



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

May 15, 2024

Our Second Year Supporting Hudson Pride!



The League of Women Voters St Croix Valley is proud to participate again this year during the second annual Valley Wide Pride Event.

Members plan to set up a booth to display our LWV-SCV educational materials as part of our DEI policy. We look forward to seeing members there on

**Saturday, June 22,
from 10AM to 4PM.**

Members who would like to participate at the booth can contact Barb Katt (text 715-566-0356 or email barbkatt@hotmail.com) for a time that works.

Hudson Pride Co. formed to take an active role in supporting the LGBTQ+ community in the St. Croix Valley. Their mission “seeks to create and promote inclusiveness, visibility, and acceptance throughout the greater Hudson, WI community.”

Check out Hudson Pride Co on Facebook and Instagram ([hudsonwipride](#))



Members of our League attended last year and reported it being a tremendous amount of fun and a full day of positive energy from participants and vendors alike.

Don't hesitate to attend the festivities as there are over 60 vendors already signed up for the event.

A memo from the State Office regarding nonpartisanship:
In these hyper partisan times, the League of Women Voters stands out because of its long history of nonpartisanship. It behooves us all to take extra care this election season to maintain that stance. League leaders have a special responsibility to refrain from appearing with candidates and political parties. This does not, of course, absolve us from participating in the democratic process, which is the mission of the League. Simply put, if you have a leadership role in the League, be it local, state or national, you cannot accept a leadership role in a political group. The grassroots structure of the League means there are both formal (board and officers) and informal leaders

A Memo From the State Office

Concerning non-partisanship and leadership within the League and outside of the League.



We all look forward to learning more about this National collaboration.

Think about ways we can incorporate this into our GOTV efforts.



Voter Services and Member Services

Hispanic Health Fair at West Immanuel Lutheran Church in Osceola April 27, 2024

LWVSCV were asked to represent and offer voter educational materials by Kim Vicek of the Greater Chippewa Valley LWV. Kim's contact and the Health Fair organizer was Lidixe Montoya. Lidixe was a rural medical doctor in El Salvador for eight years and is now working as an ELCA Mission developer and started the Neighbor to Neighbor Together in Ministry: A bridge between Anglo Lutheran

and the Hispanic Community. We gladly accepted.

Voter Services and Member Services offered Spanish language voter education materials. We were among many service organizations represented at the health fair. The church Ukulele Ministry group played and sang the entire time, 10:00 to 1:00. We had tacos and enjoyed meeting and interacting with community, church, and service organization members. Some of the community members may not be voters, however, we were honored to be a presence and communicated with many about the importance of voting in the August and November elections.

Services offered included WIC, Lions Club vision screening, Polk County Community Services, St. Croix Valley Family Resource Center, Rural Voices Oral History Recording Project, and The Open Cupboard of Osceola. There was a strong spiritual community energy there, and we were honored to be a part of that and hope to continue this service.



Voter Services

LWV SCV has made great strides getting information into the hands of first time voters through the High School and College outreach initiative. The spinning wheel with accompanying civic questions and candy are magical in attracting interest. We are working to get school spirit bookmarks made for each of the high schools. *The front of the bookmark is inspirational and the back is informational (How to register to vote).*

Nineteen members of LWV SCV have signed onto an event, or acted as ambassador to set up an event at a school. With twenty schools (17 HS & 3 colleges) in our three county area to serve, these members are making great headway. We are so very grateful for their efforts and still are in need of more volunteers to help.

We are looking for members to adopt schools, specifically, Siren, Luck and Baldwin/Woodville. Grantsburg HS has opened their doors to us, but as this is the last week of school, we will schedule something in the fall. Voter Services has information needed for contact with the high school. Please let Patty or Rita know if we can count on you to help.

Get Ready to March on New Richmond

New Richmond Fun Fest Parade is July 14, 2024. LWVSCV has a spot reserved! Let's make ourselves seen and heard by thousands of people this summer and help

Get Out the Vote!

We need at least 10 volunteers to make this happen. Contact Patty Van Nevel to sign up: 651-271-9942 or pattyvannevel@gmail.com. Watch for information in this newsletter.

Did you know, 60% of eligible voters are never asked to register?

National Voter Registration Day September 17, 2024

The idea behind NVRD is to ask as many people as possible to register to vote and to help them to achieve it. The third Tuesday in September is the day but LWVSCV has expanded the idea that a whole month is even better.

Each year we've tried to incorporate more events to Get Out The Vote. During September, with support and help from our members, we will try to host an event at each school in our three-county area.

Always, we welcome your ideas and efforts to promote the good work of the league.



Spin the Wheel and Chat "Coffee"

For anyone who is planning on helping with voter information events this year (farmers' markets, Pridefest, etc.), you are invited to an upcoming outdoor coffee session. There will be a spinning wheel demonstration and everyone will have a chance to practice. Additionally, we will have a chance for some great discussions!

You bring your favorite beverage and we will provide some snacks. An RSVP is requested, so that we can contact attendees in case of inclement weather, etc.

Where:	Mary Park, North Green Ave., New Richmond
When:	Tuesday, May 28 at 2:00 PM
Hostesses:	Kay Brooks and Susan Bosley
RSVP:	kaybrooks48@gmail.com 715-381-8879

We realize that this is a long way to drive for some members. So, there will also be a Zoom session offered soon after Memorial Day as well where we will offer the same information remotely.

Farmers Markets: to sign up for Farmers Markets call Kay Brooks at 715-381-8879. Opportunities at Balsam Lake, St. Croix Falls, Osceola, New Richmond, Somerset, River Falls, and Hudson.

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday/Saturday, LWWI Annual Meeting (Green Bay) May 31-June 1

Saturday, June 22: Valley Wide Pride Fest – Hudson

Tuesday, August 13: Partisan Primary Election

August 27 or 28 TBA: Summer Social Picnic (3PM)

Tuesday, September 17: National Voters Registration Day

Tuesday, November 5: General Election

Committee 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

Member Services

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

Kathy Streitz

kfstreitz@gmail.com

Communications & Media

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

Kris Surbaugh: aksurbaugh@gmail.com



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