

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MANITOWOC COUNTY
MAY 2015 NEWSLETTER**

Calendar of Events

05/13	Meeting for Move to Amend – City Hall/2 pm
05/14	Annual May Banquet – dinner at 5:30 pm
06/5-6	Annual State Convention
06/24	Board Planning Meeting

Dear League Members,

Spring is finally here!!! **Earth Day** was a huge success thanks to Joan Kaeiser and Marilyn Sontag who co-chaired this event. We were part of the YMCA program for Healthy Kids Day. The Y included us in their scavenger hunt that had the children look for their congressmen of their district. This brought their parents to our table and they could see what redistricting has done to their area. It was a very eye-opening experience for the members of our communities. We also had the opportunity to check well water systems and that proved to be a very worthwhile experiment to perform for the people who live in the rural areas. A big thank you goes out to Joan, Marilyn and their committee for all of their hard work in making this a BIG SUCCESS!!

In June, we will have our planning meeting where we decide on what programs will be relevant to you – our members and to the community. The Annual State Convention will give us guidance on what is important to the State and National Leagues, but we also want to take the opportunity to inform and educate the community on local problems that affect us here in Manitowoc County. Please contact us and let us know what is on your mind.

This will be the last newsletter for 2014-15. In July, I will send out letters for the renewal of your membership and interest forms. Please take the time to fill out the forms since we value your input and your help. We are trying to include as many of you as we can on our various committees. Some of our committees do

not take a lot of time and only meet once or twice throughout the year. Please consider signing up for one committee on the form.

Relax and enjoy your summer, 2015-16 will be sooner than you think!!!

Sincerely,

Catherine L. Cole, Editor

MOVE TO AMEND

There will be a meeting at Manitowoc City Hall in the Chambers Room at 2:00 pm. All concerned citizens are welcomed. Cathy Cole e-mailed to all League members the agenda and items that may be of interest to you. Please contact Kathleen Bernhart at kathleen_bernhart@yahoo.com for more information. State and National are looking into this grassroots movement.

MAY 14TH ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will begin at 5:00 for registration and social. However, the dinner will be served **at 5:30 pm** at the Holiday Inn not at 6 pm as previously stated in the invitation that went out earlier this month.

We are very excited to have Jen Kern as our speaker for the evening. She is a native of Wisconsin and a graduate of Washington High School in Two Rivers. She is National Issue Campaigns Director for the Working Families Organizations, leading campaign planning and support for Working Families' local and state issue campaign work- focusing on economic justice, inequality, racial justice and democracy.

The deadline for reservations and choice of dinner was to be made by **Friday, May 8th, 2015**. If you do not want to attend the dinner but want to hear Jen Kern speak, come after 6:30 pm. If there are any questions or further information that you might need, contact Cathy Cole at 553-8757.

After the program, we will have a brief meeting to elect our officers and board members, and approve our budget. We would also like to introduce the following as a **proposed two-year local study** as a recommended item for **discussion and a VOTE** which is why we need **ALL** of you stay so that we can have your input .

POVERTY IN OUR MIDST: HOW IT AFFECTS FAMILIES IN MANITOWOC COUNTY AND OUR COMMUNITY

This study will research the extent and effect of poverty in Manitowoc County. Adequacy of services to mitigate its effects will be addressed as well as public policy decisions that might address the causes of poverty. Specific to our county, such categories as follow will be studied:

General Economic Factors
Basic Shelter Needs

Food Security Issues
Impact on Health