

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MANITOWOC COUNTY
MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER**

Calendar of Events

03/13	Great Decisions: US Foreign Policy & Petroleum
03/15	Forum: Mayoral Candidates
03/15&16	LWVLMR WASHINGTON, D.C. Convention
03/20	Great Decisions: Nuclear Security
03/27	GD: Prospects for Afghanistan & Pakistan
04/03	Board Meeting
04/04	Election Day
04/26	Education Night w/ Superintendents
04/29	Earth Day Celebration at the YMCA

Dear League Members,

The year has gone by very fast. We have accomplished so many things and this will continue on into the next fiscal period. We are currently winding down with issue dates.

We just have had a candidates' forum in Two Rivers. There were about 35 people in person to ask interesting and thought provoking questions to those candidates. For our Two Rivers members who could not attend, they can go to the Two Rivers website and highlight current candidates to see what occurred on Thursday, March 9th.

Great Decisions is still going strong. Our attendance for each lecture has been outstanding. We average about 140 people at each session.

It is amazing to me that regardless as to what is happening in our lives, people still search for the truth and information. This is the heart of our mission to inform and educate those around us. I am grateful to this organization that we can give our community the awareness that they need to make valued decisions.

Please read the rest of the Newsletter for important information on the various issues that will be presented.

FORUMS

On **Wednesday, March 15th**, a candidates' forum on the Mayoral election will be held at the **Manitowoc City Hall, 7:00 pm**. Justin Nickels and Barry Nelson will be featured along with candidates for aldermen in the various Manitowoc districts. The audience will be able to ask questions to the candidates. Comcast will be there. Light refreshments will be served.

GREAT DECISIONS

Monday, March 13, Wendy Scattergood will talk about U.S> Policy and Petroleum.

Monday, March 21, Arthur Cyr will lead a discussion on Nuclear security.

Monday, March 27, Peter Kranstover will talk about Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Dinners are still starting on Monday at 4:30 pm at the Courthouse Pub. Those of you who wish to attend to hear and be introduced to our presenters are welcomed. Please contact Marilyn Sontag at 682-8988. She will be happy to accommodate all of you.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LAKE MICHIGAN REGION

I-LOBBY Day

I-Five members of the LWVLMR will be participating in Great Lakes Lobby Days on March 15-16 in Washington DC.. This event is organized by the Healing Our Waters Coalition. They will be speaking with congressional staff and their legislators.

In addition, they are asking league members to call their own congressional offices to support the following message.

1-Maintenance of \$300 million in Great Lakes funding through the EPA.

2-Increases in water infrastructure program funding. Replace and improve our waste water and drinking systems.

I-LWVLMR November Conference in Green Bay

The Wisconsin representative for the LMR have met to begin organizing for the annual conference...More information to follow.

III-Coming Up: Focus on Watersheds

This summer, LWVLMR will offer training on how to research local watershed data to share with our communities. Information collected on several Wisconsin watersheds will be used to update facts sheets that were previously published by the U.S. EPA.

The fact sheets will be used for public education and outreach. More announcements about this project will be coming. In the meantime, check [our calendar](#) at lwvlmr.org for updates or meetings near you.

Call Your Members of Congress to Protect Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes

Funding for the Great Lakes is cut by **97% in** President Trump's proposed budget, from \$300 million to \$10 million. Only \$10 million for projects in eight states surrounding all five Great Lakes means that almost no restoration, protection, or research projects will be possible to ensure the future of our natural treasures.

Five members of LWV Lake Michigan Region are traveling to Washington DC to tell Congress that League members support the Great Lakes and funding is critical. Your help is needed to get the message across. Call your Representative and Senators on March 14, 15, or 16 and tell them that Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes is important to you.

Tell your legislators to stand strong for the lakes and support:

- Maintenance of \$300 million in Great Lakes funding through the EPA.
- Increases in water infrastructure program funding. We need to replace and improve our wastewater and drinking water systems so that no other community experiences a crisis like our friends in the LWV of Flint, Michigan.
- If your legislator has already pledged to fight for the Great Lakes funding, say thanks!

Any member of Congress may be reached through the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. To get their direct phone numbers, use your zip code to look up [who represents you](#).

Our members will be posting about their experiences on Capitol Hill on social media. Follow along at facebook.com/LWVLakeMichigan/ and on twitter at @lakelwv.

Please amplify the messages our members bring to Congress by sharing this request among your networks. And be sure to make those calls yourself!

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH FORUM

The Leagues' Mental Health Committee sponsored an informative panel discussion on children's mental health on February 23rd. The panel, which consisted of Stacy Ledvina from Manitowoc County Human Services Dept, Linda Luedtke from Two Rivers High School and Maureen Crowley from the UW Center, was wonderful. Attendance was great and included Rep Paul Tittl, who chairs the Wisconsin Assembly's Mental Health Committee. Many suggestions for addressing mental health services were generated during discussion with the audience and will be discussed by the committee at our next meeting. The event also gave the committee a chance to give an update on progress towards recommendations in their original 2013 study. Thank you to the panel and to the committee members who organized the event.

Mary Wallace and Linda Gratz

Mental Health Committee Co-Chairs

RESULTS OF FINANCE DRIVE

During January, approximately 50 letters were sent to various corporations and people in the area to support the League. The result reflects the financial position of our time. Many of those who have contributed in the past did so this year. However, that selection of contributors is dwindling. The result of the drive has caused the Board to change the amount of dues for next year. We are considering raising the dues to **\$55.00 per individual and \$80.00 household**. This amount will be presented at the May Banquet Meeting for a vote.

The board and the finance committee want to thank our membership, individual people and local companies who have continued to support us throughout the years. Your donations help us to carry on the forums, great decisions, mental health study, poverty study and a variety of endeavors that inform and educate the public. Thank you all for your generosity.

MEMBERSHIP

The Board wished to honor Jean Dvorak with her service to the League by making a contribution to the Manitowoc Public Library as per her family's request. Jean had been a member of League for many years and had supported a variety of our issued programs. She will be missed by all.

Many of you have noticed that one of our most notable League members has not been present. Darlene Wellner will be having surgery on April 4th at the Theta Clark Hospital in Neenah. She will be in the hospital for 1 to 3 days. She misses all of us and hates not being part of Great Decisions, forums, etc. She is hoping that many of you will call or stop in after her surgery. I will be sending her address under separate cover to insure privacy. If you cannot stop by, cards and notes will be greatly appreciated.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Nominating Committee is in the process of compiling the officers and board for 2017-2018. We will announce and publish the results next month.

The following is a list and addresses of Public Offices. If you wish for more details, you can pick up a Manitowoc County Official Directory at the County Clerks Office, County Courthouse, Manitowoc. The new one will be published in June or July of this year with the results of the April Election.

FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Honorable Donald Trump, President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC
(202) 456-1414

US SENATORS:

Sen. Ron Johnson
2 Russell Courtyard
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-5323
TDD: (202) 224-1280
Ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov.

District Office
219 E. Washington Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 230-7250

Sen. Tammy Baldwin
1 Russell Courtyard
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-5653
TDD: (202) 224-4464
Website: Baldwin.senate.gov

District Office
14 West Mifflin St.
Suite 207
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 264-5338
Toll Free (800) 247-5645

US House of Representatives: 6th District

Congressman Glenn Grothman
501 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2476
Email: house.gov/writerep

District Office
1020 S. Main Street
Suite B
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
(920) 907-0624

STATE OF WISCONSIN OFFICIALS

Governor Scott Walker
115 East Capitol, Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707-7863

Phone: (608)266-1212
Fax: (608) 267-8983
govgeneral@wisconsin.gov

State Senators

1st District

Frank Lasee
Room 316 South State Capitol
P. O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
Phone: (608) 266-3512
Sen.Lasee@legis.wisconsin.gov.

9th Senate District

David LeMahieu
Room 15 South State Capitol
P. O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-2056
Phone: (608) 266-2056
Sen.LeMahieu@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Representatives

2nd Assembly District

Andre Jacque
Room 212 North State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53709-8952
Phone: (608) 266-9870
Rep.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov

25th Assembly District

Paul Tittl
Room 21 North State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI. 53708-8953
Phone: (608) 266-0315
Rep.Tittl@legis.wisconsin.gov

Please feel free to contact your government officials whether it is at the federal or state level. This is your right to let your president, governor, senators, and representatives know what you think of the various proposals being made and enacted upon. We elected these people to help and aid our state and country to make it the best it can be. If they are not doing their job, then we must let them know how they can best represent our interest.

