

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MANITOWOC COUNTY
OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER**

Calendar of Events

10/11	Candidates Forum – Two Rivers
10/17	Last Date to Register Voters
10/25	Poverty Meeting
11/05	Board Meeting
11/06	Election Day
11/10	Issues Briefing 2018
11/15	Immigration Meeting – Part I
12/03	Social Gathering at the Grinde’s
12/06	Immigration Meeting – Part II

Dear League Members,

Our Kick-Off for the new year was a success!!! A BIG THANK YOU goes to Carol Wergin, past president and league member, but more importantly a member of the steering committee that brought the Spirit of the Rivers to Manitowoc County.

Carol did a power point presentation that started from the very beginning stages of this project all the way to the final production. She mixed facts with humor and grace. We had over fifty people in attendance – mixture of league members and the public.

I also want to thank Ginny Finnel for creating the poster that advertised this meeting. Cecilia Held and Ginny were responsible for placing them throughout the area.

Thank you all for your support.

Cathy

CANDIDATE FORUMS

There will be a **Candidates Forum on Thursday, October 11th at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of Two Rivers City Hall. District 1 Senatorial Candidates**, incumbent Caleb Frostman and challenger Andre Jacque will participate, as will three of the four **State Assembly District 2** candidates, Mark Grams, Shae Sortwell and Jeff Dahke, Kevin Bauer did not respond to the invitation. We look forward to an interesting evening. Light refreshments will be served.

For the League members and voters of the 6th Congressional District, the 9th Wisconsin State Senatorial District and the 25th State Assembly District, the league will be unable to hold a forum for the candidates from these districts due to non-participation of three Republican candidates.

Congressman Glenn Grothman was sent a certified letter containing an invitation to participate in a forum after several messages went unanswered. He has not responded, although his opponent, Dan Kohl, has agreed to participate.

State Senator Devin LeMahieu's campaign manager responded to our invitation noting that there was a conflict on the date we suggested. Several attempts to request alternate dates have been met with no response. The Sheboygan County League of Women Voters has also had no success in setting up a forum. His challenger, Kyle Whelton, agreed to participate in both forums.

Assemblyman Paul Tittl failed to respond to several messages and refused to accept our certified letter containing an invitation to a forum. The post office returned the letter stamped "REFUSED." Jenni Estrada has agreed to participate in a forum.

The League of Women Voters debate and forum rules are very clear that we may not hold an "empty chair" forum. If only one candidate agrees to participate, we must cancel the event to avoid any appearance of partisanship.

Connie Hendries

POVERTY MEETING

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, our committee has been working on Poverty and Addiction in Manitowoc County for 3 years. Part 1 was made available to the membership at the May Annual Meeting and has been available to others on our website. At this time, the committee is updating Part 1 with current information and is completing the Table of Contents and the Resource list for the entire report. The West Foundation has granted us the money for printing our publication which is about 110 pages.

Our committee is planning a meeting for **Thursday, October 25th from 5 pm to 7:30 pm**. It will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall. At this time you will receive your printed publication which includes an updated Part 1 and the completed Part 2. Committee members will highlight the factual information regarding Part 1 and will lead a discussion on Part 2 which describes the strengths and gaps in our local resources regarding addiction.

We plan to send an invitation for the October 25th meeting to the 73 agencies of the Human Resource Council in case they would like to attend.

We are asking our League members that attend to bring snacks to this meeting since it will begin at 5 pm. Every December, we discover the good cooks we have when they bring appetizers to our League Holiday Social.

We are planning on a full discussion of the publication in February which will lead to our official League position regarding this Report.

Our committee includes Cecilia Held, Nancy Slattery, Jean Biegun, Theresa Collins, and Ginny Finnel. Special thanks to Jean as our head writer and to Ginny for helping finalize the print ready copy.

Julie

ISSUES BRIEFING 2018

The LWVWI will hold its Issues Briefing on Saturday, November 10 from 9 am - 4 pm. League members and nonmembers are welcome at this informative event, which will take place at the Holy Wisdom Monastery, 4200 County Highway M in Middleton.

Tentative guest speaker topics include protecting the Great Lakes; election security; art and activism; the League's diversity, equity and inclusion initiative; and the role of media in democracy. The LWVWI Board and staff will provide updates from the State Office.

Registration is October 25th. Registration includes a light breakfast, full lunch, and beverages. Watch for announcements by email and online under "Events Calendar" at lwvwi.org.

IMMIGRATION

The ad hoc immigration committee has been working hard to organize a two part forum on immigration entitled: **Myth Busting Immigration**. The events will take place at **Manitowoc City Hall on Thursday, November 17 and Thursday, December 6. Both will start at 7pm.**

The speakers for the first forum will be Alise Coen, Assistant Professor of Political Science at UW Manitowoc and UW Sheboygan and Sarah Griffiths, immigration lawyer for Catholic Charities. They will discuss common myths related to immigrants as well as issues facing refugees and immigrations, including their lack of rights.

The second forum will feature Karl Klessig and Marcus Guevarra and will focus more on individual experiences of immigrants in our area, looking at the issue more from a human aspect than legal focus.

We encourage all League members to attend and learn more about this important and timely topic.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for renewing your membership to League and sending your interest form in a timely manner. Since receiving this information, the membership list has been updated and the results of the interest forms have been collated and given to the board members.

I also asked your opinion on the use of the Phone Tree. Twenty-eight of you responded. The majority thought the phone tree was a good idea and they didn't mind the calls. For those who did not appreciate the reminder, I have removed their names from the phone tree.

I will be sending this information through e-mail or regular mail for the few of you who do not have a computer.

I have appreciated your help and support.

Thank you,

Catherine L. Cole

ELECTION DAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

Darlene Wellner is in the process of gathering names of people who would drive voters to their polling place. If you are interested in being a driver, please contact Darlene at 682-9466.

For those of you who are wondering what we have done for registering voters, we are not able to be certified by the City Clerks since people can now register on line. We placed posters around Manitowoc and Two Rivers with information on how to register. I have also written an article to the HTR in regards to registration which they did print. In the Sunday HTR, there was an article by David Haynes on registering to vote.

Any member of League can guide and assist people who are trying to register on line. The deadline for registering on line is **October 17th at myvote.wi.gov**. At My Vote site, there is information about what is on the ballot and where to vote.

Finally, people must provide proof of residence when they register. They can use a driver's license or state ID card if the address is current, a utility bill, a property tax bill, a bank statement or other form of identification. If they don't have a proper ID, they can get a free ID at bringit.wi.gov or call 1-866-868-3947.

