

The Voter

The LWV ABC Monthly Newsletter

June - July 2023



This was a session for the record books! Join us on June 12 to talk about the changes!

Program Meeting - June 12

Legislative Session Recap -- and Next Steps
What Passed and What it will mean for Voters in 2024

Andover Community Center, Room A
15200 Hanson Blvd. NW, Andover
Monday, June 12

6:30 Online and in-person socializing
6:45 Announcements
7:00 Program begins

Join us for this informative and lively discussion of LWV-supported accomplishments in the 2023 legislative session and preliminary thoughts on what comes next. We will take a look at the bills that became law and talk about how the changes will change the work of LWV in years to come!

Member input on topics they followed will be welcomed. This will be an informal program and won't be recorded. The discussion will be lively - probably more fun in person but we'll hook up the Zoom for those who prefer virtual. The Andover Community Center is on the west side of the YMCA, the side away from Hanson Blvd. There's plenty of parking on that side so drive on around.

Resources for your optional preparation for this program:

- Recording of LWVMN webinar on May 22: *LWVMN 2023 Legislative Session Recap and Next Steps* (formerly titled *What Just Happened in the 2023 Legislative Session*) www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZL-gnxOOPA
- List of LWVMN's priorities for the 2023 Legislative Session: www.lwvmn.org/legislative-session-2023

[Email LWV ABC for Zoom Link](#)



Coon Rapids Energy Action Plan

We welcomed guest speakers Kari Rehrauer, Coon Rapids Ward 2 Councilmember and Olivia Dorow Hovland, Coon Rapids Sustainability Planner to our May 8 monthly program. They provided informative insights to the City's plan to make high-impact progress towards decreasing emissions from energy through efficiency-related projects in the community.

Thanks to Lonni McCauley and Kathleen Sekhon for the program arrangements and introductions -- and thanks to Gretchen Sabel for facilitating the in-person and virtual questions that enhanced the program content.

Link to Coon Rapids Energy Action Plan here: www.coonrapidsmn.gov/1453/Energy-Action-Plan and check out Coon Rapids Sustainability news here: www.coonrapidsmn.gov/809/Sustainability

Watch the video of our May 8 program on the LWV ABC website or YouTube channel. Many thanks to QCTV for recording this show!

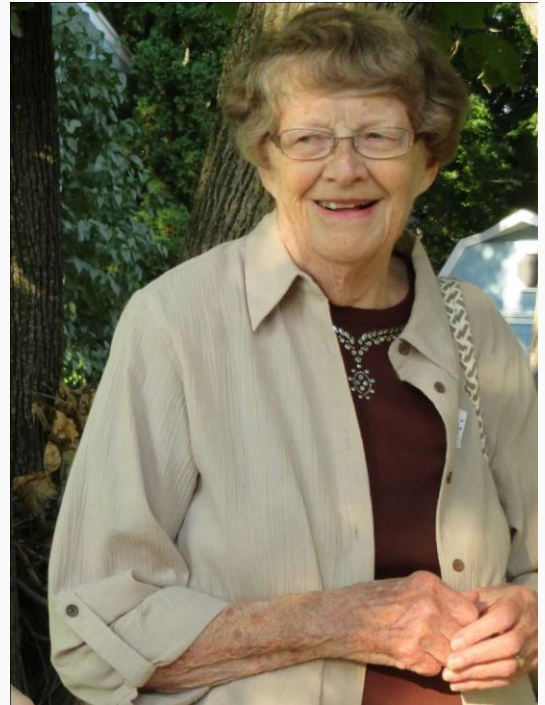
[Watch Program Video](#)

Remembering Diann Halverson

We were saddened to learn that Diann Halverson passed away on May 11, 2023 at age 89 following brief complications from a stroke. Diann was a 20-year member of LWV ABC, prior to her recent move to Inver Grove Heights to live near her daughter.

We appreciated Diann's quiet competence, stepping up for tasks, and being informed on the issues of the day. She was our phone caller for a couple of years, keeping us in touch with members and sharing their updates. Diann was a beloved kindergarten teacher prior to her retirement. She was active with LWV, Lions Club, and the DFL party.

Arlene Gillett remembers Diann: Diann encouraged me to join League, years ago. She said it was a good bunch of people, doing good work. She and I did a ton of voter registration events at lunch times in area high schools over the years. And then, whenever we were done, we would go out for lunch and she would always have a beer with lunch. After both of our husbands passed away, we started going to movies at the East Bethel theater, and then going to lunch afterwards. When she no longer drove, her daughter Laura would bring her to lunch meetings with me. She was a very dear friend to me, and I miss her a lot



We share this thoughtful, inspiring message from the obituary for Diann:
No service is planned. Please memorialize Diann by voting in your Democracy, supporting public education, and donating towards progress.

Link to Diann's obituary: www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000458207/?fullname=diann-halverson



Tower Days Voter Registration 2022

Voter Registration

Voter Registration community events are just around the corner! These events are a great way to interact with and educate our communities about the League, voter registration and voting.

We will be at these upcoming Events - stop by and say hi!

- **June 11 - Tower Days, Spring Lake Park**
- **June 14 - Jamboree, Columbia Heights**

MORE EVENTS COMING UP! WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR SIGN UPS!

[SignUp for Voter Registration Events](#)

Welcome New Members

- Shirley Brantingham
- Olivia Paulson
- Mary VanderLaan

Upcoming Events

LWV ABC Summer Picnic will be at Gretchen Sabel's house on July 15, starting at 1pm. Information will be sent to members by email or Facebook in the next week. Mark your calendar now!

Our Book Club, on Zoom: *When They Call You a Terrorist – A Black Lives Matter Memoir* (2018) , by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and asha bandele -- July 19, 2023 - 7:00pm
(Discussion Leader needed.)

August 14 - Senator Mary Kunesh will be our guest discussing the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Report and office. We have not set a venue for this meeting yet, watch email for details.

[LWV ABC Calendar](#)

Take time to enjoy summer!

The newsletter elves are going to take a month off - our next newsletter will come out in August. Look for info in emails soon!



May Board Highlights

By Kathy Aanerud, LWV ABC Board Secretary

Agenda items covered at our board meeting on May 22 via Zoom included:

- Further discussion of the suggestions for renaming "Meet the Candidates" since most forums will now be recorded without a live audience. Decision abled to next meeting to research how names play out on Google searches.
 - Discussion and planning for the June 12 program on accomplishments of 2023 legislative session, particularly focused on LWVMN's priorities.
 - A reminder that volunteers are needed to staff voter registration tables at community events in Spring Lake Park and Columbia Heights in the month of June.
 - Brief discussion of legislative accomplishments and upcoming LWVMN webinar.
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Register New Citizens

Join League members from throughout the Twin Cities area to help new citizens get registered to vote.

Morning sessions - 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Afternoon sessions - 12:30 PM-4:00 PM

Volunteers pass out pens before the ceremony, answer questions and collect the completed voter registration forms following the end of the ceremony.

Upcoming Citizenship Ceremonies

- **Wednesday, June 21** - Mount Zion Temple - morning
- **Wednesday, July 12** - RiverCentre - morning and afternoon
- **Thursday, July 20** - Minneapolis Courthouse - morning
- **Tuesday, August 15** - RiverCentre - morning and afternoon

All volunteers, not just LWV members, are welcome and encouraged to sign up.

[Sign-Up for Citizenship Ceremonies](#)

Note the separate tabs across the top of the Sign-Up Genius form for each date.

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 principle and practice.

[Become a Member](#)

[Support Our Work](#)

More About LWV ABC





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