

## LWV DC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

March 23, 2013

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### VOTE SIGNS

Tuesday, April 2nd is the spring election day. Please put out your vote signs during the week of March 25<sup>th</sup> and take them in Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>! Vote... take a friend to vote!

### SCHOOL REFERENDUMS

Sometimes members are asked why it is the LWV can advocate for school referendums (place school referendum signs in their yards) and not advocate for other referendums or individual candidates. The reason is because the LWV has a specific position that supports this. Several years ago local and state leagues studied school funding, all phases of education: public, choice, home school, standards, early education, etc. It took 7 meetings of thorough study and discussion before we were ready to address consensus questions. All leagues across the country answered the same questions and national LWV collated the responses---consensus was reached on most of the questions. Where national consensus was reached, local leagues can advocate. So-----we can advocate for public funding of schools as per the statements in our positions on education:

.....we continue to support equity in public education for all through:

- Broad guidelines for accountability, leaving implementation to the state and local education agencies
- Adequate funding sources that support the broad goals of national standards; and
- Mechanisms for local and state funding with adequate federal support for mandates that require less burdensome, compliance-based reporting and regulations.

Should you like to read further on this topic, the link to the entire education position is:

<http://www.lwv.org/content/federal-role-public-education-position>

### CIVILITY CORE COMMITTEE MEETING

Several community members will join LWV members on a CORE Committee to prepare documents and coordinate events related to the Door County Civility Project. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am at Baylake Conference Center in Sturgeon Bay. A larger group of people will be needed as we bring the Civility Project to community groups. A short training will be held so that our messaging is thorough and consistent. Please think about this... a more specific request will be forthcoming.

### ROUNDTABLE LUNCHEON

All LWV members and interested parties are welcome to attend a roundtable discussion updating attendees on the Door County Civility Project on **Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>** at 11:30 am - 1:00

pm at the Inn at Cedar Crossing in Sturgeon Bay. Please rsvp by Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> to Barb Graul at [tgraul@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tgraul@sbcglobal.net) or 743-6842.

## DOOR COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DAYS

Would you like to represent the LWV DC at the Door/Kewaunee Legislative Days? It is an opportunity to join other Door County citizens in sharing concerns related specifically to Door County with state legislators. The dates are **May 15 and 16** with training dates at 4 PM May 1 in Algoma, May 8 in Sturgeon Bay and May 9 in Sister Bay. If you would like to discuss what the experience might be like, call Susie Kohout at 743-1527 or Shirley Senarighi at 743-1691; both attended the last Door/Kewaunee Legislative Days. More information can also be found on the web: <http://www.dclegislativeday.com/> The LWV will pay the registration fee and can assist with some of the other expenses. Registration is due April 19<sup>th</sup>; if you are interested in representing the LWV DC contact Shirley at 743-1691 or [lwvdcprez@gmail.com](mailto:lwvdcprez@gmail.com) by April 15<sup>th</sup> so we can take care of the paperwork.

## HIGH SCHOOL VOTER REGISTRATION

The League of Women Voters has a long history of helping voters get registered to vote. This spring LWV DC members assisted **thirty-seven high school students**, who turned 18 on or prior to the April 2 Election Day, complete mail-in voter registration forms. League members and friends of the League were at each of the Door County High Schools to distribute registration forms and stamped envelopes addressed to the appropriate town or village clerk, and answer any questions people have about the registration forms and process. Congratulations on a successful endeavor!

Thanks to LWV board members Madeline Johnson and Susan McAninch for coordinating these efforts and LWV members and friends for implementing the voter registration activities:

Gibraltar - February 25<sup>th</sup>

Volunteers: Madeline Johnson, Karen DeYoung, Helene DiIulio, Gerri Friedberg

Southern Door - February 26<sup>th</sup> & March 6th

Susan McAninch, Dawn Kuelz, Peter Wyatt, Barb Graul, LWV Friends Nancy Feld & Jim McAninch

Sevastopol - March 6th

Madeline Johnson, Peter Wyatt & Victoria Cerinich, & LWV Friend Jim Adams

Sturgeon Bay - Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

Susan McAninch, Dawn Kuelz, Julie Stratton, Betsy Williamson, Victoria Cerinich & LWV Friend Sue MacLean

## CANDIDATE FORUM - SOUTHERN DOOR SCHOOLS

The Candidate Forum for Southern Door School Board was held Monday, March 4th, 2013, at Southern Door Schools. Forty-two people attended! Thanks to LWV members Victoria Cerinich, Peter Wyatt, Martha Beller, Bill Beller, Jennifer & Mark Moeller, and Eileen Bohn for implementing this important forum for the voters of Southern Door!

## COME MEET SUSAN B. ANTHONY!

The LWV Door County will hold its ANNUAL MEETING the evening of Thursday, May 23 at Mr. G's Supper Club just south of Jacksonport. This year we celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of the LWV of Door County and "Susan B. Anthony" will be present to celebrate with us! We will hold a small "silent auction"; the funds will be used to help support the Door County Civility Project. Pat McCarty donated a wonderful art print for this - "Woman Suffrage" by Artist Mary Hamilton. Other LWV members have already mentioned some items they might contribute - home-made jam, a loaf of bread, felted soaps, and others. Maybe you will have something to contribute! It will be a really fun night and we hope all members can attend and bring a friend or two along!

## OBSERVER CORPS

One of the best ways to improve the quality of government is to "put it in the spotlight." Sometimes videotaping governmental meetings can accomplish this, but most government business occurs without this watchful eye. **League has long believed in the value of an observer corps whose job it is to stay abreast of issues by maintaining a presence at as many government meetings as possible.** Later this spring Barb Graul, LWV DC Observer Corps Coordinator, will schedule a meeting to introduce new and/or interested LWV members to the Observer Corps. Watch for this notice and consider participating in the group!

## SUSTAINABILITY FAIR

The 2013 Sustainability Fair will be held at Martin and Graham Parks in Sturgeon Bay on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 4 pm. Don't miss it! There will be lots of booths and two big tents with speakers and exhibits from groups and businesses in our area that feature sustainable concepts and products! Featured speakers are Paul Tukey of Safe Lawns and Rick Brooks of "Little Free Libraries" and the "Madison Time Bank". The LWV expects to have a display table at the fair; call Shirley at 743-1691 or email [lwvdcprez@gmail.com](mailto:lwvdcprez@gmail.com) if you can "man the table" for any portion of the event.

Paul Tukey will also be giving a presentation the night before the fair, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at Crossroad at Big Creek at 7 pm. He will address the hazards of lawn care products that imperil health and explore the benefits of non-toxic lawn care products that are safer and equally beautiful alternatives.