Bulletin

The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.

Annual Meeting of the Membership

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Social Gathering with Desserts, 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Business Meeting, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Evening Program, 8:00 – 9:00 p.m.

JOIN US

To be with Friends and to Meet Other Members

To elect our new Board Members and Nominating Committee

To Honor our Members

To Recognize Sara Markham, our retiring LWVDC Office Administrator

To Experience Song

The Capitol Lakes Grand Hall, 333 West Main St., Madison
(Free parking in the ramp across the street)

Calendar
June 7-8, 2013
LWV-WI Annual Meeting
Milwaukee Hilton City Center
www.lwvwi.org

Executive Committee:
President – Donna Norton
Secretary – Barbara Mortensen
Treasurer – Helen Horn

Newsletter editor – Katie Mulligan
Office Administrator:
Sara Markham

2712 Marshall Court Suite 2
Madison, WI 53705-2282
lwvdc@chorus.net . 232-9447
Website: www.lwvdanecounty.org
Hours: MWF 9-12; TR 9-12:30

Kathy Johnson, Chair of Programs,
kjohnson44@ameritech.com
Come to the Annual Meeting described above. Our program will consist of entertainment by The Raging Grannies, presentation of the Carrie Chapman Catt Award, given each year to an outstanding Dane County League member, honoring our 50-year members, and a special tribute in recognition of retiring Sara Markham.

If you would like to bring a dessert, please call me at 238-1785. Unlike most years, there is no charge because we are meeting at Capitol Lakes Grand Hall, which they allow us to use free of charge for our forums and now for our annual meeting. We hope to see you all at this closing membership meeting of the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

I hope you will also join us for a Mallards Baseball game on June 27th. Barbara Mortensen is arranging an exciting event featuring a game and all the ballpark food you want for $16. See the insert for more information.
Getting out the Vote
Gail Bliss, Chair of Voters Services,
gail3511@gmail.com
Professor Richard Matland, of Loyola University approached LWVDC in January of this year seeking to collaborate on a research project. He was interested in sending copies of Candidates’ Answers to Dane County voters to see if providing information would increase turnout in the spring election.

We suggested sending out postcards with our website on them to see if we could provide information without spending the money to print and mail Candidates’ Answers. The project grew to sending out various combinations of Candidates’ Answers and postcards and advertisements on Facebook. Professor Matland bought voter lists for targeted segments of Dane County voters from the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board. His grant paid for 4,000 additional copies of Candidates’ Answers. LWVDC assisted by providing Candidates’ Answers and a cover letter, use of our bulk mail permit, and various e-mail addresses to allow Matland to know which messages actually drove traffic to our site. We also provided $200 of funding remaining from a Dane County grant to encourage voter turnout last November.

LWVDC Volunteers Ensure Success of Candidates’ Answers
Laura Chern, CA-Coordinator of Volunteers
Candidates’ Answers was published online for the February 2013 nonpartisan Primary Election and as an insert in Isthmus for the April 2, 2013 (general) Election. Thanks to the following volunteers for helping with this popular publication.

Proofreading: Mary Anglim, Mary Bean, Diane de Vos, Irene Dubak, Karen Faster, Lucy Gibson, Karen Gunderson, Eileen Hanneman, Doug Johnson, Pat Kippert, Joyce Knutson, Lisa Ludwig, Clare McArdle, Myrna McNatt, Barbara Mortensen, Sylvia Poppelbaum, Claire Rider, Mary Rodriguez, Beth Ross, Suzanne Smith, Margaret Stine, and Edith Sullivan. Special thanks to Joyce Knutson, Sylvia Poppelbaum, Claire Rider, and Mary Rodriguez for helping with more than one shift. Thanks also to Brook Solvedt for posting and proofreading the online version and galleys, and to Helen Horn for proofreading the online version.

Doug Johnson, Karen Gunderson, Joanie Kanter, and I braved the 20 degree temperature in the Isthmus warehouse to count and bundle inserts. Thanks to Pat Levin, Myrna McNatt, Barbara Mortensen, Sally Phelps, and Claire Rider who helped pull inserts at the League office.

Bulk Mailing: Thanks to Sally Carpenter, Pat Kippert, and Suzanne Smith who helped Sara Markham with bulk mailing of Candidates’ Answers to members.

Finally, a very special “Thank you” to Sara Markham for keeping me and all the volunteers on track for the past eight years. I will miss you.

She Got It
Gail Bliss, Chair of Voter Services
Last month, I reported on Beverly’s struggle to get a WI ID. Cindy Fillingham took her to the DMV March 22 and told me, “She got it! It did require a supervisor’s signature, but he let the birth certificate go through. Beverly is obviously very committed to turning her life around and I wish her well. And kudos to you for making it possible.”
Thanks to our Donors

Since March 18, 2013, the following members have submitted donations to LWVDC in response to the LWV Birthday/Valentine’s Day member-appeal. In a summary look, our Birthday/Valentine donations total $3851 as of April 15, 2013.

Diane Adams
Sally Carpenter
Emy Gartzke
Joan Niebauer — in support of Candidates’ Answers
Pat Watkins

We have also received donations from community supporters:
Anonymous — in thanks for LWVDC moderator Diane Martin Liebert’s work
Paul and Suzanne Buckner — in support of Candidates’ Answers
Susan De Vos
Eleanor Munson — in support of Candidates’ Answers
Carol Watkins — in thanks for LWVDC moderator Diane Martin Liebert’s work

In Memoriam: Mary Ann Halvorson

Cynthia Benevenga and Fran Bicknell

Mary Ann Halvorson, a 50-year member of LWVDC and of the Madison area community, passed away on March 28th. She volunteered for the low-visibility jobs such as discussion leader, solicitor of financial support and unit representative to program meetings.

Mary Ann also assumed major responsibilities such as Membership Chair and Board member. She generously opened her home to welcome new members. Being active in an LWVDC study led her to meet Harlow, who would become her husband. Her ever-present smile, friendliness and good humor will be missed.

Mary Ann was a school psychologist in the Madison schools from 1958 to 1985. Her interest in children with disabilities inspired her volunteer work on the MARC, Inc. Board of Directors. She also served as President of the Portal Foster Center Board (1978-1983), when that organization succeeded in building a second "group home" with HUD funding for adults with disabilities. She was generous with her time, her talents and her financial contributions to many good causes.

Contributions in honor of Mary Ann’s work and life would be welcome to help meet the May Members’ Challenge or as a regular donation to the LWVDC.

Funeral and celebration-of-life services for Mary Ann will be held on May 18, 1 p.m. at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive in Madison.

Office Administrator Search

Gail Bliss, Chair of Personnel Committee
A job description and procedure for application for the part-time office administrator position is posted on the website: www.lwvdanecounty.org. The deadline for application is May 10.

The job will be advertised at Community Shares of WI, a consortium of Wisconsin non-profit organizations, and has been posted at Craig’s List and other venues. Interviews will be conducted by members of the Personnel Committee and the incoming Board Presidents.