



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

September 15, 2026



HAPPY NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

Our League HUBs are celebrating National Voter Registration Day in a variety of ways. Some are working with their local libraries. Some are setting up tables at our area colleges.

HUBs 3 and 4 set up information tables yesterday at Chippewa Valley Tech and Northwood Tech Colleges. A team will visit UW-River Falls on October 5.



Cathy Boehm and Patty Van Nevel are shown here at a table at Chippewa Valley Technical College

Sustaining Our Work

27. Register for poll worker training and encourage another League member to join you.
28. Commit to becoming a sustaining donor and ask two others to consider giving.
29. Volunteer to train new members in voter registration or outreach skills.
30. Create a group chat or listserve to keep new volunteers connected and engaged.
31. Follow up with a recent League event attendee or volunteer and invite them to take a next step! Join as a member, lead an activity, or bring a friend to the next event.

Unite and Rise 8.5.

Thank you LWVSCV members! We are in Playbook 6 of the Unite Rise campaign. For over a year we have worked hard to incorporate the intention of Unite Rise 8.5 to collaborate, engage, and amplify the work of the LWV in an effort to reach more voters.

We are in the final weeks of our efforts, and I wanted to share the last 5 tips included in the Unite Rise toolkit. Sustainability of our work, our relationships, and the incredible league we have created together will continue long after the next election.

**We are supported by 106 years of LWV History that assures us of that.
Thank you all for your work. Beth Wood – Unite Rise Captain**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR ...

Pam Girtz and Carolyn Saunders invite you to our League's second

POTLUCK PICNIC which will be held on
Wednesday, September 30th, 5:00-7:00pm,
at the Community Pride Park
in downtown Frederic, WI.

(This picnic replaces the July picnic we had to cancel due to extreme heat and unhealthy smoky air.)

We will provide pulled pork sandwiches (made by our favorite "Chef Roxanne"), as well as a variety of beverages, including wine, and dinnerware. Donations of side dishes and desserts would be appreciated.

Even though this picnic is often referred to as our "Up North Picnic", all League members, family and friends are invited to attend.

Our League picnics also offer an opportunity to meet up with old friends, make new friends, catch up on what has made our League more visible, what we have accomplished during the summer, and learn about upcoming opportunities.

By the end of September, you can delight in the changing colors of fall as you drive north. You can experience the whispering of pine trees and the scent of "home fires burning" to keep our homes warm. Life is good "up north" in the fall! Come and see for yourselves!

Please RSVP to Carolyn Saunders at
csaunders1949@yahoo.com
by Friday, September 25th.

We hope to see you all in Frederic on September 30th.

Member Services

Contact (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. We honor those members who wish to donate only and all levels of engagement. Please let us know your wishes as far as level engagement in the LWVSCV. Please email suggestions regarding membership ideas and ways we can improve our communication. We are always willing to listen and grow!

Time to renew your membership?

As of this newsletter's publication, LWVSCV proudly counts 124 members. Most are active and current at this time. Some memberships have lapsed. Time to renew? We offer a sliding membership fee of \$20.00 – \$75.00. You can print the membership application from our website and mail it to Katrina with your check. Or fill out the application form as a renewal online at **LWVUS**. Renewing on line with **LWVUS** will offer automatic renewal. Chapter Spot which has our roster at the LWVUS level will email you with 30 and 60 day past due reminders. After 60 days you are removed from the national list. Please check your renewal dates. Thank you for checking your renewal date.

Please let me know if you have questions. It is easy to miss a renewal date and I am here to help. There are about 15 members on our list who need to renew. Note: You are always welcome to attend LWVSCV gatherings as a member or as a friend.

Bring A Friend! ☀️

Feel free to invite friends to join in on a gathering and to join our chapter. Reach out to our new members in your HUB and beyond. Attend a coffee, a rally, a high school or college visit, a farmers market, a Lunch and Learn, a community speaker, or any of our gatherings. All are welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome three new members and welcome Laura Rowe, laurarowe1221@gmail.com. Laura lives in Hudson, and we are so glad to have her back.

New members are...

- John Gostovich, gostovich@mac.com, spouse of our member Celeste Koeberl.
- Susan Keskinen, susankeskinen@gmail.com. Susan lives in Star Prairie and will join HUB 3.
- Mary Muchlinski, marymuchlinski@gmail.com. Mary lives in Hudson. Laura, John, and Mary will join HUB 4. Our membership has grown with the times. Each new member brings new energy, hope, and promise to our efforts as we educate and support democracy!

FYI and for all members, our shirts and hats are available through our member Susan Bosley. Please contact her with questions. Susan Bosley, morgansouthside@gmail.com.

HUB NEWS!

Our membership is divided into four geographical HUBz. We mix it up in our HUBz and all are welcome to visit anytime.

HUB 1 is in northern Polk and Burnett counties, including the Frederic, Webster, Siren, Danbury 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 which includes New Richmond, Star Prairie, Somerset, and Deer Park area. Contact, Kay Brooks, kaybrooks48@gmail.com.

HUB 4 is in St. Croix County and includes Houlton, Hudson, River Falls, Baldwin, Woodville, and the Hammond area. Contact, Kathy Streitz, kfstreitz@gmail.com.

HUB 1 NEWS: Webster, Siren, Danbury, Grantsburg, Frederic, Luck
(contact Kris Surbaugh <aksurbaugh@gmail.com> for Hub 1 information)

Burnett County Pre-Election Day Event



What will be the Impact of Reducing Burnett County Supervisory Districts?

There is a referendum on the November 3 ballot regarding reducing the Burnett County Board from 21 members to 15.

Meet with members of YOUR County Board.
Listen to them as they speak about the proposal.
Ask your questions. Be an informed voter.

(Be aware - This is a listening session.
No county board business will be transacted.)

Thursday, September 24 - 6:00 pm
(doors open 5:30)

Burnett County Government Center
Room 165

7410 Cty Hwy K, Siren, WI

Light refreshments will be served



October Ed-Fest

Thursday Evenings at the
Frederic Public Library
127 Oak St W
Frederic, WI
6:00 - 8:00
Doors open 5:30

October 1: [How Safe is My Vote?](#)
with Shabana Lundeen
Polk County Clerk

October 8: [Why do Amendments Matter?](#)
with Dr Neil Kraus UWRF

October 15: [What's up with the SAVE ACT?](#)
with Karria Weaver

October 22: [Why create a non-partisan
redistricting committee?](#)
with Fair Maps Coalition of
Wisconsin

Light refreshments will be served

Sponsored by:



Hub 1 members
are busy
organizing
several events
that bring
important
voting
information to
the public in
both Burnett
and northern
Polk Counties.

Hub 2 NEWS Amery, Milltown, Clear Lake, St. Croix Falls, Osceola, Turtle Lake

NORTHLAND LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES FORUM

On August 31, Carolyn Saunders, representing our League chapter, attended a Zoom planning meeting about co-sponsoring a Forum for candidates running for Senate District 25 and Assembly Districts 73, 74 and 75. The proposed forum will be a joint collaboration with LWV WI, LWV/Ashland and Bayfield Counties, LWV/Douglas County, LWV /Iron-Gogebic and LWV/St. Croix Valley. Candidates have been contacted about their interest in participating in a live forum in a centrally located facility that allows for the event to be uploaded to Facebook Live and recorded. Date and location TBD.



St. Croix Falls Market, September 12. Wanda Brown staffed the League table at the St Croix Falls Public Library Plaza. A beautiful fall day brought about 30 adults and 35 kids to have fun at the LWV table, spinning the wheel and learning about our government. Adults were learning along with the kids. Some of the questions for 15 yr olds are hard for adults also !! A lot of interest was shown by women interested in joining the League. People want to talk politics. It was necessary to decline to engage but they were interested in hearing that they need to learn more about the Constitutional Amendments proposed for the WI Constitution.

Upcoming Farmers Markets

- **SEPT. 21 Amery Farmers Market** -- Monday, 3:00pm – 6:00pm -- Soo Line Park – Angie Johnson and Pat Seidl.

Upcoming HUB 2 Events

- **SEPT. 30 -- Up North Potluck Picnic** Wednesday, 5:00 – 7:00 pm Community Pride Park at the corner of Traffic Ave and Highway 48, Frederic **RSVP:** csaunders1949@yahoo.com
- **OCT. 7 -- Get-out the Vote Postcard Writing Gathering**, Wednesday, 11:00 – 12:30. River Stone Bookshop 205 N. Cascade St. Osceola. Lunch afterward at Watershed Café for those interested. *Please put this on your calendar and bring a friend!*
- **OCT. 19 -- Election Integrity Presentation**, Monday, 6:30 – 8:00 with Shabana Lundeen – St Croix Falls Library. Co-sponsored with Polk Burnett Indivisible. League Lead: Barb Katt. *We are encouraging all HUB 2 members to attend this program.*

HUB 3 NEWS: New Richmond, Star Prairie, Somerset, Deer Park

. Contact, Kay Brooks, kaybrooks48@gmail.com.

HUB 3 COFFEE/DINNER

Although we had a relatively small turnout for this month's get-together, we had a nice, productive time. We will be having a postcard coffee the first week in October and expect the timing to be better. (stay tuned!)

HERITAGE DAYS

On September 21, a team of members will set up an information table at Heritage Days in New Richmond. We have our own heritage to celebrate, having 106 years of history as the women's suffrage movement.

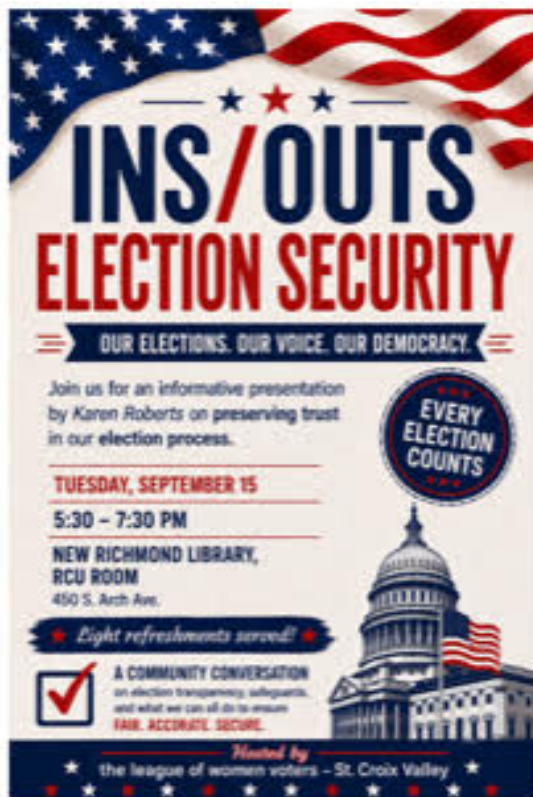
STORYTIME AT SOMERSET LIBRARY

Susan Sroka will work with the youth librarian to present a lesson on voting for pre-schoolers on Monday, September 28. Nancy Vanasse and Kay Brooks will have an information table set up at the same time. Susan will be using the kit that is available for any member to use at their local library. (Just contact Kay to learn more!)

Our league has one kit and there is also one available through the MORE Library System.

SENIORS AND DISABLED VOTERS

We have members who are contacting senior centers and senior living facilities to offer voting/election information. Thanks to Nancy Ulrich, Melinda Hansen, Kathy Roberts, and Jan Strohm.



INs/OUTs Election Security

presentation by Karen Roberts—
Tuesday, September 15

Tonight is a much anticipated venture of HUBs 3 & 4. New Richmond clerk Michelle Scanlan will answer audience questions. We are thankful and proud of the many members who have agreed to help with this event. Special thanks to our presenter, Karen Roberts, clerk Michelle Scanlan, moderator Rita Kearns, and Mary Jo Krueger, who organized the refreshments.

HUB 4 News—St. Croix County/Hudson Area

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

Judy Green - jflag@yahoo.com, 612-513-1818

Liz Bruch - drizbruch@gmail.com, 715-220-7327

Janet Lestock - janetblestock@gmail.com, 507-213-6016

Postcard Writing Follow-up:

HUB 4 gathered at the office of Carol Skinner in Hudson on August 5



Thank you Carol for inviting us to your historic office space.

We gathered and wrote 100 postcards, mailed them with League hope and promise of reaching new voters! Thanks to Carol Skinner, Karen Magnuson, Evanne Hunt, Jan Strommen, Liz Bruch, Sue Flugel and Susan Bosley brought our Purple T-shirts and hats to buy. Sales were made!



There may have been a bit of wine involved. Every

gathering is a treasure as we get to know the fierce, determined women in HUB 4! Thanks to all!

*******Postcard Writing October 7*******

Please join us to write 200 postcards.

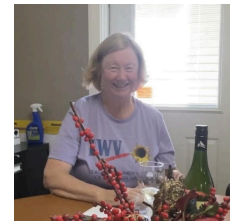
Law office of Carol Skinner in Hudson.

212 Commercial St. Up on the hill. 10:30 AM October 7 See you there!

October 21 Educational Event at the Unitarian Church in River Falls

HUB 4 is in charge of this event!

This flier will be ready for distribution soon! Thanks to Janet Ellinger and Jan Strommen for organizing the October 21 educational event. Professor Kraus from U of WI River Falls will be the featured speaker. The topic will be "Three Constitutional Amendments", which will appear on our November 3rd ballot and will be held at the Unitarian Church in River Falls. We will need volunteers for this event. Contact Janet Ellinger, kayak1091@gmail.com, 612-817-9742. or Kathy Streitz with commitments. Kathy, kfstreitz@gmail.com, 612-916-8856



Volunteers Needed

Areas of need are:

- **Publicity**
- **Snacks/beverages**
- **Set up/Clean up**
- *****Attend event, we need to show up and support democracy and assist audience members**
- **Question monitors**
- **Introductions/housekeeping**
- **Closing remarks/Thank you**

Effective Communications within HUB 4

Communication within our large hub of 40 members is a dilemma. We will start a TEXT thread. Thank you Judy Green for this work! Emails reach about 30% of our HUB 4 members. Phone calls help too. We are on a continual journey to reach and involve members. Should we have evening meetings? Saturday meetings? Let us know what is best for you. **Comments and suggestions are welcome.**

CAR POOLS Kathy Roberts brought up Car Pools as a need and we would like to see that need met. Please contact Kathy Roberts, Ramona Hoffman, Janet Lestock, and Kathy Streitz if you would like to join a car pool to get a ride to LWVSCV gatherings. 🚗

Celebrating National Voter Registration Day! HUB 4 High School Visits (sometime during weeks of September and October).

Contact the following members if you are willing to visit a high school and share voter registration materials with seniors.

Hudson High School – Contact Janet Lestock, janetblestock@gmail.com

River Falls High School & St. Croix Central High School– Contact Carol Skinner, cskinner@skinnerlaw.com

Baldwin/Woodville High School – Contact Kathy Streitz.

Hudson Farmers Market on Carmichael 9/12



Thank you to Cathy Boehm, Liz Bruch and Judy Green for being there! We had a busy four hours at the market and interacted with 120 people! Our focus was the three amendments which will be on our November ballot. The spinner, civics questions, candy prizes, and stickers were successful attractions for all ages. Children love the VOTER stickers and discussion about voting. There was nonstop traffic and

fun as we engaged with market shoppers from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and visitors from other states. We often have a variety of questions. Many were concerned with current issues; “Where to vote?”, awareness of and understanding the amendments, and one question was, “How do we write letters to the editor”? Farmers markets bring so many opportunities to engage with community members on supporting democracy. A big part of the fun is listening and talking about how to be an educated and involved voter! Spending time with each other as LWVSCV members is also joyful and contributes to the value of our experience as League members. My pitch to join in!



HUBs 3 and 4 will be hosting a second event on Wednesday, October 21. Prof. Neil Kraus, political science professor from UWRF, will speak about the three proposed Amendments that will be on the November ballot. This event will be held from 5:30-7:00 at the Unitarian Church in River Falls. More details to come.

Project 3.5 is hosting two Monarca scenario planning events in Hudson.

This is an opportunity to think through how we might respond to post-election disruption at the hyperlocal level, while we still have time to build strategic relationships, communication systems, mutual aid networks, etc...

The sessions are:

Saturday, September 19th

10 am -12 pm

First Presbyterian Church

Hudson, WI

Sign Up:

<https://cryptpad.fr/form/#/2/form/view/2+ywK0Q6rKFg8wEgy2hmyyHTdL+vypNquSse8yUzSOM/>

Thursday, September 24th

6:30 - 8:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church

Hudson, WI

Sign Up:

<https://cryptpad.fr/form/#/2/form/view/IcV7UoTBRI5GWQfdpiseDTlugmVQvtkOtMTAKUOxFeg/>

Just an FYI: Project 3.5 is coordinating closely with Bill Hegseth (GROWW), and we decided to make these Monarca sessions available to people who may not be able to commit to GROWW's full weekend workshop at the end of September. The intent is to get everyone in formation, and be ready when the flows of panicked people start flooding in.



Beth Wood shared this fun opportunity to dig deeper into Wisconsin Women's History!

September	15	Newsletter
	15	Election Security Event at 5:30-7:00 in New Richmond Library Building
	15	National Voter Registration Day Activities planned independently by each HUB.
	21	Amery Farmers Market -- Mondays, 3:00pm - 6:00pm -- Soo Line Park Amery – Angie Johnson and Pat Seidl.
	22	HUB 3 Heritage Farmers' Market in New Richmond 8:00-1:00
	22	Heritage Days in New Richmond. Information table planned by HUB 3
	22	LWVSCV Board Meeting
	24	Pros/Cons of Reducing Number of Board Supervisors, Doors open at 5:30(Burnett County ballot question program)
	28	Voting Storytime at Somerset Library
	30	Up North Potluck Picnic Frederic RSVP Carolyn Saunders <csaunders1949@yahoo.com>
October	1	Newsletter
	1	Election Integrity with Shabana Lundeen at the Frederic Public Library 6PM
	5	Classroom Presentation at UWRF
	6	Northland Legislative Candidates Forum– Hayward
	7	Get Out the Vote Postcard Writing in Osceola (see Hub 2 report)
	8	Guest speaker Dr. Neil Kraus (UWRF) at the Frederic Public Library 6PM
	13	Election Integrity with Wanda Hinrichs Burnett County Clerk @ Burnett County Courthouse 6PM Room
	15	Newsletter
	15	Karrie Weaver presents "The Save (America) Act– What can possibly go wrong? Frederic Public Library 6PM
	19	Election Integrity Presentation with Shabana Lundeen – SCF Library, October 19. Possible co-sponsorship with Polk Burnett Indivisible. 6:30PM
	20	LWVSCV Board Meeting
	21	Dr Neil Kraus "Why Amendments Matter" Unitarian Church River Falls
	22	Fair Maps Coalition "What is a Permanent Redistricting Solution to end Gerrymandering" Frederic Public Library 6PM

November	1	Newsletter
	3	<u>General Election</u>
	14	<u>LWVSCV Retreat</u>
	15	Newsletter

LEAGUE LEADERS **WILL NEVER ASK YOU TO BUY GIFT CARDS, PAY LEAGUE BILLS, OR TO SEND THEM MONEY!**

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 where 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.

(REMEMBER—WE HAVE A TREASURER WHO HAS AN OFFICIAL ACCOUNT WHO TAKES CARE OF ALL LEAGUE BUSINESS!!!)

Guidance: Navigating Nonpartisanship During Election Cycles

When candidates are running for office, our nonpartisan stance is clear and firm: We do not endorse or oppose any candidate or political party. Through state and local voter guides and VOTE411, Leagues work tirelessly to solicit and gather answers from tens of thousands of candidates around critical community questions.

These include questions about voting rights, climate change, reproductive rights, inflation, immigration enforcement practices, federal checks and balances, and more issues that affect the lives of Americans. These questions help voters decide on which candidate reflects their values and community needs. And while we provide voters with information on where candidates stand on key issues, host nonpartisan forums, and work to ensure every eligible voter has access to the ballot, our goal is to empower voters with facts, not to tell them who to vote for.

We Are Nonpartisan, Not Neutral

Remaining nonpartisan does not mean staying silent. When democracy itself is under threat, when voter access is restricted, or when misinformation spreads, we have a responsibility to speak out

— clearly and forcefully. Our nonpartisan commitment strengthens our voice, allowing us to advocate for fundamental rights and freedoms without being seen as beholden to any political agenda.

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>

