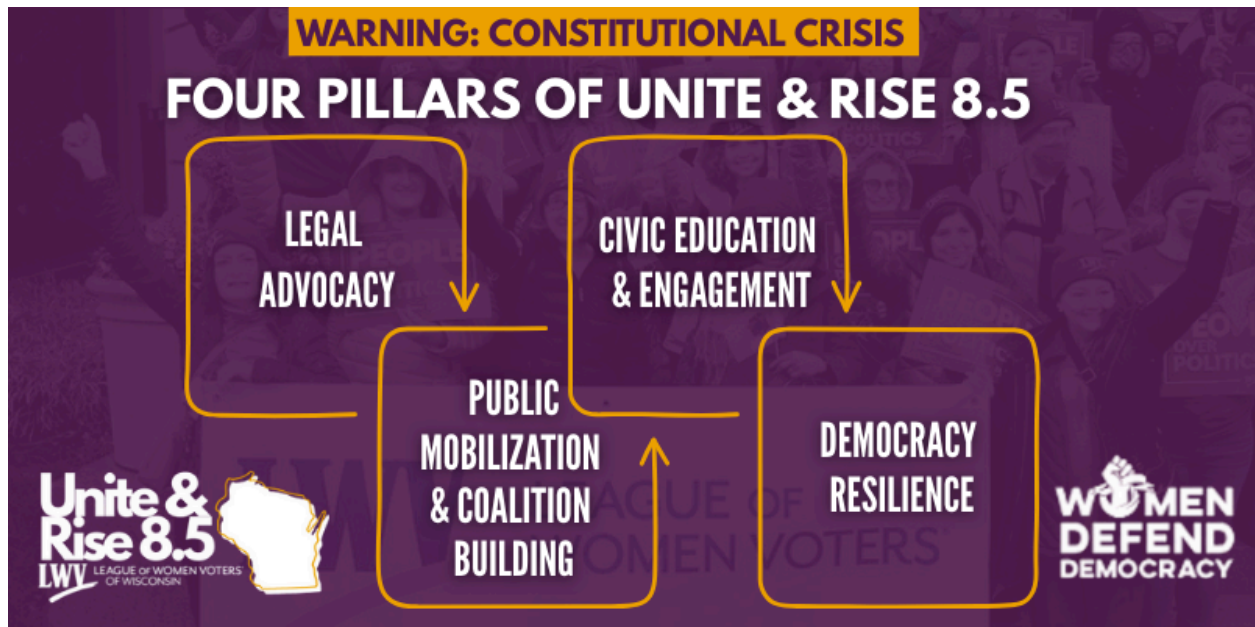




OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

September 1, 2025



A Letter from Beth:

As we go from day to day during this unpredictable time in our history, we are challenged with balancing our engagement and self care. Some days we may need to take a step back and regroup in order to sustain our momentum and remain committed to the work of the LWVSCV. I wanted to share with all of you that I understand. When I need to recharge I do something fun or creative and I take a moment to remind myself of my "why". For each of us that is very personal. I am sharing a photo of my "why" and inspiration, the Statue of Liberty and Ruth Bader Ginsburg (granddaughters). This photo never fails to light me up and renew my commitment. If you would like to share your "why" we would love to include them in upcoming newsletters. Forward together.

Beth Wood bwood@frontiernet.net

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HERITAGE DAYS

Our League has a spot reserved at Heritage Days on Saturday, September 20. It will be similar to farmers' market tables—attracting passersby with the spinning game wheel and distributing voter information. However, we can pick our time and decide if we want to be inside or outside. Shifts will be for 2-1/2 hours (Includes set up and take down). Please contact Kay Brooks if you can help us out. It's a fun day and good exposure for the League!

Kay Brooks kaybrooks48@gmail.com



A GREAT SEASON FOR FARMERS' MARKETS!

The markets finished up on August 29 with the last market at Osceola. We had an excellent season with dozens of dedicated volunteers. Thanks to all of you! You have reached, literally, hundreds of people with our message of the importance of making our voices heard through our right to vote!

(photo from Farmers Market in New Richmond)



NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY ON SEPTEMBER 16th— SAVE THE DATE!

This year National Voter Registration Day will be held on Tuesday, September 16th. For the second year, the League of Women Voters is collaborating with the American Library Association to celebrate this important day. It is a great opportunity to impress upon people the importance of voting. This fits this year's initiative to gain 8.5 million voters. We are offering to provide informational materials to libraries and our 3 area colleges for their social media, in small displays, or by in person teams.

Needed from members: Once we receive requests from libraries and colleges, we will be looking for teams who live closely to set up a table.. If we reach out to you, please consider helping out!

Kay Brooks



NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY



- CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION
- LEARN HOW TO REGISTER
- LEARN HOW TO FIND OUT ABOUT CANDIDATES
- LEARN HOW TO VOTE
- AND MORE

EVERYONE WELCOME!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Official Wisconsin Elections Commission

Website:



myvote.wi.gov

*Thanks to Kathie Nelson,
our great designer,
for the NVRD LWVSCV flyer!*

HUBS



We are in the process of developing HUBS, around the high schools and libraries in our 3 counties. HUBS create a smaller grouping of members for a multitude of reasons: sharing information, creating friendships, having get-togethers for work and for fun, car pooling to events, and having a phone tree when needed. We will let members know just which HUB they are in soon.

Kathy and Kay



Fun Fact: The first newspaper for women, *The Lily*, was issued from 1849-1853. The newspaper was edited by Amelia Bloomer (of Bloomer costume fame). Elizabeth Cady Stanton, under the pseudonym 'Sunflower', wrote articles for *The Lily*. The earliest Stanton articles dealt with temperance, child-bearing, and education, but she soon turned to writing articles about laws unfair to women and demanded change. (Thanks to Barb Wetzel for this information)

Democracy's Urgent Call

A Poetry Anthology by Members of The League of Women Voters



Hello LWV members,

In 2026, we will celebrate our country's 250th birthday during a time of unprecedented threats to our Constitution and our Democracy. It's a time to remember, reflect and recommit—a time to hope, dream and build—a time to show up, stand solid, and lead with strong voices that cannot be silenced.

As poets, writers, and members of the League of Women Voters, we recognize the power of language to connect people—to stir hearts and minds, and to reaffirm the enduring promise of Democracy. Through poetry, we aim to illuminate its beauty, its fragility, and its strength—especially at a time when we can no longer afford to take its core principles for granted.

One way we express our love of country and Democracy is by lifting our voices together. Inspired by artist Niki Johnson's *Pillars of Democracy* (shown above), we are compiling a national poetry anthology featuring 100 poems by League members from across the country. To learn more about the artwork that inspired this project go to < <https://www.nikijohnson.com/fine-art/collage>>

Timeline

Submission Deadline	October 15, 2025
Selections Finalized	December 31, 2025
Advance Orders Begin	February 14, 2026
Design, Layout & Production Completed	April 30, 2026
Release Date	June 1, 2026

The publication will be produced via print-on-demand. Neither Eloisa nor I will be receiving any compensation from this project. Once available, local and/or state Leagues will have the

opportunity to purchase copies in bulk at cost + shipping for direct sale and local fundraising. Additional details will be shared upon publication.

We hope to have LWV poets from every state represented in our anthology! Thank you in advance for your participation in this project.

Christy Schwan
Co-President LWV Ozaukee & Washington Counties
Treasurer & Board of Directors LWV Wisconsin

Eloisa Gómez
Comité por el Voto Latino, LWV Milwaukee, Wisconsin

*Every day, you have the power
to choose our better history--
by opening your hearts and minds,
by speaking up for what you know is right.
-Michelle Obama*



**Invite from the League of Women
Voters-Greater Chippewa Valley and the Fair
Maps Coalition for an event they are hosting 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](https://www.fairmapswi.com/communityhearings)**

(Light refreshments will be served.)

Here's the meeting registration link. Register — Wisconsin Fair Maps Coalition

[<https://www.fairmapswi.com/communityhearings>](https://www.fairmapswi.com/communityhearings)



Standing Ovation Coffee, Carbs and Authentic Conversation

On August 22, 15 League members and friends participated in “Coffee, Carbs and Conversation about Authentic Conversation,” at JJ Levy and Saul Hopper’s home in Osceola.

After enjoying coffee, fruit, cheese and JJ’s sourdough bread, JJ and Saul made a few introductory remarks about Deep Canvassing. Participants divided into small groups and with questions provided had fruitful discussions.

Thirty minutes later everyone reconvened, debriefed, and shared what they learned for outreach with voters.

When asked: "Do you want to do this again?" the room erupted into an enthusiastic "Yes!"

The brief summary is:

"Listening is magic sauce."

Deep Canvassing is centered on resonating with a voter’s emotions and sharing one’s own.

Questions beginning with the word “what” were especially helpful as the word “what” invites exploration into a voter’s thinking and emotions. This optimizes the likelihood of a non-voter rethinking their forfeiture of this privilege.

Alternatively, questions beginning with the word “why” invite explanations that risk further entrenchment of already held positions.

We generated ideas for responding to the man who stated: “I don’t vote” at a recent tabling event.

One paraphrased example is:

"I can tell you what about voting is important to me.

For example: I am a retired teacher. Thriving schools matter to me, my children and my grandchildren. School board members affect me, you and our families. Voting gives me the freedom to have a say in this!

There was:

- ☐ High praise for the podcast on Deep Canvassing.
- ☐ Appreciation for the small group format facilitated by the prepared questions provided on a handout. And for the overall structure of the gathering.

While Deep canvassing is often used by political parties, it suits the nonpartisan League well. Specifically, by facilitating exploratory, emotionally savvy questions with non-voters or inconsistent voters. Additionally, it provides an easy segue into talking with voters about League policy positions.

Another idea was to explore the use of Deep Canvassing concepts for use in other arenas. For example, with Candidate Meet and Greets or a nonpartisan community event.

Participants were interested in specific suggestions, talking points or stems to more effectively address challenging comments and questions from voters that we all face in our engagement with the public.

Additionally, we saw how much potential Deep Canvassing tools have for conversation with neighbors, friends and family.

In summary: Consensus was that this is well worth digging into more! League members who are new to this topic are welcome too!

Next Coffee at JJ's TBD.



Picnic in the North:

Thank you to Vicki and Carolyn for organizing a wonderful gathering on August 27 at the beautiful lake home of Greg and Kathy Palmquist.

A special thank you to Greg and Kathy for the warm welcome and delicious food.

We enjoyed conversation, connection and the numerous birds enjoying the feeders off the deck. We all left feeling empowered and energized by the strength of community and friendship.

Have You Been Wondering?

*The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan * yet political with a focus on issues.*

So, what does that mean for me as a League member actively involved in civic activities?

Included with the newsletter email is a **Table of Guidance on Political Activities** (pdf) attached to help clarify our stance.

The Table has been approved by the LWVSCV Board of Directors. It was produced by the Leadership Structure Review and Redesign Committee consisting of Irene Bugge, Vicki Harmon, Barb Katt, Katrina Larsen, Kathy Streitz and Patty Van Nevel. If you have questions, contact Katrina Larsen, katrina_larsen@yahoo.com.



LWVSCV Receives \$2,700 to Stop the SAVE ACT in Polk and Burnett Counties!

100 Women Who Care Polk-Burnett awarded the LWVSCV \$2,700 to be used for activities and materials to promote Stop the SAVE Act in Burnett and Polk Counties. An ad hoc committee is being formed to plan how to most impactfully use these funds. Contact Nancy Stewart <n.stewart@yahoo.com> if you are interested in serving on the committee.



Attention LWVSCV New and Existing Members in the North!!!!

We are going back to Cafe Wren in Luck, WI.

September 25th

10:00 to 11:00 AM.

Wouldn't it be nice to chat, have coffee, and a sweet treat?

Please join us for a LWVSCV coffee!!!

All members and friends are welcome!!!

Come to Luck to socialize and connect!

Carpool with neighbors.

RSVP (optional) Kathy Streitz, 612-916-8856 kfstreitz@gmail.com

Feel free to call, text, or email.

MEMBER SERVICES

Please welcome our new members!!!

CORRECTION: Bev Peirson, New Richmond, bpeirson4@gmail.com

Judy Wyatt, Amery, wyattsjs@gmail.com

Katherine Elliott, Hudson, katherinestewart110@hotmail.com

Reach out, say hello, and invite our new members to the upcoming LWVSCV community gatherings as featured in this newsletter and on the calendar. Thanks for your help!

Attention LWVSCV New Members in our southern areas!

New Member Coffee!!! All Members and friends are Welcome!!!

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

Please join us for a Coffee to welcome new members!!!



We plan to connect, socialize, and share!

Event: LWVSCV Coffee

Place: Perkins in Hudson, 1040 Pearson DR North Room

Date: Thursday, September 4th

Time: 10:30 -11:30

RSVP helpful & optional.

Feel free to call for a ride!!

RSVP Kathy Streitz 612-916-8856, kfstreitz@gmail.com



MONARCA

UPSTANDER TRAINING | HUDSON, WI

Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 6:00 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 Hudson, WI training—location details provided in registration.

UNIDOSIMN
COMMUNITY • LEADERSHIP • POWER

REGISTER HERE



bit.ly/RRT_0930

SEPTEMBER		<i>Readers' Theater Rehearsals begin!</i>
	1	Newsletter
	1	LABOR DAY
	4	Coffee Hudson 10:30AM Hudson
	7	Meeting Voters/Member Services Zoom 4PM
	11	Fair Maps Menomonie (see article)
	14	Rehearsal Readers Theater Amery 2-4PM
	15	Newsletter
	16	National Voters Registration Day (see article)
	18	LWV WI Webinar on Constitutional Amendments, 7PM: What are the negative consequences of recently passed Constitutional Amendments? What makes a good constitutional amendment?
	20	Heritage Days Tabling Event
	23	Board Meeting Zoom
	25	Coffee Luck Cafe Wren 10-11AM
	30	Upstander Training Hudson (see poster)
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>

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Vicki Harmon <vickiharmon@hotmail.com>