



# The VOTER



**Katie Kuznacic**  
*President*

## Greetings members of the Janesville League of Women Voters

With a new year often comes resolve for new habits, new beginnings and a new outlook. 2016 is ushering in a new year with new policies we may not be so thrilled about (photo id anyone?) and events we ARE looking forward to! The Mental Health Committee is holding several events this winter and spring which will

be open to the public and highly encouraged to general membership. Please keep your eyes and ears open for more information! And I hope to see you all at the annual Susan B. Anthony event Saturday, February 6 at the Armory. With a presidential election right around the corner and local elections heating up this spring, we will be seeing lots of each other. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join us and Happy New Year!

## Members of the JLWV Board; Voter Services Committee and all SRDs

**Deb Fisher**  
*Voter Service Co-chair*

All who have the certificate for SRD Appointment know your certification expires on December 31st. My intention was to have an SRD training the first week in January. That has changed.

There is a bill pending in the State Legislature to eliminate the position of SRD. In conversation with Andrea Kaminski I learned this bill was sponsored by the Republicans and City Clerks. Various amendments have slowed the process and thus the bill is still pending. I have learned it is likely the bill will come for a vote sometime in January. Of course a call to your representative talking about the value of SRDs would be very helpful. There are currently two plans:

1. The bill passes: The Voter Services Committee will meet to discuss how we can encourage voter registration without SRDs. Lori Stotler already has some good ideas about this.

2. The bill fails: We will join with the Beloit League who have been in conversation with Lisa Tollefson about a Rock County training for SRDs. This will happen quickly since 2016 is such a big election year.

Stay tuned.

**Judicial  
Primary  
February  
16th**

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# “Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race”

**Deb Fisher**  
Diversity Committee

The Janesville League of Women Voters approved a new study topic on Diversity at our April 28<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting. The newly formed study group met for the first time in September and elected Lisa Furseth as convener.

The study question which will guide our work as we move forward is: “What, if any, actions/support/resources are needed in order to ensure Janesville is an inclusive community?” We are defining inclusive community as access to respect, goods and services, decision-making, a diverse community and an ability to thrive.

We decided, that we need to begin by looking at ourselves. Therefore we are sponsoring an All League Read. The book we have selected, among many excellent choices, is “Waking Up White and Finding Myself

in the Story of Race” by Debby Irving. This new book is available at Amazon.

The book offers questions the reader can use to assess themselves and leads us to identifying some of what we can do to help address issues of racism.

There will be three opportunities to discuss the book during the month of February at different times and locations. We hope every League member will be able to participate by finding a time and location convenient for you. The dates and locations will be available in the February “Voter”.



## Deadline/Event approaching

**February 6, 2016**

**Doors Open at 11:00 a.m.**

**Brunch Served at 11:30 a.m.**

**The Armory 10 S. High Street in Janesville**

**Contact Deb Fisher for reservations!**

**Tickets are \$30.00 for adults and  
\$20.00 for students**

**Susan B. Anthony Celebration; February 6, 2016**



## View WPT's “Dream Big Dreams”

**Tuesday February 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.**



**Judge Vel  
Phillips**

The League of Women Voters of Janesville and the Hedberg Public Library are co-sponsoring a film viewing and discussion of *Vel Phillips - Dream Big Dreams* from Wisconsin Public Television. Discover how Vel Phillips rose to prominence as one of Wisconsin's great civil rights activists, achieving an impressive list of “firsts” as part of her legacy including the first African American

judge in Wisconsin, as well as the first woman and first African American in the nation elected to executive office in state government. Stay for a discussion after the film with Professor Nikki Mandell of the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater.



# Calendar

## Upcoming Activities 2015-16\*

\*Additional events may be planned. Check website: [lwvjvl.org/calendar](http://lwvjvl.org/calendar)

### January

January 12 @ 6:30 p.m. Board meeting  
January 27 @ 6:00-7:30 p.m. Mental Health Program - History of Services

### February

February 6 @ Doors open @ 11:00 a.m. Brunch @ 11:30 a.m. Susan B. Anthony Birthday Party at the Armory  
February 9 @ 6:30 p.m. Board meeting

### March

March 2 @ 6:00-7:30 p.m. Mental Health Program

- Mental Illness & Law Enforcement  
March 8 @ 6:30 p.m. Board meeting

### April

April 12 @ 6:30 p.m. Board meeting  
April 13 @ 6:00-7:30 p.m. Mental Health Program - Treatment Options

### May

May 10 Annual Meeting



## A WORD ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

**Nancy Stabb**  
*Membership Committee*

I joined the League nearly 50 years ago because I liked the issues based studies and discussions. I soon learned that the League was more than that. In addition to the League studies and advocacy based on our consensus, the League encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government and defends electoral processes that makes voting accessible and voter fraud difficult. I have maintained my membership through the years because I

like being a part of a nonpartisan group dedicated to making democracy work. To really get the most out of your League membership, I encourage you to become involved on a committee or the Board of Directors. If you don't have time for that, do you have time to come to the Susan B Anthony party February 6 and bring a prospective member? Will you invite a friend to attend with you one or more of the series of programs being planned by the Wellness Study Committee for this spring? Make a New Years resolution to be more involved.

## Officers for the Janesville League of Women Voters 2015-2016

President  
First Vice President  
Second Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Director  
Director  
Director  
Director

Katie Kuznacic  
Christy Marsden  
Sarah Kopp  
Debbie Fisher  
Judy Adler  
Carol Herzig  
Mary Buelow  
Laura Boettcher  
Jen Johns



## Are you reading this newsletter as a 'guest'?

Joining the League of Women Voters is easy simply fill in this form and mail.

Name

Address

E-mail

Phone Number

Individual \$65.00  
 Student \$30.00

Household \$95.00

I am unable to join the League at this time but enclosed is a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please make your check payable to: League of Women Voters -  
Janesville, P.O. Box 8064, Janesville, WI 53547-8064

I request consideration for a LWV scholarship.

## Web addresses of National, State and Local Leagues:

To check out the action go to: LWV-US <[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)> LWV-WI <[www.lwvwi.org](http://www.lwvwi.org)> JANESVILLE LEAGUE <[www.lwvjvl.org](http://www.lwvjvl.org)>

# Celebrate your Birthday with the League!

*Remember you may still  
contribute to the State League with  
a birthday donation and half of your  
donation will be returned to our  
Janesville League.*

