



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

August 15, 2025



Congratulations LWVSCV on a successful completion to Phase 1 of the Unite Rise 8.5 campaign.

We now move into Phase 2 which we will incorporate into the good work we have already planned for the next 3 months. I invite you all to dive into the Unite Rise toolkit on the lwv.org website and utilize the 31 action item list to pick something easy to do every day in our mission to Defend Democracy.

Playbook 1 – May 1/July 31 Summary of Activities

Ongoing we have informational tents and tables at Farmers Markets organized by Kay Brooks, around our league area on a weekly basis throughout the summer months, all including information on Unite Rise 8.5 and the priority issues of the league. Thank you to ALL our members that have stepped up to help make this such a success!

June 6 – Unite Rise Kick off in Glover Park/NR sign rally on the street, informational tent, speakers on Medicaid cuts, Veteran cuts, the SAVE act and the Constitution – members Beth Wood spoke on the history of the LWV and the Unite Rise 8.5 initiative, Kathy Streitz spoke on the SAVE Act. Members Beth Wood spoke on the history of the LWV and the Unite Rise 8.5 initiative, Celeste Koeberl delineated why the League has determined that the US is in a Constitutional Crisis, Kathy Streitz explained why the SAVE Act is a voter suppression act that will disproportionately affect women and Irene Bugge wrapped up the event, underlining that Unite and Rise is the second mass mobilization that LWV US has championed in their 105 year history – the first to secure the vote for women in 1920. There were 45 people in attendance

June 14 – The Flag Belongs to All of Us Rally in Hudson. Member Celesta Koeberl organized the event. Members Beth Wood spoke on the history of the LWV and the Unite

Rise 8.5 initiative and Kathy Streitz spoke on the SAVE Act. Information tent, many LWVSCV volunteers. Estimated 500+ hundred in attendance.

No Kings rally in Siren and Amery, many LWVSCV members in attendance.

June 21 – Hudson Pride Event. LWVSCV Informational tent, many volunteers. 1000+ in attendance. There were more than 240 contacts at our League table.

June 29 – co-sponsor of Bill of Rights workshop with Polk Burnett Indivisible entitled **“Who’s Rights? Our Rights?”** with speaker Attorney Jef Leys. held at the Polk County Government Center. League Coordinators: Barb Katt, Jeff Peterson, and Nancy Stewart. LWVSCV informational table, many members in the crowd of 60+.

July 17 – Good Trouble Lives On event, Amery, speaker on Immigration issues – Patrona Melgarejo from Los Amigos. Additional speakers were League members Edna Early and Janet Ellinger (DEIJ team) 25 League members attended plus 50 local citizen attendees.

July 29 – co-sponsor with Project 3.5 – **SAVE Act Teach-in** Hudson. Informational table. 22 members in attendance – 70 attendees. LWVSCV Kathy Streitz, one of the speakers regarding the SAVE Act. (artwork by Edna Grotham Early)



Reflections on a Picnic
8/05/26
A beautiful summer night
A lovely setting
Delicious food
A gathering
of new and old members
Stories
Laughter
A common vision



Thrivent Action Grant

Next time you see Janet Lestock, please take a moment to thank her for the work she did in applying for the Thrivent Action Grant. Thanks to her efforts, LWVSCV has been awarded a \$250 credit card, which will be used to help cover printing costs for the upcoming Readers Theater production, "Women Are Wanting to Vote".

One more example of a member using their skills and initiative to benefit The League!
Thank you, Janet!



Coffee, Carbs and Conversation about Authentic Conversations

Ever tried to convince an avowed non-voter or inconsistent one that voting is important and they should vote? How did that conversation work out? Looking for some new tools for authentically engaging with voters at LWV tabling events or other venues?

New member JJ Levy invites you to her home in Osceola on August 22, 9:30-11:00 am for coffee, a sampling of her sourdough breads (fruit for non-bread eaters) and conversation about how to encourage voting with an emotional reach that is cogent, potent, and individualized.

The backdrop for this idea is from Deep Canvassing (DC), a form of canvassing that has increased voter turnout by 15%. Simply put, this is about having an authentic emotional conversation with a voter. Something all of us are drawn to or we wouldn't be in the LWV! JJ's proposal:

If after one meeting you are interested, we move on to having an occasional gathering to discuss authentic communication with voters, deep canvassing. . . No homework required, however; you may wish to explore the following authors, their books, podcasts, TED talks and/or Substack feeds or others our members suggest. Yes, no syllabus! Free choice:)

- ☐ The Political Brain -Drew Westen
- ☐ Metaphors We Live By - George Lakoff
- ☐ Don't Think of an Elephant -George Lakoff
- ☐ The Persuaders: At the Front Line of the Fight for Hearts, Minds and Democracy - Anand Giridharadas

Other books you may wish to recommend?

Or this podcast: [Deep Canvassing With Dave Fletcher](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/opinion-science/id1506227206?i=1000657621262)

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/opinion-science/id1506227206?i=1000657621262>

When: Friday, August 22nd 9:30-11:00a.m.

Where: JJ Levy's 1846 Big Lake Drive Osceola, WI

Additionally and importantly—bring a friend or two or.....more!

If interested in attending please contact:

JJ Levy (970) 493 8780, jilevy1@mac.com. Or Irene Bugge (715) 554-2501 irenebugge@gmail.com



Funding for Stop the SAVE Act

LWVSCV was voted to receive second place funding for our proposal to stop the Save Act by the 100 Women Who Care Polk-Burnett (<https://100wwc-pb.weebly.com/>) at their August 13 meeting. Funding amount to be determined. The team of Nancy Stewart, Barb Katt, Carolyn Saunders and Katrina Larsen wrote the proposal and presentation. It was presented by Katrina Larsen with support by Carolyn Saunders and Nancy Stewart. PowerPoint slides and a script are available for use at other activities. They will need to be tweaked for the specific audience.



Hudson Farmers Market on Carmichael

August 2nd was a perfect summer Saturday to work at the Hudson Farmers Market on Carmichael!

Judy Green, Liz Bruch, Nancy Gilland, and Kathy Streitz were there in our LWVSCV booth meeting families. They offered a spin at the colorful spinning wheel for a chance to answer civics questions and a candy treat or other LWV merch. Many children returned with friends and family for multiple spins. The spinning wheel brought more chances to talk with

voters about voting questions and the SAVE Act.

The SAVE Act is a bill in the Senate. If passed, registering to vote may be difficult without a passport. Remind your Senators to VOTE NO on the SAVE Act.

Working at Farmers Markets is a fun, interactive learning experience and a chance to offer voter information to community members. (Missing from photos is Liz Bruch).



Action Alert!

Here is an opportunity to make your voice heard and have some positive impact on Wisconsin's future—all SCV League members are invited to attend. The League of Women Voters-Greater Chippewa Valley and the Fair Maps Coalition is co-hosting this event on September 11.

While Wisconsin currently has fair state legislative voting maps, these are only in place for now, until the 2030 Census. We need LEGISLATION to ensure FAIR VOTING

MAPS for FUTURE GENERATIONS. The FMC has been working on a draft proposal for an independent redistricting commission, and wants YOUR INPUT!

Please join the Fair Maps Coalition and the LWV-GCV for a Community hearing:

Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Dunn County Judicial Center, [815 Stokke Parkway, Menomonie, WI 54751](#)

Light refreshments will be served.

[Register — Wisconsin Fair Maps Coalition](#) <https://www.fairmapswi.com/communityhearings>

(Consider carpooling with other League members from your area)



MEMBER SERVICES

Attention LWVSCV New Members!! ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ ☀️

New Member Coffee

Wouldn't it be nice to chat, have coffee, pie, or a milkshake??

Please join us for a Coffee to welcome new members! All members are welcome! We will meet at Perkins in Hudson on **Thursday, September 4th at 10:30 -11:30 AM.**

We plan to connect, socialize, and share. See you then!

- ☐ Event: LWVSCV Coffee
- ☐ Place: Perkins in Hudson, 1040 Pearson DR North Room
- ☐ Thursday, September 4th at 10:30 -11:30 AM
- ☐ Please RSVP helpful & optional.
- ☐ Please call if you would like a ride.
- ☐ Kathy Streitz 612-916-8856



The Time Has Come! Readers Theater First Rehearsal

- ☐ Sunday, September 14 – 2:00-4:00
Amery Community Center
608 Harriman Ave. S

I have scheduled 8 rehearsals. Not because I think we will really need that many, but I know that not everyone is going to be able to make all the rehearsals and this way if we have 5 or 6 with everyone there, we will be ready.

If you want to be a Reader but cannot make the first rehearsal just let me know!!

Currently the Amery rehearsals, except for one, are all scheduled for Sunday afternoons. Once I see where all the participants are from and their schedules, we can adjust times and places. Saturdays are hard because of wedding bookings but other dates are available. Right now, we are scheduled for:

- ☐ September 14 – 2:00-4:00- Amery
- ☐ September 21- 1:00- 4:00- Amery
- ☐ September 27 -10:00-1:00 Amery
- ☐ October 02- TBD- Heritage
- ☐ October 07 -TBD- Heritage
- ☐ October 11- 1:00-4:00 Amery
- ☐ October 14- TBD - Heritage
- ☐ October 21-TBD Heritage

“Oh Dear What can The Matter Be Women Are Wanting to Vote”

A Readers Theater Performance

Presented by:

The League of Women Voters St. Croix Valley
In Celebration of their 10th Anniversary

A History of The Suffrage Movement in Wisconsin through
song, poetry, nursery rhymes and narrative



There was a little girl and she had a little curl
Right down the middle of her forehead
When she got the vote she was very good, indeed
But when they kept it from her she was horrid.



Two weekends only:

Amery Community Center

Saturday, October 18 - 7:00pm

Sunday, October 19 - 2:00pm



New Richmond Heritage Center Pavilion Building

Saturday, October 25 - 7:00pm

Sunday, October 26 - 2:00pm

The Wisconsin Historical Society's traveling display

***“We Stand on Their Shoulders:
A History of Wisconsin Women and Voting”***

will be on view at The Heritage Center

Birthday Cake and Conversation
following each performance

\$10.00 donation is welcome
But not mandatory



BOOKMARK THIS!

Find out all our recent activities, check out the calendar, read archived issues of the newsletter and more: lwvstcroixvalley.org

Go to our state League website to find more information on league policy, current press releases, templates and toolkits for letters and contacting your state representative: Wisconsin | MyLO <<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin>>

Access our National web page here: <https://www.lwv.org/>

Do you want to make your voice heard, but you're not sure what to do, say, or where to call? Get help here – calling your representative is made easy at: <https://5calls.org/>

Feeling like you need to take to the streets?! Check out Mobilize Us to find something near you! <https://www.mobilize.us/>

“LWVWI HOTLINE to verify the presence of ICE in the community or in cases of an emergency: 1-800-427-0213

More information and resources to help protect **our immigrant community**:

<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/resources-and-actions-protect-our-immigrant-communities>

Human Rights Campaign – Tips for Preparedness, Peaceful Protesting, and Safety:

<https://lwvwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=f641b74a5b&e=7043d919d6>

LWVUS Protest Safety Guide

<https://lwvwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=10f16e8491&e=15965a7426>

More information:

- ☐ Background on the League's position of the National Popular Vote:

<https://www.lwv.org/NPVtaskforce>

<https://my.lwv.org/connecticut/article/one-person-one-vote-national-popular-vote-interstate-compact>

- ☐ LWV La Crosse Community Forum: Focus on Medicaid June 25, 2025 Recording link

<https://www.lwvlacrosse.org/medicaid>



Learn more/do more

MORE INFORMATION FROM OUR (LWVUS) NATIONAL LEAGUE:

DEMOCRACY IS IN YOUR HANDS

Aug. 20, 12:30pm ET | Understand the Three Branches of Government

Sept. 17, 11am ET | Working With Local Election Officials to Anchor

Oct. 22, 3:30pm ET | Building Coalitions to Amplify Action

Change

For more information and how to register:

[Agenda - Democracy in Your Hands Series](https://events.lwv.org/event/DemocracyInYourHands/agenda) <<https://events.lwv.org/event/DemocracyInYourHands/agenda>>

MONARCA
UPSTANDER TRAINING | RIVER FALLS, WI
Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Months into the Trump administration, we are seeing a growing wave of executive orders and policies aimed at targeting and deporting millions, especially in states like ours. Agencies are showing up in neighborhoods, workplaces, and schools. We are coming together to build power, stand with our neighbors, and shine a light on these injustices.

- Learn how to support immigrant communities
- Become part of Unidos' rapid response network.
- Ensure no one faces this threat alone.

Register to attend our River Falls, WI training—location details provided in registration.

UNIDOS MN
COMMUNITY • LEADERSHIP • POWER

REGISTER HERE

bit.ly/RRT_0827

An Alley? An Upstander? A Good Neighbor?

If you feel like you want to help our marginalized friends and you're not sure how to start—consider attending this training sponsored by Unidos MN

Although not a League sponsored event our Board encourages all interested members to attend.

Any members willing could report back to the executive team—as we are considering sponsoring a similar program.

Our contact information is at the end of this newsletter. Feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions—we'll be happy to find out more.

<https://secure.everyaction.com/xeYOWBzLlEGsdKVYteT-Cg2>

AUGUST	15	Newsletter
	19	Board/Committee Chairs Meeting, 4PM-5PM
	20	LWV training: The
	22	Coffee, Carbs and Conversations 9:30-11AM Osceola (see article)
	27	<i>LWV SCV Picnic Grantsburg (Palmquist's cabin)</i>
SEPTEMBER		<i>Readers' Theater Rehearsals begin!</i>
	1	Newsletter
	1	LABOR DAY
	14	Rehearsal Readers Theater Amery 2-4PM
	15	Newsletter
	16	National Voters Registration Day
	18	LWV WI Webinar on Constitutional Amendments, 7PM: What are the negative consequences of recently passed Constitutional Amendments? What makes a good constitutional amendment?
	23	Board Meeting Zoom
OCTOBER	1	Newsletter
	15	Newsletter
	18	LWV SCV Readers Theater, Amery Community Center, evening
	19	LWV SCV Readers Theater, Amery Community Center, matinee
	25	LWV SCV Readers Theater, Heritage Center, New Richmond, evening
	26	LWV SCV Readers Theater, Heritage Center, New Richmond, matinee
	26	LWV SCV 10th Birthday! Woohoo!
NOVEMBER	4	Board Meeting Zoom
	12	One Million Rising: Randy's Kitchen Amery

LWV SCV Leadership Team 2025- 2026

Co-Presidents Irene Bugge <irenebugge@gmail.com>

Beth Wood <bwood@frontiernet.net>

Vice President Kris Surbaugh <aksurbaugh@gmail.com>

Secretary Evanne Hunt <evanne.hunt@outlook.com>

Treasurer Katrina Larsen <katrina_larsen@yahoo.com>

Member Services Chair Kathy Streitz <kfstreitz@gmail.com>

Voter Services Co-Chairs Kay Brooks (interim) <kaybrooks48@gmail.com>

Kathy Streitz (interim) <kfstreitz@gmail.com>

Communications & Media Chair Kris Surbaugh <aksurbaugh@gmail.com>

Budget Chair Janet Le Stock <janetblestock@gmail.com>

Nominations Chair Kathy Streitz <kfstreitz@gmail.com>

Roster Managers Katrina Larsen <katrina_larsen@yahoo.com>

Tami Halcomb <thalcomb@gmail.com>

Directors

Edna Early (DEI) <ed5early@gmail.com>

Kathy Streitz <kfstreitz@gmail.com>

Barb Katt (DEI) <barbkatt@hotmail.com>

Vicki Harmon <vickiharmon@hotmail.com>