

LWV – Whitewater Area Newsletter

“Assault on Democracy in Wisconsin”

Thursday, March 31st 7:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers - Whitewater

Assault on Democracy & Getting Money Out of Politics

Democracy should not be a game that only the wealthiest people and corporations can play. And when corporate interests have undue influence to advance their own agenda, we all pay the price with lower wages and less stable jobs.

The League of Women Voters and Rock River United to Amend are pleased to sponsor an exciting event talking about our democracy in Wisconsin. **Matt Rothschild, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign**, will be our speaker for the evening. The event is open to the public as well as members of both organizations.

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Assault on Democracy in Wisconsin & Money in Politics

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Matt Rothschild will be speaking about the need for common-sense solutions ... on campaign finance but also on voting rights and redistricting.

This is the only way we can have a democracy where everyone has the chance to participate equally, where everyone's voice is heard, where everyone knows who is trying to influence legislation, and where everyone is held accountable.

As many of you are aware, the National League of Women Voters has dedicated a significant amount of work over the past year on these topics. Both **Money in Politics** and **Redistricting** were established committees this biennium and have produced a significant amount of great education and information. Check out the website www.lwvus.org for more information before our upcoming meeting.

Join us for a great opportunity to discuss this important topic at the Whitewater Municipal Building at 7pm on March 31st. You won't want to miss it!!

Candidate Forum Common Council



This is a last minute reminder to attend the League's Candidate Forum for Common Council candidates, on **Saturday, March 12, 10:00-11:30AM** in the Community Room (Council Chambers) in City Hall.

League board member **Tom Drucker** will serve as forum moderator. Candidates running for Common Council are:

Aldermanic District 1

**Kenny Kienbaum and
Patrick Wellnitz**

Aldermanic District 2

James Langnes III

Aldermanic District 4

Lynn Binnie

At Large

James Allen

Candidate Questionnaire

A Questionnaire for Common Council Candidates will be posted on the League's website, www.lwvwhitewater.org, by the end of the day, Monday, March 14th.

League Video Contest Highlighted at Wisconsin Council on the Social Studies (WCSS) Conference

Voter Services Chair Ellen Penwell and Whitewater High School Civics Teacher Greg Stewart will present a program on the League's recent Video Contest on voter registration, photo ID, and the importance of voting at the **Wisconsin Council on the Social Studies Annual Conference, Monday, March 14th, in Madison**. The session is titled, "**Finding Clarity in Voter ID.**" The development and success of the contest as a means of helping high school students learn about democracy and voting requirements will be shared with social studies teachers throughout the state. The hope is that other high schools will partner with their local Leagues to develop similar programming.

News From League of Women Voters of Wisconsin

Things are heating up for the April 5th election coming up soon.

On the ballot will be a seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court and local races, as well as your chance to vote for your preferred Presidential candidate for nomination by his/her party.

You may request an absentee ballot from your municipal clerk or election commission any time, and in-person absentee voting (early voting) will begin March 21.

For more information, go to the **Government Accountability Board's My Vote Wisconsin** website. For information about the candidates, go to **VOTE411.org** and enter your address.

New details about the League's state Annual Meeting, June 3-5 in Egg Harbor.

Following **Colleen Gruszynski's** presentation on engaging the younger and more diverse emerging electorate, **Anita Loch**, a member of LWV Whitewater Area and the LWV-US Board of Directors, will lead a workshop on how to build the League's ability to adapt to change and meet new challenges.

[Click here for agenda updates, lodging and registration.](#)

Register and make your hotel reservation now! You don't want to miss it!

LWV - Whitewater Voter Registration Drive Underway

League members **Ellen Penwell, Julia Ross, Mary Beth Byrne, and Gerry Jennings** have been busy manning a **voter registration table** in the lobby of the **Whitewater Public Library**.

Remaining dates for voter registration at this location are:

March 7 (Mon)	9AM-11AM
March 9 (Wed)	9AM-11AM 5PM-7PM
March 10 (Thurs)	9AM-11AM
March 14 (Mon)	9AM-11AM
March 15 (Tues)	9AM-11AM

GET INVOLVED in this critical Presidential Election Year!! Call or email Ellen and let her know you're ready to make a difference and volunteer! Don't set this one out!!



LWV Whitewater-Area Calendar of Events

Date: March 12th (Saturday)

Event: Common Council Candidate Forum

Where: 10:00 AM, City Hall Council Chambers, Whitewater

Date: March 31st (Thursday)

Event: The Assault on Democracy in Wisconsin
and Getting Money Out of Politics

Where: 7:00 PM, City Hall Council Chambers, Whitewater

Date: April 5th (Tuesday)

Event: Wisconsin Presidential Primary Election

Date: April 21st (Thursday)

Event: University of Wisconsin Update

Date: May 21st (Saturday)

Event: Annual Meeting and Elections

LEAGUE LOOKING FOR LEADERS

The Nomination Committee for the Whitewater local league is 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 our local league or themselves for these leadership positions. The Nominating Committees are accepting nominations until March 31st. Email Anita Loch or Jane Roberts today!



2015-2016 Board Members

President

Mary Beth Byrne (2015-2017)
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Vice President

Ellen S. Penwell (2015-2016)
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Treasurer

Julia S. Ross (2015-2017)
262-581-5411/ j22ross@gmail.com

Secretary

Jane Roberts (2014-2016)
608-883-2048/ jrhuntersridge42@gmail.com

Directors

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Tom Drucker (2015-2017)
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Susan Crone (2015-2016)
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Gerry Jennings (2014-2016)
262-473-3909/ grjenmus@outlook.com

Voter Services Chair

Ellen S. Penwell (2015-2016)
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Membership Chair

Gerry Jennings
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