

The Voter

The LWV ABC Monthly Newsletter

December 2024



Ice Cream Social

Monday, December 9, 2024

Andover Community Center & Online via Zoom

15200 Hanson Blvd NW

Andover, MN 55304

6:15 - doors open

6:30 - online socializing and in person Ice Cream Social

6:45 - program begins

8:00 - must vacate room

Join us for socializing and celebrating LWV ABC's accomplishments in 2024.

Get a sneak peak of the new LWVUS membership system and win one of the many door prizes!

Note: *The Community Room has a door, with a sidewalk, directly to the outside. Parking on the south side of the building may be a shorter walk than parking in handicapped parking and entering through the main door.*

December Zoom Link



2024 Friend of League Connie Moore of Alexandra House

Connie Moore Executive Director of Alexander House received the LWV ABC 2024 Friend of League Award for her work with domestic violence survivors and her advocacy for increased government funding for domestic violence services.



Anoka County Sherriff Brad Wise, LWV ABC VP Julie Trude, Alexandra House Executive Director Connie Moore and Anoka County Attorney Brad Johnson.

Fighting Domestic Violence in Anoka County

In November, Anoka County Sheriff Brad Wise and Anoka County Attorney Brad Johnson discussed domestic violence prevention in Anoka County. Alexandra House Executive Director Connie Moore joined Wise and Johnson for audience questions.

[Watch Program Video](#)

To learn more about the crisis in funding for domestic violence services, Connie Moore recommends this recent article in *Mother Jones*.

[Mother Jones Article](#)

Welcome New Members

Welcome New Members

Hillary Lucarelli of Anoka



No RSVP Lunch

Tuesday January 7, 2025

11:00 am

Wheelhouse

227 Jackson Street

Anoka, MN, United States, 55303

Join us for our second No-RSVP lunch on January 7 at the Wheelhouse in Anoka. Stop by to chat with LWV friends over lunch (food purchase on your own). No RSVP necessary, just stop in.

After lunch, several of us will go to the archives in the County Courthouse to store more LWV ABC paraphernalia. Space is limited in the archive, but we can take up to five people on this after-lunch trip.

Wheelhouse Menu



Ham Lake Area Candidate Forum, September 24, 2024.

Informing Voters

Our 39 candidate forums had a total of 16,786 views on YouTube before the close of polls - in addition to viewing candidate forums on local cable channels. As usual, Andover and Nowthen races were very popular. The most popular video was Anoka County Soil and Water Supervisor District #1.

Candidates who participated in our forums also had a high rate of participation in

submitting written responses for the Leagues online Voter Guides at Vote411. 80% of candidates for county offices participated in Vote411.

Click the button below to see a breakdown of number of views for each forum.

Forum Views



LWV ABC President Gretchen Sabel (far right) with members of LWV Bloomington and LWV SLP at the Sherburne County Post-Election Review on November 19, 2023

Observing Post-Election Reviews

The Post-Election Equipment Review (PER) is when trained election judges of balance party affiliation hand count three races in a representative number of precincts to verify that the machines got it right. These reviews happen in every county in Minnesota between the election and the State Canvassing Board meeting. LWVMN trained observers observed the PER in 43 counties.

In Sherburne County, on November 19, **Gretchen Sabel** observed as part of a team of four with League members from Bloomington and St. Louis Park. The

review of three precincts took about six hours. It was very orderly and respectful. Gretchen reports that as the day went on, the human counters had problems and had to spend time trying to find their errors. The machines don't get tired.

In Anoka County, on November 18, **Jody Anderson** joined three other League members and a representative from our partner organization Citizens for Election Integrity MN for the Anoka County PER of 8 precincts.

Rita Mills of LWV Roseville wrote an hour by hour summary of the Anoka County PER which took place in the atrium of Anoka County Courthouse.

For more details, read Gretchen's blog post and Rita's "Diary of Post-Election Reviewer".

[Gretchen's Blog Post](#)

[Diary of a Post-Election Reviewer](#)



Minnesota Canvassing Board , November 24, 2024

Post-Election Timeline

On November 24, the Canvassing Board reviewed the Statewide Post-Election Review (PER) reports from all counties and found that all 219 precincts selected by lot to be reviewed “met the requirements for acceptable performance... with no escalation to the next phase of review.” The Canvassing Board will need to reconvene once recounts are completed for districts 14B and 54A.

Next steps:

- December 10: State issues Certificate of Ascertainment
- December 17: Minnesota Presidential Electors meet at the Minnesota State Capitol
- January 6, 2025: US Congress Counts the Electoral Votes
- January 20, 2025: Inauguration Day of the President of the United States

Learn more about all the post-election activities at LWVMN's Voter Blog

[Mn Voter Blog](#)



President Gretchen Sabel at the October 9, 2024 Walk and Talk at Maple View Park.

November Board Highlights

By Kathy Aanerud, LWV ABC Secretary

- Discussed success of the November program with Anoka County Attorney and Anoka County Sheriff and the presentation of the Friend of League Award to Connie Moore of Alexandra House.
- Finalized topics and presenters for December's program at Andover Community Center that will highlight our forums and voter registration activities. Program will begin with an ice cream social at 6:30.
- Confirmed that January, February, and March programs will be Zoom-only, beginning with Recycling topic in January.
- Jody Anderson reported on her participation at Anoka County canvassing board. Gretchen Sabel and Jody Anderson reported on participation in Post-Election Reviews in Sherburne and Anoka Counties, respectively.
- Discussed content of training sessions underway from LWVUS for new membership platform and steps to be considered and implemented by LWV ABC.
- Cancelled the December board meeting to enjoy the holidays. If something urgent arises before the January 27 board meeting, the president will convene a meeting.

Members can find Board Agendas and approved Board Minutes in the Members Only section of our website



2025 LWV ABC Book Club

In 2025, we will continue to hold the LWV ABC book club by zoom on the third Wednesday of odd numbered months. The book selections for 2025 are:

- January - *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson
- March - *Democracy Awakening* by Heather Cox Richardson
- May - *The Mango Tree* by Annabelle Tometich
- July - *The Transgender Issue* by Shon Faye
- September - *Defectors* by Paola Ramos
- November - *Whiskey Tender* by Deborah Taffa

Our 2025 book selections will generate conversations about inequality, democracy, belonging, forced and voluntary assimilation, issues faced by transgender people and changes in Latino voting patterns.

Many of the books were published recently so be sure to get you library requests in early!



New Membership System

Coming February 2025

ChapterSpot is the name of the software that will be used to implement the new League membership system. The new system will go live February 2025.

During November, LWV ABC leadership has been attending training sessions for the new system. LWVUS continues to tweak the system as issues are brought up during the training.

The system appears to be very straightforward and easy to understand. Members will access the new website from a link on our webpage. The League ChapterSpot webpage will ask for your email. Rather than yet another password, a code will be sent to your email. Enter the code and you will be able to access the League ChapterSpot webpage to update your contact information or pay dues.

Email Address Required

The new system **requires that each member must have their own email address**. If you currently share an email with another member, one of you will need to create a new email. Email programs allow you to auto-forward all emails to your primary email so you can avoid having another email you need to check.

Types of Membership

League will no longer have the "Student" or "Additional Household Member" types of memberships. Recommended **dues will be \$75**, with the option to pay \$20 to \$74. Members may also choose a higher dues amount. Regardless of the amount, all dues will be divided between LWVUS, LWV Minnesota and LWV ABC. Members will have the opportunity, on the same form, to donate directly to LWV ABC.

Renewals

All our current members have a membership expiration date of April 30, 2025. Prior to your expiration date, you will receive email reminders to renew 60 days before, 30 days before and day of expiration. The **grace period is only 60 days after expiration**, so anyone who forgets to pay dues will cease to be a member on June 30, 2025.

If you pay dues early or within the 60 days of expiration, the system will add a year to your current expiration date so your new expiration date would be April 30, 2026.

Payment Methods

The online form will allow **payment by credit card or by ACH (Automated Clearing House) direct deduction from your checking account**. You will have an option to pay dues by a paper check. Electronic payment is strongly preferred, for both cost and efficiency.

Optional Auto-Renewal

When paying dues, you will have **option to click box to choose auto-renewal**. Next year, you will receive an email regarding the pending auto-renewal prior to it being processed, giving you time to cancel if you desire.

Payment Information Security

Behind the scenes, your payment will be processed by Stripe. Stripe is a payment processing platform similar to PayPal. Security is high, with **all**

information encrypted when sent to the system and when stored in the system. Stripe will automatically divide payments between LWVUS, LWV Minnesota and LWV ABC. It will appear on your credit card statement as three separate payments.

Unlike PayPal, Stripe is embedded in the website, so payment processing by Stripe is invisible to you. You may have already used Stripe when online shopping. Among the major retailers using Stripe for online orders are Amazon, Target, Walgreens and Walmart as well as services such as Instacart and Lyft.

Click PDF below for screenshots of the new system.

[First Look at Chapter Spot PDF](#)

[FAQ on ChapterSpot](#)



Exploring the Idea of a Mississippi River Compact

December 4, 2024
7:00 pm via Zoom

Is it time now for a Mississippi River Compact?

A Mississippi River Compact would be a legal agreement between all ten main stem Mississippi River states and the Federal Government. If enacted, a Compact could provide a forum for management over the entire watershed comprehensively using the sovereign powers of both state and federal governments.

Learn more at the LWV Upper Mississippi River Region webinar with guests John Stack, author of "The Mississippi River Basin Compact: A New Governance Structure to Save the Mississippi River"; Minnesota Senator John Hoffman, Senate District 34; and Mayor David Kleis of St. Cloud.

[Register For UMMR Webinar](#)

[UMRR Blog](#)



Save the Date

January 14
ERA Rally

An ERA rally is planned for the first day of session on January 14. Details will be available in January.

Coming in January...

January 6 - US Congress Counts the Electoral Votes
January 13 - LWV ABC Program on Recycling
January 14 - ERA Rally at Capitol
January 14 - MN Legislative Session Opens
January 15 - LWV ABC Book Club
January 20 - Presidential Inauguration

Click button below to get details and find more events on our online calendar.

[LWV ABC Calendar](#)

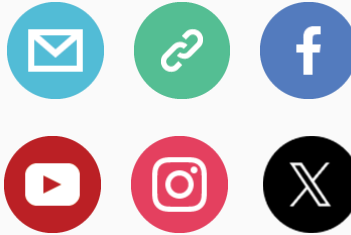
The League of Women voters is a non-partisan civic organization which promotes good government and active, informed participation in local, state and federal government.

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

[Become a Member](#)

Support Our Work

More About LWV ABC



**League of Women Voters ABC
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Andover, MN 55304**

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