

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MANITOWOC COUNTY
APRIL 2012 NEWSLETTER**

Calendar of Events

4/14	Privatization of Services Consensus Meeting
4/21	Earth Day
4/25	In Your Home – The Power of Green: Your Water
4/30	Board Meeting
5/08	Democratic Primary Election
5/23	LWVMC Annual Meeting, Manitowoc
6/01-02	LWWWI Annual Meeting, Wausau
6/04	Board Meeting
6/05	General Election
6/30	End of Fiscal Year

Dear League Members,

Although the end of our fiscal year is coming to a close, we still have a few more programs for all of you to attend. We will have a delicious brunch for those of you attending our Saturday Privatization of Services Consensus Meeting. Since you are all valued members of our League, we appreciate your input as we answer the consensus questions. Our consensus to these questions will be sent to the National League to be recorded.

On April 21st, we will be at Silver Lake College to celebrate Earth Day. We will have two petitions for everyone to sign.

We will be having our May Banquet on May 23rd at the Holiday Inn and Walter J. Dickey will be our speaker. Our slate of officers and board members will be presented at that time.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and that you are enjoying the nice weather.

Cathy

PRIVATIZATION OF SERVICES CONSENSUS MEETING

On Saturday, April 14th at the First Presbyterian Church, 502 North 8th Street, Manitowoc at 9:00 am, the Privatization of Services Consensus Meeting will be held. We will begin with a continental breakfast. After the breakfast, it is suggested that three questions be discussed to “warm up” before asking/answering the consensus questions, namely: What are public services? What is the role of government? Where is privatization appropriate? Our responses to these questions will help us to come to a consensus (or not) on “identifying the policies and parameters that should be considered when any government entity is planning to undertake some form of privatization.”

Please review the consensus questions which are on the LWV website and were sent to those individuals who do not have e-mail. These questions will be enclosed again with the April Newsletter. For those of you who cannot attend this meeting, please complete the questions and send them to: Darlene Wellner, 5605 Old Highway Q, Manitowoc, 54220 as soon as possible so that your voice will be included in the study. Deadline for answers to these questions is April 21, 2012.

We hope to see many of you at this Consensus Meeting.

EARTH DAY

On Saturday, April 21st, there will be an Earth Day Celebration. This is a wonderful family event. There will be more than 20 educational booths and demonstrations to learn more about topics like: organic foods, natural health and beauty aids, recycling, composting and vermicomposting, landscaping, wildlife, alternative energy, local environmental organizations, and other topics. Children can take part in readings of Dr. Seuss’ The Lorax, face painting, flower planting, and create and decorate a plant-able “Mr. Potato-head.”

We will have two petitions for people to sign. One petition will be to **Restore Full Funding for Focus on Energy**. In 2011, this energy conservation/efficiency program saved Wisconsin residents \$264 million in energy costs by using Focus on Energy programs to upgrade their homes and business for greater energy efficiency. Business saved \$212 million in energy costs.

The second petition is to ask our governor and legislators to give **priority to clean air and water protection**, in designing any future mining laws. Environmental protections must be in place to assure that damage from iron mines do not pose health hazards for citizens living in Northern Wisconsin. It is useless to create jobs at the cost of human health, dirty air, and water, a polluted Lake Superior and devastating the ecosystems of our great North Woods.

A number of earth-friendly collections will be available. People can turn in unwanted medications, batteries, cell phones, ink jet cartridges, unwanted eyeglasses, and hearing aids. Cell phones will be donated to the "Cell Phones for Soldiers Program." Eyeglasses and hearing aids are being donated to the Newton Lions Club collection effort.

We will be there **from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm**. Stop by and say hi.

THE POWER OF GREEN: YOUR WATER

The LTC Cleveland Campus has been sponsoring programs on how we can protect our waterways and conserve water for future generations. The last in the series is on **April 25th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm**. The topic for the evening will be what we can do at home when it comes to protecting the water system. Get the basics on high-efficiency products and ingredients to avoid in household cleaner, and learn where your water ends up once it goes down the drain. The presenters are Rich Kammerer, Kohler, Jon Reisenbuechler, Manitowoc County Recycling Center, and Dale Doerr, Sheboygan. The presenters are Rich Kammerer, Kohler, Jon Reisenbuechler, Manitowoc County Recycling Center, and Dale Doerr, Sheboygan, Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility.

MAY BANQUET

Mark your calendar!! The May Banquet will be held on **Wednesday, May 23rd** at the **Holiday Inn**, Manitowoc. Dr. Walter J. Dickey will be our speaker. Professor Dickey is a Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was previously head of the Department of Corrections of the State of Wisconsin. His areas of expertise are criminal law, corrections, sentencing, prosecution, and defense, and alternatives to incarceration, diversion, and specialized courts. He is a member of the American Bar Association Standards on Diversion and Specialized Courts.

At this time, we will be voting on the new slate of officers and board members:

Officers:

President	Catherine Cole*	2012-2013
V- President	Mary Wallace*	2012-2013
Secretary	Julie Grinde	2011-2013
Treasurer	Patricia Dodge*	2012-2014

Elected Directors:

Jennifer Balma*	2012-2014
Linda Gratz*	2012-2014
Connie Hendries*	2012-2014
Nancy Slattery*	2012-2014

Joan Kaeiser	2011-2013
Shelly Randerson	2011-2013
Anita Rappe	2011-2013

Marilyn Sontag 2011-2013
Darlene Wellner 2011-2013

Appointed Directors:

Jacquelynn Collins* 2012-2013
Rachel Muchin Young* 2012-2013

More details will be forthcoming in the May Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to welcome two new members to our League. They are **Cecilia Held** and **Kathleen Bernhart**. We are glad that they have joined our organization and hope to see them at our May Banquet.

CANDIDATE FORUMS

A big thank you to everyone who helped make the March candidates forum such a success. From hauling the banner, cups and other supplies to providing snacks, making name tents, operating the video cam, keeping everyone on task by timing the event and making sure everything ran smoothly, it couldn't have happened without a team effort. We get so much great publicity from these events!

Connie Hendries

GREAT DECISIONS

We had another banner year for Great Decisions. We averaged over 125 people in attendance. The speakers were well versed on their subject matter and the audience asked many diverse questions that only enhanced and clarified the subject matter. It certainly improves our winter season to have such a warm and inviting evening on our schedule. We hope to see all of you next year!!!

VOTING

Just a reminder that there will be the Democratic Primary Election on **May 8th** and the General Election on **June 5th**. Exercise your power – **Get out and VOTE!!!!**

