



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE RIPON AREA

BULLETIN



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"LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE RIPON AREA"
<https://www.facebook.com/LWVRiponWIArea/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ripon Area Leaguers,

Mark your calendar for the February 8th **Respectful Political Discourse** presentation with Matt Rothschild of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign as the Featured Speaker. Look for further detailed information in this Bulletin.

We ended 2017 with our annual **December Gala** – excellent food and great camaraderie. Thank you to Joan Buffetta for her informative presentation of the history of public education in America and of current issues that impact the successful education of children.

Our January 13th **Lively Issues** meeting was well attended and lively! The Congregational Church Adult room provided a comfortable atmosphere for discussion and agreement on State and National programs choices. On a local level, we will continue our Study of Poverty and seek to take action based on our Poverty and Water Study Consensus statements. Thank you Ellen Sorensen.

Our **Voter Service Committee** has been busy planning a City of Ripon Candidate Forum on March 6th to include three Mayoral candidates and Alderperson District 4 candidates. Another Candidate Forum is tentatively scheduled for Fond du Lac County Board Seats in Districts 2 and 6 to be held March 14th. Please contact Jonathan Gatzke to volunteer at the Forums.

Welcome to our recent new members Jason and Giselle Kauffeld. We also anticipate there are other new members planning to join!

Cindy Diemer
LWV-Ripon Area
President

Mark Your Calendar

THUR FEB 8 **Respectful Political Discourse: Matt Rothschild**
[@ Ripon City Hall Council Chambers; 7 PM]

TUES FEB 20 **SPRING PRIMARY** 

TUES MAR 6 **Candidate Forum -- Ripon Mayoral & 4th District**
[@ Ripon City Hall Council Chambers; 7 PM]

WED MAR 14 **Candidate Forum -- FDL County Board**
[@ Ripon City Hall Council Chambers; 7 PM]

TUES APR 3 **SPRING ELECTION** 

Please see our [Online Calendar](#) or [Facebook Page](#) for updates, cancellations and other changes!

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

FOCUS ON AREA HEALTH

**OCTOBER 12, 2017
GREEN LAKE, WI**

As part of our ongoing Local Poverty study we determined that access to affordable health care is a major problem for many in our area. In light of this, we hosted a meeting about local health care issues.



LWV-Ripon Area President, Cindy Diemer (center) introduces Patti Wohlfel (L) and Kathy Mussey (R).

Kathy Munsey, Green Lake County Health Officer and Patti Wohlfeil, Waushara County Health Officer presented a detailed overview of current statistical information compiled by the Central Wisconsin Health Partnership (CWHP) that was published in 2016.

It was a very informative presentation and the data will continue to influence our Poverty Study. Copies of the documents are still readily available online and we encourage all members to review it.

 https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GkCTeBiEDksmUfLWWIS3YpnU9a_C-7fs

WATER ISSUES

**NOVEMBER 16, 2017
RIPON, WI**

Many of our members are still very invested in water issues so we were happy to host an informational meeting regarding the management practices of the Green Lake Watershed.



Charlie Marks shares a powerpoint about the extensive work involved in maintaining Green Lake.

Charlie Marks, the Green Lake Sanitary District Administrator gave a presentation detailing the of efforts being made to improve water quality through sewage management and the reduction/control of residential and agricultural run-off. This essential work has been the joint effort of several local organizations with assistance from state and federal agencies. Mr. Marks also discussed the purchase of Camp Grow as a nature conservancy and the benefits this can have for the Green Lake Watershed.

HOLIDAY GALA

**DECEMBER 7, 2017
RIPON, WI**

In December we had our annual Holiday Gala. Members and friends enjoyed a sit down meal and listened to a rousing presentation. This year, we were thrilled to have a new and enthusiastic member give a talk about education.



Joan Buffetta offers insight and historical context to our modern day American Education.

Joan Buffetta, a long time educator, presented "Education - Just the Facts" which covered the history of American education and unpacked some of its current struggles. Special atten-

tion was given to the Charter vs Public school dilemma which continues to garner national attention and debate. We thank Ms. Buffetta for sharing her expansive expertise.



Members enjoy good conversation and a catered meal at the annual Holiday Gala.

LIVELY ISSUES

**JANUARY 13, 2018
RIPON, WI**

Every local league is asked to host a Lively Issues session for their members. Lively Issues allows local leagues an opportunity to join the wider League of Women Voters conversation. At this annual meeting, we review and weigh in on State (LWV-WI) and National (LWV-US) agendas. Members in attendance discussed National, State and Local program possibilities in preparation for the new year's focus over lunch and coffee.

This year, local members expressed a great deal of support for Voter Service related initiatives, inclusivity, and an ongoing concern about gerrymandering.

Get caught up on LWV positions!

Local Positions:

<http://riponarea.wi.lwvnet.org/files/lwvriponareapositions2012.pdf>



State Positions:

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



National Positions:

https://www.lwv.org/?_ga=2.115601282.526916595.1517634369-526579073.1515299093



**WISCONSIN
RURAL PROSPERITY
ROUNDTABLE**
FEBRUARY 5 | 8AM
RIPON COLLEGE GREAT HALL

In 2018, Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett will travel to two rural communities each month to engage stakeholders, Congressional and community leaders, and the press in conversations about rural America's unique challenges and needs as part of a new initiative called **Rural Prosperity Roundtables (RPRs)**.



Anne Hazlett
USDA

The driving conversation at each RPR will be centered on a regional challenge associated with a local lack of prosperity. Some topics may include lack of infrastructure or broadband, scarce advanced or continuing education opportunities in rural areas, or the death of an industry that once was a leading driver of economic opportunity in the region.

Representatives from USDA Rural Development, Chief Innovation Officer For Rural Development Gina Sheets, Rural Development State Director, members of the state Congressional delegation, state government leaders, including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and state economic development officials will participate in the roundtable.

RPRs will be open to the public and open press.



USA TODAY NETWORK

For Citations, see "SOURCES" on Page 6.

UPCOMING

LOCAL LWV: Respectful Political Discourse

WHAT	Matt Rothschild
WHEN	8 FEBRUARY 2018 (THURS) -- 7:00PM
WHERE	Ripon City Hall Council Chambers, RIPON

Matt Rothschild joined the [Wisconsin Democracy Campaign](#) in 2015 after working for The Progressive magazine for 32 years, most of those as editor and publisher. After graduating from Harvard University with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Studies in 1980, he spent the next 2 ½ years working for Ralph Nader's Multinational Monitor, a monthly magazine that covered large corporations and the World Bank.

The Progressive magazine and the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign organization share some common goals such as curbing the influence of money in politics. "In Wisconsin we've seen the corrosive influence of money in politics", Rothschild said and added that he wants the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign to continue to cast a spotlight on the corruption of the political system. He has also emphasized that a strong majority of Americans – on both sides of the aisle – are opposed to the Supreme Court's Citizen United decision that abolished limits on corporate spending in political campaigns.

His opinion pieces have run in the Chicago Tribune, the LA Times, and a host of other newspapers. He has appeared on Nightline, NPR, C-SPAN, and the O'Reilly Factor. He is a frequent guest on the Joy Cardin Show on Wisconsin Public Radio.

LOCAL LWV: CANDIDATE FORUM

WHAT	Mayoral & 4th District Candidate Forum
WHEN	6 MARCH 2018 (TUES) -- 7:00 PM
WHERE	Ripon City Hall Council Chambers, RIPON

Voter Service is planning a Candidate Forum in anticipation of the upcoming Spring Election. Ripon has three candidates running for Mayor and two candidates vying for 4th District Alderman.

More details to follow.

Please contact Voter Service Chair (Jonathan Gatzke) if you are interested in volunteering for the forum and/or if you'd like to join the Voter Service Committee.

LOCAL LWV: CANDIDATE FORUM

WHAT	FDL County Board Candidate Forum
WHEN	14 MARCH 2018 (WED) -- 7:00 PM
WHERE	Ripon City Hall Council Chambers, RIPON

Voter Service is planning a Candidate Forum in anticipation of the upcoming Spring Election. Two Fond Du Lac County Board Supervisor districts have contested seats.

More details to follow.

MEMBERSHIP

League membership is growing rapidly. As a result we are looking for additional League mentors as well as volunteers to do brief introductory interviews with new and/or returning members.

If you have some time to spare and are interested in assisting the membership committee please contact Ellen Sorensen at eclairtogo@gmail.com or Cindy Diemer at cindydiemer4@gmail.com.

Ellen Sorensen
Membership Chair

VOTER SERVICE

As there are multiple contested electoral positions in the area, the Ripon area League will be hosting two upcoming candidate forums.

The first forum will be for two contested city of Ripon elected positions: City Mayor and City Council 4th District. There are three candidates vying for the mayoral position: incumbent Gary Will, and challengers Craig Tebon and Jason Kauffeld. There are two candidates running for the 4th District Alderperson position: incumbent Al Schroeder and challenger Todd Elliot. The candidate forum will be held in the City Council Chambers of Ripon, on March 6th, at 7pm.

The second forum will host the candidates for two separate Fond Du Lac County Board Supervisor districts: Lowell Prill and Michael Beer for 6th district, and Gary Will and Andrew Zuelke for 2nd district. That forum will also be held in the City Council Chambers and will take place on March 14, at 7pm.

The forums will be open to the public. If you are interested in helping at the forums and/or joining the Voter Service Committee, please contact me at jdgatzke@gmail.com.

Jonathan Gatzke
Voter Service Chair

**MAYORAL & 4TH DISTRICT
CANDIDATE
FORUM**

RIPON CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY • MARCH 6TH • 7PM

DACA GLORILY LÓPEZ

Immigration attorney **Glorily López** discussed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program at the **2017 LWV WI Issues Briefing**.

Signed by President Obama in 2014 in an Executive Action, DACA offers a limited legal pathway to obtaining a green card. It applies to previously unauthorized young people brought to the United States as children, who have grown up here, adapted to our cultural norms and the English language, and shown character and academic preparation.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions suspended DACA in September. When it lapses, an estimated 6,914 young people will lose their DACA status every week.

The Dream Act, League-supported legislation that has been introduced ten times over the past 16 years, is a bipartisan bill that would allow conditional resident status for eight years.

Get caught up on DACA and check out the slide presentation here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZB5y9VkhgH9uA-EmBaLlaZgQ3RlywsEPe/view>



Ryan Rodrick Beiler, Shutterstock

For Citations, see "SOURCES" on Page 6.

LWV-WI #FAIRMAPS

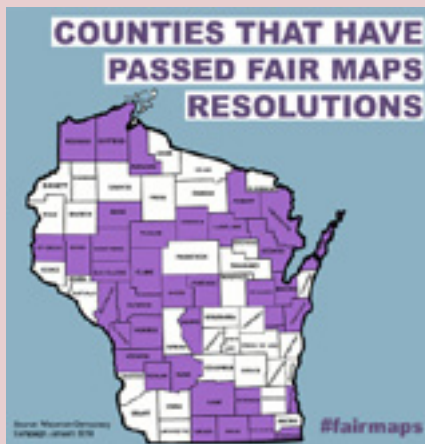
In January, the 37th Wisconsin county passed a Fair Maps resolution! That means MORE THAN HALF of all Wisconsin county boards—representing 64% of Wisconsin residents—that have formally asked the state to end gerrymandering and adopt a nonpartisan process for drawing the state’s voting district maps.

It’s high time for the Chairs of the State Senate and Assembly elections committees to hold public hearings on two bills that would have a nonpartisan legislative agency draw district maps – so legislators won’t be able to “choose their voters” through gerrymandering!

Contact State Senator Devin LeMahieu and Assembly Representative Kathy Bernier and demand a public hearing for SB13 and AB44 before the current legislative session adjourns. Time is running out!

• **State Senator Devin LeMahieu,**
(608) 266-2056
<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/09/LeMahieu/contact-devin/>

• **Representative Kathy Bernier,**
(608) 266-9172
<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/68/bernier/contact/>



LWV-WI

For Citations, see “SOURCES” on Page 6.

THURSDAY , **FEBRUARY 8TH** , 7:00 PM
Ripon City Hall - Council Chambers
100 Jackson Street, Ripon WI

RESPECTFUL POLITICAL DISCOURSE

Matt Rothschild
Executive Director of
Wisconsin Democracy Campaign



“We need to make relationships with people who don’t agree with us and engage in conversation.”



Stay Up To Date!
Stay Connected!
Find Us Online!

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVRiponWIArea/>



<http://riponarea.wi.lwvnet.org/>



SOURCES

WISCONSIN RURAL PROSPERITY ROUNDTABLE

Berens, Betty. "Re: Rural Prosperity Roundtable." Received by Cindy Diemer, 31 JAN. 2018.

"National Rural Prosperity Roundtable featuring local leaders to be held at Ripon College." FDL Reporter, 1 Feb. 2018, <http://www.fdlreporter.com/story/news/2018/02/01/national-rural-prosperity-roundtable-featuring->

local-leaders-held-ripon-college/1087495001/. Accessed 2 February 2018.

DACA: GLORILY LÓPEZ

"2017 LWV WI Issues Briefing." League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, <https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/event/2017-lwv-wi-issues-briefing>. Accessed 2 February 2018.

LWV-WI: #FAIRMAPS

Kaminski, Andrea. "Call to Action: Time is running out for fair voting district maps." Received by Cindy Diemer, 1 FEB. 2018.



JOIN A COMMITTEE!

CALLING COMMITTEE

Be part of a member calling tree; remind members about upcoming meetings and events.

Meetings: none, as needed.

MEMBERSHIP

Help acclimate and orientate new members through an ongoing mentorship pairing.

Meetings: as needed.

POVERTY STUDY (PHASE 2)

Study aspects of our local rural poverty. Keep members informed and organize presentations, support consensus, brainstorm action plans.

Meetings: Monday nights, monthly.

VOTER SERVICE

Plan voter service events including forums and registration drives.

Meetings: as needed.

WATER ADVOCACY

Keep members informed about water issues through updates and presentations.

Meetings: as needed.

CONTACTS AND COMMITTEES

POVERTY STUDY COMMITTEE

Name	Phone	E-mail
Joan Buffetta		jbuffetta@charter.net
Cindy Diemer (Chair)	920-748-2797 c-527-1931	cindydiemer4@gmail.com
Liz Ringstad	920-748-6666	
Lelani Sanchez	920-931-2815	lelanisanchez@gmail.com
Jolene Schatzinger	920-427-5510	joleneschatzinger@gmail.com
Chris Stewart		

VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Name	Phone	E-mail
Art Baseler	920-748-7692	artbaseler@aim.com
Betty Berens	920-748-6279	
Todd Berens	920-748-6279	
Jonathan Gatzke (Chair)	920-931-2757	jdgatzke@gmail.com
Liz Ringstad	920-748-6666	
Ellen Sorensen	920-960-3397	eclairfetogo@gmail.com
Gary Wetzel	920-748-3280	garylwetzel@yahoo.com
Linda Wilkens	920-570-2182	klwilk@charter.net

LWV OF RIPON AREA BOARD MEMBERS

Title	Term	Name	Phone	E-mail
President	2017-19	Cindy Diemer	920-748-2797 c: 527-1931	cindydiemer4@gmail.com
Vice President	2017-19	Ellen Sorensen	920-960-3397	eclairfetogo@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	2016-18	Cynthia Ebert	920-748-5994	
Secretary	2017-19	Mary Avery	920-896-2941	mavery42@gmail.com
Treasurer	2016-18	Rich Diemer	920-748-2797	rdiemer@gmail.com
Director	2016-18	Gary Wetzel	920-748-3280	garylwetzel@yahoo.com
Director/Webmaster	2016-18	Lelani Sanchez	920-931-2815	lelanisanchez@gmail.com
Director	2017-19	Jonathan Gatzke	920-931-2757	jdgatzke@gmail.com

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, with its national office in Washington, DC, and local and state Leagues in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands. Membership to the League of Women Voters of Ripon Area automatically grants Membership to LWV of Wisconsin and LWV of the United States.

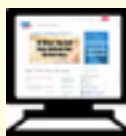


STAY UP TO DATE ON STATE AND NATIONAL LWV NEWS & EVENTS



League of Women Voters of Wisconsin

lwvwi.org



League of Women Voters of the US

lwv.org