



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

April 1, 2024



Save the Date!

Sunday, April 28, 2024

**LWV-St Croix Valley
Annual Meeting**

**All members invited—
and bring a friend!**

Sunday, April 28, 2024

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Amery Community Center

608 Harriman Ave. S, Amery, WI

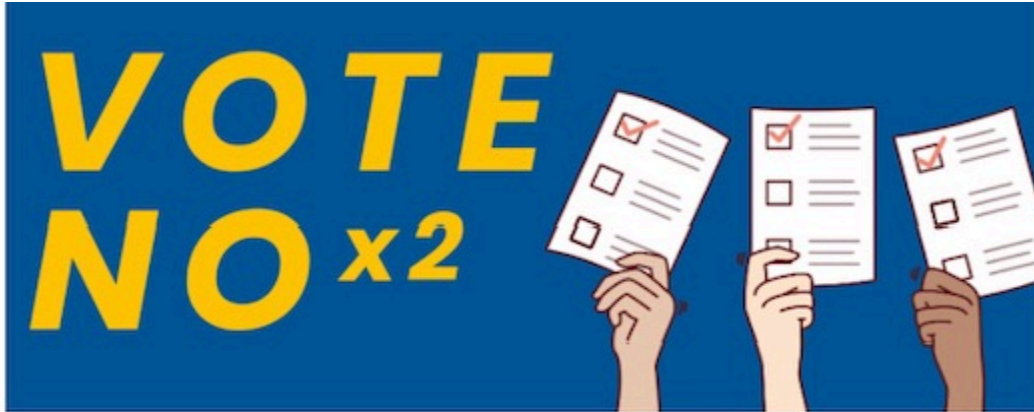
Guest Speaker TBA

Civics 101

Our Annual Meeting is the most important event of the year!

Need a ride? Any special accommodations?

Contact Irene Bugge or Beth Wood with any questions.



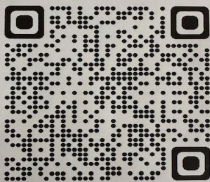
Vote No on Constitutional Amendments

No matter our race, background or zip code, Wisconsinites know that voting is a fundamental right yet a handful of politicians want to limit funding for our elections without any plan to make sure election administrators have the support and supplies they need to help voters make their voices heard.

How long we have to wait in lines to vote, how many polling locations are open, and the speed of results are all determined by how much money our state allocates to fund our elections. Vote no on constitutional amendment question 1.

Elections are a lot of work. Clerks rely on a whole host of outside experts, volunteers, and community members to make sure our elections are run smoothly and the results are accurate. A handful of politicians want to make the jobs of our election heroes even harder. That's why we're voting no this April on question 2!

These constitutional amendments are rooted in disinformation and a lack of consideration for voters and our hard working local election administrators. Let's keep conspiracies out of our elections.



To find out more: Use this handy QR code to easily access our *League Of Women Voters St Croix Valley* website! Open your camera on your phone and hold it over the code. The website will pop up on your screen and take you right to our home page. Also, you could take a picture of this code to keep a copy handy to share with friends, family, and potential new members!

**Earth Day Environmental Panel
Featuring High School Science Students
Saturday, April 6, 2024, 11:00 am to 12:00
Taylors Falls Community Center
RSVP to attend: scuuf.org**

We encourage all of our members to attend this Earth Day event hosted by Main Street Voices on Saturday, April 6. Main Street Voices is a new nonpartisan, volunteer-run, community building initiative in the Valley.



Science students from Unity, St. Croix Falls, and Osceola high schools will discuss how young people view today's environment and how they think it might affect and impact their futures.

Brian Collins, a science teacher at Unity High School and 2024 Wisconsin State Teacher of the Year and national representative, will moderate the panel. The event is free of charge. RSVPs are required as space is limited.

LWSCV is helping to sponsor this event. Join us, and check out the display table at the back of the room. We will have our League display rack filled with voter information including special bookmarks for students with logos for Unity, St. Croix Falls and Osceola.

**"Our words are the oars in the boats,
our direction is civility, and our path is reflection."**

—Lynn Forbes co-president of the League of Women Voters Nevada County, California

A Note from Member Services

Kathy Streitz
kfstreitz@gmail.com

Irene Bugge
irenebugge@gmail.com

We would like to offer a BIG Thank YOU to all of the LWV SCV members who have recently renewed their memberships!

I would also like to have a member gathering soon!
We will write "Reminder to Register and Vote Postcards" at the gathering. Any members interested let me know and I will be in touch.

Feel free to reach out to these two newest members via email and say "hi"!

Karen Magnuson, Baldwin, kdmagnuson066@gmail.com
Sue Irle, Star Prairie, skirle@hotmail.com



Voters Services

We had lots of fun marching in the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 17th. The group included Beth Wood, Irene Bugge and Robin Maercklein, Edna Early, Kay Brooks, Jarell Kuney, Karen Magnuson, Kate Lienen, Kathy Streitz, Rita Kearns and Patty Van Nevel.

We carried signs and banners and threw candy to the wee ones. A good time was had by all!

Thanks to all who did a jig, threw candy, carried a sign and represented LWVSCV as an entity in the community.

Voters Services wants to know of events, parades, or other ways LWVSCV can make a showing in your community. Our non-partisan promotion of voting and civic engagement is needed more than ever. Please contact Patty and/or Rita with your ideas.



A SAINT is:

Responsible

*Community
Oriented*

*Committed to
Excellence*

Civic Minded

A Superstar!

High Schools

We are making a big push to get into as many high schools as possible before the middle of May. Many volunteers signed up for *High School Ambassador* at the Winter Gathering, and by word of mouth, since then. Our goal is to make inroads with all the schools, and host an event for **National Voter Registration Day, September 17, 2024.**

These schools have LWVSCV Ambassadors- Hudson, New Richmond, Somerset, Glenwood City, Amery, St Croix Falls, Frederic, Unity, Webster

These HSs need an Ambassador- **Please consider volunteering.**

Baldwin/Woodville, St Croix Central, Osceola, Clayton, Clear Lake, Luck, Grantsburg, Siren

Rita and Patty are here with support when you're ready to go. Questions? Ask us.

What's next?

- In April and early May, we are focusing on high school information/registration events.

- Then we switch our focus to Farmer's Markets and other outdoor events across our 3 counties. Let us know where VS can serve in your neighborhood.



Kay Brooks is updating the Farmers Market list that allows LWVSCV a place at the table. If you covered any Farmers Market last year, are you willing to do it again this summer/fall season? Any insights you can provide Kay in her efforts is appreciated.

{to find a market in your area try Wisconsin Farmers Market Association's website: [WI Farmers Market Association - Find a farmers market \(wifarmersmarkets.org\)](http://www.wifarmersmarkets.org)}

If you are interested in the work of Voters Services ~ ~ ~

Join our Zoom! Scheduled from 4 - 5pm on April 4th.

(https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81219659813?pwd=z027DQAGhbZ8abGAC5O2Lbw_rEjPeVF.1)



**Tuesday, April 2:
Spring and Presidential Preference Election!**

Important Dates:

Wednesday, April 3: Take down *Vote Tuesday* yard sign
Wednesday, April 3: Put up *Thank Election Workers* yard sign

Thursday, April 4: Voters Services Zoom

Saturday, April 6: Earth Day Student Panel on the Environment

Wednesday, April 10: Take down *Thank Election Workers* yard sign

Saturday, April 27: Health Fair – Osceola

Sunday, April 28: *LWVSCV Annual Meeting,
2:00 – 5:00, Amery*

SAVE THE DATE!

May 31–June 1 LWVWI Annual Meeting (Green Bay Friday/Saturday)

Saturday, June 22: Valley Wide Pride Fest – Hudson

Tuesday, August 13: Partisan Primary Election

Tuesday, September 17: National Voters Registration Day

Tuesday, November 5: General Election



LWV St Croix Valley Proposes

Changes!

Members will be asked to vote on changes to our Bylaws at the Annual Meeting, April 28, 2024. Below is the rationale for these changes from our Executive Team. Please read through these and be prepared to vote at the Annual Meeting.

~~~Our bylaws currently state that bylaw changes can only be made at Annual Meetings.

- We ask that our membership consider allowing changes to the bylaws to be made at other meetings of the general membership -- general, special, and annual meetings.*
- We have learned that most other League chapters in WI allow bylaws changes to be made at meetings besides the annual meeting.*
- In order to make such changes, leadership still needs to send out the proposed changes **30 days in advance** of a general, special or annual meeting.*
- Early in 2025, LWVUS will make some changes in how dues are collected. These changes will require that our bylaws be changed. We would like to have the option of making these changes at a general or special meeting and not be limited to the **one time per year annual meeting**.*

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Irene Bugge, Beth Wood, Kris Surbaugh

Did you know that you can access our Bylaws along with other informational documents on our website?

<https://lwwstcroixvalley.org> and click on our Join Us>About Us> tab.

Listed below is Article XI from LWVSCV current bylaws:

Article XI

Amendments and Suspension

Section 1. Amendments.

These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting providing the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

Section 2. Suspension.

Parts of Articles IV through IX of these bylaws may be suspended, if necessary, for up to one year by a two thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting if notice of intention to do so has been submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

Highlighted below are the proposed changes.

Section 1. Amendments.

These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at an annual, regular or special meeting, providing the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

Section 2. Suspension.

Parts of Articles IV through IX of these bylaws may be suspended, if necessary, for up to one year by a two thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at an annual, regular or special meeting. if notice of intention to do so has been submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

Contact Information:

Voters Services –Committee

Contacts

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

Patty Van Nevel:

pattyvannevel@gmail.com

Rita Kearns:

ritakearns54@gmail.com

Program Committee

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

Beth Wood (interim contact)

bwood@frontiernet.net

Member Services

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

Kathy Streitz

kfstreitz@gmail.com

Irene Bugge (interim)

irenebugge@gmail.com

Communications & Media

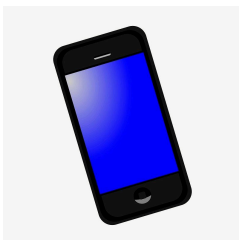
- Website & Social Media
- Newsletter
- Press Releases & Research Writing

Kris Surbaugh:

aksurbaugh@gmail.com

The League of Women Voters St Croix Valley is successful because of member volunteerism. Every 'little action' helps!

Like Share Amplify!



Do you want to make a BIG impact in a short amount of time?

Like, share and amplify the social media platforms of both the LWVWI and the LWVSCV.

The League of Women Voters St. Croix Valley is on Facebook and Instagram.

