



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

June 15, 2026

REMINDER: ON WEDNESDAY! June 17th, LWVSCV will hold its first picnic of the summer!

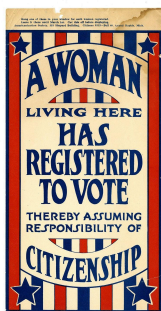
It is at the New Richmond Heritage Center Pavilion, 1100 Heritage Drive, NR., from 4:30PM to 7:30PM. **If you are able, a dish to pass is appreciated.**

Please RSVP to vickiharmon@hotmail.com or at 715.220.0890 by June 15th.

Guests Are Welcome!

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

Don't forget there is a second picnic in July in Frederic.
All are invited. Bring a guest!



The LWVSCV would like to invite *all members* to attend the monthly board meetings as guests. We would like to encourage engagement in the leadership structure of the league and to enhance your league experience.

Following the business meeting we will be asking for feedback, suggestions, and team members will be available to answer any questions you may have.

We are committed to building the foundation and sustainability of our league through access and development.

The next LWVSCV Board/Leadership meeting is

June 18, 2026, at 4:00 pm
and will be held by zoom.

(cut and paste to your browser)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89168590105?pwd=EmZ0bEofJgFEUVAotjyEteZbyFMBC3.1>



PRIDEFEST on Saturday, June 20 – 10AM-4:30PM

Join us at beautiful Lake Front Park in Hudson on June 20 for the 4th annual Pride celebration. Enjoy the color, music, and diversity in a fair-like atmosphere. There are dozens of booths, including ours, and lots of entertainment. Our table will have election and voter

registration information.

We are especially looking for volunteers to take a shift either from 11:30AM-2PM or 2PM-4:30PM

But any time at all would be helpful!
Contact Edna Early if you can help. (651-269-3408).

Polk County Sheriff Candidate Meet & Greet

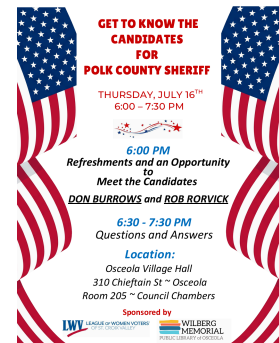
The League of Women Voters of St. Croix Valley and Wilberg Memorial Library are hosting a Polk County Sheriff Candidate Meet & Greet on Thursday, July 16 at the Osceola Village Hall, 310 Chieftain St, Room 205 (Council Chambers), 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

Rob Rorvick and Don Burrows (both Republicans) are running for the position of Sheriff in Polk County. Both their names will be on the ballot for the Primary Election on August 11. There is no Democratic candidate running.

The winner of the Primary Election, therefore, will be unopposed on the ballot for the Fall Election. This means that the man elected in August will most likely become the next Polk County Sheriff.

We believe it's important to know who these two candidates are, why they think they are the best suited for the office, what they stand for and what they envision their tasks to be as the chief law enforcement officer of our county.

We encourage all of our members who live in Polk County to attend. Please share the flyer with your friends and neighbors.



Unite & Rise Updates, Resources, and Upcoming Opportunities



On August 8, 2026, Leagues across the country are invited to take part in **Unite and Rise for Voting Rights, a National Day of Action** marking the legacy of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the ongoing work required to protect and expand access to the ballot.

This day serves as both a culmination of summer organizing and a launch point for intensified midterm mobilization, transforming individual acts of participation into shared, visible, and sustained civic action. While several cities will host larger signature events, the strength of this effort will come from Leagues in communities nationwide, leading locally rooted actions that engage new people and build momentum ahead of November.

There's still time to plan your day of action! Our voting rights need our protection, let's come together to make sure every eligible voter can exercise their right to vote! Our vote is our voice.

[Use this link to find information that will help you plan an event. Let your HUB leader know what you would like to do—and we can make it happen!](#)

<https://lwvwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=cdfb24107a&e=7043d919d6>

Readers Theater News

On Tuesday June 9th I facilitated a zoom meeting to discuss the future of the Readers Theater production, *“Oh, Dear, What Can the Matter Be? Women Are Wanting to Vote!”*

The following is a summary of that discussion. Look for more detailed information in the coming weeks and ways to be a part of this exciting project



Readers Theater Meeting Notes

General ideas around what to do with the property include

- *Unanimous decision on using the property to earn funds for The League.
- * See about performing at State Convention
- *Charge a one time “Royalty Fee “to organizations who want to have their own production *Finding a core group of approximately 10 people who would be willing to commit to doing this 3 to 4 times a year
- *Having core group perform at Churches, Senior Centers libraries
- *Sell script to High Schools – or just get royalty fees – for students to put on their own production.
- * If we get a core group try for a production before midterm elections- or be flexible and aim for next year

*Invite a very targeted group of people to a live performance with the goal of having them “Hire” us to perform for their organization. Such as church groups, senior living personnel, women’s auxiliary , other women’s organizations.

*Reach out to small regional theaters like the Art Barn in Osceola about doing it in that venue

*Make a 3-4 minute video introducing the work and put on our web site and or FB page with contact information about how to get the rights to perform it.

* As part of the Royalty charge we would include access to the video as a tool for other Leagues or organizations to guide them in their own staging



Member Services (Kathy Streitz <kfstreitz@gmail.com>)

Membership Matters: Growing Stronger, Together!

As members of the LWVSCV we honor our volunteers who do the hands-on work to safeguard democracy. We are directly involved in shaping the important issues to keep the community strong.

Every life we touch is remembered! Sometimes, the most difficult and most fulfilling choice is to show up! Thank you to all of our members for covering the big projects and the small details.

As of this newsletter’s publication, LWVSCV proudly counts 130 members. Most are active and current at this time. The membership application is provided as an attachment to this newsletter for your convenience or...print the membership application from our website at lhwstcroixvalley.org, fill it out, and mail it to Katrina, our treasurer with a check for \$75.00 or fill out the membership application on our website and use a credit card to join. We do offer a \$20.00 minimum fee. Please let me know if you have questions. Feel free to share with friends!

Reach out to our new members near and far, in your HUB and beyond.

Attend a coffee, a rally, a high school visit or a farmers market. Don’t forget to bring a friend! Check on your neighbors!

Please join me in welcoming our newest members!

Kassi Kulow, <kassikulow@gmail.com> Kassi lives in River Falls and will join HUB 4.

Kristin Woolsey, <Kriswoolsey@yahoo.com>Kristin lives in River Falls and will also join HUB 4.



Voter Services Report

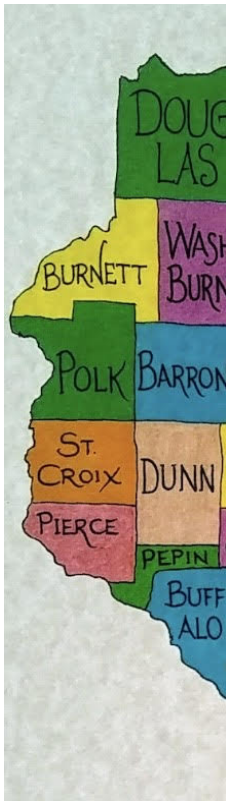
As we head into election season, we will make our best effort to encourage voting and educate the public regarding what will be on their ballots. Of special interest will be 3 questions, i.e. Constitutional Amendments.

As in the past, the wording of these ‘questions’ are long, complicated, and confusing. The State League is working on a simple way to explain the impact of these proposed changes that we can use to inform the public.

The Save America Act is still a threat to voting. But as you probably know the President is pushing for its passing. We will continue to monitor this situation, but if you wish to learn more check [Vote.Org](https://www.vote.org/save-act/) <<https://www.vote.org/save-act/>> or League of Women Voters <<https://www.lwv.org/save-act>> .

Members are also encouraged to use 5 Calls <<https://5calls.org/>> or any other means to keep in contact with your representatives regarding this issue and any others that you care about. Sign up for tabling events, write a Letter to the Editor, join a rally—do what you can to “make a difference”!

Let us know what efforts you are making and we will share it here to encourage others!



HUB NEWS (Please watch 👁️ this newsletter for HUB news!!!!!!)

Our membership is divided into four geographical HUBz in order to organize and focus. Yet we can mix it up in our HUBz so all are welcome to visit anytime.

HUB 1 is in northern Polk and Burnett Counties and includes Frederic, Luck, Siren, Webster, Danbury, and Grantsburg area. **Contact Kris Surbaugh, aksurbaugh@gmail.com**

HUB 2 is in Polk County and includes Amery, St. Croix Falls, Osceola, Clayton, Turtle Lake, Milltown and surrounding areas. **Contact Irene Bugge, irenebugge@gmail.com**

HUB 3 is in St. Croix County and includes Deer Park, Star Prairie and the New Richmond area. **Contact Kay Brooks, kaybrooks48@gmail.com**

HUB 4 is in St. Croix County and includes Houlton, Hudson, RiverFalls, Baldwin, Woodville, and the Hammond area. **Contact**

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

HUB 1 NEWS—Burnett and Northern Polk County (contact Kris Surbaugh

<aksurbaugh@gmail.com> for more information



Once again volunteers enjoyed a few hours of fun, games, and sharing information with the folks who stopped by our LWV SCV booth.

Pam Girtz joined Mary Karl and Kris Surbaugh at the Northwest Passage Friday Farmers Market. 28 adults and 6 children stopped by to visit.

This market has an interesting and diverse group of vendors, plus the Gallery is a delight to view. Take the time to stop at this Market if you are in Webster on Fridays – Future Dates for the League to be there: June 26, July 10, July 31, and August 7.

Several members of Hub 1 joined together to celebrate Flag Day in Webster WI by attending a rally on the corner of main street and hiway 35. We shall continue to raise our voices to fight the oppression of a regime that ignores the Constitution and the wishes of our citizens.



First HUB 2 Farmers Market of the Season.

Miriam Flysjo and Nanette Del Monaco staffed HUB 2's first Farmers Market of the season on Saturday, June 13, in St. Croix Falls. Kathie Nelson lent us her canopy. It was a beautiful sunny day with temperatures in the low 70's.

Seventy-six people -- 25 adults and 51 children- came to the League table. Two signed up for the League newsletter. Children and adults alike spun the wheel and answered civics questions.

The flyer advertising the upcoming Polk County Sheriff Meet & Greet was handed out along with the new trifold about the Declaration of Independence.



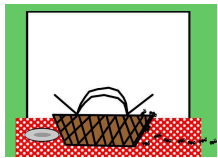
What a great beginning of the season. Next market in Amery on June 15.

HUB 3 NEWS

Our members are in the New Richmond, Somerset, Deer Park, and Star Prairie area. Most notable this month are the members who are stepping up to do planning and recruiting. It's these opportunities to work together that bonds us in our shared mission.

We look forward to our first Heritage Center market of the summer on June 27th. Karen Roberts has an able crew signed up. You will also see our members at Flag Day and Pridefest. Many have been participating in Indivisible rallies. More discreetly, members are bringing food to immigrants with the Los Amigos program and are attending local government meetings as observers in the Observer Corps.

We have work to do on Lunch and Learns, but Susan Bosley and Jarell Kuney are checking into the possibility of honoring John Doar, New Richmond native and Civil Rights activist. Many thanks to Patty Van Nevel and Rita Kearns for offering to take on our HUB high schools and Northwood Tech for Voter Information/Registration work. Thanks also to Kathy Kraemer and Karen Greenberg for being willing to plan coffees. Barb Kunz has already done some of the legwork for our next get-together. And here it is!



HUB 3 PICNIC

DATE: Thursday, June 25

TIME: 5:00-6:30

PLACE : River Island Park in the shelter, Side Ave. behind the Apple River Inn.

PLEASE BRING: your own beverage, a snack to pass for 10, a chair (opt.), and \$5 for pizza from Main Street Pizza

An RSVP is highly encouraged in order for us to gauge how much pizza to buy. Please contact Kay Brooks kaybrooks48@gmail.com

HUB 4 NEWS:

River Falls Farmers Market

Thank you to Sarah Van Scoyk and Janet Ellinger for working at the Rush River Brewery in River Falls on Thursday June 11th. We enjoyed the live music and each others' company. Sharing time together, sharing ideas is how we create our plans and actions as League members. We decided, Women in leadership is the way to go! The three of us talked about River Falls Days for a possible tabling event for next summer. Happy almost summer!



Hudson Farmers Market on Carmichael
Future dates will be July 25 and August 22.
Times are 7:30 to noon.
More information to follow.
Contact Kathy Streitz if you are available.



OBSERVER CORPS

We are happy to announce the **Observer Corps** is getting rolling. There are two groups, north and south. The former encompasses Polk and Burnett Counties. The latter includes all of St. Croix County. Both have a good number of volunteers who are willing to attend government meetings to gain greater understanding of what these groups are doing and also to encourage accountability to the people they represent.

Their purpose is to simply observe. However, participants will take notes and, should an issue come up that concerns them, they will take their reporting to an Oversight Committee. We are looking both for more volunteers and for Oversight Committee volunteers.

We believe that a few hours of involvement/month will reap great rewards. We would rather be ahead of issues than behind.

The contact person for Polk/Burnett Observer Corps is Jeff Peterson <luckpolkwisco@gmail.com>.

The contact people for St. Croix Co. Observer Corps are
Kay Brooks <kaybrooks48@gmail.com>
Chris Rivard <christopher.rivard@gmail.com> and
Jenn Peterson <jennkpeterson@gmail.com>.

Volunteers have received guidelines, the list of volunteers, a form to use for observing, and a calendar of meetings.

HUDSON Flag Day – words from Beth Wood LWVSCV co-president:

My name is Beth Wood and I am co-President of the League of Women Voters St. Croix Valley. Our league has members from Burnett, Polk, St. Croix, and Pierce Counties, all along the beautiful St. Croix River valley. Please take a minute today to check out the



information in our LWV tent. With almost 120 members we welcome everyone.

I am honored to be here with members of the league, standing before you on this Flag Day, in what I think we all agree is one of the most beautiful places in the Country. This November 3 every seat in the House of Representatives and 33 seats in the Senate will be on the ballot. There is an important primary election on August 11 that will determine who is on that November ballot. I ask each of you to educate yourselves, share what you learn and encourage everyone you know to



vote in every election and most importantly the August primary and the November 3 general election.

What issues do you care about?

What do you value?

Make sure your vote reflects what is important to you!

All people deserve to have their voices heard and their communities represented. Together, our voices have power. We the people have the power.

It is also important for you to know that on the Wisconsin November 3 ballot there will be 3 proposed Wisconsin Constitutional Amendments. I encourage you to use every nonpartisan resource you can find to educate yourselves on those proposed Amendments before you vote in



favor of anything that may harm people you care about.

Specifically, the Governmental Entity Discrimination Prohibited amendment will eliminate 60 years of gains for women and minorities in Wisconsin. This is serious. These are indeed serious times.

As we stand together, peacefully, look around you. This is what Democracy looks like!

We all believe this is worth protecting. We understand that activism begins at the local level. All politics is local. Your vote is the most powerful tool you have. We all share a love for our communities, our children, our seniors and our Veterans. We love our Country and we love our flag. Defending democracy is nonpartisan.

Women fought for over 70 years before winning the right to vote in 1920. And that did not include all women. Women of color and Native American Women had to continue to fight for decades to earn the vote. We honor their work and sacrifices of the early suffrage movement by respecting and valuing our right to vote. Regardless of who is elected - the work does not change. The mission of over 106 years does not change. We move forward with conviction, with integrity and always, always with hope.



Unite and Rise with us! The flag belongs to us all! Long may she wave.

June	16	June Board Meeting LWVSCV–ALL MEMBERS INVITED!
	17	ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC (SOUTH) –HERITAGE CENTER NEW RICHMOND 4:30–7:30
	19	Juneteenth
	20	Pride Event! Hudson Lakefront Park
	25	Hub 3 Picnic: River Island Park Star Prairie 5:00–6:30pm
	26	Farmers Market with Hub 1 Webster 10AM-1PM
July	1	Newsletter
	4	Independence day! 250 Years! Keep it up!!!
	10	Farmers Market with Hub 1 Webster 10AM-1PM
	15	Annual Summer Picnic (north) 5:00PM – 7:30PM In Frederic at the Community Pride Park on the corner of Traffic Ave. and Highway 48.
	22	OBSERVER CORP TRAINING VIA ZOOM 2PM (register here) https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FnWX1DqaSMG-3Mhdbm3K2A#/registration
	31	Farmers Market with Hub 1 Webster 10AM-1PM
August	1	Newsletter
	8	Unite and Rise National Day of Action!
	11	<i>Primary</i>
November	1	Newsletter
November	3	<i>General Election</i>

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>

Directors

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

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

Kathy Streitz <kfstreitz@gmail.com>

Vicki Harmon <vickiharmon@hotmail.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 Lestock <janetblestock@gmail.com>

Nominations Chair Kathy Streitz <kfstreitz@gmail.com>

Roster Managers Katrina Larsen <katrina_larsen@yahoo.com>

Tami Halcomb <thalcomb@gmail.com>



Members continue to receive occasional emails that are scams. Beware of any emails that ask you to open a link or ask you to do something financially. It may include the name of a League member—but check the email address that it is coming from. If it isn't an address that you recognize, contact the person by using a text or league verified email of who is supposedly sending it— to verify that they sent it.

LEAGUE LEADERS WILL NEVER ASK YOU TO BUY GIFT CARDS OR TO SEND THEM MONEY!