

**MANITOWOC LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER**

Calendar of Events

3/10	Great Decisions – Food and Climate
3/13	Forum – County Executive Candidates
3/17	Islamic Awakening
3/24	U.S. Trade Policy
3/31	Israel and the U.S.
4/01	Election Day
4/07	Board Meeting

Dear League Members,

It is hard to believe that we are half way through March and we still have an enormous amount of snow on the ground, but at least it is above freezing this weekend. The temperature rising makes me believe that spring is just around the corner.

I am preparing the Newsletter early so that everyone will be aware that we will be having a **FORUM ON Thursday, March 13th at the Manitowoc Council Chambers in City Hall at 7:00 pm.** You will be getting phone calls from members of the board in regards to this forum.

Although the newsletter is not very long this month, there are still some important items that need your attention.

Let us hope that the below zero weather is gone for the year!!

Sincerely,

Cathy

FORUM

The League of Women Voters of Manitowoc County is holding a **Candidates Forum on Thursday, March 13th at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of Manitowoc City Hall.** County Executive candidates Bob Ziegelbauer and Curt Green will be featured along with Manitowoc School Board candidates. The District 5 County Board candidates have been invited to briefly introduce themselves.

A media panel will question the County Executive and School Board candidates, as will members of the audience. The event will be televised on ComCast. Light refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there.

ELECTION DAY

WE ARE NEEDED!!!!

The Government Accountability Board is conducting a pilot project in the townships of Kossuth and Newton in which they are testing new voting equipment. It is a technology developed by a team at Clemson University. It gets away from the idea that voting equipment is a “machine” and instead it is an open source technology that can be run on a laptop computer. It is accessible to anyone, and the hope is that everyone will be able to use the same technology regardless of disability (with different settings, I assume). Mike Haas said this is a pilot project that states and municipalities nationally will be following.

The **GAB** is seeking the help of LWV of Manitowoc County to volunteer and to be at the polling places in those townships to ask voters to complete a brief survey after using the equipment and collect the surveys. They want people to be at the polls all day (7 am-8 pm), but there can be multiple volunteers who do it in shifts. There are two polling places – one in each of the townships (Kossuth and Newton).

If anyone is interested, please contact Cathy Cole at 553-8757. I would like to set up at least three shifts per township so that it is not so overwhelming for anyone person.

GREAT DECISIONS

We are half way through Great Decisions. The League can be very proud of the attendance that we draw each and every week despite this miserable cold winter. It only proves that if you present something worthwhile the public will attend.

The following programs will be presented this month:

3/10 Food and Climate. William Bland, PhD, Professor of Soil Science, UW-Madison.

3/17 Islamic Awakening. Joseph W. Elder, PhD, Professor of Sociology, Languages and Cultures of Asia, Integrated Liberal Studies, UW-Madison.

3/24 U.S. Trade Policy. Martin Farrell, PhD, Director of Global Studies, Politics and Government, Ripon College.

3/31 Israel and the U.S. Sean Jeffery McLaughlin, Lecturer of History, UW-Whitewater. This is the cancelled program of February 17th.

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee will be meeting to present a slate to all members by April 7th. If anyone is interested in becoming a board member, treasurer, or president, please call Lucy Zeldenrust at 793-4647 or Anne Flynn at 652-0739.

The duties of a board member consist of attending the monthly board meeting held on the first Monday of every month. We usually do not meet in June, but hold a planning meeting in June or July depending on schedules. This planning meeting is important as it creates our events and sets up members to chair and support each event.

The duties of the president consist of presiding at all meetings of the Board of Directors: may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes; shall be a member of all committees

except the nominating committee, and shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board. In the event of Co-Presidents, a description of how duties will be divided shall be presented at the first Board of Directors meeting following the Annual Meeting election.

The duties of Treasurer shall consist of collecting and receiving all monies due; shall be the custodian of these monies; shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disperse the same only upon order of the Board; shall deposit and disperse funds as directed by the Board; shall present statements to the Board at their regular monthly meetings and an Annual Report to the Annual Meeting. The books of the Treasurer shall be reviewed biennially coinciding with the end of the Treasurer's term of office.

As League members, I know that you realize how dedicated we are to the people and community. Please consider one of these positions.

Thank you

IN MEMORIAM – Carolyn Schwartz, 05/16/1914 – 02/25/2014

Carolyn Schwartz was a Manitowoc League member from the 1940s until she moved to New York in 2005 to be near family. We can be proud that her obituary lists the League of Women Voters first in her many accomplishments. To quote: “Mrs. Schwartz, a well-known resident of Manitowoc for over 60 years, was the consummate volunteer. She was active in the League of Women Voters, the Council of Jewish Women, AAUW, the Manitowoc-Two Rivers YMCA, the Manitowoc Public Library, and Family Services. She was also instrumental in establishing the Salvation Army day care program. Mrs. Schwartz as a member of Anske Poale Zedek Synagogue and the APZ Sisterhood. She loved her community and was always ready to support any worthwhile improvements to it.” I might add that those in League who knew her loved her, too.

