

**MANITOWOC COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OCTOBER 2013 NEWS LETTER**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**10/15-17      Lake Michigan Joint Summit Conference**  
**11/04/13      Board of Directors Meeting**  
**11/21/13      Topics in Education**

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Dear League Members,

We started the year off with two programs in September. I want to thank Anita Rappe, our Membership Chairwoman for inviting Krista Grimm to our first meeting of the year. Krista had a power point presentation on: Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes: Challenges and Opportunities. She had an excellent program and was very knowledgeable on the subject of the Great Lakes. Although we did not have as many people as we anticipated, those who were there were very impressed with her talk.

I want to thank Darlene Wellner who coordinated this program, all members of the Mental Health Committee, RUTH, and Healthiest Manitowoc County for co-sponsoring the second September program on Drug and Specialty Courts. We had over ninety people in attendance including a mix of professionals in the criminal justice field, county supervisors, a state legislator and interested citizens. The panel included Judge Michael Schumacher, Eau Claire County Judge, Patrick Eisenberger, Eau Claire Drug Court Manager, and Mike Gumulauskas, Drug Court Graduate. The speakers made a very convincing case for a drug treatment court and the audience appeared to leave with a clear idea of how and why this approach works.

The LWV supports the Manitowoc County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in their efforts to obtain a grant to fund a Drug Treatment Court in our County through TAD funds available for this purpose.

Both programs took a lot of thought, time, and planning before coming forth to our members and community. We will be having more interesting programs throughout the year. Please take time to read the entire Newsletter or at least visit our website (<http://www.lwvmanitowoc.org>) for updates on current events in our community. Then, put the dates on your calendar so that you don't miss any programs throughout the year.

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## LAKE MICHIGAN JOINT SUMMIT MEETING

**On October 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, the Lake Michigan Joint Summit Meeting is planned at Blue Harbor, Sheboygan. The first day, October 15<sup>th</sup> will be the Lake Michigan League of Women Voters' Annual Meeting.** The registration cost is \$20 for the Annual Meeting from 5-7 pm. The dinner will be at the Sheboygan Yacht Club from 7:15 to 8 pm at an additional cost of \$28. There will be a program on the Water Study done by the Ripon LWV from 8:15 to 9:00 pm.

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## TOPICS IN EDUCATION

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 7 TO 8:30 PM AT MANITOWOC CITY HALL**

What is new in education? Come for an update on the latest topics in education.

**The Common Core State Standards (CCSS)** provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. (<http://www.corestandards.org/>) With implementation in full effect for the English Language Arts (ELA) and Math Standards, Marcia Flaherty, MPSD Superintendent will update us about CCSS and the preparations for the assessment phase to begin in 2014.

**The International Baccalaureate Program (IB) Diploma Programme (DP)** is an academically challenging and balanced program of education with final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond (<http://www.ibo.org/diploma/>).

MPSD Lincoln High School has been designated an IB World School since 2007. Dan McGoldrick, LHS IB Coordinator, will describe the IB Diploma Programme and how it is impacting the lives of students at Lincoln High School.

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## GREAT DECISIONS

Topics for the 2014 Great Decisions Season have been selected. They are as follows:

Political Islam in Africa	China's Foreign Policy
Turkey	Israel
Energy Independence	Economic Statecraft and Trade
Defense & the rise of New Technologies	Food Security and Climate Change

Preliminary meetings are just starting. The first meeting is to be on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in the Library Board Room, second floor. Anyone interested in joining this committee is welcomed. Great Decisions begins Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm at the Manitowoc Public Library and will continue through March. More details will follow as February draws near.

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## **NATIONAL VOTERS REGISTRATION DAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2013**

I want to thank Connie Hendries and Jo Ellen Gramling for registering students at UW-Manitowoc and Lincoln High School. I registered students at Silver Lake College. We took registration during the students' lunch breaks. The registration turn out was small, but encouraging. For those of us who were trained by Jennifer Hudon, our ability to register voters will end as of December 31, 2013. Connie learned that TR would have a set of laptops to send out with people doing registrations. The person will register him/herself and the LWV person would just assist them with the process. This may eliminate the need for future trainings. Check out the website: [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)

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## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

The Membership Committee would like to thank all members who have renewed their membership. This is a reminder for the few of you who still have to renew. The sooner we get the membership list completed the sooner I can send it out to all members. Membership renewal also helps to update our phone tree. I would like to be able to send out the membership list and the phone tree in November. The dues are \$50.00 for an individual and \$75.00 per couple. Please send dues to **Patricia Dodge, League Treasurer, 1106 Park Row Boulevard, Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220.**

**ALSO**, since we have been sending the membership letter and interest form by e-mail, we have noticed a significant drop in the return and completion of this form. Therefore, I am attaching the form to this newsletter with the hopes that you will express an interest in one of the committees on the list. Many committees would involve one or two meetings and the event itself. Please take a look and send the results to me, Cathy Cole at 3816 Riverview Drive, Two Rivers, 54241 or e-mail me at [cathyanddan@lakefield.net](mailto:cathyanddan@lakefield.net) or phone me at (920) 553-8757.

Thank you.

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## **FUND DRIVE AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this time of year, we begin our annual fund drive. If there are any organizations or interested parties who would like to make a contribution to the League, please let someone on the board know and we will send them a letter with a personal note. Remember any dues or contributions are tax deductible.

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## **ISSUES BRIEFING**

Thank you Jennifer Balma and Maureen Crowley for attending the Issues Briefing Program that was held in Madison, Wisconsin. The Briefings included two very informative presentations. The first was by Attorney Joseph Troy, Former Circuit Court Judge, Chairman of the Wisconsin State Bar Judicial Task Force on: A New Proposal for Judicial Selection. The second presentation was on The Climate Crisis and American Health by Joel Charles. If you wish to view either presentation go to [wiseye.org](http://wiseye.org) website; visit the video archive under Forums, Conferences, and Presentations.

## **LWWWI**

In December, we will be asked for feedback on a revised Water Quality position. Our feedback will be considered by the Water Committee and worked into a proposed revision of the position for review by the State Board. The State Board will vote on whether to recommend the revised position for a vote by the delegates at next year's Annual Meeting (May 30-31, 2014).

During now and February 28<sup>th</sup>, we will be looking at the League's state and national positions to either retain, drop, update or study each position. The positions packet is posted publicly on the LWWWI Website Members Page: <http://www.lwwwi.org/Members.aspx>. The date of this meeting is yet to be determined, but it will happen.

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