



OUR MISSION: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy
May 15, 2023



Report from new Co Chair Beth Wood!

On May 7, 2023 the
Annual Meeting of the LWVSCV
was held in Amery at the Community Center.

Attendees were greeted with League signs, balloons, bright bags of gladiolus bulbs, swag from PFLAG, wonderful food and drink, a beautiful cake, and an engaging afternoon of fellowship, education, and business.

The attendance was outstanding! Our outgoing chair, Carolyn Saunders, gave a warm welcome, and Pam Girtz graciously accepted the nomination to fill in as secretary of the meeting.



Two programs kicked off the afternoon, first Edna Early and Barb Katt began with a summary of *“DEIJ, What is it? Why is it important?”*

Following that members of River Falls PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) held a panel discussion explaining their mission to create a caring, just and affirming world for LGBTQIA+ people and those who love them. They shared their stories and answered

questions.

The presentation was much appreciated.

[Find out more about PFLAG at <pflag.org>](http://pflag.org)

As we moved into our time of celebration we had an opportunity to partake in refreshments and raise a glass in a toast of our success. Carolyn gave a comprehensive history of the formation of the LWVSCV, reminding us how grateful we are to the women that worked so diligently to create this chapter of LWV.



Marla Olson, as membership co-chair, had a drawing of attendees and several received gift bags.

Beth Wood, as Vice-Chair, introduced the committee leadership. Summaries were provided by Marla Olson, Co Chair of Member Services Committee, Patty Van Nevel and Rita Kearns provided a report from Voter Services Co-chairs, Kathie Nelson as a member of the Communication Committee read a summary from Chair Kris Surbaugh, and Vicki Harmon

shared the work of the Program Committee. Impressive work was accomplished in the past year and we have much to look forward to!

Members were encouraged to review the two League policies of Non-partisan Political Policy and the DEI Policy which guide all of the work we do.



Treasurer Kate Manecke gave a presentation on the state of our finances and Nancy Stewart, chair of the Budget Committee gave a budget presentation.



Nominations for open officer positions were brought forth by nominating committee chair Beth Wood and the slate of 2023/24 nominations passed unanimously.

Throughout the program sincere gratitude was extended to Pam Girtz, Kay Brooks, Nancy Stewart, Barb Wetzel and Carolyn Saunders for the outstanding dedication they have shown to the LWVSCV.

We cannot move forward without acknowledging how thankful we are for the women that built the foundation of the LWVSCV. It was an engaging, successful, fun afternoon and it was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the past and dream of the future.



Congratulations and Welcome to Our new Board of
Directors!

Co-Presidents Irene Bugge and Beth Wood
Vice President Kris Surbaugh
Secretary Evanne Hunt
Treasurer Kate Manecke
Directors Edna Early (DEI)
Rita Kearns
Barb Katt
Marla Olson

Committee Leadership for 2023-24

Member Services Marla Olson and Nanette Del Monaco
Voter Services Patty Van Nevel and Rita Kearns
Program Committee Vicki Harmon
Communications & Media Kris Surbaugh
Budget Nancy Stewart
Nominations Kris Surbaugh (Vice President)

There will be NO Board of Directors' meeting in May.

Instead, the BOD and Committee Chairs will meet in a joint meeting
on Tuesday, June 20,
at 5:00pm at the Village Pizzeria in Amery.
This meeting is for both outgoing BOARD members

and new members ...
the first step in creating a successful TEAM!



Mark your calendars

Summer is the perfect time to get together!

Come one, come all! The summer picnics are always a great way to meet other League members in a casual and fun setting

Attend the picnic closest to your home, or attend the one that works best with your calendar, or go to both!

One will be hosted by Melinda Hanson at her home on Bass Lake (St. Croix County) and co-hosted by Liz Malanaphy and Janet Lestock.

Date ~ TBD

The other summer picnic will be hosted by Kathy Palmquist at her home on Big Wood Lake southeast of Grantsburg (Burnett County).

Date ~ Thursday, August 24

Information about time, food, and program will be announced early in the summer.



The National League of Women Voters announced their new logo for 2023. Watch for this logo in future League announcements.

Be sure to check these websites for the most current LWV News!

lwwstcroixvalley.org (our chapter)
lww.org/wisconsin
lww.org (national)

