

LWV DC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – August 31, 2018

LWVDCPREZ@GMAIL.COM

In this Update...

- **Want to improve the democratic process? Here are several opportunities.**
 - **Brown, Graul, Rossberg, and Senarighi help improve elections – join them as Election Observers.**
 - **Join the Observer Corps.**
 - **Be informed! Bring a friend to the Candidate Forums.**
 - **Join League's efforts to reach out to the county's young people.**
 - **Help with one of the Voter Registration Assistance Events.**
 - **Note these important election dates.**
- **What's on your calendar? Get ready for a very busy fall of League events.**
 - **Wonder whether your vote counts? See the movie *I Voted!***
 - **Eileen Bohn Speaker Series Racial Disparities in Wisconsin and Here in Door County: What Do We Know, and What Are We Doing About Them?**
- **Many events of interest sponsored by area groups**
- **Note these dates!**
- **Communicate with your representatives!**

Brown, Graul, Rossberg, and Senarighi help improve elections – join them as Election Observers.

- Thank you to LWV DC members Sandy Brown, Barb Graul, Betsy Rossberg and Shirley Senarighi for serving as Election Observers for the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin! This program relies on dedicated volunteers to observe what is happening on the ground on Election Day to improve the election process and empower more voters.
- **Please consider joining them as an observer of the General Election on November 6, 2018.**
The focus will be:
 - Ensuring there is no disenfranchisement
 - Monitoring the voter experience - including registration and showing ID
 - Tracking any problems that can be fixed for future elections
- **Anyone** (not just League members) interested in volunteering for the November election, fill out the volunteer form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTIWfBry5nFXs8UeC2z1kYNGoGyRlal-ttShvYnksWpCrYKg/viewform> The state LWV will provide an on-line/phone training that you can participate in from your home and will assign you to polling places as fits your schedule (2 hours up to all day). For questions contact Eileen Newcomer at electionobservation@lwwi.org or at (608)256-0827. Or contact Sandy, Barb, Betsy or Shirley to learn more about their experiences as an observer.

Do you want to improve government? Can you spare two or three hours once a month? Join the 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.
- Select a body of government that you have an interest in and adopt them. It might be at the city, town, village, county, or school board level. Adopt either the body themselves or one of their committees.
- Once you have chosen a group, attend all of their meetings (usually one per month). If you are unable to attend an occasional meeting, there may be a substitute to go in your place.
- By doing this you will have accomplished two vital tasks:
 - **First**, you will let our government officials know that we (as citizens and League members) are watching how they do their job.
 - **Second**, you will be helping your local League members stay informed and able to react as important issues arise.
- If you want more information, contact Observer Corps Coordinator Lisa Barnaby at lbarnaby42@gmail.com.

Be informed! Bring a friend to the Candidate Forums:

- **Door County Sheriff:** Thursday, September 13, 6:00-8:00 PM at the new Door County Aging & Disabilities Resource Center/Community Center at 916 N. 14th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay.
- **WI Senate District 1:** Saturday, September 22, 9:30-11:30 AM at the Southern Door Community Auditorium, 2073 County DK (just off Hwy 57), Brussels.
- **WI Assembly District 1:** Thursday, September 27, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Sturgeon Bay City Council Chambers, 421 Michigan Street, Sturgeon Bay.

Join League’s efforts to reach out to the county’s young people.

- As the fall school calendars come together with the beginning of school, dates will be set up to visit all the Door County high schools and NWTC to host Voter Registration Assistance events.
- Anyone interested in helping at one or more of the schools, please contact Voter Service Coordinator Dawn Vandervoort (dawn.vandervoort@ces.uwex.edu or 920-743-5718). Once dates are set for each location, they will be shared with members.

Help with one of the Voter Registration Assistance Events.

Please volunteer to assist with at one (or all?) of the following events:

Thursday, September 13, 5:30-8:00 PM at the Sheriff Candidate Forum, at the Door County Aging & Disabilities Resource Center/Community Center at 916 N. 14th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay.

Friday, September 28, 9:00-11:00 AM at the Forestville Library during Story Hour (lots of young parents), 123 Hwy. 42, Forestville.

Tuesday, October 2, 5:00-6:30 PM at the Sturgeon Bay Library, 107 S. 4th Ave, Sturgeon Bay.

Contact Voter Service Coordinator Barb Graul at 743-8642 or tgraul@sbcglobal.net to volunteer or ask questions. Barb Graul will hold a quick training session with those who need it.

Important Election Dates

Wednesday, October 17:	Last date to register by mail & online
Monday, October 22:	In-person absentee balloting begins
Friday, November 2:	Last day to in-person register and absentee vote
<u>Tuesday, November 6</u>	<u>General Election – VOTE!</u>

Wonder whether your vote counts? See the movie *I Voted!* (Poster attached)

- Tuesday, September 18, 4:30-6:30 PM, UU Center, 10341 Hwy 42, Ephraim
- On September 18th, The Door County League will collaborate with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship “Movies that Matter” Initiative to screen a film produced by Katie Couric titled, *I Voted?* According to the film website, this 76-minute documentary “asks a fundamental question of our democracy - When you cast a ballot, how do you know your vote counts?” The answer is both surprising and disturbing. While democracy does not begin with elections, it can end when we fail to defend them.
- *I Voted?* premiered at the 2016 Tribeca International Film Festival.” Pat Scieszinski of the League will introduce the film and facilitate the after-film discussion. County Clerk Jill Lau has agreed to attend and be available to address questions regarding voting security at the local level.

Eileen Bohn Speaker Series Racial Disparities in Wisconsin and Here in Door County: What Do We Know, and What Are We Doing About Them?

- Saturday, November 3, 9:00-Noon, Donald & Carol Kress Pavilion, 7845 Church St., Egg Harbor.
- Racial disparities exist everywhere in our country and state – even in places like Door County. Michelle Robinson and Erica Nelson from the Dane County-based Race to Equity project (www.racetoequity.net) will discuss how health, education, economic security, justice, child welfare, and community context are all impacted by racial disparity, from the state to the local level. Following their presentation, a panel of local community leaders will discuss challenges in Door County, including how these issues are currently being addressed. This eye-opening presentation will further the ongoing discussions of our community-wide efforts to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives in Door County and beyond.

Other area events that may be of interest:

Water Festival - Sustain Door/Crossroads at Big Creek:

Saturday, September 15, Noon – 4:00 PM at Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay
Sustain Door is partnering with Crossroads at Big Creek to have a water festival at the Crossroads campus. Many family friendly activities. Free.

Women in Politics: Jessie Opoien, O’Neill Speaker

Thursday, September 27, 5:30-8:30 PM at the Bemis Center, St. Norbert College, 100 Grant St., DePere

The League of Women Voters of Greater Green Bay along with the Dr. Michael O'Neill family, has invited Jessie Opoien, a reporter for Madison’s *Capital Times*, to speak on women in politics. A social hour is scheduled from 5:30 - 6:30 PM during which hors d'oeuvres will be served. There will also be a cash bar available. Jessie Opoien will speak at 6:30 and her presentation will be followed by a question/answer period. This event is free and open to the public.

Book Premiere: *Independence Corrupted/How America's Judges (Really) Make Their Decisions*

Tuesday, October 2, 4:00 PM at the Sister Bay Library, 2323 Mill Rd., Sister Bay

Thursday, October 4, 2:00 PM at the Sturgeon Bay Library, 107 S. 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay

Independence Corrupted, a new book by Charlie Schudson (University of Wisconsin Press, 2018) goes “behind the bench” with a judge/law professor. How do judges really make their decisions, and how can different judges reach different legal conclusions? The book analyzes myriad factors – race, religion, gender, personality, political philosophy, electoral ambition, substance abuse, spousal influence – compromising merit-based decision-making.

Provocative and personal, ***Independence Corrupted*** draws from the most compelling cases Judge Schudson decided – alone, as a trial judge and collaboratively as an appellate judge. Judge Schudson will give a presentation based on his book, at two Door County libraries. For those interested, copies of his book will be available for purchase.

U.S. Poet Laureate to Visit Door County in October

Thursday, October 11, 7:00 PM, at the Southern Door Community Auditorium, 2073 County DK (just off Hwy 57), Brussels.

The local arts organization Write On, Door County will bring U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith to Door County for a program with students and a public reading on Thursday, October 11 at the Southern Door Community Auditorium in Brussels, WI. A goodwill donation by attendees is requested, but not required. Tracy K. Smith's first-ever visit to Door County is being sponsored by Write On, Door County with support from the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters.

Note these League dates: (A copy of these dates is attached.)

Candidate Forum – Door County Sheriff:

Thursday, September 13, 6:00-8:00 PM at the new Door County Aging & Disabilities Resource Center/Community Center at 916 N. 14th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay.

Exploring the Many Layers of Local Government – Learning in Retirement Class (offered by LWVDC)

Monday, September 17, 10:00-Noon, in the County Board Chambers, County Government Center, 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay. (Only open to already enrolled LIR members.)

***I Voted!* movie and discussion** (see attached poster)

Tuesday, September 18, 4:30-6:30 PM, UU Center, 10341 Hwy 42, Ephraim

Candidate Forum - WI Senate District 1:

Saturday, September 22, 9:30-11:30 AM at the Southern Door Community Auditorium, 2073 County DK (just off Hwy 57), Brussels.

Leadership Team Meeting – All are welcome!

Tuesday, September 25, 5:00-7:00 PM at the Sturgeon Bay Library, 107 S. 4th Ave, Sturgeon Bay.

Voter Registration Assistance - ADRC

Wednesday, September 26, 11:00-1:00 PM at the Door County Aging & Disabilities Resource Center/Community Center at 916 N. 14th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay.

Candidate Forum - WI Assembly District 1:

Thursday, September 27, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Sturgeon Bay City Council Chambers, 421 Michigan Street, Sturgeon Bay.

Voter Registration Assistance – Forestville Library

Friday, September 28, 9:00-11:00 AM at the Forestville Library during Story Hour (lots of young parents), 123 Hwy. 42, Forestville.

Voter Registration Assistance – Sister Bay Library

Wednesday, October 5, 11:00-2:30 PM at the Sister Bay Library, 2323 Mill Rd., Sister Bay.

Eileen Bohn Speaker Series Racial Disparities in Wisconsin and Here in Door County: What Do We Know, and What Are We Doing About Them?

Saturday, November 3, 9:00-Noon, Donald & Carol Kress Pavilion, 7845 Church St., Egg Harbor.

Communicate with your representatives!

(Post the attached list on your refrigerator to have it handy.)

PRESIDENT

Donald J. Trump president@whitehouse.gov <https://www.facebook.com/WhiteHouse/>;
(202) 456-1111

U.S. SENATORS

- Tammy Baldwin <https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/feedback>; (202) 224-5653
- Ron Johnson <http://ronjohnson.senate.gov/public>; (202) 224-5323

U.S. HOUSE (8th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)

Mike Gallagher <http://gallagher.house.gov/>; (202) 225-5665

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR

Scott Walker <http://walker.wi.gov/contact-us>; (608) 266-1212

WI SENATE DISTRICT 1

Caleb Frostman sen.frostman@legis.wi.gov; (608) 266-3512

WI ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 1

Joel Kitchens Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov; (608) 266-5350