

**MANITOWOC COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER**

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**Calendar of Events**

**Nov. 7            Board Meeting**  
**Nov. 16          League Meeting – Iron Jawed Angels**  
**Dec. 5            Board Meeting**

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Dear League Members:

I want to thank Jaci Collins, her committee, and all those who participated in the recent Education Consensus Study. We appreciate your attendance at the meetings, your input during discussions, and answers submitted by all of you. Jaci did an outstanding job conducting the meetings and recording all our responses. We realized that this was an intense project, which is more of an exception than the rule. We are very grateful to all of you who took the time to complete the questions and mail in your responses. We will be collating the results of this study and will present it to the membership sometime in November.

Cathy

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**MEMBERSHIP**

**On Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm, at the Manitowoc City Hall Council Chambers, 900 Quay Street,** the Manitowoc County League of Women Voters will host an evening of information and entertainment for all League members, spouses, family, and friends. The movie **“Iron Jawed Angels”** will be shown, and discussion can follow the movie. It is the true story of how defiant and brilliant young Activists Alice Paul and Lucy Burns took the women’s suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote. Released in 2006, it received critical acclaim. High School students are being invited as well. Light refreshments will be served. We hope to see all of you at this meeting to see old friends and make new ones.

We want to welcome Greg and Ann Unertl and Reverend Nancy Hooper Horwath to our League. It is a pleasure to have you as members and look forward to seeing you at the many events that we will be having throughout the year.

We want to remind League members that their dues are do by the end of this month. With the 501©(3) group exemption, all dues up to \$75.00 to the League are tax deductible. We would appreciate it if you would send your dues as soon as possible to:

Patricia Dodge, 1106 Park Row Boulevard, Manitowoc, 54220. We would not want you to miss out on the newsletter and the many events that are planned during the coming year.

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## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

We want to thank all who took the time to read all the information and participated in the Education Consensus Study. We would appreciate all answers to the questions to be sent to: Jaci Collins, 2838 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Two Rivers, 54241 by October 19<sup>th</sup>. We will be meeting to collate all comments and answers at that time so that we can present the information to League in November before we send it to the National League.

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## **MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Members of the Mental Health committee have been meeting and working on our goal to become as knowledgeable as possible on our community's strengths and gaps in the mental health area. We are also visiting neighboring counties to see what programs are working so that we can make good recommendations in our final report.

Last month we went to Sheboygan to the Mental Health of America Office and learned about their wonderful program that includes community education, support groups and serving as a resource hub for the community. In November, we plan a visit to the Fox Valley area to see the Free Clinic and the Children's Hospital that has the full spectrum of services for children under one roof.

Locally, we are meeting with HFH Behavioral Health staff and have meetings planned in the future with NAMI and the District Attorney. Several members of the committee have also been involved with the local Mental Health Task Force Planning Committee that held a very well attended event in September. This group grew out of a public meeting that our committee held last November.

We always welcome more interested League members to join us studying this very important topic.

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## **GREAT DECISIONS**

The topics for the Great Decisions series have been sent to our Committee. We are busy setting up speakers for the February and March Monday night series to begin. The topics that were given to us are as follows:

**Middle East Realignment:** The popular revolts and upheaval of the Arab Spring have radically changed the face of the Middle East. What lies ahead for the Middle East's transition to democracy? What are the prospects for the governments that have held out in this new order? With many longtime U.S. allies ousted, how will the U.S. recalibrate its relations with the new regimes?

**Promoting Democracy:** The U.S. has had a history of advancing and supporting democracy around the world. What place does democracy promotion have in U.S. foreign policy today? With a choice of tools ranging from economic aid to military force, what are the appropriate yet effective methods that the U.S. should use to promote democracy?

**Mexico:** Mexico's border with Central America, as well as the border it shares with the U.S., has been a pathway for people, goods, crime, and contraband in both directions. How can Mexico address these transborder challenges? What is the future of Mexico's relations with its northern and southern neighbors? How will Mexico's foreign relations affect its domestic politics?

**Cybersecurity:** The securitization of cyberspace has caused a sea change for both governments and the private sector, faced with new threats, new battlegrounds and new opportunities. Faced with challenges such as international cybercrime and authoritarian control of networks, how will the U.S. and its democratic allies approach the cyber frontier? How does this new domain figure in U.S. strategic interests?

**Exit from Afghanistan & Iraq:** Ten years after September 11, 2001, the U.S. is winding down its military commitment in Iraq and slowly pulling out of Afghanistan. What exit strategy will help Afghanistan and Iraq build stable democratic nations? How can the U.S. continue to achieve its counterterrorism goals? What is the role of the U.S. in the future of the Middle East?

**State of the Oceans:** The world's oceans are essential to life on earth, and are tremendously sensitive to global climate change. What are the consequences of climate change on oceanic factors like biodiversity, sea levels, and extreme weather systems? How can the U.S. and its international partners address the emerging challenges to this shared resource?

**Indonesia:** Having emerged from authoritarianism in the last 15 years, Indonesia has made remarkable strides politically, economically, and socially. Yet the new, democratic Indonesia is still a developing country facing considerable challenges. How can Indonesia continue its path of growth, reform, and prosperity? What is Indonesia's role in the global community?

**Energy Geopolitics:** The energy markets have been shaken by the instability of Middle East oil and the vulnerability of nuclear power. Moreover, developing countries like China are becoming bigger energy consumers while energy producers like Russia see the

opportunity to widen their influence. In this changed landscape, how will the U.S.'s energy needs affect its relations with other nations?

## **LAKE MICHIGAN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

League members are invited to the Annual Meeting of the Lake Michigan League of Women Voters on October 21 and 22, 2011. It will be held in Oak Lawn, Illinois, conveniently located near I294, southwest of Chicago. This is an opportunity to learn about our valuable resource, Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes. Contact Marge or Art Palleon, Wisconsin Representatives to the Lake Michigan League of Women Voters at [Palleon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Palleon@sbcglobal.net) or 262-377-8575.

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## **GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY BOARD**

On Tuesday, January 24, 2012, the Governor's Advisory Board will be speaking to the League about Voter's identification. The meeting will be held at Manitowoc City Hall at 7:00 pm and will last for about 90 minutes.

## **NATIONAL LEVEL**

LWVUS President Elisabeth MacNamera will be a guest on the NPR show, "One Point" scheduled for Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 am ET. Tom Ashbrook hosts "On Point," a live call in NPR show originating in Boston. Monday's topic is "voting law changes." One of the other guests will be Ari Berman of The Nation, who has called those changes "The GOP War on Voting." You will be able to listen on line (including live streaming on Monday at 10-11 am or on the radio in your community.

## **WEBSITE**

We do have a website with information and all of our events listed. Please go there if you need to verify a date, location, and/or event. The website is: [lwvmanitowoc.org](http://lwvmanitowoc.org)

## **NEWSLETTER**

If you are having any problems or wish to add something to the newsletter, please contact me at 553-8757

Cathy Cole

