

LWV DC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

October 2012

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CANDIDATE FORUM

The LWV of Door County will host a candidate forum for the District #1 candidates for WI Assembly on Thursday, October 18 at 7 pm in the Sturgeon Bay City Council Chambers. Attached is a poster; please print and post in a location near you!

The forum is being aired live and will be replayed on Sturgeon Bay's Governmental Public Access Channels: 97 (Analog) and 988 (Digital) and on the Charter Cable system reaching Door and Kewaunee Counties. Check www.SturgeonBayWI.org for more information about replay dates and times. It will also be available for viewing on: Sevastopol PEG TV See the channel 986 broadcast schedules at <http://doorbell.net/video>.

The forum will also be on the internet at :

<http://sbtv.PegCentral.com>

<http://doorbell.net/video>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/shermanbay>

A link on the LWV Door County Facebook page

Thanks to LWV members Barb Graul, Victoria Cerinich, Susan Kohout, and Shirley Senarighi for organizing this important event. Thanks to Martha & Bill Beller, Paula Olson, Jennifer Moeller, Susan Kohout, Eileen Bohn, Betsy Rossberg, Anne Blahnik, and Sandy Brown for implementing the forum!

We encourage you all to attend and ask those important questions so vital to a good forum!

PATRIOCRACY UPDATE

The first activities for the 2012-13 LWV DC year have been showings of a documentary film "Patriocracy" offering a non-partisan examination of the Washington dysfunction and hyper-partisanship undermining America's ability to tackle its most serious problems. Patriocracy has an all-star cast of Senators, Congressmen/women, top Washington journalists, pundits and academia to the screen; giving their candid and comprehensive insights into the factors behind extreme polarization. It shares a detailed examination of how Americans have become so polarized over the past decade. Patriocracy is produced and directed by award-winning documentary filmmaker Brian Malone and is Executive Produced by well-known producer, Stephen Nemeth. Thanks to the Peninsula Pulse, The Joyce Foundation, and WI LWV Educational Network for helping the LWV DC sponsor the showings of Patriocracy!

- **August 21st** - LWV DC Members & guests and NWTC Students - Thanks to NWTC for use of the classroom! 11 individuals were in attendance.
- **September 18th** - Public Showing - Thanks to Door County Auditorium for use of the facility! 34 individuals were in attendance.
- **September 27th** - Door County Women in Business - 11 were in attendance.

- **September 29th** - Public Showing - Thanks to Sturgeon Bay Cinema for use of the facility! 42 were in attendance.
- **October 7th & 14th** - Hope Church Adult Forum Group - 18 were in attendance at the first session showing half of the film.

Do you have a community group or simply a group of friends you would like to show this film to? It could be a church group, civic group or simply a group of family and friends. We have multiple DVDs for a couple of months yet. We simply need to follow the arrangement with the producer - \$5 per viewer. Contact Martha or Shirley if interested at lwvdcprez@gmail.com.

PATRIOCRACY - WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE LWV DC?

After each showing of Patriocracy those in attendance shared their individual ideas on to how to improve civil discourse and government functioning. These ideas were written down on poster paper. On Thursday, November 18 4:30 - 6:30 pm at Stone Harbor Resort - small dining room - we will have a meeting for ALL LWV DC members and interested guests to review the list and discuss how we might proceed should we want to promote any or all of the ideas suggested. You will be able to order off the menu. Please consider joining us whether you did or did not see the documentary. As league members, we all place a high value on respect and civility in our lives and understand that these are very important characteristics of any healthy community. LWV supports opportunities for civil discourse and discussions in our communities and all levels of government. We know that governmental bodies address controversial issues about which people feel passionately and at times this has led to uncivil behavior. An atmosphere of incivility and disrespect can have (has had) damaging effects on government proceedings, quality of debates, and on the practice of democracy. Let's begin conversations about what to do about this... using our non-partisan view point! We will each be able to order a meal from Stone Harbor's menus. Please rsvp to lwvdcprez@gmail.com or by calling 743-1691 on or before November 15th so we have the appropriate number of place settings ready!

VOTE SIGNS

Please put your "VOTE It Counts!" signs out before the general election on November 6th. Please take all signs down on November 7th and save them for future use. Reminder - in keeping with our nonpartisan policy, we post LWV signs only in yards where NO political party candidate signs are posted. **If you have a sign and will not be using this election because you do have a candidate sign in their yard, please let us know at lwvdcprez@gmail.com or by calling 743-1691.** We have members interested in using them! Thanks.

OBSERVER CORPS

Observer corps is actively seeking new volunteers. We now observe finance, administration, Law Enforcement Emergency Services, legislative and Land Conservation committees along with the county board and Sturgeon Bay City Council meetings. Sandy Brown has a conflict this year with the meeting time of the Joint Social Services Brd/Community Programs committee which meets at 4:30 on the 3rd Tuesday. If anyone is interested in that area or would like to attend some RPC (Resource Planning Committee) meetings or Legislative committee meetings, please contact Barb Graul for more info--no obligations connected with the asking :-)--and attending every last meeting is not expected, we are busy people!

18-YEAR-OLD BIRTHDAY CARDS

Thanks to Gerri Friedberg, Jennifer Moeller, Eileen Bohn and Christine Salmon for coordinating the sending of individual League Birthday Cards to each youth in Door County on their 18th birthday, encouraging them to register to vote, and then exercise their right to vote! This year Washington Island Schools will participate also, with the support of WI Clerk, Valerie Carpenter. Thanks, Valerie!

WATCHING THE DEBATES PRESS RELEASE

Attached is a press release distributed on October 2 offering important tips on watching the debates.

ELECTING THE PRESIDENT

The LWV DC sent Door County School Superintendents a letter to share with their administrators and teachers making them aware of materials that are available to help teachers assist their students in understanding the Presidential election process. The League of Women Voters of the United States teamed up with the Newspaper in Education Institute to produce *Electing the President: A Guide to the Election Process*. This nonpartisan publication is a handy guide outlining all that is needed to know about the presidential election. This publication can be downloaded along with other instructional materials from the League website at www.lwv.org. When accessing the website home page enter a quick search of "Electing the President" and follow instructions to download. You may find this resource interesting!

KIDS VOTE USA

Can you help for a few hours with Kids Vote on Election Day?

Kids Vote USA is a non-partisan non-profit who's mission statement is "...to ensure our future democracy by preparing our children to be educated and engaged voters." This is accomplished in two ways:

- Educators are provided an award winning curriculum for K-12 grades for free.
- Students are encouraged to go to the actual polling place where their parent(s) vote and cast a vote on a non-official ballot.

Volunteers are needed to help each student register, give each a ballot and have the student place the completed ballot in the ballot box. It is really quite simple... but every polling location needs at least one volunteer, especially in the after-school and early evening hours. If you can assist, please contact Mark Nelson at 559-0234 or georgemarknelson@hotmail.com.

Kids Vote USA was started in 1988 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the Door County chapter has been operating since 2002. You can visit them at kidsvotingusa.org.

Getting kids to the polls to actually see and be comfortable with the voting process increases the chances of them being active voters in adulthood. Kids Vote surely meets a LWV goal!

BOARD MEETING

The October LWV DC Board meeting is cancelled. The next board meeting will be held on Friday, November 16 at 11:30 am at the Sturgeon Bay Library - upstairs conference room. All are welcome!

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE

LWV Door County has a Facebook page! If you also have a Facebook page, you can do a search for LWV Door County. Once on our page you can "like" us and you will then receive our League messages on your Facebook page. Our LWV Door County website address is: <http://doorcounty.wi.lwvnet.org> Save it as a favorite!