etc.
2. Capital expenses for remodeling, expansion or new construction of the library should be primarily public money, with private donations providing augmentation to public funds

E. The League believes that these criteria for the Appleton Public Library's mission, programs and services and physical space will:

1. Provide economic stimulus to the community
2. Reflect our dreams and aspirations and be a symbol of community aspirations
3. Help to create a nation of informed and active citizens and serve as a cradle of democracy

Nominating Committee Report

Shirley Strange

The Nominating Committee is honored to present this excellent slate of candidates to the Board for presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Nominating Committee: Jan Quinlan, Nadine Miller, Shirley Strange (Chair), Barbara Kelly, Miriam Douglass

Nomination Slate 2014-2015

VP Action

Jacqueline Klimaszewski

VP Program 1 year

Gayle Hardt (remainder of Kim Wetzel's term)

Treasurer

Barbara Kelly

Director 2 year

Irene Strohbeen

Director 2 year

Stephanie Malaney

Director 2 year

Penny Robinson

Director 1 year

Deb Werth

**Continuing Board Members
(Year 2 of 2)**

President Sara Companik

Secretary Lois Bressette

Director Karen Jansen

Nominating Committee 2015: Nadine Miller (Chair), Miriam Douglass, Marti Hemwall

Nominating Committee

Fund Raising Committee Report

Shirley Strange

The Fund Raising Committee met in the summer of 2013 to lay out plans for fund raising efforts to maintain a healthy budget for the League's work.

In June we asked, you, our membership, to consider giving a gift of \$75.00 in honor of the 75th Anniversary of League of Women Voters of Appleton. By the end of the year, YOU gave a total of \$2,416. Hurray for you!! Hooray for us!! We know the League. We know the good work of the League. We know and appreciate the time and effort given by the Board to lead this strong organization. In other words, we believe in the League.

Our second round of mailings went out in September 2013 to those friends of the League who attended the Women's Equality Day Celebration in August. Finally, the committee sent out two hundred letters in November to people who know of the league and have attended league events. The response was somewhat disappointing as we received a total of \$975.00.

Shirley Strange attended two grant writing workshops in 2013 sponsored by the Community Foundation. It is quite clear that political organizations, albeit nonpartisan, have a much more difficult time securing grant money. However, the area of grant writing will continue to be pursued.

It is becoming more evident that organizations are primarily supported by those who are well-acquainted with the work and mission of an organization. Therefore, the fund raising committee highly recommends that the League make every effort to make itself more visible in the community to inform people of the good work that we do. And further, to every member, consider yourself an ambassador for the League.

Fund Raising Committee: Jan Quinlan, Shirley Strange, Kim Wetzel

LWV 75th Anniversary Report - 1939-2014

Shirley Strange

The Anniversary Committee met in February 2013 to begin planning the Anniversary Celebrations. The decision was made to kick off the celebrations at the Women's Equality Day event August 26. Wine, hors d' oeuvres and special cup cakes set the stage and a rousing drum roll got the attention of our guests for the grand announcement.

The Appleton League offered to host the Wisconsin State League Annual Meeting in Appleton to coincide with our 75th Anniversary Celebration year and serve as the culmination of the celebratory events on May 30, 2014.

The Committee delved into the League Archives and shared several memories with League members via emails.

Mayor Hanna was asked and readily agreed to read a proclamation honoring the League at the City Council Meeting May 21, 2014.

A radio interview was set up for the Bob Salm show on WHBY radio. Marlys Fritzell and Deb Cronmiller agreed to represent the League.

A special article for the Post Crescent media was submitted by Shirley Strange.

The "Making Democracy Work Award" would make its inaugural debut at the celebration dinner on May 30th. A special committee of league members worked to initiate this award, and the League worked in partnership with the Post-Crescent Media to launch the award.

The special Anniversary Dinner included an invitation to Mayor Hanna to welcome all of the guests. Kevin J. Kennedy, Director and General Counsel for the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board was invited to be the guest speaker. Special cake and champagne would be served at the end of the evening for the final toast.

But wait, there is more...the opportunity to participate in another event to let our light shine—the Appleton Memorial Day Parade! On May 26, 9:00 AM, League members willing and able will March in the parade with our League banner or ride in one of the convertibles provided by League members. The Cronmiller family will be there representing three generations of League Members! Let us hold our banner high. We are part of an esteemed organization that works tirelessly and steadfastly to KEEP DEMOCRACY STRONG!!!

Committee: Sue Eich, Marcia Hittle, Carolyn Mewhorter, Irene Strohsbeen, Gayle Hardt, Sara Companik, Shirley Strange

Fund Raising /Anniversary Committee

League of Women Voters of Appleton 2014-2015 Program

The following recommendation for a local study resulted from the Lively Issues meeting on January 18, 2014.

Recommended Study: The Study of Human Trafficking

A scope for the study explaining the extent and limits of the study, and the area that the League wants to explore has not been defined.

Additional Information for Consideration

This is an issue where the LWVUS has no position, and, therefore, cannot act. Leagues cannot take action without a position. The LWV of New Jersey has come to consensus on a study of Human Trafficking. The LWV of Texas is currently involved in a human trafficking consensus process, and both LWV of Ohio and of New York have Human Trafficking positions. LWFNJ has asked leagues for national concurrence on their position. If it comes to a vote and passes at the National Convention in June 2014, then the national position can serve as the basis for action at the state and local levels.

Human Trafficking Consensus Reached by the LWV of New Jersey

Human Trafficking: Oppose all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

Shrene, Amy, Cathy, Karen, Stevie signed up

Recommended Action item: Non-public Transportation

Non-public transportation such as bike lanes: the league should act to remind local government to follow through with the decisions/plans they have already made instead of revisiting the value of the plan. A core group with the league should know and understand the city's plan on non-public transportation and advocate to move forward with city council plans

LWV Appleton Local Position
Social Policy
VIII. Local Transportation (1998)
A. and B.

*Group to study
city plans - volunteers*

Barb

League of Women Voters Appleton 4/2/14					Proposed Budget 2014-15 Income
INCOME	2013-14 Budget	Actual YTD			
A. Dues	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,720.00			\$ 3,500.00
B. Contributions					
1. Member Contributions	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,766.00			\$ 2,000.00
2. Non-member Contributions	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 979.00			\$ 1,000.00
C. Event Income					
1. Holiday Brunch	\$ 550.00	817.00			\$ 550.00
2. Annual Meeting	\$ 550.00	\$ 53.00			\$ 550.00
3. Women's Equality Day	\$ -	\$ 118.00			\$ -
4. Lunch and Learn	\$ 1,020.00				\$ -
D. Other Income					
1. Interest	\$ 50.00	\$ 24.48			\$ 50.00
2. Transfer from Savings	\$ 1,945.00				\$ 1,870.00
3. Grants		\$ 300.00			\$ -
4. Merchandise Sold					\$ -
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 14,615.00	\$ 8,777.48			\$ 9,520.00
League of Women Voters Appleton 4/2/14					Proposed Budget 2014-15 Expenses
EXPENSES	2013-14 Budget	Actual YTD	In Kind	Total	
Board and Committees					
1. Fund Raising	\$ 100.00	\$ 301.33	\$ 24.15	\$ 325.48	\$ 350.00
2. Membership	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
3. President	\$ 250.00			\$ -	\$ 250.00
4. Board	\$ 150.00			\$ -	\$ -
Communication					
1. Newsletter	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ -
2. Website	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
Delegates, Travel & Workshop					
1. State Annual Meeting	\$ 1,000.00			\$ -	\$ 600.00
2. National Convention	\$ 2,000.00			\$ -	\$ -
3. Workshops	\$ 500.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 500.00
4. Committee Travel	\$ 500.00		\$ 36.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 250.00
Educational Activity					
1. Program (Local, State, Nat.)	\$ 300.00	\$ 103.21	\$ 45.00	\$ 148.21	\$ 200.00
2. Voter's Service	\$ 750.00	\$ 100.90		\$ 100.90	\$ 750.00
3. Observer corps	\$ 50.00			\$ -	\$ 50.00
4. Archive	\$ 20.00			\$ -	\$ 20.00
5. Voter video grant	\$ 200.00			\$ -	\$ 200.00
6. Joyce Fund redistricting grant	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ 300.00	\$ -
Event Expenses					
1. Holiday Brunch	\$ 550.00	455.69		\$ 455.69	\$ 550.00
2. Annual Meeting	\$ 550.00			\$ -	\$ 550.00
3. Women's Equality day	\$ 500.00	\$ 47.15	\$ 163.68	\$ 210.83	\$ 500.00
4. Lunch and Learn	\$ 1,320.00			\$ -	\$ 300.00
5. 75th Anniversary	\$ 1,000.00			\$ -	\$ -
6. Making Democracy Work Award	\$ -				\$ 100.00
Financial Support for League					
1. Lake Michigan Interleague	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
2. State PMA	\$ 1,545.00	\$ 1,113.75		\$ 1,113.75	\$ 1,545.00
3. National PMP	\$ 1,595.00	\$ 1,534.50		\$ 1,534.50	\$ 1,595.00
Operating Costs					
1. Corporate Filing Fee	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00		\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
2. General Supplies	\$ 250.00		\$ 10.56	\$ 10.56	\$ 250.00
3. Insurance	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
4. PayPal Fees	\$ 100.00	\$ 25.51		\$ 25.51	\$ 50.00
5. Post Office Box	\$ 120.00	\$ 124.00		\$ 124.00	\$ 125.00
6. Postage	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 5.28	\$ 5.28	\$ 50.00
7. Telephone Answering Svc	\$ 300.00	\$ 266.07		\$ 266.07	\$ -
8. Scholarship	\$ 180.00			\$ -	\$ 150.00
Position Advocacy	\$ 100.00			\$ -	\$ 100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 14,915.00	\$ 4,702.11	\$ 409.67	\$ 5,111.78	\$ 9,520.00