**November, 2010**

**In Memoriam**

Many members will surely pause to remember Barbara Rames, long-time dedicated League member who had moved several years ago to Minneapolis. Quietly energetic, stalwart registrar for LWVDC at the Farmers’ Market on the Capitol Square, Scrabble enthusiast, and daily volunteer in her neighborhood school pairing, Midvale-Lincoln, Barbara was an engaged presence in LWVDC and the community.

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**President’s Message**

**Earnestine Moss**

October marks the home stretch for candidates to “stump” and for each of us to prepare to vote on November 2. Our challenge is to encourage our friends and family members to become informed, empowered, and to go to the polls and VOTE! Help them to become familiar with Vote411.org, or join a Go-Vote Coalition to help get-out-the-vote.

On October 8, Jay Heck, Executive Director of Common Cause in Wisconsin, gave an intriguing historical political perspective on our evolving political arena. He provided us with historical markers for key legislation that helped to shape this democracy in which we now live. The upcoming election “is probably the most important election in the last 100 years,” he said. Heck reviewed Wisconsin political history over the last 100 years, drawing parallels between 1910 and 2010, reminding us that all political parties have been responsible for enacting progressive and regressive legislation. Heck also discussed the impact of Supreme Court decision in Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Commission, which declared that “Political spending is a form of protected speech under the First Amendment, and the government may not keep corporations or unions from spending money to support or denounce individual candidates in elections.”

October was Breast Cancer Awareness, Domestic Violence Month, and Americans with Disabilities month. Each of these causes has been championed by specific legislation. Let’s help the electorate understand that the power is still in their hands, NOT corporations. When the voters cast their ballots, then you have a true democracy.

Thanks to all who renewed your memberships, to Sara Markham for her tireless work, to each Board member, and to all volunteers who helped to deliver the programs and services of the LWVDC. Keep up the good work, and remember to vote on November 2!

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**November Issues Forum**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2010, 7:00 PM**

**How Changing Demographics Are Affecting Dane County Schools and Human Services**

Lynn Green, Director, Dane County Department of Human Services

Daniel Nerad, Superintendent, Madison Metropolitan School District

Tim Culver, District Administrator, Sun Prairie Area School District

The Capitol Lakes Grand Hall, 333 West Main St., Madison

(Free parking in the ramp across the street)
November Board Highlights

Membership—Deborah Speckmann reported current membership and renewal numbers. Postcard reminders will be sent to non-renewing members on October 15. They will be followed by phone contacts after the election.

Fundraising—Gail Bliss will be appealing to businesses, foundations, and individuals for funds to print a Spring 2011 primary edition of Candidates’ Answers and also for Spanish translation of Candidates’ Answers.

Publicity—Lisa Bu has resigned from the Board because of outstanding commitments to her job and the completion of her Ph.D. dissertation. The Board is looking for a volunteer to replace her. Training will be provided.

Thanks for Your Support!

We thank the members listed below, who have added a contribution with their membership renewal. Contributions received between August 16 and October 13 are acknowledged.

Bicknell, Fran Larson, Sue Moline Slater, Lois Steele, Mona
Terrell, Caryl Threinen, Connie Vandervest, Tom and Sandi

A Welcome with a Purpose

Deborah Speckmann, 444-2965; daspeckmann@charter.net

It is with great pleasure that we thank the 21 individuals who have renewed their memberships with LWVDC during the period 7/31 – 9/30/2010. Your historical perspective will be of great value to our League. During that period we also welcomed six new members, including Kathy Kuntz, our speaker at the September issues forum on “Sustainability.”

Please remember that a BLUE DOT on your address label means that it is time to renew your membership. If you joined the League at the national level, please consider renewing your membership through the Dane County League.

Welcome to one and all! We encourage you to participate in those causes of LWVDC for which you are able. Each member who joins LWVDC is a blessing as we struggle to improve the quality of life in our communities.

Voter Service

League Moderators

Priscilla Thain, Voter Service Director, has been arranging moderators for candidate forums. Thanks to the following members for moderating:

• Diane Martin, October 12, Marshall Public Library, candidates for 47th Assembly District
• Mary Bean, October 19, DeForest Senior Center, candidates for 47th Assembly District
• Carol Carstensen, October 27, 7 pm, Sequoya Public Library, candidates for 77th Assembly District
• Helen Horn October 28, 7:30 pm, Shorewood Village Hall, candidates for 77th Assembly District

Voter Education

The Dane County League has also participated in the following voter-education programs:

• October 13, Colonial Club Senior Center, Sun Prairie, provided printed materials, including “Voting in Wisconsin” for a “Why Vote” program.
• October 17, Grainger Hall, UW-Madison, one of 12 cosponsors of the Global Affairs Forum (US District 2 candidates for the House of Representatives). Priscilla Thain will serve as timekeeper.
• October 20, provided printed materials and a speaker (tentatively Earnestine Moss) for UW Graduate Student Housing Organization program on elections.

Voter Registration

League members Mary Anglim, Kathy Fullin (coordinator), Sue Hoffenberg, Cindy McCallum, and Sandy Vandervest registered 63 voters at Madison Area Technical College on October 5 and 7. They were ably assisted by non-members Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Parish.

At the St. Vincent De Paul food pantry, more than 200 voters were registered since the fall primary. Members Kathy Ahern, Mary Anglim, Gail Bliss, Kathy Fullin, Sue Hoffenberg, Carol Kiemen, Lois Kiggens, Maureen Kind, Lynn Klessig, Gloria Meyer (coordinator), and Eileen Schutte were assisted by non-members Rick Mills, Linda Shult, and Bonnie Webber.

Candidates’ Answers

Candidates’ Answers for the fall general election will be printed in Isthmus and published on our Web site on October 21.
November Unit Locations
League members meet monthly in one of five units to discuss the topic of that month’s Issues Forum, using study materials provided by the program planners to guide the conversation. The discussion concludes with recommendations for further study or action. Units meet regularly at different times and locations. Find a meeting that is convenient for you and participate!

Please let the host know that you plan to attend.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2010
MIDDLETOWN, 7 PM
Pat Levin, 836-1176; smlevin@tds.net
Community Room, Gardd Parc Condos
6767 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr.
Park behind building; walk through courtyard to lobby;
Ring buzzer to # 221 if inside door is not open
Diane de Vos, 836-0070; djdevos@chorus.net

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2010
TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 12:45 pm
Elizabeth Lewis, 230-3101, C-57 The Oaks
Oakwood Village Retirement Community
6205 Mineral Point Rd.
Jean Freese, 230-3540; jfreese7@gmail.com and
Elizabeth Lewis, 230-3101; bettyfay1916@gmail.com

TUESDAY EVENING WEST, 7:30 pm
Merilyn Kupferberg, 271-1130, 5754 Meadowood Dr.
Gloria Meyer, 288-8160; gloria.meyer@juno.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2010
NORTHEASTSIDE, 3:30 pm
Pat Kippert, 837-5932
Lakeview Public Library, 2845 N. Sherman Ave.
Mary Bean, 222-5783; marybean@charter.net
Dorothy Wheeler, 244-4711; dorothywheeler@charter.net

DOWNTOWN DINNER, 5:30 pm
Capitol Lakes Retirement Center Restaurant “The Seasons”
333 W. Main St. – Free parking across the street
Sally Phelps, 251-4834; phelpssa@charter.net
Priscilla Thain, 233-5578; priscillathain@gmail.com

Calendar of Upcoming Events
• November 2 – Election Day
• November 3 – Issues forum: How Changing Demographics Are Affecting Dane County Schools and Human Services.
• November 8 – LWVDC Board Meeting
• November 10 – Bulletin deadline
• January 10 – Deadline for Bulletin and study materials
• January 10 – LWVDC Board Meeting
• January 15 or 22 – Lively Issues Luncheon (tentative)
• February 2 – Issues Forum (TBA)
• February 14 – LWVDC Board Meeting
• February 10 – Deadline for Bulletin and study materials
• March 2 – Issues Forum (TBA)
• March 14 – LWVDC Board Meeting
• March 10 – Deadline for Bulletin and study materials
• April 6 – Forum (TBA)
• April 10 – Deadline for Bulletin
• April 11 – LWVDC Board Meeting
• May 4 – LWVDC Annual Meeting (tentative)
• May 9 – LWVDC Board Meeting

For Sale: LWVDC Office Location
The Prest building, where LWVDC has its office suite, is officially for sale. We welcome any information or assistance from League members and friends who might help us find centrally located, affordable, comparable office space should the building change ownership. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to be on a committee to search for a new space, please contact Barbara Mortensen at 233-7563 or morten21@att.net. Thank you!
Yes, I want to be a part of the League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.

[Memberships paid by November 1, 2010 will appear in the printed copy of the 2010-2011 Member Directory.]

Name: _________________________

Address: _______________________

City: ___________ State: ___ Zip: ______

Phone: ___________ Year Joined LWV: ______

E-Mail: __________________________

Membership: [July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011]

- Member _____ $70
- Second Member _____ $60
  [same address, shares mailings with first member]
- Special Rate Member _____ $35
  [of limited income or a student]
- Scholarship Member _____ $0

Member Contribution: [Check your selection]

- $1,000 – 500
- $499 – 200
- $199 – 100
- $99 – 50
- other ______

Please make check payable to:
The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.
2712 Marshall Court, Suite 2, Madison, WI 53705-2282

Total: ___