



League of Women Voters of the Ripon Area

P.O. Box 5
Ripon, Wisconsin 54971
<http://riponarea.wi.lwvnet.org>

October 2016

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-Ripon-WI-Area/114476978650612>

President's message:

This voting year is keeping us busy. The league state "Gear up to vote person" came up on Sept. 28 and helped at the Ripon college registration. Then she came over to the library and with Sandy Scamehorn and Jean Johnson we had an information table. Mostly we asked people if they were registered to vote, and most were. We answered questions for the others and handed out info including a few forms they could fill out and drop off at the city clerk's office.

Two new changes on the board have occurred. We voted for Cindy Diemer to be co-president, which is actually quite different from being VP. She and I will get all the same info from state and national, and if I am not feeling well she can take over. Ellen Sorenson volunteered to be appointed to be membership chair, because Cindy is too busy to do that too.

The issues briefing in Madison has been changed to Nov. 19 from Oct so it will be after the election when everyone is not so busy. It is always quite informative so please consider going with Cindy and me.

Louise Petering came to the board meeting to talk with us about membership and leadership development and plans to help us with ideas in the future with periodic (probably phone) meetings especially with Cindy Diemer and Ellen Sorenson.

We are hoping to wind up this phase of the poverty study by November. See Cindy's column.

Since the year calendar card was so helpful we are doing it again and will be handing it out at meetings, but also leaving it around town for non-members to use.

Jean Johnson

Title	Term	Name	phone	e-mail
President	2015-17	Jean Johnson	920-748- 6699 920-748-2797 c-527-	JEANJOHNSON624@GMAIL.COM
Co-President	2015-17	Cindy Diemer	920-748- 5994	CINDYDIEMER4@GAMIL.COM
Vice President	2015-16	Cindy Ebert	920-896-2941	FRITZE@CENTURYTEL.NET
Secretary - Fund raising	2015-17	Mary Avery	920-748-2797	AVERYM@RIPON.EDU
Treasurer	2014-16	Rich Diemer	920-960-3397	RDIEMER@GMAIL.COM
Director - Membership	2015-17	Ellen Sorenson	920-748-3280	ECLAIRETOGO@GMAIL.COM
Director	2016--18	Gary Wetzel	920-931-2815	GARYLWETZEL@YAHOO.COM
Director	2016-18	Lelani Sanchez Gatzke's		LELANISANCHEZ@GMAIL.COM

League of Women Voters of the Ripon Area
Poverty Study Meeting
>Prepare for November Consensus<

Let's all join together to meet on Thursday, October 13th at 6:30pm in the new Community Room at Ripon High School. (Use the new Main Entrance on the south side of the building.)

This meeting will be our last before the November 10th meeting in which we will come to consensus after our three year study of Poverty in Green Lake, Waushara, and our part of Fond du Lac County.

We'll discuss broad consensus topics, which the study committee has listed in preparation for formal consensus:

- Transportation related to employment, medical care, education, and food
- Affordable Housing
- Education from early childhood, k-12, technical colleges, and 2-4 year universities. (Education for Employment)
- Support for proposals to raise hourly wages and benefits
- Food issues specifically related to food deserts and rural poverty

- ETT credit

I invite you to do a little research on what the League of Women Voters means when we come together to determine consensus. Info will be available at meeting.

Cindy Diemer

Interview with Liz Ringstad
9/7/2016

One of the founding members
of the League of Women Voters of the Ripon Area

Remember to clarify that Carrie Chapman Catt, the founder and first President of the League of Women Voters was born in Ripon WI. She was a *Suffragist*, not a Suffragette (British term).

The League of Women Voters of the Ripon Area was founded over 50 years ago. In the spring or summer of 1960 a group of women started coming together to talk about their need to be part of a non-partisan group that believed in informed and active participation in government. In 1921 a Ripon League had quickly organized following the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution which granted American women the right to vote. The first League lasted about 10 years and then disbanded due to low membership.

The early 1960s group again wanted a chance to be better informed and be active citizens in a non-partisan group that allowed them to study and come to consensus on local, state and national issues, even international issues. (Examples at that time included the UN, UNICEF.) Now international law still applies regarding Canadian pipelines, infrastructure, highways, railroads and the environment.)

Why Liz has continued to be a very active League member:

Sometimes you think nothing will come of our studies. But years later it may come forward to make a difference.

Why I Joined the League of Women Voters
by Jean Johnson

I always thought that if you wanted to be a responsible adult, you needed to belong to the LWV. I find it inspiring because of the opportunity to learn about important civic issues with other women (and men) who are also interested in these subjects and are amazingly knowledgeable.

I like the emphasis on people taking part in their community and voting in an informed manner. 9/8/2016

Ellen Sorensen

I joined specifically because of the Voter Service Component of the League of Women Voters. I also joined because of the education provided by the League and other members. 9/8/2016

Sandy Scamehorn

A few reasons why I joined the League: Meeting interesting people. When we first moved to Ripon, many of the women I met belonged to the League and were involved in the community. Two became School Board members and one a City Council member. I have continued to enjoy discussing issue with people who care about issues affecting us all.

Interesting studies: We have studied forms of city, local transportation needs leading to the Ripon taxi, marital property laws, juvenile justice reform, education reforms, water quality, poverty---issues that have led to changes in laws and practices.

Consensus. I like the idea that after studying an issue, we try to reach consensus as part of a grass roots movement to effect change on local,

state, and national issues. Sometimes we have been part of important changes.

9/7/2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 3, 2016

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VOTER REGISTRATION POSTCARDS CAN BE USED AS PROOF OF RESIDENCE

MADISON – Last week the Wisconsin Elections Commission mailed postcards to 1.28 million state residents who have been issued a Wisconsin Driver’s License or State ID but have not registered to vote. The postcards provide more than just valuable information about how to register. They also may constitute a valid form of Proof of Residence, which citizens need to provide when registering

“These postcards are issued by the Wisconsin Elections Commission, which is a government agency. If the card has your current name and address on it, then you can use it as Proof of Residence when you register to vote,” said Andrea Kaminski, executive director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin.

“The League of Women Voters urges people who have received the cards to register to vote and not miss the chance to have a voice in the very important choices that will be made on November 8. If you can register early, it will save you time on Election Day. But if not, you can register at your polling place on November 8. In many Wisconsin communities, you can register and vote at your municipal clerk’s office before the election. Contact your clerk for more information.”

You can start the registration process, find your polling place and see what is on your ballot at the Election Commission’s “My Vote Wisconsin” website at myvote.wi.gov.

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The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is a nonpartisan organization that advocates for informed and active participation in government. The League never endorses any political candidate or party. The League welcomes women and men across the state as members. With 18 local Leagues in Wisconsin and 800 affiliates across the country, the League is one of the nation’s most trusted grassroots organizations. Follow @LWV_WI on Twitter.