



*OUR MISSION: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

November 15, 2023

***SAVE THE DATE  
FOR THE WINTER GATHERING  
AND 2024 ELECTION YEAR KICKOFF  
JANUARY 14, 2024, 2:00-5:00***

We are excited to announce that LWV St. Croix Valley will hold our annual winter get-together at the Riverwood Nature Center, Star Prairie, WI on Sunday, January 14, 2024, 2:00 - 5:00. We will gather with purpose to reconnect with fellow League members across our three counties and discuss League plans for the upcoming election year.



## Fair Maps Rally

Join activists from all over Wisconsin at the Capitol as the Supreme Court prepares to hear oral arguments in defense of Fair Maps. Now is our chance to show the state Supreme Court that

Wisconsin deserves non-partisan maps.

Speakers will start promptly at 9 a.m. The Court will hear oral arguments starting at 9:45 a.m. Register to receive more details and communication from WI Fair Maps Coalition. <<https://tinyurl.com/fairmapsreg>>

### **Can't make it to Madison?**

**Join a companion rally near you at NOON in:**

- **Milwaukee at State Office Bldg, 819 N. Sixth St.**
- **Green Bay at Brown County Courthouse, 100 S. Jefferson St.**
- **Eau Claire at Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave.**

## **Notes from Program Committee:**

**(Vicki Harmon Program Committee Chair)**

Hello All!

Whether you sat in on one, some, or none, of the Issues Briefings from League of Women Voters-Wisconsin, you are invited to sit in with the Program Committee to discuss the topics included in these briefings.

To summarize: LWV-Wisconsin invited guest speakers to address political action issues taking place now that will impact our League actions in 2024. Topics included proposed State Constitution Amendments that will impact voters rights, legal actions and other tools used to further Fair Maps, barriers to voting and election administrative challenges, and methods used by other Leagues to organize public awareness of these crucial topics.

The Program Committee has set up a time for our League members to discuss the briefings. This is an opportunity to learn more about these issues and to understand the forces that will impact the strategies that LWVSCV will employ in 2023. This "Debriefing" session is on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30. Please contact Vicki Harmon to be included in the email for that zoom link.

[vickiharmon@hotmail.com](mailto:vickiharmon@hotmail.com)

**Again, please feel free to join the "Debriefing" conversation on the 16<sup>th</sup> - even if you didn't get to hear all three sessions!!**



## League Members Dive Deeper

*(DEIJ) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice: on the path to new awareness~*

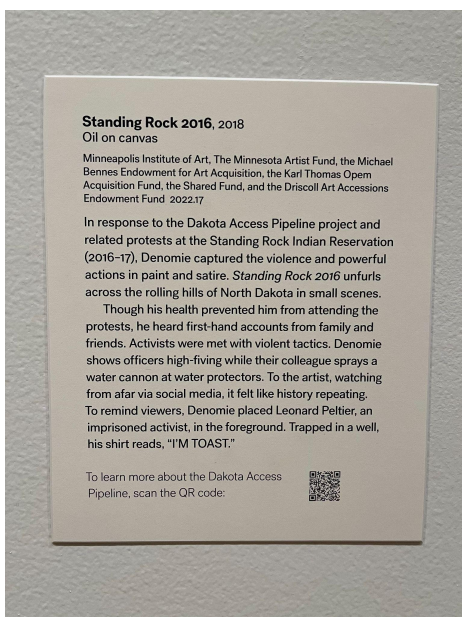
Susan Bosley, Irene Bugge, and Barb Wetzel got some insight into a contemporary Ojibwe artist's perception of U.S. historical events

impacting Native sensibilities and experiences.

The exhibition of Jim Denomie's (1955-2022) surreal paintings at Minneapolis Institute of Art gave them pause. The paintings and other pieces, such as sculptures, can be uncomfortable to look at because he confronts our history with biting wit, but none of it untrue. Denomie's spirituality is also prominent. Well worth the time, followed by a substantial lunch at Indigenous Food Lab in Midtown Global Market; Susan, Irene and Barb appreciated getting to know each other better.

Entrance to MIA is free and this exhibit is on display through March. Check the website for other Native

American related exhibits: <https://new.artsmia.org/>





## **Just for Fun Coffee Gatherings Success!**

There was a nice turn-out for the third in a series of *Just For Fun Coffee* gatherings. This one was held at Fusion Bistro Cafe Market in Webster on November 2.

League members gathered to share stories and information in a relaxed atmosphere. It was a great opportunity to just get to know each other, but also to explore areas of questions and concerns.

Members were also invited to send out Thank-you cards to their local municipal clerks in respect to Election Hero day. Everyone took a LWVSCV card home with them, so at least ten municipal clerks were thanked personally by a League member in their community!

The three coffees organized this fall in St. Croix, Polk, and Burnett Counties were all well attended. There are two more social gatherings to round out 2023. In the south, on November 17 at 10:00 at Keys in Hudson. And in the north, on December 8 at 10 in Webster at the Fusion Bistro Cafe. All League members are welcome to attend either or both of these events.

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## **What Signs Do You Need?**

Voter Services is planning ahead for next year's elections. If you need any of the following, please contact Katrina Larsen, [katrina\\_larsen@yahoo.com](mailto:katrina_larsen@yahoo.com), 715-338-6820. Thank you.

- Vote Tuesday
- Vote from Home
- Vota/Vote – Spanish/English
- Vote in Ojibwe
- Thank Election Workers
- Replacement stakes for the sign

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November**
- 15 Newsletter
  - 16 LWV SCV Member Conversation: Take-Aways from Issues Briefings, Zoom, 6-7:30.
  - 17 *Just for Fun Coffee* at Key's Restaurant in Hudson 10AM
  - 21 Community Conversations: DMV Voter Registration, 12-1.  
<https://tinyurl.com/communitycalll>
  - 28 Board/Committee Chairs Meeting, 4-5 pm
- December**
- 1 Newsletter
  - 8 *Just for Fun Coffee* at Fusion Bistro in Webster 10AM
  - 15 Newsletter
  - 19 Community Conversations: Jail Voting, 12-1p
  - 19 Board/Committee Chairs Meeting, 4-5p
- January 14 Winter Gathering,**  
**Riverwood Nature Center, Star Prairie, 2-5 pm**

### ***Something to keep in mind as we are out in our communities:***

The League is proud to be nonpartisan, *neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.*

## OUR MISSION

*Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

## OUR VISION

*We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.*

## OUR VALUE

*We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.*

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***Interested in moving into a new position in the League? Find a committee that fits your skills and passion***

### **Voters Services–Committee**

#### **Contacts**

- Voter Services
- Get Out The Vote Events
- Voter Registration Events
- Meet The Candidate Events

Patty Van Nevel:

[pattyvannevel@gmail.com](mailto:pattyvannevel@gmail.com)

Rita Kearns:

[ritakearns54@gmail.com](mailto:ritakearns54@gmail.com)

### **Member Services**

- Member Enrichment Events
- Member Recruitment
- Manage Recruitment materials in
- public places

Contact Irene Bugge if interested:

[irenebugge@gmail.com](mailto:irenebugge@gmail.com)

### **Program Committee**

- Social Events (Annual Meeting, Summer Picnic)
- Education Programs
- Special Events
- Reader's Theater
- Book Study

Vicki Harmon:

[vickiharmon@gmail.com](mailto:vickiharmon@gmail.com)

### **Communications & Media**

- Website & Social Media
- Newsletter
- Press Releases & Research Writing

Kris Surbaugh:

[aksurbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:aksurbaugh@gmail.com)

