

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

09/24	Spirit of the Rivers Presentation
10/01	Board Meeting
10/??	Forums tba in Manitowoc & Two Rivers
11/05	Board Meeting
11/15	Myth-busting Immigration – Part I
12/03	Social
12/06	Myth-busting Immigration – Part II

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Dear League Members,

Welcome to a new year of exciting and interesting issues programs that is sure to entice many of you. We have been busy with meetings all during the summer.

Most of you have sent in your dues and you should be receiving the current membership list, along with the interest and phone tree list by early October. We have two new members that have joined League. They are Donna Firman and Sister Marcollette Madden. Please take time to welcome them.

We hope that you have had a wonderful and relaxing summer. We look forward to seeing you at the many issues events that we have planned.

Cathy

SPIRIT OF THE RIVERS: A Picture Story of its Journey

On Monday, September 24th, at the Manitowoc Public Library at 6:00 pm, Carol Wergin, Past President of the LWV of Manitowoc County will be presenting a power point presentation of the *Spirit of the Rivers: A Picture Story of its Journey*. This presentation will include background information on the artist, R.T. Wallen who was born and raised in Manitowoc. A review of the process of making this bronze monument from beginning to end will include how the Lost

Wax Bronze Method works. The audience will also hear about details in the monument and how they were sculpted. Many people have stopped by to take a look at the monument on Maritime Drive. Now, you will have the opportunity to hear the story from the beginning to end from one of the members of the steering committee.

This is our very first 2018-19 meeting of the League. Light Refreshments will be served. We are looking forward to seeing members, guests, and community residents at this informative meeting on a true asset to Manitowoc County.

On Tuesday, September 25th, the League of Women Voters sponsors Voter Registration throughout the Country. If you know of anyone who has not registered to vote or who has not voted in a while, ask them call their city hall to see if they are still considered active voters or have them go to myvote.wi.gov to register.

Materials have been dropped off at schools, libraries, and senior centers. Remember anyone can help with the registration, but everything must agree with the information that is registered with the Dept. of Motor Vehicles.

UPDATE ON POVERTY AND ADDICTION STUDY

Three years ago our League adopted a study on Poverty in Manitowoc County. We divided the study into four sections: Economic Factors, Food, Housing, Health Care and we added Transportation. As the Health Committee started their section, they became interested in the relationship between poverty and addiction. The direction of the study became focused on this topic and resulted in Part 1 which was printed and made available to our membership at the Annual Meeting in May. Part 1 is on our website if you have not received a printed copy. Copies of Part 1 were distributed in the community to many people and agencies who were interviewed. Part 1 deals with addiction as a disease and its impact on citizens in our county.

The committee has completed editing Part 2 and this part is being put in the final print format. Part 2 deals with the strengths and gaps in local resources for the county population. Part 1 and Part 2 will be printed in one final document and will

eventually be on our website in October. The committee has submitted a grant request to the West Foundation to sponsor the printing of this report which is \$600 for 100 copies. The committee wanted to provide our members with a copy and free copies to the people and agencies involved in providing us with all the information. We will not know if we have received this grant until the end of September.

During the three year time of this study, the committee has provided our members and the community with programs on poverty in the county, housing and food issues and how our schools are addressing poverty.

After the report is printed, the membership will discuss the information and the League will make recommendations for change. The head writer for this report is Jean Biegen and we are grateful to her for her passion and her writing ability.

Members of the committee include: Jean Biegun, Nancy Slattery, Julie Grinde, Cecilia Held, Theresa Collins, and Ginny Finnel.

Manitowoc LWV-Environment Issues:

A group of women from the League have met for the past two months at Jenn's Java on Washington Ave. in Manitowoc. We have had some lively conversations on how we can bring our concerns about environmental issues and climate change to our public officials and to the candidates in the election this fall.

In the film about climate change "Before the Flood"... There was a comment made "We do not just want public officials who believe in climate change... We must have leaders who will put their beliefs into actions."

Our plan is to bring our concerns to as many events as possible to where candidates are gathering for their campaign during this fall's election.

Our next meeting is in September.
Interested in joining us...
Please contact Bev Rawling
circleofsong@tds.net or 920-693-8941

MYTHBUSTING IMMIGRATION

On Thursday, November 15th at 7:00 pm at Manitowoc City Hall, the League will be presenting Alise Coen, Asst. Professor in Political Science of UW-GB and Sarah J. Griffiths, Immigration Lawyer to speak on immigration issues and how they affect our county.

Each person will speak about 40 minutes and they will then answer questions from the audience.

Since this topic is so broad, it was decided by the committee to have another meeting on immigration on Thursday, December 6th at Manitowoc City Hall with speakers that will talk about some of the personal problems that immigrants face.

More information will be forthcoming.

MEMBERSHIP

We have a member in our midst that has recently had her 100th Birthday. She has been a member of League for many years. Although I have never met her, but talked on the phone with her many times, I have found her to be caring and a strong proponent of good government. I found out that she was the President and Treasurer of the Manitowoc Day Care Association. She was involved with Darlene Wellner, Marilyn Sontag, Carolyn Schwartz, Edith Korpi, Barb Bouffard Jenkins, Jim Neuser, Bev Vareka, Ethel Parks, and Michelle Zboralski in the establishment of the first day care in Manitowoc County which was located at the Two Rivers Congregational Church in the 70's. She presided over forums at Two Rivers City Hall, she likes lemon meringue pie, and played bridge. She is thoughtful and caring.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY TO MODESTA OLSEN