

LWV – Whitewater Area Newsletter

A STUDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

February 19th, Thursday – 7:00 PM

Cravath Lakefront Building, Whitewater



A Student’s Perspective on our Schools

The League of Women Voters program this month will feature a **panel of students** from the **Whitewater High School**. They will give their perspectives on the status of our Public Schools here in Whitewater. Specifically, they will discuss the effect on their school of the many legislative changes made in education here in Wisconsin.

Our panelists include: **Troy Marinkovic, Emma Stutzman, and Wentao Guo**. Each of them has studied government in Gregory Stewart’s class. This one semester course is required of all public school students in the state of Wisconsin.

Join us on **Thursday, February 19th at 7:00 pm in the Cravath Lakefront Building**, for a new perspective on our schools from **Whitewater students** who are currently enrolled. It is going to be a program you won’t want to miss!

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League Looking for Leaders

The Nomination Committees at both the Wisconsin state and Whitewater local level are looking for candidates to serve in a Board position. We encourage everyone to step up and participate in these very important roles.

Members are encouraged to nominate someone in their local league or themselves for these leadership positions. The Nominating Committees are accepting nominations until February 27th.

State Nominations: Online nomination form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2DF7RZ7> If you have any questions, please direct them to Andrea Kaminski at the State Office (kaminski@lwvwi.org).

Whitewater Nominations: Email your recommendations to Anita Loch at (anita.a.loch@gmail.com) or call (262) 215-4024

Candidate Forums

The League will sponsor two candidate forums in advance of the April 7th election. Both will be held on Saturday, March 7th, in the City Hall Council Chambers.

A forum for Whitewater Common Council candidates is scheduled in the morning from 10AM to 11:30AM. A forum for School Board candidates will be held in the afternoon from 1PM to 2:30PM.

If you are interested in serving as a question checker or timer for either forum, please contact our Voter Services Chair, Ellen Penwell, at your earliest convenience by calling 262-203-6529 or emailing espenwell@gmail.com.

President's Message Tom Drucker



The year 2015 brings with it several anniversaries, none perhaps of greater importance for the League and our mission than the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta. We know that this is not exactly the model for the legal and political system of the twenty-first century, but it has remained one of the landmarks on the path between feudalism and contemporary society. King John may have been forced to sign it against his will and the barons made sure that they were given pride of place, yet many of the protections that we enjoy against unwarranted intrusions into our lives and beliefs find their first expression in Magna Carta.

Last month's program by Prof. Jonah Ralston of the Department of Political Science at UW-Whitewater was a fitting sequel to the fall program on the issue of redistricting by members of the legislature. We have seen the maps of Wisconsin's electoral districts and we have heard about the consequences for voters to have the chance to influence the result of elections via the ballot box. On a state and national level, the League can make sure that legislators are aware that the public knows how much perpetuation of the status quo is guaranteed.

At last month's Board meeting, Ellen Penwell agreed to take on the portfolio of Voter Services for the Whitewater League. We have not officially had such a position before, but there will be advantages to having programs like voter registration and candidates' forums in one pair of hands. We also accepted with regret L.D. Rockwell's resignation from the Board. Our thanks to L.D. for his work in putting on the fall candidates' forum and his ongoing support of the local League. The Board plans to appoint a replacement at its February meeting.

Governor Walker presented some of the details for the proposed biennial budget during his recent address last week. It will be a challenge to balance deficits with the welfare of our citizens in the state of Wisconsin. The League's programs and activities will be designed over the next year to help inform our citizens about the effects and consequences of these legislative actions.

Remarkable Women Lecture Series

UW-Whitewater's Office of Continuing Education and Fairhaven Senior Services announce "**Remarkable Women**" as the theme for their spring community lecture series. For over 30 years, UW-Whitewater faculty and staff have offered free presentations to thousands of people on topics ranging from politics and current events to art and literature.

Lectures in the "**Remarkable Women**" series will explore the lives and experiences of female authors, artists, scientists, educators and more.

February 16: "May it Please the Court to Remember the Ladies: Women on the Supreme Court"

Presented by Jolly Emrey, Chair, Political Science

February 23: "Harriet Beecher Stowe and *Uncle Tom's Cabin*: A "Moral Battle Cry of Freedom""

Presented by Beth Lueck, Professor, Languages and Literatures

March 2: "The Wisdom of Maya Angelou"

Presented by Beverly Kopper, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

March 9: "The Women and Girls of Eagleswood School: Abolitionism, Utopianism, Educational Experimentation"

Presented by Anne Durst, Chair, Educational Foundations

March 16: "Representing Shakespeare's Kate (from *Taming of the Shrew*) on Stage and Screen"

Presented by Donald Jellerson, Assistant Professor, Languages and Literatures

March 30: "Women Who Rock: Progress and Setbacks for Female Musicians"

Presented by Akiko Yoshida, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Criminology and Anthropology

April 6: "*Mulas* and Queenpins: Women in the Illicit Drug Trade in the Americas"

Presented by Ellie Schemenauer, Chair, Women's and Gender Studies

April 13: "The Evolution of Women in Higher Education and Intercollegiate Athletics"

Presented by Kristina Navarro, Assistant Professor, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Coaching

April 20: "The Craft of Broadway Dance Arrangers Trude Rittman and Genevieve Pitot"

Presented by Jane Ferencz, Associate Professor, Music

April 27: "Women and Water: 21st Century Challenges and Opportunities"

Presented by Linda Reid, Associate Professor, Finance and Business Law

All lectures are free and open to the public on Mondays at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Fairhaven Retirement Community, 435 West Starin Road, Whitewater.

League's 95th Anniversary

This month, the League of Women Voters kicks off a year-long celebration, marking the organization's 95th anniversary. The League of Women Voters in Whitewater joins our nearly 800 fellow local and state chapters in honoring this milestone.

"Ninety-five years after the League's founding, members of the League are proud of the great progress it has made in Making Democracy Work ®," said Elisabeth MacNamara, president of the League of Women Voters of the US. "The League has involved thousands of voters in electing government decision makers for our government and in holding them accountable for their actions."

Today's barriers to the right to vote certainly look different than they did when the League was founded, but they remain threats to voter participation all the same. Our efforts to take on discrimination, improve our government and protect our democracy continue today.

The League has been powered by the efforts of civic volunteers and activists over the decades to successfully take on a range of key issues. Not only have we undertaken sustained efforts to improve the voting process and to protect the environment over the years, but the national League has played widely acclaimed roles in nationwide efforts, including the creation of the United Nations and the protection of Americans' civil liberties from the 1950s on.

As we look to a vibrant future, we will continue to fight voter discrimination and keep secret money out of our elections. We'll also continue to push for improved access to health care as well as a sustainable planet. All the while, the League's historic commitment to register, educate and mobilize voters is not only stronger, but more effective than ever.



Calendar of Events

LWV – Whitewater Area

Date: February 19th (Thursday)

Event: A Student's Perspective on our Public Schools

Where: 7:00PM, Cravath Lakefront Building

Date: March 7th (Saturday)

Event: Candidate Forum

Where: 10AM & 1PM, City Council Chambers

Date: March 19th (Thursday)

Event: Great Lakes Water Quality

Where: 7:00PM, City Council Chambers

Date: April 7th (Tuesday)

Event: Spring General Election

Date: April 16th (Thursday)

Event: "Good Roads" in Wisconsin

Where: 7:00PM, City Council Chambers

Date: May 23rd (Saturday)

Event: Annual Meeting and Elections

Where: 10:00AM, Fairhaven Fellowship Hall

Date: June 5th & 6th (Friday & Saturday)

Event: Wisconsin State LWV Annual Meeting

Where: Ashland, WI



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