



Welcome to the LWV ABC Newsletter – the LINK!

What do you have to contribute for the next issue of this newsletter? Consider sharing events, follow-up on past meetings, info on member accomplishments, etc! Please direct your ideas and comments to Gretchen Sabel at gpsabel@yahoo.com. Deadline for submittal of material is noon on November 24. Thanks!

Also, - remember to check our Facebook page for meeting information, too!
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-ABC-Minnesota/42364336725301>

CALENDAR of Upcoming Events

LWV ABC Events

November 10 – Pollinator Protection in LWVABC Cities (panel and team formation)
November 24 – Board Meeting – all welcome!
December 8 – Lively Issues and potluck

Other Events

November 4 – General Election
November 10 – Hope 4 Youth fundraiser
November 13 – Nucleus Clinic forum on sexually-transmitted diseases and reproductive health

November 10 Meeting – Pollinator Protection and Advocacy Launch
6pm at Andover Senior Center
1685 Crosstown Blvd, Andover



We will be beginning our advocacy with the cities in our area; this meeting will focus on this advocacy. There is a lot of community interest in this issue, and we will have a large group at this meeting to hear and get involved. We will form teams to work with specific cities at this meeting – now is your chance to work for change to protect pollinators and their habitat! Here’s the text of the press release that is advertising the meeting:

The community is invited to come and “bee-come” part of the solution. League of Women Voters ABC (Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids area) will be establishing teams to advocate with cities and residents in the local area to protect pollinators and improve pollinator habitat. At the November 10 program, attendees will learn about the City of Shorewood’s Bee Safe City resolution and identify tools that will help cities and residents to be more pollinator-friendly. Get the information you need to join with others to approach our area cities and residents in a winter of pollinator advocacy!

Panelists:

Patricia Hauser, resident of Shorewood and founder of the organization “Humming for Bees”, will share how Shorewood came to be the first city in Minnesota to adopt the “Bee Safe” City Pledge, A Resolution Endorsing “Bee-Safe” policies and procedures.

Joan Spence, Wetland Specialist for Anoka Conservation District, will describe what her organization is doing to promote pollinator habitat in their projects. She will also provide information on a new initiative by the Board of Water and Soil Resources that includes grants to cities and other governments to support pollinator protection efforts.

Mary Monte, District Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service will present information on their Honey Bee Pollinator Health initiative. This effort will provide floral forage habitats to benefit hive nutritional health as part of an overall effort to increase the health of honey bees and other pollinators.

Information will also be provided on sources of native plants and ideas for working with cities, residents and media to effect the changes. All who are interested in moving our community communities and residents ahead on pollinator protection are invited to attend and bee-come part of the solution! Social time and refreshments at 6:00 pm, followed by the program and discussion at 6:30 pm. Andover City Hall's Senior Center is located at 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW. Enter the City Hall parking lot from Crosstown, and proceed to the end of the parking lot.



(Photo credit to Kathy Aanerud, who caught this pollinator duo on a sedum in her yard.)

December 8 – Lively Issues and Potluck

Lively issues is the meeting where we review LWV positions and make recommendations on needed future studies and work. We also do our holiday potluck. This is a fun meeting for LWV members! December 8 at 6pm, Andover Senior Center.

Voter Services Successes!

Kudos to Geri Nelson, Arlene Gillett and all who did so much to make LWV ABC's voter services work this fall a great success! Our League successfully held eight televised forums (one filmed on two successive days) in seven different locations attended by 320 persons. 58 of the 68 candidates attended. This was an amazing amount of work, and went off without a hitch thanks to the training and diligence of our League's members. In addition, we went to eight venues and registered a total of 91 new voters. Thanks to all who contributed! Geri Nelson's forum report is attached to the end of this newsletter. Some photos follow; more are posted on our League's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-ABC-Minnesota/423643367725301>

LWV ABC and Champlin Women of Today; LWV ABC members working on forums



New Member –
Welcome, Pat Hagerty!

Welcome to our newest member, Pat Hagerty (right), a recently retired educator associate of Geri Nelson



Fundraising Event for Hope 4 Youth -- November 10

For youth experiencing homelessness in the Anoka-Hennepin School District and in Anoka County, HOPE 4 Youth provides a drop-in center with services.



An opportunity for community members to aid in supporting HOPE 4 Youth will be offered during the Gala 4 Hope fundraising event on **November 10** -- food, fun, games (with cash prizes) and silent and live auctions. The event takes place at the **Courtyards of Andover (13545 Martin St. NW, Andover)** and begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner is served at 7:30 p.m.

A limited number of tickets will be sold for the surf and turf dinner with hors d'oeuvres and dessert. For ticket, donation and sponsorship information contact Mickey at 612-554-0317 or mnwildfan100@msn.com.

More information about the fundraiser and the services of Hope 4

Youth: <http://abcnewspapers.com/2014/10/20/hope-4-youth-gala-set-for-nov-15/>

Nucleus Clinic: Preconception, Reproductive and Sexual Public Health Forum - Nov. 13

Health, youth and young adult serving providers/educators are encouraged to attend Nucleus Clinic's upcoming forum. Nucleus staff and their community partners will lead the first ever north suburban reproductive health community forum, **12:30 – 5:00 p.m., Thursday, November 13, 2014, at the Unity Center for Learning and Development, 620 Osborne Road, Fridley MN 55432.**

The purpose of the forum is to heighten awareness, discuss barriers, and identify local approaches and resources to address the top reproductive health issues facing the residents of Anoka, Sherburne and surrounding counties.

“State health officials are sounding the alarm regarding the number of reported chlamydia cases,” said Becky Fink,



Executive Director, Nucleus Clinic. “Chlamydia has reached epidemic levels and can be a serious health threat to persons during their reproductive years.”

According to the Minnesota Department of Health, chlamydia is the most frequently reported infectious disease in Minnesota with nearly 19,000 cases last year. Nearly 900 of those cases were in Anoka County and 200 in Sherburne County. State health officials say untreated chlamydia can lead to infertility in women and men and can be passed from an infected woman to her newborn children, causing premature delivery, infant pneumonia and blindness. The majority of chlamydia cases have been reported in teens and young adults, ages 15 to 24. “We will also look at the health issues surrounding unintended teen pregnancies during the forum,” said Fink. High risk pregnancy outcomes include higher infant death rates, low birth weight, physical and mental disabilities, and chronic health problems.

The forum will feature diverse and welcoming presentations and discussions led by area and statewide experts including pediatrician, Dr. Chinwe Umez of Health Partners - a pediatrician with public health and reproductive health specialties. Advocates, along with state and local providers, will also be present with their educational and resource materials. LWV ABC is one of the sponsors of this event. Others include: the Minnesota Chlamydia Partnership, Minnesota Department of Health, Rainbow Health Initiative, Anoka County Domestic and Sexual Violence Coalition and the Center for Leadership Education in Maternal and Child Public Health, School of Public Health,

The forum is free but pre-registration is required. Refreshments will be provided. For more information or to register, contact Becky Fink, Executive Director, Nucleus Clinic, 763-755-5300, or by email at: beckyfink1@comcast.net .

Highlights of the October LWVABC board meeting

The Board met at Davannis on October 27.

Geri Nelson reported on the voters service activities:

- At 8 venues which included schools and senior housing facilities 16 volunteers registered 91 voters.
- 85% of candidates running for office in the LWVABC area participated in the candidates forums.
- The voters service committee is gathering recommendations for the next round of voters service activities.

Board discussed the importance of reporting volunteer hours. A reminder will be sent to members (see below).

Community relations and membership committees are working to update new member packet.

Board discussed fundraising as well as looking for a sponsor to help defray the costs of publishing “They Represent You.”

LWV ABC’s Board will meet on the 4th Monday of most months at Davanni’s over lunch from 11:30am to 1pm. The next meeting will be November 24, which is the Monday before Thanksgiving. All members are invited to attend!

THIS ARTICLE IS REPEATED FROM OUR LAST ISSUE BECAUSE IT IS IMPORTANT!

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM LWVMN! It is critical that we report our volunteer hours – thanks to Jeorgette Knoll for preparing this story and getting things started!

League Counts!

League of Women Voters is entering a new era of applying data-gathering methods to our activities in order to track our work and progress in voter service, civic engagement, and democracy reform.

This is the future. Measuring our impact is important. It allows us to show LWV's value. It allows all of us to compare the time and energy we put into our work to the results obtained. It is necessary because foundations and funders increasingly require this type of data from grant applicants to ensure that the programs they fund are having the intended impact.

What does this mean to you as an individual member of LWV ABC?

Beginning September 2014, we need members to record the time they volunteer on behalf of LWV ABC.

- Did you attend a meeting? That counts.
- Register voters? That counts.
- Write an article for the newsletter? That counts.
- Help plan an event? That counts, too.

There is an easy to use form for recording hours that will be sent electronically to all LWV ABC members. Save the form to your computer. Simply complete the form on the computer each month (you can type directly into the form), save and attach the form to an email and send the email to the membership chair. You don't even need to print the form. The board will compile the information and send it on to the LWVMN.

If you would rather – it can also be printed and handed to or mailed to the membership chair. Members will also be sent a PDF version of the form that can be printed to complete. Members without email will be sent a printed copy of the materials.

Activities to record:

- League monthly meetings
- Board meetings
- Committee meetings
- Writing newsletter
- Writing press release or article for newspaper
- Calling members
- Attending candidate's forums
- Planning forums
- Registering voters

- Hostess prep time
- Nominating committee
- Preparing printed materials for meetings (handouts, brochures, etc.)
- Etc. Etc.

This is what the form looks like – it was sent to all members with the September newsletter as a Word document that can be completed on your computer, then emailed back to Kathie Whelchel at kathiew7contacts@gmail.com. Members were also sent the form in PDF format that can be printed and then filled in by hand and mailed by US Post to Kathie Whelchel at the address on the form. If you need another copy, please reply to the email including this newsletter and one will be sent to you.



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Volunteer Time Sheet

Month, Year: _____

Name: _____ Local LWV: _____ Are you a Board Member? _____

Date	Hours (for example, 1.5)	Tasks, Accomplishments	Did this activity involve public action, e.g., conducting a legislative interview; meeting with a lawmaker or other government official; attending a public meeting; attending a town hall meeting or rally; door-knocking or phone-banking; or writing a letter to the editor? (indicate activity)
TOTAL MONTHLY HOURS			

LWV ABC 2014 Forum Personnel and Report

Forum	Chair	Date	Location	Moderator	Timer	Ushers	Question Sorters	Attendance
Coon Rapids	Lois Ballinger	W 7/9 Primary	Coon Rapids City Hall	Arlene Gillett	Luranne McLean	Jan Call Lois Ballinger	Geri Nelson Zilla Way	40 12 members 6/7 mayor; 5/5 W3; 2/3+statement W5
Anoka County Commissioners	Zilla Way Jan Call Geri & Arlene	M 9/22 General 6:30pm	Anoka County Govt Center 7 th Floor	Geri Nelson	Lois Ballinger	Kay McCulley	Kay McCulley Arlene Gillett	20 10 members 7/9 candidates 1 empty chair
10 th Dist Court Dist 14	Geri Nelson Arlene Gillett	Tu 9/23 6:30 PM	QCTV studios	Geri Nelson	Arlene Gillett	Kathie Whelchel	Gretchen Sabel Zilla Way	17 8 members 4/4 candidates
10 th Dist Court Dist 1	Geri Nelson Arlene Gillett	W 9/24 6:30 PM	QCTV studios	Geri Nelson	Arlene Gillett	Zilla Way Pat Haggerty	Jeorgette Knoll Susan Anderson	
Coon Rapids City House 36B & 37A	Lois Ballinger Kathie Whelchel	M 9/29 General 6:30 pm	Coon Rapids City Hall	Linda Rodgers	Lynda VanDriel	Lois Ballinger Kathie Whelchel, greeter	Luranne McClean Zilla Way	60 8 members 9/10 candidates 1 empty chair
Champlin City House 36A	Geri Nelson	Th 10/2 6:30 PM	Champlin City Hall	Linda Rodgers	Champlin Women of Today	Champlin Women of Today	Geri Nelson Pat Haggerty	61 5 members 9/11 candidates (2 dropped out of race* 1 empty chair)
Andover City Legislature 31B & 35B	Gretchen Sabel	M 10/6 6:30 pm	Andover City Hall	Linda Freemon And. Geri Nelson 35B	Marj Perry	JoEllen Ambrose Jane Arndt	Gretchen Sabel Kathie Whelchel	47 8 members 6/6 city candidates 0/4 legislative
Anoka City House 35A	Zilla Way Jan Call	Th 10/9 6:30 PM	Anoka City Hall	Arlene Gillett (Kathie Whelchel at B Pk sch bd)	Luranne McLean	Jan Call Jean O'Donoghue	Kathy Aanerud Zilla Way	35 9 members 5/6 candidates
Ramsey City	Susan Anderson Kay McCulley	M10/13 6:30 PM	Ramsey City Hall	Geri Nelson	Roger McCulley	Pat Haggerty	Zilla Way Kay McCulley	40 7 members 5/5 candidates