



# The Voter

The LWV ABC Monthly Newsletter  
December 2022



LWV ABC President Gretchen Sabel (back row) at June 2022 LWVUS Convention.

## LWV ABC Year-End Gathering

**December 12 - In Person\* and Virtual; 6:30 Ice Cream Social / 7:00 Program begins**

Meet up with your fellow LWV ABC members and friends for a fun and informative evening. We'll start off with a 6:30 ice cream social with treats from Crooked Lake Creamery and a fun game with tons of prizes. Yes, we know it's going to be cold and dark, but buddy up with a League member in your area and come on over! After the social, we'll talk about the LWV US convention; Gretchen Sabel will share her in-person experiences and Pat Kennedy and Julie Trude will share their virtual experiences and talk more about what work was done at the convention. We'll also talk about upcoming opportunities for members to up their involvement with LWV ABC. We have openings on many committees that can help to continue our vital work of making democracy work.

*LWV ABC members will be emailed the Zoom link just in case they can't come in person. We sure do hope that you will try to attend in person!*

**\*Note change of location** -- the Andover Community Center at 15200 Hanson Blvd. NW, Andover just north of Andover City Hall. The meeting room is on the back side of the building, so it's closer to enter from the Community Center side with the hockey rinks, not the YMCA side.



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## **Anoka County Historical Society - the LWV ABC November Program Meeting**

We welcomed **Rebecca Ebnet-Desens, Executive Director of Anoka County Historical Society** as our special guest and program presenter. Rebecca engaged us with her program on the value of passing on your own family stories and not just antiques and grandma's silverware.

**President Gretchen Sabel presented Rebecca and the staff of the Anoka County Historical Society with our Friend of League award 2022** for contributions to our community and civic engagement. The award featured watercolor artwork by artist and member of LWV ABC, Mary Jo Truchon, with the inscription:

*In recognition of your outstanding partnership to Celebrate the history of women's suffrage ♦ Honor the accomplishments of Anoka County women ♦ Document the 100-year history of the LWV ABC ♦ Inform our community about the work of the LWV ♦ Share the history and stories of the people and communities of Anoka Count*

Members who attended in person received a copy of LWV ABC's Hundred Year History booklet which will continue to be available at future meetings or by mail at member request.



[Watch Program Video](#)

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## **Conversation with Attorney General Keith Ellison** **Special event co-sponsored by LWV ABC and LWV MN**

On **January 18 at noon**, join LWV ABC and LWV MN in a discussion with Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison. The event will take place at St. Paul News Network studios, 550 Vandalia St #170, St Paul. LWV ABC's Jody Anderson will be on the panel on stage with Mr. Ellison. We will carpool from LWV ABC territory and the event will also be livestreamed for remote participation.

Questions should be submitted in advance [at this link](#).



**Keith Ellison**, former US Congressman and former MN State Representative, is the the first African American elected to partisan statewide office in Minnesota, as well as the first Muslim in the U.S. to win statewide office. He was elected state Attorney General in 2018 and reelected in 2022. He also served as the deputy chair of the Democratic National Committee from 2017 to 2018. Ellison was the first Muslim to be elected to Congress and the first African American representative from Minnesota.

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## **Our January 9 Program Meeting** **Firearms Study by LWVMN**

**Via Zoom -- 6:30 social/7:00 program**

LWV ABC members will vote on consensus questions for the Firearms Study that was undertaken by LWV MN. Members should watch for a separate email with a link to "Firearms in Minnesota" with materials and information to prepare for this meeting. And yes, there is homework.

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## Between the Stripes, Under the Stars

There's a very interesting exhibit now on at the Catherine Murphy Gallery at the University of St. Catherine's in St. Paul. In this exhibit, ten women artists look at what it means to be an American, as seen from their viewpoints as immigrants. These are moving and thoughtful works. The exhibit closes on December 11.



*There is a virtual discussion with the artists on December 7 at 6:30 pm; if you are interested in attending, email [gallery@stkate.edu](mailto:gallery@stkate.edu) for a link.*

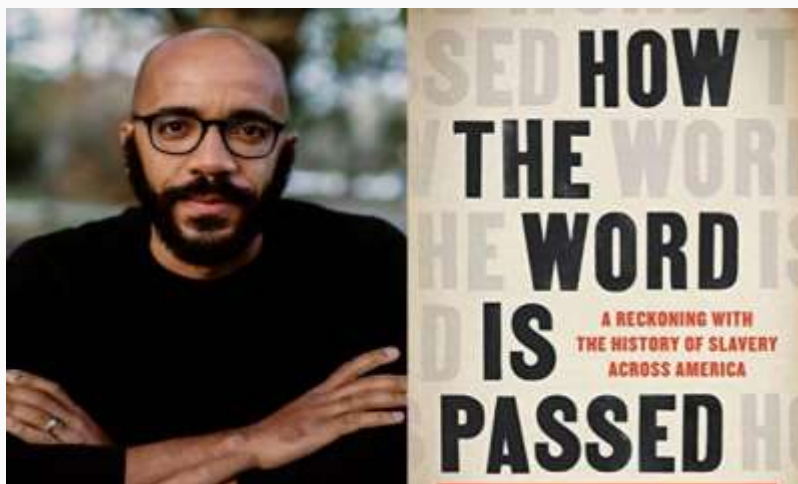
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## Metro Area Government, 2023 CMAL program Jan 14, 10am on Zoom

What will county governance look like in 2023? Will there be accountability? Transparency? Civic engagement? Hear from Panelists Debbie Goettel – Hennepin County Commissioner, Laurie Halverson – Dakota County Commissioner, and Trista Matas-Castillo – Ramsey County Commissioner as they share their views on how county governments will operate in 2023. This meeting is open to all LWV members and members of the public. Audience participants will be able to ask questions of panelists.

*Click the red button below to join the meeting on Jan 14 at 10am; pre-registration is not required.*

[Click here to join this important meeting Jan 14 at 10am](#)



## January Book Club

Join us at **7:00 pm on Wednesday January 18** to discuss *HOW THE WORD IS PASSED* (2021) by Clint Smith

Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, Smith visits nine places that memorialize the legacy of slavery. interweaving scholarship and personal observation with interviews of residents, tourists, scholars, tour guides, and museum officials, Smith examines how “the word” about our history with slavery is passed on to us.

Book Club Zoom Link

Upcoming Books



## November Board Highlights

By Arlene Gillette, LWV ABC Secretary

Membership Chair is seeking feedback from users of the email version of our newsletter, and how it is viewed on phones or on a computer. What do you like, and what do you dislike about it. Also discussed were updates to our website, including our Technology Members Only Page which now shows new You Tube "Handle" and Canva accounts. A handle is your address, for example; "LWV ABC". Handles are now functional but are still in the process of being developed. Canva is a graphic design program.

Voter Service reported on our You Tube candidate video uploads, which indicated that we are having a pretty big impact on the number of people who voted. For example, 31% of voters in Nowthen had watched our videos. Videos for city and county offices were more popular than legislative office videos.



Program Committee told us that our State Attorney General, Keith Ellison has agreed to be part of our program at a January special event program. This could turn out to be a really important event, one that we should advertise widely. Also in January we will have a Zoom program for our members on the results of LWVMN firearms study.

*Members can find the complete board agendas and minutes by logging into the Members Only Website.*



Tired of winter already? We've still got a lot to go... but reading about plants and gardens helps, right? [Here's a link to the Winter 2022 issue of Wild Ones, a Native Plants and Natural Landscapes Journal.](#) This issue has guidance on planting pocket prairies and lots more!



## Register New Citizens

Join League members from throughout the Twin Cities area to help new citizens get registered to vote at the River Centre in St. Paul.

**The last Citizenship Ceremony for 2022 will take place on Tuesday, December 13**

If you are able to volunteer for a morning shift (8:30 to 11:30 AM) or an afternoon shift (11:30 AM - 2:30 PM) or both, please send an email to LWVMN Citizen Ceremonies at [citizenshipceremonies@lwvmn.org](mailto:citizenshipceremonies@lwvmn.org) with the date and shift(s) you are available to help.

[Email LWVMN Citizenship Ceremonies](mailto:citizenshipceremonies@lwvmn.org)

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So, what do you think of our new e-newsletter format? We are working to find the best way to reach our members and friends, and would appreciate your comments. Email us at [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com) with your ideas for improvement, or to let us know this works for you.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan civic organization which promotes good government and active, informed participation in local, state and federal government.

The League is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in principal and practice.

[Become a Member](#)

[Support Our Work](#)



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**Andover, MN 55304**

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