



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – October 29, 2022

P.O. Box 306, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org

[LWV DC Facebook page](#)

[LWV DC website](#)

Shining a light on local government

**Thursday, November 3, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Crossroads at Big
Creek, 2014 Michigan Street, Sturgeon Bay**

The League of Women Voters of Door County will present a program on their mission to improve local government by shining a light on it.

This program is for members as well as the public. It will have two parts: First, an overview of the history and structure of local government will provide background on how this level of government works in Door County. Second, members will explain the League's Observer Corps and tell of their past experiences. It will demonstrate how an "up close and personal" approach can influence town, village, city, county, and school governments.

Interested members can sign up and learn how to become involved.

Assistance, free rides to the polls and to Municipal Clerks available

The League is collaborating with the Door County Transportation Department to help anyone in the county who needs transportation to accomplish the tasks of registering to vote, voting early, or delivering their absentee ballot to their municipal clerk or voting in person at their polling place for election on November 8.

Voters can contact Transportation Manager Pam Busch at (920)746-6944 or pbusch@co.door.wi.us to arrange a free ride to their municipal clerk to register, vote early, or drop off an absentee ballot or to the polls to vote on election day.

In this update...

Crossroads program Nov. 3

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Explaining our non-partisan policy

Appreciation of election workers

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Reminder about voting signs

Pulse Podcast Featuring LWVDC

Wheelchair transport and help with “curbside voting” are available. Request and arrange a time for curbside voting through your municipal clerk. Once you arrive at your polling place, call the clerk, and he or she will assist you outside. Find municipal clerk information at co.door.wi.gov/241/County-Municipalities.

Message from the Chair: Nonpartisanship in a hyper-partisan world

We live in challenging political times – as individuals and as League members. Perhaps you receive as many questions about League’s nonpartisan status as I do. If so, I offer a reprint of an article I wrote last year for the newsletter. I hope it aids in framing answers to the many questioners who don’t understand how our policy applies in the many activities League is engaged in.

Nonpartisan, but politically active – How does that work?

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. It is, therefore, nonpartisan.

However, it is also a political organization of women and men dedicated to encouraging and promoting good government through informed, active participation in all levels of democracy - local, state, and national. That means studying and acting on any and all studied issues that impact our nation, our state, and our communities.

Oxymoron? Not really. Recently the League was criticized for being an advocate on issues, suggesting that made it partisan. Remember those 102 years of studies that led to positions on topics? Those documented positions inform whether the League supports or opposes an issue and form the basis of the actions that are taken. The resulting advocacy has nothing to do with whether these positions are currently espoused by the Republican, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, or whatever other party may exist at the time.

Case in point: League has lobbied for redistricting reform in Wisconsin for many decades. And frankly, they were no more successful in convincing previous Democratic administrations to adopt an independent non-partisan commission to draw our maps than they have been in convincing recent Republican legislatures. League’s position on the issue has not changed. Only the party in power that is resistant to this reform has changed.

So yes, League is nonpartisan - both in its approach to elections and in its approach to advocacy. Both are crucial to its mission!



Thank you, election workers! We appreciate you!

*Say "Thank you" to your election workers!
Put a "Thank You, Election Workers" sign in your yard!*

These are two ways you can participate in the Door County League's election season campaign to let our election workers know we appreciate them.

- Put a sign in your yard. To get a sign, contact Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org
- ***And when you go to the polls, don't forget to say, "Thank you!"***

In the week before the election, personalized thank you notes as well as thank you signs for each of the 201 workers who conduct our elections in 19 municipalities at 21 polling places will be delivered by Leadership Team members to all Door County's municipal clerks. Watch for a Letter to the Editor and ad in the *Peninsula Pulse* thanking those who work our elections – our friends, our neighbors, and our family members.

MH/SU Committee

The Education Committee has met with local officials to learn about restorative justice.

Members, along with the Legislative Committee, observed the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee to learn more. The county is proposing a Bullying/Harassment Ordinance that can be used as a Diversion Court tool, and the League is supporting it at County Board on Oct. 25. Excerpt from that statement is below:

The Legislative Committee is preparing items for advocacy with the governor and legislature for inclusion in the 2023-2025 biennial budget. It is also reviewing four state constitutional amendments that passed last term. If they pass early in the next term, they will appear on the ballot in April.

Excerpt from statement to County Board 10-25-22

As many of you know, the League has been involved in a multi-year study of the systems in Door County that serve people dealing with mental health and/or substance use either in their own lives or as family members or friends. As part of that project, we have been following the county's work through its committees and this board. Throughout the study process and our current advocacy efforts, we have been impressed by the continuing efforts of county and community leaders to develop strategies and tools to improve outcomes for people dealing with mental health and/or substance use issues and other challenges including involvement in the criminal justice system.

The League advocates based on positions it has developed by a process of study and member agreement. It has long advocated for appropriate alternatives to incarceration and other strategies that can promote rehabilitation and responsible reentry into community life. As such we strongly support such county programs as the Door County Treatment Court and the Juvenile and Adult Diversion programs. We applaud and thank those of you who have worked to put them in place.

Our monitoring efforts have brought the Bullying/Harassment Ordinance proposal on your agenda this morning to our attention. It is our understanding and belief that the availability of such an ordinance can provide an additional tool for use in the Diversion programs to encourage participation in strategies which use the principles of Restorative Justice to promote healing for victims as well as offenders. We support these efforts and urge you to adopt this ordinance.

LWV of Wisconsin Issues Briefing: "Justice Matters: Can't Stop, Won't Stop!"

You may want to register for the LWV WI Issues Briefing – see below for topics:

Thursday, November 10, 6:00 - 7:30 PM:

The Problem of Money and Politics in Our Elections, and How to Solve It

Keynote Speaker: Matt Rothschild, Executive Director, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

Saturday, November 12, 9:00 - 10:30 AM:

Assault on Women's Rights

Keynote Speaker: Elisabeth Griffith, women's rights activist, academic and author of *Formidable*; American Women and the Fight for Equality, 1920-2020

Monday, November 14, 6:00 - 7:30 PM:

PFAS: Our Love-Hate Relationship & Its Impact on All of Us

Keynote Speaker: Meleesa Johnson, Director of Solid Waste Management, Marathon County

To find out more and register for any or all of the sessions, go to my.lwv.org/wisconsin/calendar/event.

Note to Members:

Please see the attached membership roster to check your contact information for accuracy. **Please keep in mind that this information is strictly for LWV Door County use and should not be shared.** If you have questions about your membership, please contact Sandy: membership@lwvdoorcounty.org

Not a Member?

Here are a few reasons to join LWV of Door County...

- Meet other like-minded people who are working to empower voters and defend democracy.
- Discover new interests, develop new skills, and learn about crucial issues in our community.
- Gain knowledge and experience through the study and discussion of timely and important topics.
- Develop lasting friendships as you meet others in League who share your interests.

Join Us Now!

(See our [website](#) for more information.)

Signs, signs, everywhere signs



We have more signs! The "Vote Tuesday" sign should be put out on Wednesday before the election – which would be Wednesday, November 2 for the week prior to Election Day on November 8. Also, we strongly advise you not to put out signs on Halloween if you want to keep them in one piece!

Please remember that if you choose to put up a LWV sign, DO NOT also put up a campaign sign in your yard. LWV is NON-PARTISAN, and someone is sure to notice. Also, be sure to bring them in Nov. 9! Contact Pat Scieszinski, 495-3861, for signs.

PS: Already have a sign? Remember to put it out! Thank you!

High on the Highways - November 8

See the attached flier about this presentation about driving while impaired.

Door County Pulse Podcast

Susan Kohout and Ann Morgan with the League of Women Voters of Door County sit down with Debra Fitzgerald to talk about the organization's nonpartisan work to inspire civic involvement and education and how they're recruiting the next generation of civic leaders who are so important to local communities and to the health of a strong republic.

Communicate with your representatives!

(Post the updated attached list on your refrigerator to have it handy.)

PRESIDENT

Joseph Biden

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/executive-office-of-the-president/>

U.S. SENATORS

- Ron Johnson www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public; (202) 224-5323; Madison office: (608) 240-9629; ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov
- Tammy Baldwin www.baldwin.senate.gov; (202) 224-5653; 1 (800) 247-5645; Madison office: (608) 264-5338

U.S. CONGRESSMAN (8th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)

Mike Gallagher <http://gallagher.house.gov/>; (202) 225-5665; Green Bay office: (920) 301-4500

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR

Tony Evers govinfo@wisconsin.gov; (608) 266-1212

WI SENATOR (DISTRICT 1)

Andre Jacques Sen.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov; (608)266-3512

WI ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 1)

Joel Kitchens Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov; (608) 266-5350 or (888) 482-0001

Legislative Hotline 1 (800) 362-9472

New 2022-2023 official County Directories are in

One complimentary copy of the 2022-2023 Official Directory of Door County (**a listing of contact information for county, city, village and town officials**) can be picked up at the County Clerk's office at the Door County government building. This directory is also online at the Door County government website:

<https://www.co.door.wi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/967/Official-County-Directory--2022-2023?bidId=> Additional directories are available for \$4 each.