

**MANITOWOC COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/21/13 The State of Lake Michigan
9/24/13 National Voters' Registration Day
9/26/13 Drug and Other Specialty Courts
10/5/13 2013 Issues Briefing
10/7/13 Board Meeting
10/15-17 Lake Michigan Joint Summit, Sheboygan

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Dear League Members:

It has been a summer of relaxation, family and friends. Summer is also a time to reflect on what has been done in the past years and what still needs to be considered in the coming year. As a League, we can be proud of the many accomplishments that we have achieved. It is due to members like you who give of your time and support. Since our League is made up of many diverse individuals, the Board promotes events that will be informative, educational and entertaining to all. We will have meetings during the week as well as our Saturday brunches to give everyone an opportunity to attend them.

We want to encourage all of you to take time to complete the interest form along with your dues if you have not paid them as yet. This is your opportunity to get involved with other members of the League. Our League is very different from other organizations in that our general meetings are open to the public. It is during the planning stage that many of you will get to know each other. Some of you have expressed an interest in becoming a board member. ALL members of the League are invited to our Board Meetings. We meet the first Monday of every month at 5:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church on 8th Street. This will give you an opportunity to see the Board in action and help you to make a decision. During February and March, the Nominating Committee will contact those of you who have expressed an interest to be on the Board.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting on September 21st. Keep reading the Newsletter for details.

Cathy

SEPTEMBER 21st KICK-OFF

On **Saturday, September 21, 2013 at 9:30 am**, the League of Women Voters of Manitowoc County is kicking off the season with a brunch at the **First Presbyterian Church, 502 North Eighth Street**. It will be a time to meet old friends and make new ones. We are inviting all current and past members, visitors, friends, spouses, and significant others.

After the Brunch, we have a very interesting program presented by Krista Grimm entitled, **“Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes: Challenges and Opportunities.”** You will learn the types of threats that stress Lake Michigan, as well as what is being done to mitigate those threats and how you might get involved. Krista Grimm has been a League member for 17 years and currently serves on the Natural Resources Committee of her local League, is Vice President of the Cook County League, is Water Issues Specialist of the Illinois League, and is an Illinois Delegate to the Lake Michigan League. She also chairs the Sustainability Commission in her hometown and is co-chair of the Water Issues Committee of the Chicago Group of the Sierra Club. Krista earned her BA at Northwestern University, and earned a master’s degree in Urban Planning at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is a principal of Heritage Real Estate LLC, a commercial property investment and management firm.

We will also recap the events upcoming this fall and 2014. See you there!!

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

The National League of Women Voters has declared that Tuesday, September 24th will be National Voter Registration Day. Registration of voters will take place during the lunch hour at Lincoln High School, Silver Lake College, and the UW Manitowoc Campus. Since Wisconsin does not have any elections in November, this opportunity is limited to two hours at those three locations. Those who have been trained by Jennifer Hudon last year and are interested in donating two hours at any location can contact Cathy Cole at (920) 553-8757. We need two people at each location.

Thank you.

PUBLIC MEETING ON DRUG AND SPECIALTY COURTS PLANNED

The League’s Mental Health Committee is sponsoring a public meeting on drug and other specialty courts **on Thursday, September 26th, 6:30 pm at Manitowoc City Hall, 900 Quay Street**. Co sponsors of the event are RUTH and Healthiest Manitowoc.

The focus of the event will be a panel of professionals from Eau Claire County who will describe the implementation and success of their drug, mental health, and other specialty courts. Panel members will include Pat Eisenberger who is the Drug Court Case Manager and Judge Michael Schmacher. Eau Claire County has had years of experience in developing and using specialized courts to deal with non-violent drug and alcohol offenders and those who are mentally ill who can benefit from treatment rather than jail. They now have evidence-based data that such approaches reduce crime by treating the source of crime while also assuring accountability. More and more counties in Wisconsin and the US are adopting these common sense, cost effective solutions.

When the League's Mental Health Committee completed its study of the state of mental health services in Manitowoc County, investigating the establishment of a drug court was one of the study's recommendations. We hope League members will support this effort and join us for this informative evening. Light refreshments will be served.

2013 ISSUES BRIEFING

On **Saturday, October 5, 2013 from 9 am – 2 pm at the Crowne Plaza Madison**, 4402 East Washington Avenue, Madison, the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin will be meeting. The featured presentations include: A New Proposal for Judicial Selection presented by Attorney Joseph Troy, Former Circuit Court Judge, Chair of Wisconsin State Bar Judicial Task Force; The Climate Crisis and Public Health presented by Joel Charles, M.P.H. & M.D. Candidate, UW-Madison; Developing Civic Leadership in the 21st Century presented by Desiree Culpitt, Co-chair of "Leaders of Today and Tomorrow" in Minnesota, Member, Board of Directors of LWV-St. Paul.

To register online go to: <http://www.regonline.com/2013issuesbriefing>

Registration fee is \$45.00. The MCLWV will pay half of the registration fee for those members who wish to attend. Car-pooling is always available.

LAKE MICHIGAN JOINT SUMMIT

On October 15-17, the Lake Michigan Joint Summit Meeting is planned at Blue Harbor in Sheboygan. The first day, October 15th 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 p.m. at an additional cost of \$28. There will then be a program on the Water Study done by the Ripon LWV from 8:15 to 9 p.m. Cathy Cole and Anita Rappe have registration forms for the Lake Michigan League's Annual Meeting. Registration is due by October 1st. Call or e-mail Cathy at (920) 553-8757; cathyanddan@lakefield.net or Anita at (920) 682-9597; erappe@powercom.net.

The State of Lake Michigan Joint Conference is scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, October 16 and 17. The cost is \$150 for both days and \$80 for one day. This registration includes meals, reception, and selections of over 18 workshop sessions. Registration must be done on line: <http://aqua.wisc.edu/solm/>.

If you intend to go to both Conferences you must complete two separate registration forms.

MEMBERSHIP

Some members have not gotten around to renewing their membership over the summer. So, this is a gentle reminder that we have raised our dues to \$50.00 for an individual and it will be \$75.00 per couple. At present the National and State Leagues dues are \$61.50 for an individual and \$91.50 for a couple. We are still lower than most Leagues in the area. Please send your dues to **Patricia Dodge, League Treasurer, 1106 Park Row Boulevard, Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220.**

The sooner we receive everyone's dues the sooner everyone will receive a membership roster and an updated phone tree list.

Thank you.

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Congratulations go to Rachel Muchin Young who will be moving sometime in September (she will return on weekends) to take on a new job as Director of the Franklin Public Library just south of Milwaukee. When Darlene Wellner and Marilyn Sontag approached her on bringing Great Decisions to the area, she was delighted to cooperate. She became a member of the League shortly after this collaboration, and soon was a contributing member of the board. We wish Rachel much success in her new position!!

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Marilyn Sontag is recovering from Rotator Cuff Surgery. It would be nice if we could e-mail her or send a card to let her know that we are thinking of her and hoping that she will have a speedy recovery. Marilyn's address is: 208 Huron Street, Manitowoc 54220 or e-mail her at sontagcr@sbcglobal.net. Get Well, Soon!!!

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Many of you might have seen the obituary of Mary Pawlitzke who died last Thursday, August 29, 2013 at age 88. She was a resident of Harmony of Two Rivers. During the 1950's Mary was an active member of the League and served on the Board for many years. She was a Lifetime member of the League for her years of service and support.

Memorials can be made to either the Lester Public Library Gift Fund or the Capitol Civic Center.

WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, AND NEWSLETTER

Thanks to Jennifer Balma, Facebook Manager, and Shelly Randerson, Website Manager, you can follow our activities and events on Facebook and on our Website:
<http://www.lwvmanitowoc.org>.

If you are having difficulty receiving your monthly newsletter, please contact Cathy Cole at (920) 553-8757.