

Membership Committee Annual Report

2021 –2022 Membership Year

Committee Members: Pat Kennedy (chair) and Kathie Whelchel

Membership Total March 2021: 83

Membership Total March 2022: 80

Renewing Members: 72 (2 are Lifetime Members)

New Members: 8

Flexible Dues Membership: 1

The Membership Committee's goals:

- Raising public awareness and general visibility of LWV ABC
- Removing barriers to participation
- Increasing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion among our members

The Membership Committee updated the Membership Application and created the *League Basics* pamphlet for distribution at community events. The Membership Chair developed an online Member Handbook and continues to update the website to ensure current, accurate, transparent and accessible information for members, potential members and the general public.

The Membership Chair continues to attend Fridley Community Network meetings to forge relationships with other community organizations in the Fridley area. The Membership Chair also attends the monthly DEI Roundtable sponsored by LWV Crystal New Hope East Plymouth Robbinsdale to learn more about DEI practices in other local leagues. Kathie Whelchel continues to attend Transformative Circle events in Coon Rapids.

Member milestones were acknowledged with Certificates of Appreciation mailed to our members for their services to the residents of Anoka and northern Hennepin. We will continue to acknowledge milestones, in 5 year increments of continuous membership, at each Annual Membership Meeting. This year, the first year of acknowledging milestones, 44 members received certificates of appreciation, ranging from 5 years of service to 65 years of service. A full list is included at the end of this report, and is available on our website in the online Member Handbook.

The Membership Committee continued to offer book and film discussions which offer an alternative to lecture style program meetings, while increasing awareness of diversity, equity and inclusion. A full list of the books and films is attached.

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Member Milestones

(Effective April 2022)

50+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Carol Bradley (1969)
- Zilla Way (1953)
- Geri Nelson (1972)

45+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Kay McCulley (1976)

35+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Jeorgette Knoll (1986)

30+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Luanne Koskinen (1989)
- Kathy Tingelstad (1990)
- Mary Jo Truchon (1988)

25+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Joan Molenaar (1994)
- Betsy O'Berry (1996)

20+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Jim Abeler (2000)
- Susan Anderson (1999)
- Lois Ballinger (1998)
- Diann Halverson (2002)
- Luranne McLean (2002)
- Katherine Whelchel (1998)

15+ Years as Member of LWV ABC

- Julie Trude (2007)

10+ Years as Members of LWV ABC

- Kathy Aanerud (2008)
- Jane Arndt (2012)
- Grace Baltich (2008)
- Arlene Gillett (2012)
- Rochelle Hartje (2008)
- Linda Rodgers (2012)
- Gretchen Sabel (2008)
- Lonni McCauley (2010)

5+ Years as Members of LWV ABC

- Rebecca Ahlstrom (2016)
- Shirley Andreason (2017)
- Marcia Baudino (2017)
- Susan Butler (2016)
- Dee Ann Christensen (2015)
- Susan Christenson (2017)
- Cindy DeRuyter (2015)
- Betsy Kiekhafer (2017)
- Susan Kraack (2014)
- Roger McCulley (2015)
- Gene Merriam (2014)
- Jerry Newton (2014)
- Rita Newton (2013)
- Bruce Pomerantz (2014)
- Karen Varian (2016)
- Cheryl Volkenant (2017)
- Wes Volkenant (2017)
- Leslie Waterhouse (2016)
- Susan Witt (2015)

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LWV ABC Book Club

The LWV ABC Book Club discussed the following 7 books during the 2021-2022 membership year:

- Podcast and Articles on the Life of George Floyd - May 2021
- *Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America* (2007) by Firoozeh Dumas - July 2021
- *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein – August 2021
- *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* (2020) by Cathy Park Hong – September 2021
- *Rez Life: An Indian's Journey through Reservation Life* (2012) by David Treuer - November 2021
- *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir* (2008) by Kao Kalia Yang – January 2022
- *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide* (2016) by Carol Anderson, Ph.D. – March and April 2022

LWV ABC Film Club Discussion

The LWV ABC Film Club discussed the following 11 films during the 2021-2022 membership year:

- *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World* (2017) - May 2021
- *Get Out* (2017) – June 2021
- *Hidden Figures* (2016) – August 2021
- *Mankiller* (2017) - September 2021
- *Neither Wolf nor Dog* (2016) – October 2021
- *Black Panther* (2018) – November 2021
- *Our Spirits Don't Speak English* (2008) - December 2021
- *Just Mercy* (2019) – January 2022
- *Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders* (2002) - February 2022
- *Made in LA (Hecho en Los Angeles)* (2007) - March 2022
- *Luce* (2019) - April 2022