



May 28, 2015

**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](mailto:gpsabel@yahoo.com). Deadline for submittal of material is noon on May 27. Thanks!

Also, - remember to check our Facebook page for meeting information, too!

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

**Our Next Meeting – June 8 - Pollinators – Pesticides and Protection: Finding Balance**



Monday, June 8 - 6:30 PM Andover City Hall 1685 Crosstown Blvd.

Pesticides – a risk to bees but a benefit to crops? We need to understand the balance!

All are welcome to attend this June panel featuring:

- Activist - Lex Horan** - Pesticide Action Network of North America
- Regulator - Joe Zachman** - Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Researcher and Bee Advocate - Gary Reuter** - University of Minnesota Bee Lab

Audience questions and discussion will follow; it will be a lively discussion! Come a little early and share refreshments with

other LWV ABC members - 6pm in the adjoining Senior Center. **This is a great opportunity to learn about pesticides and how their use impacts our imperiled pollinators. Bring a friend!**

Presented by LWV ABC as part of our continued action to engage residents in reducing the loss of pollinators through improved habitat, informed use of pesticides, and awareness of educational resources.

**July 13 – Tour of Coon Rapids Recycling Center**

Did you know that Coon Rapids is the only city in our area that can accept Styrofoam packaging materials? Come tour this facility, bring a kid. It will be fun! Details in the June newsletter.

**Save the date!**

The LWV ABC Candidate Forum for three seats on the Anoka-Hennepin School District School Board will be on October 8, 2015 at 6:30 PM in the Board Room in the Sandburg Building on Monroe in Anoka. QCTV is on deck to tape it. We will need a good contingent of LWV members to staff the forum.

Three districts are up for election: District 1, currently held by Tom Heidemann, District 2 currently held by Marci Anderson, and District 5 currently held by Nicole Hayes. Filing begins on July 28, 2015 and ends on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Withdrawals are allowed until August 13<sup>th</sup>.



**Welcome New Members!**

We're pleased to welcome new members who have joined LWV ABC in recent months:

- Gene Merriam, Coon Rapids -- active in many environmental, outdoor and community organizations, recently retired from the executive director position at Freshwater Society, former state legislator, and former city council member.
- Bruce Pomerantz, Fridley -- recently retired from State Library Services at the Minnesota Department of Education, and currently on an extended trip to Australia
- Susan Witt, Spring Lake Park -- a retired educator who continues to do weekly volunteer work in schools, active in community organizations, and ran for the legislature last fall
- Cindy DeRuyter, Andover -- the recycling coordinator for City of Andover and member of the bee team in Andover. Cindy organizes the Andover Fun Fest Fun Run as well.

We look forward to making more complete introductions in upcoming meetings and newsletters.

**May 11 – Pollinator Work Recap**

This was a fun meeting! There is a lot of excitement in working on pollinator protection – teams are now active in Andover and Champlin, and another is starting up in Coon Rapids. (If you don't see your city listed here, there's an opportunity for you to take the lead!) There's lots going on in our pollinator advocacy!

This is exciting work! Now is the time to get involved!

Andover's bee team is setting up a garden tour for July 11, featuring pollinator-friendly gardens. A demonstration garden will also be installed at or near City Hall for greater visibility. Champlin has some great t-shirts for sale. Both cities are setting up tables at local events to spread the word about pollinator protection. Copies of Heather Holm's book "Pollinators of Native Plants" are being sold by LWV for \$25, proceeds go to support LWV ABC pollinator protection work. See ad at end of newsletter.



The LWV ABC Pollinator booth at the Blaine/Coon Rapids Green Expo was a great success. Above, Kathie Whelchel, Sue Kraack and Arlene Gillett 'person' the booth. Our parade schedule has been cut back to just two events this summer: If you would like to be part of this, please contact the organizer listed below.

- June 12 – Champlin's Father Hennepin Days – Geri Nelson will link you to the float organizer
- July 11 – Andover Family Fun Fest Parade - Gretchen Sabel organizing

The Ramsey parade takes place in September, so this may be another opportunity.



**LWV ABC Board Meetings:** ABC Board meeting will be held on June 22 in the meeting room at Davanni's Coon Rapids (next to Applebee's at Round Lake and Hwy 10). All interested members are welcome. Starts at 11am. Board meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of most months, same time and place. Board meeting minutes will be sent to members when they are approved, in a separate email from this newsletter.

**League of Women Voters ABC Annual Plan 2015-2016**  
**Developed at Board Retreat May 18**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Hostess 1</b>	<b>Hostess 2</b>	<b>Meeting Topic</b>	<b>Meeting Planner</b>	<b>Meeting Location</b>
<b>June 8</b>	Arlene G	Jane A	Pesticides – Pollinators and Protection, Finding the Balance	Gretchen Sabel	Andover Senior Center
<b>July 13</b>	Field Trip		Tour CR recycling center	Kathie Whelchel	Coon Rapids Recycling Center
<b>Aug 10</b>	Picnic		Picnic at Geri's – update on rain gardens and discussion of what's going on in actions	Geri Nelson	Andover Senior Center
<b>Sept 14</b>	Geri N	Lynda D	What are other League's doing? Studies, social media, more? ... Present FRIEND OF LEAGUE	Jeorgette Knoll	Andover Senior Center
<b>Oct 12</b>	Carol B	Diann H	Local study on Government Structure - speaker from Anoka County government	Susan Anderson	Andover Senior Center
<b>Nov 9</b>	Cindy D	Kay M	Libraries – what's changing and where are libraries going in the future?	Bruce Pomerantz and Gretchen Sabel	Andover Senior Center
<b>Dec 14</b>	Potluck		Lively Issues – Review of League positions and concurrence	Board	Andover Senior Center
<b>Jan</b>			OPEN FOR NOW		Andover Senior Center
<b>Feb</b>			Campaign Finance		Andover Senior Center
<b>Mar</b>			Local Study on Government Structure - update	Susan Anderson	Andover Senior Center





**This month's Adventure Photo:**

LWV MN Action Committee represented at the May 19 rally to Keep MN Clean at the Governor's residence! Action Committee member Gretchen Sabel is in the blue shirt just to the right of [Governor Mark Dayton](#), with her youngest grandson (in stroller, holding VETO sign) at his first political event!





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# Learn How to Help Pollinators

When you first see the book, *Pollinators for Native Plants*, it draws you in quickly through its 1,200 color photos of flowers, insects, and their interactions.

Just as Doug Tallamy's book *Bringing Nature Home* was an eye-opener for many folks in the understanding of the relationships of native plants and insects and how gardeners could have a positive role in the environment, Heather Holm's new book carries the discussion to the role that pollinating insects play in the life of a plant and why that is important.

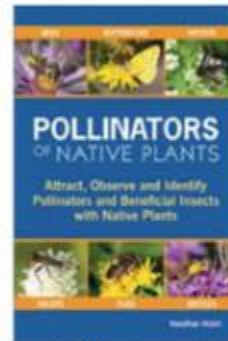
Holm, of Minnetonka, has done a fabulous job of organizing the complex and



*A great spangled fritillary (Speyeria cybele) on a pale coneflower. Photo by Heather Holm.*

technical subject of pollination. This is a book that will be read and enjoyed for its illustrations, tidbits of information, and the larger view it presents. But, more importantly, it's a book you will want to study. It's small enough to fit the hand as a field guide, yet ambitious enough to cover the subject as portrayed through 65 perennial flowering native plants.

My recommendation is to spend a preliminary hour with the book to understand its organization. The vocabulary of the opening chapter will cause many readers to refer to the word glossary in the back of the book. You might even want to read the glossary first before starting page one. You'll notice the color tabbed sections for a visual glossary and indexes, the suggested pollinator planting plans, and the common bee genera and conservation guides.



## **Pollinators of Native Plants**

by Heather Holm

Pollination Press, 2014  
306 pages, \$29.95

Purchase this book at the June 8 meeting for \$25, proceeds benefit LWV ABC Pollinator work.