

LWV DC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
February 2018
CO-PRESIDENTS – BAILEY KOEPEL & SHIRLEY SENARIGHI
LWVDCPREZ@GMAIL.COM

CANDIDATE FORUMS SCHEDULED

Twenty-nine LWV members responded to our request for volunteers to implement the following candidate forums:

Sturgeon Bay City Council in City Council Chambers

6:30 pm Monday, February 5
6:30 pm Wednesday, February 7 (snow date)

County Board Supervisory District 19 at Liberty Grove Town Hall

10:00 am Saturday, February 10
7:00 pm Tuesday, February 13 (snow date)

Sevastopol Town Board at Sevastopol Town Hall

7:00 pm Wednesday, February 28
7:00 pm Monday, March 19 (snow date)

Southern Door School Board in Southern Door High School Library

7:00 pm Wednesday, March 7
7:00 pm Thursday, March 15 (snow)

All candidate forums will be recorded and can be viewed on the LWV website.

A roster of volunteer responsibilities has been emailed to those who responded. If your schedule has changed and you now can participate in an event, call Barb Graul at **920-743-6842**. You can also attend as an observer or participant.

Thanks to the Voter Service Committee for planning these candidate forums: Barb Graul, Pat Scieszinski, Jan Livingston, Charlynn Hansen, Sandy Brown, Lisa Barnaby, and Shirley Senarighi. Voter service is our #1 priority!

LWV DC MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

LWV DC members will find a roster of current LWV DC members attached. This list is shared with LWV DC members only and, as per board policy, the content is to be used only for LWV purposes. Thank you.

**LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! HOW TO ADVOCATE EFFECTIVELY – FEB. 8
LAST SESSION IN THIS SERIES**

Have you wanted to communicate with your elected officials but hesitate to do so? Many of us procrastinate to write or call and then find we are too late to make a difference. This workshop may be of help to us!

In collaboration with the Door County Civility Project and the League of Women Voters of Door County, Write On presents a series of sessions designed to give you effective strategies to communicate your requests, opinions, and concerns with your elected representatives. This isn't just

about voicing strong opinions through letters to the editor – it’s much, much more! As important as *what* you do, *how* you do it can make a huge difference as to whether or not your message is really listened to, read, and understood in order to make the impact you want.

While you will learn quick tips on how best to be heard by elected officials, you’ll also have time to identify an issue of concern, who you want to influence, and what you want to accomplish. Then, you will begin a draft of communication to an elected representative – script for a phone call, postcard, email, or letter to an elected official or to the editor to inform the public of your concern.

With facilitators from the Civility Project, League of Women Voters, and Write On, the last of the four sessions held throughout Door County is scheduled for

Thursday, February 8, 4:00-5:30 pm

Egg Harbor Town Hall, Carlsville

Register for a workshop by contacting Write On, Door County at writeondoorcounty.org or by emailing info@writeondoorcounty.org

SAVE THE DATE - THURSDAY, MARCH 8 5:00-6:00 PM

This special meeting has been set to create a plan for more regular **LWV DC observation of Sturgeon Bay City Council and committee meetings**. It has been difficult for any one of our members to assume this role alone; we can do better with a team effort. We believe this will not only benefit our members and our organization, but the community, council and its committees as well. Our role as observers is to gather information – to learn what that body is doing. We take action only when warranted and supported by previously determined League positions. Observers also learn *how* issues are being addressed. The League promotes government openness, transparency, and accountability as vital to a healthy democracy. Please join this effort. We’ll meet at Senarighi’s home at **604 W Spruce Drive in Sturgeon Bay**.

SAVE THE DATE – WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 18, 5:00-7:00 PM, STONE HARBOR CONFERENCE CENTER

Attend “**Civility Matters: Talking Together**,” co-sponsored by the Door County Civility Project and Write On, Door County. Hear Dr. Kay Collier McLaughlin, author of six books including *Talking Together: Getting beyond Polarization through Civil Dialogue*. Rather than focusing on how awful the current conversation in our society is, Dr. McLaughlin will focus on changing the conversation. She not only offers tools, but she also offers hope as a roadmap to action based on practices of civil dialogue. As a leadership consultant, she travels throughout the county and beyond, offering experiential sessions that provide an opportunity for people of differing experiences, opinions, and perspectives to have true dialogue with one another. Kay has a unique background. She grew up as a musician and the daughter of an NFL championship football coach, both adding fascinating perspective to her work as consultant, author, and speaker. Dr. McLaughlin will be spending two weeks in residency with Write On, Door County. Join us... let’s *talk together!*

SAVE THE DATE – THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 17

This date has been set for the **LWV DC Annual Meeting!** Mark your calendars now and watch for additional information regarding the specific location and time. We are pleased to announce that a representative from the Race for Equity in Dane County will be our speaker and will highlight the profound and persistent racial disparities in health, education, child welfare, criminal justice, employment, and income that plague the nation and state.

LWV PROGRAM 2018-19

Yes, we are but mid-way through 2017-18 and yet national, state, and local leagues are pulling together programming options for 2018-19. Please send your thoughts regarding any issues you would like LWV DC to focus on next year to lwvdcprez@gmail.com. Suggestions will be reviewed by the board in order to have our program recommendations ready for the LWV DC Annual Meeting in May. Specific activities to meet those programming goals are then further developed at the membership planning session scheduled for summer. Thanks. Your input is needed and valued!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! "PROTECTING OUR GROUNDWATER"

Protecting groundwater is the subject of the 2018 event in the Eileen Bohn Speaker Series. On **Saturday, April 28** from 9:00 am to noon in the Sturgeon Bay High School Commons, UW-Oshkosh Geology Professor Maureen Muldoon and USDA Agricultural Researcher Mark Borchardt will provide an overview of Door County's unique geology. They will explain the challenges of protecting our groundwater as supported by current scientific information. A local panel consisting of Door County Corporation Council Grant Thomas, Assistant County Sanitarian Chris Olson, and County Conservationist Erin Hanson will explain what efforts have taken place historically (in the county) to protect groundwater contamination from both human and animal wastes.

INVIGORATING DEMOCRACY AND PUBLIC WORK

(This is not a LWV sponsored activity, but the topic may be of interest to our members.) The notion of "public work" derives from the community organizing philosophy of Harry Boyte, founder of Public Achievement and Senior Scholar in Public Work Philosophy at the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship at Augsburg College. On the evening of February 23, Boyte will be honored as the recipient of the St. Norbert Ambassador of Peace Award, after which he will deliver a lecture titled "Education as the Seedbed for a Democratic Renaissance." The public is invited to the award presentation and lecture at no charge, as well as to the one day conference, which begins the next morning.

On Saturday, February 24, the conference will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. It will begin with a plenary panel discussion on the topic of "Invigorating Democracy." Joining Harry Boyte will be Micheline Ishay (Professor of Human Rights and International Studies at the University of Denver); Harvey Kaye (Ben and Joyce Rosenberg Professor of Democracy and Justice Studies at UW-Green Bay); and Alison Staudinger (Assistant Professor of Gender and Law at UW-Green Bay). After two sets of breakout sessions and a lunch (provided free of charge), the day will conclude with a plenary presentation by Micheline Ishay titled, "In Defense of Internationalism."

The events take place at St. Norbert College - Bemis Conference Center, 299 Third Street, De Pere, WI. Admission is free but registration is required. Invite a friend.

<https://www.snc.edu/tickets/?eid=24189>

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR REPRESENTATIVES

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WISCONSIN GOVERNOR:

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WI SENATE DISTRICT 1

Open Seat

WI ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 2

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

One complimentary copy of the 2017-18 Official Directory of Door County (**a listing of contact information for county, city, village and town officials**) can be picked up at the County Clerk's office at the Door County government building. This directory is also online at the Door County government website:

<http://www.co.door.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid=16450&locid=137>