

LWW

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF JANESVILLE

The VOTER

www.lwvjvl.org

June 2019

What's Inside this Issue



Annual
Report
Page 2

Annual
Meeting
Page 3



Eileen
Newcomer's
report
Page 4

100 Years
of Votes
Page 6



Calendar
Page 7

Surveys
Page 8



Communications from the President



Dear Friends in League,

We had an excellent turnout for our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 22. Attendees received LWWWI "First to Ratify" buttons created to commemorate



the centennial of WI becoming the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that gave women the right

to vote. Contact me to get your centennial button.

Better yet, contact me to purchase a PURPLE, GREEN or WHITE scarf to wear in the **June 10 celebration "100 Years—Votes for Women."**

The Women's Fund and the LWW of Janesville are organizing a march from the new Town Square to JPAC at 5:00 p.m. that will be followed by a living history program in the JPAC at 6:00 p.m. The program features many of the women who fought the battle for women's suffrage or who have been champions for women in government and civic affairs in the past 100 years. I hope that you will be able to bring friends and family to the event. Come early to Town Square to make posters, rally, pass out League voter education materials, and let people know why you are a member of the League of Women Voters. This will surely be an entertaining as well as an educational event. You can purchase the scarves for \$10 at Velvet and Tulle Boutique at 217 W Milwaukee Street, or order them online

at: www.cfsw.org/events. (In the interest of full disclosure, the Women's Fund and the League will share the net proceeds from the event, so your purchase of a scarf will provide financial support to both groups.)

At the Annual Meeting the members voted to initiate a new study of **"Homelessness and Affordable Housing in Janesville"** and to re-adopt all our current local positions. Our League supports the positions taken by the state and national Leagues and you can find them in their entirety on the League websites:

LWV of Janesville:

http://lwvjvl.org/local_positions.html

LWVWI:

<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/positions>

LWVUS:

<https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues> (The LWVUS document, *Impact on Issues 2018-2020*, has been published recently.)

We elected a strong slate of candidate to the Board at our Annual Meeting. Several of our new officers and directors have Board experience even though they are relatively new to League. They will bring enthusiasm and fresh ideas to our organization. I, also, appreciate the institutional memory, continuity and wisdom that our longer-serving board members bring to the table, and I am deeply grateful that Carol Herzig will continue to be the editor of *The Voter* and our print material, and that Nancy Stabb will serve as an advisor and consultant to the Board.

The Board will hold its organizational meeting on Monday, June 3 so if you

★ See **PRESIDENT**, Page 2

★ President

Continued from page 1

have any suggestions for the Board, please send them to us. Also, you can communicate your interest in participating in League activities, including our new study on homelessness and housing, by responding to the **League Interest Survey** at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VNM36QJ>

We're planning to hold the first of three Back Porch book discussions this summer during the last week of June. It is not too late to vote on the books you would like to read, but you need to act quickly. The current leader is Michelle Obama's *Becoming* for Thursday, June 27, at 3:00-4:30 p.m. "The polls close" at noon on Monday, June 3.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7WP59NN>. The schedule will be announced the following day.

You can see both and the QR codes for participating via smart phone elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our League's new 2019-2020 year begins on June 1. Although the League turns 100 years old this year, we are trying to keep up with the times by making it possible for you to renew your dues online with a credit or debit card at <http://lwvjvl.org/Renew.html>. Please renew soon to ensure that your contact information will be in the print membership directory that is published for our September membership meeting.

I hope you have wonderful beginning to this Centennial Year!

Linda

The 2019-20 Board of the League of Women Voters of Janesville

President Linda Reinhardt 2019-2021
First VP Christina Barrett 2019-2021
Second VP Jennifer Bleak 2019-2020
Secretary Sue Scott 2019-2021
Treasurer Nancy Sonntag 2018-2020

Director Evon Mitchell 2018-2020
Director Heidi Keith 2019-2021
Director Deb Griffith 2019-2020
Director Mary Buelow 2019-2021

2018-19 Annual Report - Linda Reinhardt, President

Currently at 67 members

June & July: Held three "**Back Porch**" book discussions of *Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan, *White Working Class: Overcoming Class Cluelessness*, by Joan Williams, and *Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal* by Aviva Chomsky

July: Co-hosted **Rock County Sheriff Candidate Forum** held in Beloit

Summer: **Provided voter information and helped voters register** at Farmers Market, Cedar Crest, Janesville Athletic Club, Hedberg Public Library, Fourth Ward Fourth of July Picnic, Fourth Ward Barbeques, National Night Out (August 7)

September: Held **Annual Membership Meeting** at which Dr. Beth Jozwiak spoke on "Making Sense of the Electoral College;" Participated in National Voter Registration Day (Sept. 25) at BTC Milton Campus and Festival Foods

October: Co-hosted **Candidate Forum for Assembly Districts 31 and 45** in Beloit; Held viewing party of streamed video of first candidates' debate for Wisconsin's First US Congressional District at UWW at Rock County; DEI Committee led public viewing and discussion of three-part documentary, *Race: The Power of an Illusion*, on three consecutive Saturday mornings.

November: Conducted program, "**Housing Shortage in Janesville: The Links between Housing and Economic Development**" featuring City of Janesville Economic Development Director Gale Price at Janesville City Hall;

Election Season: Voter Services Committee reported that **10 League members spent 90 hours in election activities at 46 election-related events, talking with 1200 potential voters, giving written materials to over 500 people, and helping more than 50 people register to vote.**

January: Held second program on economic development, "**The Challenges and Successes of Economic Development in Milton,**" at the Milton City Hall led by Al Hulick, Milton City Administrator

February: Co-hosted **Susan B Anthony Birthday Celebration Luncheon** in Beloit, featuring guest speaker, Eloisa Gomez, co-editor of *Somos Latinas: Voices of Wisconsin Latina Activists.*; Spoke on behalf of League at **Rep. Brian Steil's listening session** in support of HR1, the *For the People Act* that had four key elements (expand voter registration, implement fair redistricting, outlaw voter purging and restore the voting rights act).

March: Conducted **Janesville City Council can-**

2019 Annual Meeting May 22



Carol Herzig photos

From Left to Right: President Linda Reinhardt, Incoming Secretary Sue Scott, Treasurer Nancy Sonntag and DEI Chairman Mary Buelow.



Voter Services Co-Chairs Lisa Johnson & Jennifer Bleak; Jennifer is also our 2nd Vice President, 2019 Meg McLain recipient Kay Deupree, Evon Mitchell, members and guest speaker Eileen Newcomer.



From Left to Right: Members Nancy Ladder, Carolyn Brandeen, and Bill Wilson. Below: Outgoing Secretary: Heidi Keith.

Part 3 DEI Committee's series on Race - *The Power of an Illusion*

Eileen Newcomer
DEI Committee

On Saturday, May 11th, League members and other community members gathered at Basics Cooperative to watch and discuss "The House We Live In," episode three of the series Race - The Power of an Illusion. This third installment of the series spotlights how our social institutions "make" race by providing different groups vastly different life chances even today, decades after the Civil Rights Act. These realities are illustrated in the film through a close look into how housing discrimination has led to dramatic racial disparities in

generational wealth accumulation and the impact of our country's history of denying citizenship, including the rights and privileges that go along with it, to non-whites in the United States.

After the film, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair, Mary Buelow, led an engaging group discussion. The discussion began with initial reactions to the film, then became more personal as the group considered how the ideas discussed in the film relate to racism and housing issues in Janesville both historically and in the present day.

2018 ELECTION IMPACT



How the League of Women Voters served American voters in 2018:

REGISTERED

250,000+ PEOPLE

through registration events, online campaigns, and voter engagement activities.



EDUCATED OVER 10 MILLION VOTERS



through forums, debates, and the League's premiere website VOTE411.ORG

PROTECTED OVER 1.9 MILLION VOTERS

through varied advocacy, litigation, and education efforts.



HOSTED & SUPPORTED 15,000 ELECTION EVENTS



including candidate forums, voting rallies, and panel discussions

EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.



The information on this page is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer of any financial product or service.

2018 ELECTION IMPACT IN WISCONSIN

How the League of Women Voters served Wisconsin Voters in 2018



REGISTERED 12,000+ WISCONSINITES

During high school, college, and community registration outreach events and other voter engagement activities.

EDUCATED OVER 1 MILLION WISCONSIN VOTERS

Through printed and digital voter guides, candidate forums, social media outreach, responding to voter inquiries and other voter engagement activities.



PROTECTED OVER 4.4 MILLION VOTERS

Through our nationally recognized election observation program and other advocacy efforts.

HOSTED OVER 1,000 ELECTION EVENTS ACROSS WISCONSIN

Events included voter registration drives, candidate forums, issue forums, and other election-related events.



SPOKE UP FOR VOTERS IN 98 MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

OVER 8,000 HOURS VOLUNTEERED ON ELECTION ACTIVITIES

By more than 1,300 League volunteers across the state.



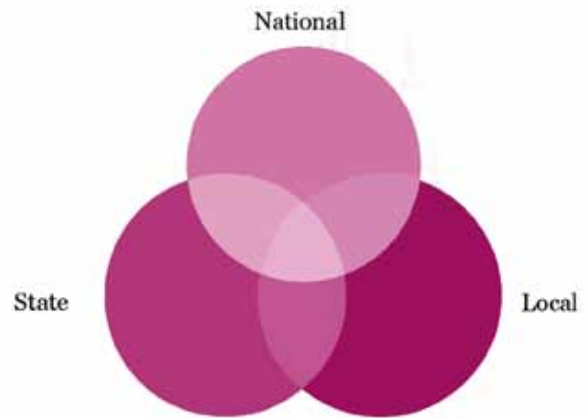
League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, Inc. Located in the Center for Change
612 W. Main Street, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703
(608) 256-0827; lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org

League of Women Voters Across the US



400k+ Members and Supporters
700+ State & Local Leagues

Three Levels of League



League of Women Voters Across Wisconsin



- 2,000+ Members
- 20 Local Leagues
- Part of 2 Inter-League Organizations
 - Lake Michigan Region
 - Upper Mississippi River Region

Our Shared Mission, Vision, and Values

All of us together are working towards the same mission and vision

Mission Statement: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Vision Statement: We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

Value Statement: We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.



To contact the League, please, feel free to use either of these options:
www.lwvjvl.org
or
P.O. Box 8064
Janesville, WI
53547-8064

**BLACKHAWK
COMMUNITY**
CREDIT UNION
PRESENTING SPONSOR

A MARCH TO HONOR 100 YEARS VOTES FOR

WOMEN

AND TO CELEBRATE A CENTURY OF PROGRESS!

JUNE 10 • 5 PM

Gather at the Town Square
at 4 PM for poster-making!

A FUN AND
EDUCATIONAL
HISTORY LESSON
FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY!

Join us on a history-making
walk to JPAC for a fabulous

LIVING-HISTORY SHOW

at 6 PM, celebrating the progress of
women in Janesville and the nation!

Get your commemorative event scarf
for just \$10 at www.cfsw.org/events
(Scan the code here for easy access!)

ALSO BROUGHT TO YOU BY



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF JANESVILLE



of the National Endowment of
Women's Research



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF SOUTHERN WISCONSIN



Scan me

CALENDAR

Upcoming Activities 2018-19*

*Additional events may be planned. Check website: lwvjvl.org/calendar

June 2019

June 3 Board organizational meeting @ 6:30 p.m. location TBD

June 8 LWVWI Annual Meeting @ Green Lake

June 10 @ 5:00 p.m. downtown Janesville **Parade of Progress**

★ Annual Report

Continued from page 2

didate forum and created links to JATV's video recording from our League's website and Facebook page; Posted written responses of Janesville Board of Education candidate on our website;

April: Hosted lecture presentation, "**Pathways to Citizenship: Processes, historical and present, of becoming a citizen of the United States**" by Dr. Beatrice McKenzie of Beloit College at UWW at Rock County. Passed out voter registration information to over 100 students and helped several students register to vote at the **Safe Today and Tomorrow program** for Craig HS upperclassmen; Attended public hearing of the Joint Finance Committee and submitted written comments on behalf of our League that focused on budgeting for redistricting reform and election security

Through the Spring: DEI Committee conducted a series of viewing and discussion session for the full-length versions of **Race: The Power of an Illusion** on the second Saturdays of March, April and May at Basics; Group began informal study into problems of **homelessness and affordable housing in Janesville**; Created opportunity for us to accept **online payments of dues and donations on our League website** through Paypal; Worked with the Women's Fund board to plan a June 10 celebration of Wisconsin's ratification of the 19th Amendment

Finally, I want to thank our wonderful officers, direc-

tors, and committee chairs for the great work they have done this year to plan and conduct our programs and activities for the past two years:

Ethel Himmel—First VP

Heide Keith—Secretary & Chair of Publicity Committee

Carol Herzig – Director & Editor of Newsletter

Mary Buelow—Director & Chair of DEI Committee

Laura Peterson—Director

The members of this year's Nominating Committee: Jennifer Johns (Chair), Linda Stehura, and Laura Peterson

Directors appointed by the Board for one-year terms: Nancy Stabb (Chair of Membership Committee), Christina Barrett & Jennifer Bleak (Co-Chairs of Voter Services Committee), and Sue Scott

Officers and Board members who are continuing the second year of their terms: Nancy Sonntag, Treasurer, and Evon Mitchell, Director

It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with them, and I'm so grateful that so many of the outgoing officers and directors have agreed to continue to be on Board of the Janesville League for the next two years.

LWV-JVL Website: <http://lwvjvl.org/>



@JanesvilleLWV

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

Each month we will be placing our position on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Voter, as a service to our members.

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system,

marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

The Janesville LWV commits to the diversity of Janesville and fully endorses the LWV's DEI policy.

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>

LWV-WI <www.lwvwi.org>

JANESVILLE LEAGUE

<www.lwvjvl.org>

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please e-mail me, Carol Herzig at caherzig@gmail.com Thank you.