

LWV DC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2013

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Thanks for all the help stuffing envelopes for our finance drive: Susie K., Barb G., Dawn V., Victoria C., Peter S., and Paula O.!!! We were speedy!

Belated thanks for all who worked on the first Water Panel presentation! In the words of Susie Kohout, "Paula & Barb, our wonderful Vice Presidents, thank you so much for all the work you've done on organizing our programs this year! Oct. 17 **Health Care (Afford. Care Act)** presentation was just outstanding! I was really proud of LWVDC for providing that resource to the community." Thank you too for the other LWV members who attended, and those who helped out, especially Shirley S., Susie K., Betsy R., Victoria C., Michele, Peters S. & W.!

We still need 2 people to co-chair Voter Service for Spring Forums. This would involve arranging locations and calling candidates to arrange a date. We have guidelines and policies for this and running the Forums and mentors to help. Please contact Sandy if you would like to serve in this way!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 21st, 6-8 PM, Crossroads, Sturgeon Bay The November Door County League of Women Voters program will again highlight water quality issues in Door and Kewaunee Counties. Entitled Protecting our Ground Water, the 6:00 meeting at Crossroads at Big Creek will feature Jim Kettler from Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, Dean Hoegger from Clean Water Action Council & a representative of Door Co Soil & Water Dept. The speakers will describe what their organizations do to protect clean water and share how citizens can help to protect our water resources. The program will be interactive with questions and answers following the presentation. The public is invited to attend, no reservations required.

No Board meeting in November! Next Board meeting will be Friday, Dec. 13 at 9:30 at the Sturgeon Bay library before the **11:30 Positions Review, part 1, also at the Library with a brown bag lunch. Another session will be held in Jan.** This is every member's chance to learn LWV positions and to take part in the statewide grassroots planning process by which the League selects pressing governmental issues for concerted study and action at the state level. The current State Program was adopted by delegates at the June 7, 2013 state Annual Meeting in Milwaukee. It consists of a statewide campaign for redistricting reform and an update of our state Water Quality positions. Both initiatives have been launched, and statewide committees are working on them. **State and National positions** can be found at: <http://www.lwvwi.org/IssuesAdvocacy.aspx> and <http://www.lwv.org/content/public-policy-positions>. If you can't make the meeting you can give us feedback by email or phone.

TerraCycle – Sustain Door is collecting: ink cartridges, old worn out computer mice and keyboards, dead cell phones, dental care items of all kinds (even old tubes!), scotch tape related items: cores, dispensers, etc, **PLUS new items: dairy tubs, solo cups, ball point pens!** Ask your LWV Board member if they will take them and we will get them to Sustain Door!

See the [Climate Change Toolkit](#), which appears on the [LWVUS Website](#), it is very useful and has so much information!

Something You Can Do To Protect the Great Lakes: Please read the following item excerpted from the October 29 Brampton Guardian (Brampton, Ontario) and stop using any personal care items that contain microplastics (plastic microbeads).

Over the past two years, scientists have reported finding thousands of plastic bits — some visible only under a microscope — in [Great Lakes] water. Scientists believe some are abrasive "microbeads" used in personal care products such as facial and body washes, deodorants and toothpaste. They're so minuscule that they flow through screens at waste treatment plants and wind up in the lakes, where fish and aquatic birds might eat them, mistaking them for fish eggs. They [the beads] also could absorb toxins. Because of their size and wide distribution, there's no practical way to remove the particles from the lakes.

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is pressuring companies to phase out microplastics quickly in favor of biodegradable abrasives such as grape and apricot seeds as the best way to deal with the problem. Additionally, the group is encouraging mayors in the eight U.S. states as well as Ontario and Quebec to urge residents to buy products without microbeads.

<http://www.bramptonguardian.com/news-story/4180855-great-lakes-cities-seek-action-on-microplastics/>

We got this email: Dear Sandy,

I think is about time that I resign from the Door County League of Women Voters. I do it reluctantly, but Neil and I definitely have moved to Appleton and I am unable to participate any more. My membership in the Door County League was one of the best experiences of my lifetime. I came to know so many wonderful women, and I think we all together did some very useful things for the community.

My hope is that the DC League carry on in the tradition that I found with such outstanding women as Mary Berg. Later some of those who had been members and then had dropped out to work and raise families returned and are carrying on again joined by newcomers, as I once was.

Say hello to all,
Pat McCarty

Nov. 19, 13 is/was (for those with snail mail) Toilet Day and we're celebrating the invention that has saved more lives than any other, the toilet! Share and tell others why [#toiletsWIN!](#)
<http://bit.ly/1fpDkQw>

Congratulations to LWV members Victoria L. Cerinich and Peter Wyatt. DPO, Door Property Owners, Inc., awarded them the Pat Miller Advocacy Award for their great contributions to the Safe Lawns Project! Also, congratulations to Sandy Brown who received the Ann Kok Social Justice Award from Help of Door County, and the Starr Award at the National PFLAG Convention this Fall! We have awesome members!

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE: Read our calendar and Board agenda and minutes on our website as above and if the link doesn't work, copy and paste it into your browser. Like our facebook page, too: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/LWVDoorCounty>