



VOTER

Board of Directors - FY2023

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Voter editor—Linda Schreiber

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LWVJC | P. O. Box 5452 |
Coralville, IA 52241

June 2023

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

As we conclude another year of business and activities for the League of Women Voters of Johnson County, we want to thank all members for participating financially and for volunteering their time and skills. Involved members propel our League forward and make it shine.

One member, **Linda Schreiber**, deserves special recognition for her many contributions to the League over several years. A few of her accomplishments include the publication of our monthly *Voter* and annual report, coordinating publicity with local news outlets, photographing and archiving our events, maintaining our social media, participating on the Advocacy and Education committees, and expanding the League’s profile throughout the county and state. After this year, Linda will turn her energies to personal projects. Please join us in thanking her for her generous contributions.

Several people attended the revitalized Making Connections meeting to hear League member, **Eileen Beran**, give an interesting, introspective view of running for the Iowa House to represent rural communities. Thank you, Eileen, and thanks to **Gaylen** and **Tony Wobeter** for hosting.

Watch future issues of the *Voter* newsletter for announcements of the next Making Connections. Meetings will be scheduled randomly.

Welcome to new board members, **Rebecca Conard**, **Diane Duncan-Goldsmith**, and **Silvia Quezada**, who were elected to the board at our Annual Business meeting. Terms begin July 1, 2023.

State League (LWVIA) Convention is in Dubuque June 9-10. You have until May 25 to sign up, the registration fee is \$75. Please contact one of the co-presidents if you would like to attend, but have not signed up.

We hope you will join us for our next event, the Fall Reception and Membership Drive, on Aug. 31, at the Unitarian Universalist Society. Consider inviting friends and family members to this annual

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Board Email Addresses

LWVJC Board members’ email addresses are listed above.

Voter Deadline

The *Voter* is issued the last Friday of the month to provide readers advance notice of activities. **The July Voter deadline is June 26 at 5 p.m.**

social and educational event. The summer issues of the *Voter* will highlight details.

Miriam Timmer-Hackert and Paula Vaughan
LWVJC Co-Presidents



Advocacy Update

May presents a great opportunity for advocacy since the legislative session usually concludes, allowing lawmakers to return home. While it may be disappointing that more work couldn't be accomplished, this year we can appreciate what went well and be relieved that no more bad ideas are being added to the list.

However, there's still important work to be done, and sometimes, even more, can be achieved when the legislature is not in session. We'll begin by reflecting on the session, evaluating what went right and wrong, and celebrating our accomplishments. Some of us have already participated in the LWVIA post-session debrief and SWOT (Strength - Weakness - Opportunity - Threat) analysis, and we're planning our annual happy hour to connect, reflect, celebrate and commiserate.

Next, we'll focus on organizing. Our top priority this summer is to identify partner organizations and establish easier ways of collaborating with them. We also aim to tackle issues early, refine our action alert system, and build relationships with lawmakers during the off-season. Additionally, we plan to establish our presence in Iowa newspapers beyond Iowa City.

If you're interested in getting involved or have connections to nonpartisan organizations, please contact Shannon Patrick or any member of the committee.

Shannon Patrick
Advocacy Chair



Civics Education

Education Committee

Susan Enzle joins the committee in fiscal year 2024 as **Linda Schreiber** retires. Our tight-knit group will begin planning for the upcoming fiscal year and opportunities to attract larger audiences for our speakers who will address issues the League has identified as priorities.

*Rebecca Conard, Susan Enzle,
Patty McCarthy and
Linda Schreiber*



Your 2023 contributions fund League activities!

The LWVJC exceeded its fiscal year 2023 fundraising goal of \$7,000. Your contributions to both the Operations Fund (over \$4,000) and the Education Fund (over \$3,000) allow the League to continue operating on multiple fronts, from hosting legislative forums to sponsoring speakers covering topics ranging from reproductive rights to transparency in government to voting. The League relies on members' generosity to continue its work in Johnson County as most of our membership dues support national and state actions.

If you have not yet donated, please consider doing so today. Donations may be made either by mail or online: Checks made payable to the

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LWVJC can be mailed to: LWVJC, P.O. Box 5452, Coralville, IA 52241. Online donations may be made at: <https://lwwjc.org/donate/>

Kathleen Kamerick

Fundraising Committee 2022-23

Membership



With 152 current members, the League of Women Voters of Johnson County is an active chapter working to inform voters and defend democracy. The League covers a broad spectrum of issues and concerns; as a member

you can become involved in one or more by actively participating in a study group, listen to a panel of experts at a meeting, or read about them in one of our publications. The League of Women Voters Johnson

County has a common annual renewal date of June 30. Individual dues are \$70, household, \$105 and student, \$20. Everyone will be notified to renew June 1 each year.



Jeanne Bancroft
Membership Chair

lwwjcmembership@gmail.com



Voter Registration

Happy June everyone! We held three voter registration events in the last month including Kirkwood's Celebration of Civic Engagement, events at West High School and the Iowa City CommUnity Food Pantry. Through these events, our nine volunteers took in 29 voter registrations!

Upcoming events through June include another visit to the Iowa City CommUnity Food Pantry on May 24, and then at the Coralville Community Food Pantry's new facility on Tuesday, May 30, from 2 - 6 p.m., and Thursday, June 15, from 10 a.m. - noon. We also have the high school graduation rehearsals at XTreme Arena on June 2 and the Iowa Arts Festival on June 3. And we will be at the Juneteenth event on the Iowa City Ped Mall on Friday, June 16, from 4 - 6 p.m.

A preview of future events includes a return to the South District Diversity Markets in July and August, as well as a Corridor Community Action Network event at the Iowa City Ped Mall on Aug. 27. And, of course, Tuesday, Sept. 19, is National Voter Registration Day with many events to be scheduled!

Looking forward to seeing you at a future voter registration event!

Vicki Aden

Voter Registration Coordinator



Upper Mississippi River Region InterLeague Organization (UMRRILO)

Representing LWVJC on the Upper Mississippi River Region Interleague Organization (UMRR-ILO) has been a wonderful experience. Leagues from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin are in this group via a \$25 membership fee. It's an exciting way to meet members from neighboring states! Our membership in the UMRR-ILO, allows me to represent the four states in the Mississippi River Network (MRN).

As a MRN member, the year began attending the first annual meeting in New Orleans since the COVID-19 pandemic. This group has expanded to more members and groups.

The executive committee is led by Kelly McGinnis and assisted by League staff, Michael Anderson, Maisah Khan, and Gretchen Hagle, to

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solicit grant applications, partnerships and coordinate activities. Activities include the Mississippi River Celebration, river advocacy with congressional representatives, Fly Over advocacy in Washington, D.C., and monthly Zoom meetings to share information with others associated with the Mississippi River.

LWVJC sponsored River Days of Action this year and hosted over 20 people who visited the Mississippi River National Museum in Dubuque with Jarod McGovern serving as a guide. We wrote to congressional representatives about MRRI (Mississippi River Restoration Initiative), an act to restore and keep the river clean, and the Farm Bill, which is up for a vote this year.

This year, I attended the LWVUS Annual Convention in Denver and helped at the information table explaining the UMRR-ILO and

MRN to League members. There was a lot of interest from attendees asking about InterLeague Organizations. Unfortunately, we were not able to make our scheduled presentation due to limited time.

Throughout the year, the groups covering environmental issues meet by Zoom. Visit 1Mississippi.org to learn about the programs and LWVumrr.org to see broadcasts of programs and read the minutes of meetings. Both sites offer education and identify ways to become more active groups and to donate to the causes of each.

I'm always happy to have help with so many things to do and so little time.

Nancy Porter
Co-Vice President of UMRR-ILO
MRN Engagement Committee
Nancy55555@icloud.com



Please welcome new board members and thank retiring board members

Board of Directors

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Officers**

Miriam Timmer-Hackert, Co-President, July 1-2022 - June 30, 2024

Paula Vaughan, Co-President, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

Vicki Aden, Vice-President, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025

Sally Stutsman, Secretary, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025

Hazel Seaba, Treasurer, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

New Directors**

Rebecca Conard, Education, July 1, 2023 - June 30 2025

Silvia Quezada, Voter Registration, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025

Diane Duncan-Goldsmith, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025

Continuing Directors

Jeanne Bancroft, Membership, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

Bea Hicks, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Kathleen Kamerick, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

Shannon Patrick, Advocacy, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

2024 Nominating Committee**

Kelcey Patrick-Ferree, Chair, **Julie Wittig**,
and a board-appointed member

Thank you to our retiring board members for their service:

Susie Corbin-Muir, Voter Services, technology

Susan Enzle, Secretary

Thank you to our retiring members for their service:

Linda Schreiber, Communication Coordinator

Alison Smith, Nominating Committee

Photo Gallery



Top left: The first voter registration activity in the calendar year 2023 was held in the Kirkwood Celebration of Civic Engagement. Pictured (l to r) are Susie Corbin-Muir, Deanne Mirr and Jeanne Bancroft. **Middle:** Annual meeting speaker Chris Jones, Ph.D., retired research engineer at the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research (IIHR) Hydroscience and Engineering at the University of Iowa, and Susan Enzle. **Above:** Linda Meloy serves Syndy Conger at the annual meeting. Bea Hicks visits with Gaylen Wobeter. Kurt Hamann and Tony Wobeter are in the background.

Top right: Susan Enzle and Pat Hayek. **Middle:** Kurt Hamann, Barbara Beaumont listen as a League members asks presenter Chris Jones a question. **Above:** Jim Conger and Tom Cook visit before the annual meeting.

Photo Gallery



Above: The room filled with League and 100 Grannies to hear Chris Jones, Ph.D., discuss Iowa's water quality at the League's annual meeting held at the Unitarian Universalist Society. Left: Kurt Hamann and Tony Wobeter visit before the League's annual meeting on May 23. Bottom: Barbara Beaumont and Joan Cook visit. Bottom.



Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Location	Program
Tuesday, May 30	2 - 6 p.m.	Coralville Food Pantry	Voter Registration
Saturday, June 3	9 - 6 p.m.	Iowa Arts Festival, downtown Iowa City	Voter Registration
Friday, June 9	11:30 a.m.	Stone Cliff Brewery, 600 Star Brewery Drive, Dubuque, Iowa	Lunch and discussion of the Mississippi River
Friday, June 9	afternoon	Galena Public Library, Galena Ill.	Steve Repp: <i>History of the Mississippi River</i>
Friday, June 9, and Saturday, June 10		Holiday Inn, Dubuque	LWVIA State Convention
Monday, June 12	6:30 - 8 p.m.	virtual	LWVJC Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 14	10 a.m.	Poindexters Coffee	Coffee Clatter conversation
Saturday, July 8	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Monday, July 10	6:30 - 8 p.m.	virtual	LWVJC Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 12	10 a.m.	Poindexters Coffee	Coffee Clatter conversation
Saturday, July 15	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Saturday, July 22	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Saturday, July 29	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Saturday, Aug. 5	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Saturday, Aug. 12	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Saturday, Aug. 19	3 - 7 p.m.	South District Diversity Market	Voter Registration
Tuesday, Sept. 19			National Voter Registration Day

**July VOTER Deadline June 27 at 5 p.m.
for June 30 distribution (the last Friday of the month).**

Reproductive Rights: The freedom to make a decision when and if to start a family.