

The Voter

The official publication of the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area
FALCON HEIGHTS, LAUDERDALE, LITTLE CANADA, MAPLEWOOD, ROSEVILLE

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<u>President's Report</u>	2
<u>June Event</u>	2
<u>Windows/Mirrors for All</u>	3
<u>Equitable Study Report</u>	4
<u>Environment Article</u>	5
<u>LWVMN Firearms Event</u>	7
<u>Recap: March Event</u>	7
<u>2021-2022 Proposed Budget</u>	8
<u>Proposed Amendments</u>	9
<u>Nominations Report</u>	10
<u>Future League Events</u>	11
<u>Lifetime Member Spotlight</u>	11
<u>CMAL Update</u>	11
<u>April Event Calendar</u>	12

Doing All We Can Today to Make Our Cities More Sustainable Tomorrow

Want to recognize Earth Day without leaving home? Join us on April 20 at 6:30 p.m. for an environmental forum with the mayors from Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood, and Roseville. With the growing impact of climate change, such as damaging warm temperatures, flooding, forest fires, and tornadoes, learn what's happening in your own city. Hear about actions taken by our five area cities to address climate change and implement their 2040 Comprehensive Plans, and ask your questions of the mayors. This event is co-sponsored by the Ramsey County Library.



Register in advance here:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_81jN5ShnTtGnL_arz0dWLA. Please share the flier that will be sent with the April Voter with others who may be interested. If you miss the event, check the Ramsey County Library website at <https://www.rclreads.org/> for the recording after the event.

Find us on our website
and other social media
sites!

Website:
<http://www.lwvrosevillearea.org>

Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/lwvRosevilleArea>

Instagram:
<http://www.instagram.com/lwvrosevillearea>

YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjWhyaOul7m9LEgYY8IMPfg>

LWV Annual Meeting / Summer Social

Mark your calendars now for a two part Annual Meeting. The May 4 business meeting will once again have to be virtual, but the good news is we are also planning a fun, socially-distanced outside event.

What: Summer social with in-person conversation, box lunches and Rose Award presentations

When: 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 27

Where: Jaycees Shelter, Roseville Central Park, 2540 Lexington Ave. N.

Watch for information about attending the virtual May 4 business meeting in a coming eBlast.

LWV of Roseville Area April Board Meeting

The next LWV of Roseville Area Board meeting is Wednesday, April 28, at 7 p.m. For Zoom access, please contact Barb Anderson at lwvrosevillearea@lwvmn.org in advance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

LWV of Roseville Area Board Members

Officers:

President

Barb Barany

Vice President

Barb Anderson

Secretary

Jim DeBenedet
(Mindy Greiling,
backup)

Treasurer

Jessica Holz

.....

Directors:

Action/Advocacy

Wayne Groff
Priscilla Morton

Communications

Barb Anderson,
transitioning to
Mary Peterson

Membership

Rita Mills

Program

Florence Sprague,
vice chair Carol
Marchel

Voter Services

Karen Lake

.....

Members-At-Large

Stephanie DeBenedet
Rachel Geiser
Karen Schaffer

At last year's annual meeting, postponed to June 2020 due to the pandemic, our membership approved an amendment to our Bylaws. The amendment allows for annual or special meetings to be held virtually, and outlines requirements for doing so. Our Bylaws designate us as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the League of Women Voters Minnesota Education Fund, and any changes to the Bylaws—rules on membership, the board, and meetings—need to be approved by both our members at our annual meeting and the Board of LWVMN. In the case of the virtual meeting amendment, LWVMN recommended the changes to the Bylaws that were adopted last June.

In addition to Bylaws, our local league maintains a document of Policies and Procedures, which helps to further define our local identity and practices. Procedures make it possible to maintain consistency, including providing points of reference, so that important actions don't get missed as we change board members. Policies and Procedures may be amended by membership at the annual meeting. Between annual meetings, the board may amend them contingent on approval by the membership at the next annual meeting. Amendments may be made for a variety of reasons.

Last June, the board amended our Policies and Procedures to align our dues payments with the new LWVMN data system. Membership status is now updated continuously. Starting with members who joined or re-joined in 2019, the annual dues renewal date is tied to the date they joined or re-joined. Members who joined prior to 2019 have a renewal date of April 1.

One of the pleasures of LWV of Roseville Area membership that we've missed during the past year is keeping up with friends at in-person meetings and programs. In any year, it can be important to remember those we won't be able to meet with again. For this purpose, in January, the board added a procedure for recognizing deceased members. Foremost in this procedure is including notice of the death in our regular communication vehicles. Of course, additional recognitions can always be provided.

The final procedure amended during the past year clarifies how the nominating committee is selected and removes an inconsistency between two sections of the Policies and Procedures regarding committee members' appointments.

Amendments to the Policies and Procedures made by the board during the 2020-2021 fiscal year are on [page 9](#) for approval at the May meeting. Both our Bylaws and Policies and Procedures can be found on our website, <https://lwvrosevillearea.org/>, under Member Resources.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our May 4 annual business meeting and July 27 social!

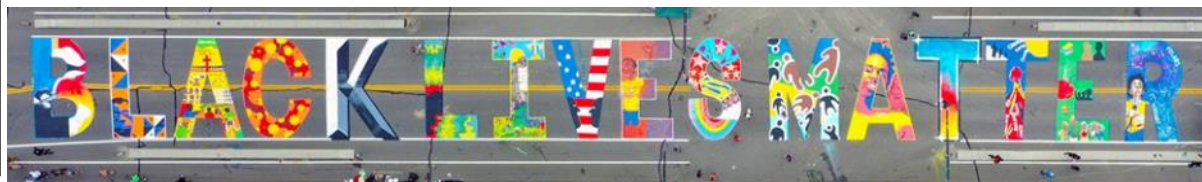


Barb Barany

Coming in June (we hope) — An Outing!

With the world reopening to a degree and more of us becoming fully vaccinated this spring, we are still hoping that some of us will get to experience the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery in Minneapolis this June. As of January, it had reopened with limited hours and numbers, masks required. Admission and parking are free, but reservations are required to control numbers. They are currently only taking reservations through May.

We will continue to watch their website. Watch the eBlast for updates.



It's Not Zero-Sum

By Florence Sprague

"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." — The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Paul Wellstone and MLK had it right. "We all do **better** when we **all** do better" [emphasis added]. Two great minds and great hearts agreed, and it turns out that this is not just touchy-feely, nice guy stuff. It is economic reality.

Self-described "economic policy wonk" Heather McGhee shares evidence of how policies based on racism have cost the economy, and hence all of us, big bucks, in her op-ed in the online New York Times article, "The Way Out of America's Zero-Sum Thinking on Race and Wealth" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/13/opinion/race-economy-inequality-civil-rights.html>) [adapted from her book *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*].

McGhee references a 2020 report from Citigroup (<https://eacny.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Citi-Closing-Racial-Inequality-Gaps-AX2QY.pdf>). The report concludes that "not addressing racial gaps between blacks and whites has cost the US economy up to \$16 trillion over the past 20 years." For example:

- The Black wage gap: \$2.7 trillion in income per year or +0.2% to GDP per year.
- Less access to education: Lifetime losses in income totaling \$90-\$113 billion.
- Less access to housing credit: 770,000 missing Black homeowners for \$218 billion in potential sales.
- Inequitable lending to Black businesses: Loss of \$13 trillion in business revenue and 6.1 million potential jobs.

Close these gaps and "we could see \$5 trillion of additional GDP over the next 5 years, or an average additional 0.35 percentage point to US GDP growth per year." That's not chicken feed. (This is a long report but these factoids are summarized on page 4-5.)

You probably know that federal home loan supports and the GI Bill helped a whole generation of white, returning soldiers to greater job opportunities and the ability to build wealth through education and home ownership, but mostly excluded returning veterans of color. The policies and funding of government programs helped build the white middle class. McGhee points out that ever since the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s when government began to promise to extend a variety of government benefits across the color line, policies and programs like these have been cut back. As we look to a future middle class that would be majority people of color, bootstraps, loss, and competition not cooperation have been the watchwords. This despite the economic reality of mutual benefit from greater economic activity.

Mary C. Daly, President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, pointed out early in this pandemic year (June 15, 2020) that both government and financial institutions need to plan well to minimize the long-term impacts of the economic dislocations of the pandemic (<https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/files/el2020-15.pdf>). This should include optimizing the "opportunity infrastructure," by investing in health, education, and the digital infrastructure. She notes, when calling for greater public spending, that "Right now, not everyone gets the same chance to succeed in our country. And it's not for lack of trying—it's for lack of opportunity. Our system, whether we meant it to be or not, is set up that way. *But we don't have to accept this...* We have to choose long-term growth. We have to choose equitable opportunity. We have to choose inclusive success. **We can't afford not to**" [emphasis added].

Let's all do **better** by making sure that we **all** do better. It only adds up!



Equitable Representation in City Commissions and Boards: A Study

By Equitable Representation Study Committee

At last year's Annual Meeting, the members voted to study the composition of city commissions and boards in our chapter's five cities: Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood, and Roseville.

The Annual Meeting followed short ly after the death of George Floyd, when the City of Minneapolis, and surrounding cities, were dealing with the aftermath of years of inequality. Discussion regarding potential inequities in our own "backyards" was of grave concern to League members. The study committee was charged with looking at our own city governing bodies to see if equitable representation exists. Questions guiding the study were:

- **Are the demographics of our communities represented in our city appointed commissions and boards?**
- **Are some of the same citizens repeatedly representing us?**

Committee co-chairs are Barb Luck and Patricia Hoffman, and members are: Megan Dahlberg, Rita Mills, and Karen Schaffer. Julie Strahan also provided input to the study.

Goal

To maintain a tight focus, the following goal was written in early summer:

To identify best practices in equitable representation and to determine the current status of representation for Boards and Commissions appointed by the City Councils of Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maple wood, and Roseville.

Process

Tasks were given to all committee members to research the following via web searching, emailing, surveying, and phoning:

- Demographic data from Met Council (during July).
- Notifying each city about the study and requesting commission-appointee information including contact information for commissioners (August/September).
- Drafting online survey interview questions and confidentiality notification.
- Conducting initial and follow-up surveys to all current commissioners (fall).
- Searching websites for equity plans, commissioner handbooks, accessibility of commission-related information (October/November).
- Analyzing, compiling, and following-up on survey responses (January/February).

While the cities vary primarily in size, the commissions also vary in a variety of ways. For example, at present, Lauderdale has no commissions, while Roseville has nine. The only commissions common to four of the cities are Planning and Parks and Recreation.

Information on this important study will be forthcoming.



Be Kind to the World

By Donna Peterson and Barb Luck

According to the calendar, it's spring. Spring is especially welcomed and appreciated this year after the long pandemic season. The promise of spring weather shifts our attention to exciting planting projects, more time outdoors, and green everywhere. It means celebration of days like Earth Day and Arbor Day as important reminders to take care of our Earth. Hopefully, it motivates us to do something helpful for our drastically changing environment.

What can one person do?

Most of us have seen statistics about how long different foods and materials remain in the environment before they decompose. (See some examples of these statistics on the next page.) Much of what is thrown out as trash can either be composted or purchased with less packaging or alternative material. Plastics are one of the worst culprits, taking up to 1,000 years to decompose. And many plastics, for example plastic water bottles, are tossed after being used only one time. Below is one idea that is timely and effective.

Good time to start composting

First, most products that come from plants and animals can go in a compost bin. Even paper towels, Kleenex, uncoated cardboard pizza boxes and coffee grounds and filters. However, what can go into a backyard compost pile varies some from what can be taken to a food scrap pick up site. Find out the specifics for what is acceptable in the two situations by searching the internet for "food scraps Ramsey County."

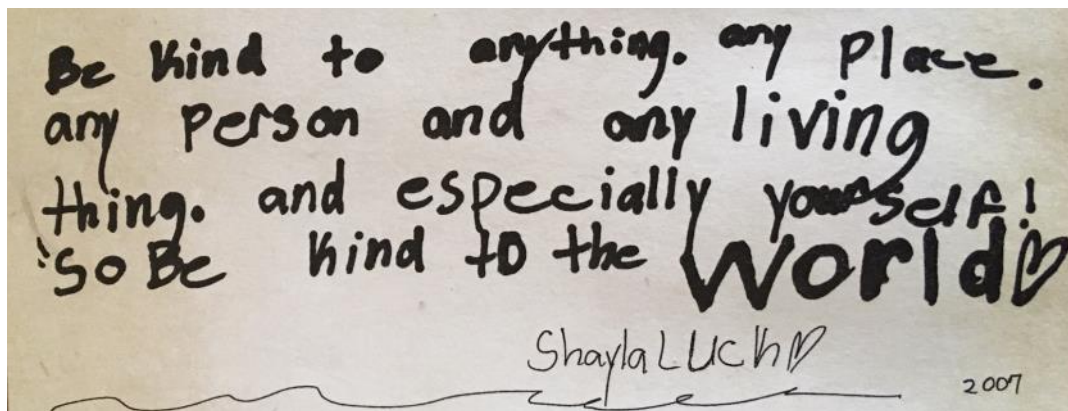
If you have space for a compost bin in your backyard, a great option is to purchase a container from Ramsey County in either Maplewood or St. Paul. For residents, it is \$46 plus tax and **this year they are made from 100 percent recycled plastic!** If you go to the Recycling Association of Minnesota website (<https://recycleminnesota.org/>) and choose compost bins and rain barrels, you will see details, including specific dates and places to purchase compost bins. Of course, you can also purchase bins at places like Home Depot and Lowes.

Even without a backyard bin, you can still compost food waste! Ramsey County makes it easy to get free compostable bags for food waste at their yard waste sites. These are the same locations where you can drop off filled bags. For details, search the internet for "Ramsey County food waste" and you will find site locations. **Note: If you buy bags, they must be BPI certified (Biodegradable Products Institute).** Most products promoted as compostable are not BPI certified (e.g., bags, cups, plates, silverware). If non-BPI certified bags are used, the value of the compost plummets and there might not be a market. While up to 30% of our waste is food waste and disposable, it is best to focus on just food waste and get it right in BPI-certified disposable bags.

It's easy to get started and composting has many benefits. Most importantly, it reduces what ends up in landfills. Landfills are filling up and permits are being sought to enlarge two of our metro landfills due to increased volumes of trash!

Other easy ways to be kind to the Earth

If composting isn't for you, there are many other ways to be kind to the Earth. Some very basic actions are still meaningful, including using reusable grocery bags, limiting use of pesticides, contacting your legislative representatives about supporting climate action, and picking up trash when you're walking. The international Earth Day organization has many more ideas with helpful resources at <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-tips/>. As a very smart eight-year-old granddaughter wrote several years ago, "Be kind to anything. Any place, any person, and any living thing. And especially yourself! So be kind to the world!"



Be Kind to the World (cont.)

How Long Trash Stays Around



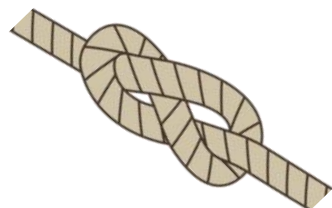
Lettuce
25 years



Glass bottle
Undetermined



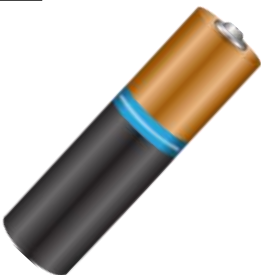
Plastic bottle
450 years



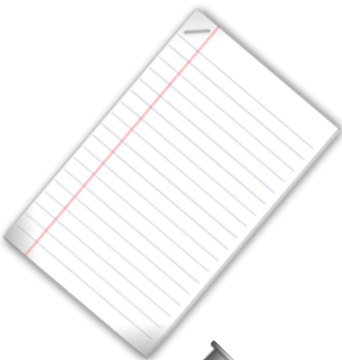
Nylon rope
40 years



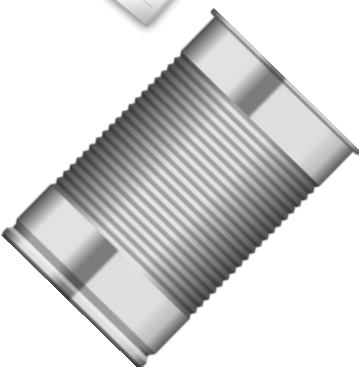
Cigarette filter
5 years



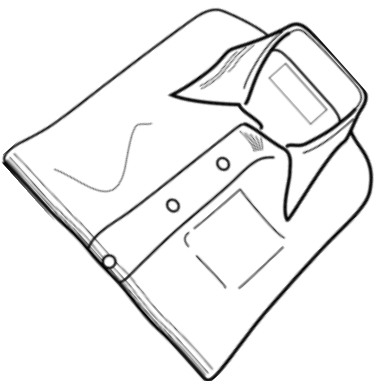
Battery
100 years



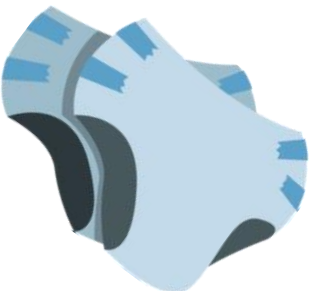
Paper
6 months



Tin can
50 years



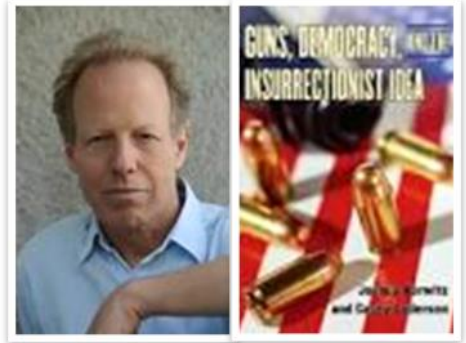
Cotton clothing
5 months



Disposable diaper
450 years

The Second Amendment in a 21st Century Democracy

At the biennial LWVMN Convention in the spring of 2019, the delegates voted to update the 1990 LWVMN position on Firearms. (See pp. 36-37 of the 2019-2021 Program for Action available online at <https://www.lwvmn.org/our-positions>.) The LWVMN Firearms Update Study Committee created then has been studying many facets of this complex topic over these past two years. Its work has been slowed by the pandemic; the update will not be completed before convention this spring as hoped. To share with the membership a sampling of the wide range of information and opinions in this country on the topic of firearms the LWVMN Firearms Update Study Committee is presenting two speakers. **Watch the eBlast for information on how to register for the Zoom link.** If you cannot join the presentation that night, the talk will be recorded and available online.



- Part 1: Insurrectionist Threat to Democracy (April 27)
- Part 2: Individual Gun Rights and the 2nd Amendment (Date TBD)

Speaker: Joshua Horwitz, co-author of “Guns, Democracy and the Insurrectionist Idea”

Date: Tuesday, April 27, 2021

Time: 4 p.m.

In the 21st century, how does the second amendment right to own firearms inform our concept of personal liberty and community? What is the role of firearms in a pluralistic society? Horwitz and his co-author examine the “insurrectionary fantasy” that, even today, guns are an appropriate tool of political dissent.

Recap: Redlining and Racial Covenants

By Rachel Geiser

On March 23, LWV of Roseville Area presented the webinar, Redlining and Racial Covenants, with speakers Kirsten Delegard of Mapping Prejudice and Kari Collins, Ramsey County Community and Economic Development Director, co-sponsored by Ramsey County Library. Delegard and Collins spoke about the racist housing policies of the past to a group of 51 attendees in the event moderated by Carol Marchel. They drew a direct line from those past racial covenants and redlining policies in Minnesota to the ramifications communities of color experience today, not just in housing representation, but in other economic and social effects hardships as well.

Delegard gave a history of the housing policies. She provided a personal example of how her family benefited from quality housing opportunities in the past and how her current situation was made possible by those opportunities. She explained how not having those same past opportunities affect communities of color today.



Collins spoke about structural racism in the government and provided examples of how this racism is still coded into our government and society. She also spoke to how Ramsey County is working to fight structural racism and what we can do as citizens to help make impactful change and aid them in their work.

Watch a recording of the event for more details on this critical topic here:

<https://my.nicheacademy.com/rc/adult/course/27372>.

Clockwise from left: Kari Collins, Kirsten Delegard, Carol Marchel

LWV of Roseville Area 2021-2022 Proposed Budget

By Barb Anderson, Jessica Holz, Bonnie Koch, Mary Ann Palmer

The following LWV of Roseville Area 2021-2022 proposed budget will be voted on at the annual meeting.

	Budget 2020-21	YTD March 2020-21	Proposed Budget 2021-22
INCOME:			
Dues (120 pd members/\$70 dues)	8,400.00	8,520.00	8,400.00
Contributions (unrestricted)	3,000.00	4,440.00	4,000.00
Memorials		730.00	
Annual Meeting	1,100.00		1,100.00
Miscellaneous	200.00	50.00	200.00
Special Events	850.00	756.00	850.00
PayPal Fees	(200.00)	(156.15)	(200.00)
In Kind	885.00		
TOTAL INCOME	14,235.00	14,339.85	14,350.00
EXPENSES:			
Program Division			
Program	250.00	50.00	250.00
Special Events	1,000.00	770.00	850.00
Voter Services	800.00	393.49	350.00
Advocacy/Action	100.00		100.00
Communications			
Public Relations/Advertising	100.00		100.00
Voter Mailing	100.00		100.00
Archivist			100.00
Printing	750.00	179.49	750.00
Website/Facebook/Zoom	150.00	263.22	300.00
Miscellaneous			
Membership	150.00	173.25	150.00
Board Expense			
President/Vice President	100.00	427.14	100.00
Secretary			
Development Committee	150.00	125.49	150.00
Treasurer/fees	-		75.00
Board Expense	50.00		50.00
Sunshine Fund	50.00		50.00
Facility Honorarium	200.00	200.00	200.00
Delegate, Travel, Affiliation			
Delegates, Convention, Workshop	2,000.00		2,000.00
Miscellaneous			
Memorials			
Other Club Dues (Gavel Club)	20.00		20.00
Dues (Regional Water Interleague)	25.00	25.00	25.00
Annual Meeting	1,100.00		1,100.00
Miscellaneous	200.00	1,813.99	200.00
Youth Award			250.00
In Kind			
Per Member Payments			
PMP National (\$32.00/120 members)	3,600.00	3,728.00	3,840.00
PMP State (\$27.00/120 members)	3,240.00	3,116.47	3,240.00
CMAL Dues (\$1.00/120 members)			
TOTAL EXPENSES	14,235.00	11,265.54	14,350.00

Amendments To LWV of Roseville Area Policies and Procedures

The following are proposed amendments to LWV of Roseville Area policies and procedures for approval by membership at the May Annual Meeting.

I. Dues Payment - Amended by board June 17, 2020

Reason for amendment: Conformity with State procedures; set dues amount for students and low-income individuals

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

A. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area shall commence on the first day of April of each year.

B. Dues. Annual dues as set in the budget shall be payable ~~April 1st as set forth in Article III.~~ Any member who fails to pay dues within ~~six~~ two months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls. The Board of Directors may adopt policies establishing a lower dues payment for new or low-income members. Life members pay no dues.

(ARTICLE III) LOCAL MEMBERSHIP

A. Voting members Persons at least 16 years of age and older whose current annual dues are paid.

B. Dues - The fiscal year is April 1-March 31. New membership dues are \$50. Renewing dues are \$70 for individual memberships and \$105 for family memberships. ~~Dues for students and low income individuals are \$30. New member-~~
~~ships received from January 1 onward are considered current for the new fiscal year.~~ Members who joined prior to 2019 will have a membership renewal date of April 1 each year. New members joining in 2019 or later, or inactive members re-joining in 2019 or later, will have a membership renewal date based on their original join or re-join date.

II. Remembering Our Members - Amended by board January 27, 2021

Reason for amendment: Addition of procedure to recognize deceased members

PROCEDURE UPON THE DEATH OF A MEMBER OF LWV ROSEVILLE AREA (LWVRA)

If LWVRA receives information regarding the death of a member, the Communications Director shall cause to be prepared a notice for inclusion in weekly e-Blast and subsequent issue of The Voter. If possible, a link to a public obituary should be included.

If any monetary contributions are sent to LWVRA in memory of a deceased member, the Membership Chair shall send a letter of appreciation to the donor and to the member's family, if contact information is available.

Monetary contributions in the name of a deceased member shall be posted as general revenue and expended in accordance with the adopted budget. Acknowledgment of any contribution shall be made in the LWVRA Annual Report. The Board retains the discretion to make a memorial in the name of a deceased member.

III. Nominating Committee - Amended by board February 4, 2021

Reason for amendment: Clarification of existing policy and removal of inconsistency

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

A. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of four members, at least one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Chair, who ~~shall not may~~ be a member of the Board ~~but does not become one by virtue of this position,~~ shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. The existing Nominating Committee shall make nominations for this office ~~and committee members.~~ The Board shall appoint ~~the other~~ members ~~other than the chair from these nominations or other nominations from the Board.~~ Any voting member may send suggestions for nominations for officers and directors to this committee. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by appointment by the Board.

MEETINGS

B. Annual Meeting. The exact date of the annual meeting shall be determined by the Board. The Annual Meeting shall:

- a) adopt a local program for the ensuing year,
- b) elect officers and directors and ~~members~~ chair of the Nominating Committee

LWV of Roseville Area 2021-2022 Nominations Committee Report

By Florence Sprague, chair, and committee members Mindy Greiling, Sherry Hood and Lisa Scribner

The positions below are the officers and board members who will be voted on at the annual meeting in May.

- **President:** Barb Barany
- **Vice President:** Barb Anderson
- **Secretary:** Kathy Macomber
- **Treasurer:** Jessica Holz
- **Action Team Leader:** Sherry Hood
- **Communications Team Leader:** Barb Anderson and Mary Peterson, co-chairs
- **Membership Team Leader:** Rita Mills
- **Program Team Leader:** Florence Sprague, vice chair Carol Marchel
- **Voter Service Team Leader:** Teresa Wernecke, Marcia Cheney vice chair
- **Budget and Development Team Leader:** Barb Anderson, Bonnie Koch co-chair
- **Members At-Large:** Rachel Geiser, Wayne Groff, Sharon McCord, Karen Schaffer
- **Nominating Committee Chair:** Sherry Hood

The following are identified committee members. They do not need to be elected. Follow the Voter and eBlasts for specific opportunities to help out during the year!

- **Action and Advocacy Team**
Team: Mindy Greiling, Wayne Groff, Georgeann Hall, Elizabeth Hansel, Priscilla Morton, Warren Wolfe
- **Observer Corps Subcommittee:**
Team: Margo Bock, Ann Cleland, Kris Grangaard, , Patricia Hoffman, Carol Marchel, Teri Mathews
- **Environmental Subcommittee:**
Team: Anne Haugan, Sherry Hood, Alana Howey, Barb Luck, Carol Marchel, Tammy McGehee, Priscilla Morton, Donna Peterson
- **Budget and Development Team**
Team: Mary Ann Palmer, Merrie Zakaras
- **Communications Team**
 - Archive: Shirley Bradway, Mindy Greiling, Bonnie Koch, Dan Salzl
 - Barbara Luck
 - PR: Merrie Zakaras
 - Social Media: Gladys Jones
 - Video: Jim DeBenedet with backup
 - Voter: Rachel Geiser
 - Voter Distribution: Jim DeBenedet, Stephanie DeBenedet, Jo Waldron
 - Webpage: Barb Anderson, Mary Peterson
- **Proposed Nominations Committee**
Team: Mindy Greiling, Florence Sprague, Lisa Scribner
- **Program Team**
 - Annual Meeting: Shirley Bradway, Mindy Greiling, Diana Menanteau, Rachelle Peleska, June Stewart
 - Conversations with Constituents: Gladys Jones, Amy Kenzie, Rita Mills
 - CMAL: Karen Schaffer, Lisa Scribner
 - Fliers: Barbara Leary
 - Gavel: June Stewart
 - Study Committee Chairs: Jim DeBenedet, Patti Hoffman, Barb Luck
 - Team: Marcia Cheney, Rachel Geiser, Mindy Greiling, Sherry Hood, Kathy Macomber, Connie Marty, Sharon McCord, Rita Mills
- **Voter Services Team**
 - Moderators: Kitty Gogins, Linda McLoon, Florence Sprague
 - Moderator Training: Amy Kenzie, Kathy Macomber
 - Team: Elizabeth Hansel, Rita Mills, Sharon Oswald, Suzanne Sancilio, June Stewart

Future League Events

Event recording: Many of our events are recorded. If you would like to watch a recording of an event at home, go to our website: <http://lwvrosevillearea.org/>. Click on the YouTube icon on the righthand side and choose a recorded event. April events are detailed on [page 1](#) and [page 12](#).

- **May 4 – LWV of Roseville Area Annual Meeting.** See initial details on [page 1](#).
 - **June – Field Trip.** Event details are being finalized. See [page 2](#) for initial details.
 - **July 27 – LWV of Roseville Area Summer Social.** See initial details on [page 1](#).
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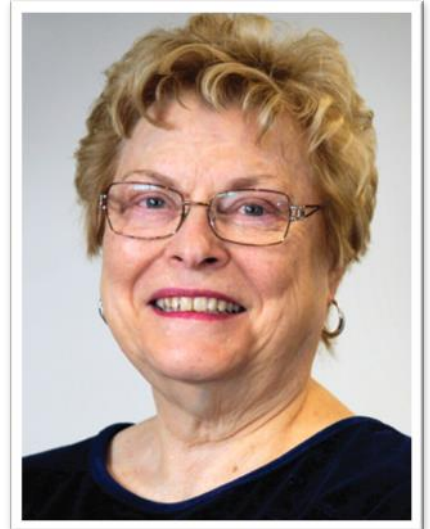
Lifetime Member Spotlight: Mary Ann Palmer

By Rita Mills

Longtime Roseville resident, Mary Ann Palmer, joined LWV in 1968. With a baby in a carrier and a toddler in tow, Mary Ann would attend LWV board meetings parking the kiddos under the table. Mary Ann and her husband, Otto, lived in the same Roseville house for 51 years, and recently checked the deed for a racial covenant clause, but found none.

Pay equity was a priority of Mary Ann's, as well as that of the state and national LWV decades ago as she related in the Meddlers, Activists and Watch-dogs history booklet:

“Because I was a ‘floater’ at city hall (Roseville) in the early ‘70s, I worked in every department except police and fire. When I worked in accounts payable, I learned that the city manager’s administrative assistant, who dealt with essential city issues, earned \$7.50 per hour while the janitors earned \$14 per hour. I talked to the finance department about this, but they blew me off. They said all the women working there (at city hall) were working for ‘discretionary funds,’ except for one who was a head of household. I wanted to quit. I was so frustrated. When I talked to my husband about it, he said, ‘Don’t rant at me about it. Do something!’ So I decided to quit my job at city hall. When I went in for my exit interview with the city, I pointed out the inequities. Two years later women at the city got raises. I went back to school and became an accountant and was employed at the U of M in the early ‘80s. I also noticed similar inequities in pay at the University. Again two years after my departure, salary changes were made for women at the U. During the ‘70s and ‘80s the women’s movement was really progressing, and I am proud of the role League of Women Voters played in new pay equity laws. But today, we’re still not where we should be. Women still don’t receive equal pay for equal work.” (Incidentally Mary Ann continues to work with LWV of Roseville Area finance. In the ‘70s & ‘80s, women were earning about 76 cents to men earning 1 dollar. Today women are earning 82 cents to men earning 1 dollar.)



Update from CMAL

By Karen Schaffer

1. Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues of Women Voters (CMAL) Annual Meeting. All League members are invited to attend the CMAL virtual annual meeting May 8 at 10 a.m. The program on county government will feature Anoka County Commissioner Mandy Meisner and Ramsey County Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt. A business meeting follows the program. Contact Karen Schaffer at schafferka@gmail.com for the meeting booklet. The Zoom link will be included in a future eBlast.

2. CMAL County Government Study. The study is underway and includes the opportunity for any League member to participate. The study plan allows members to choose a large or small research task regarding one of the seven metro counties—something for everyone! The research is scheduled to be completed by late August 2021. Contact Karen Schaffer at schafferka@gmail.com for more information.

LWV of Roseville Area: April Event Calendar

- **April 20 – Doing All We Can Today to Make Our Cities More Sustainable Tomorrow.** See event details on [page 1](#); 6:30 p.m.
- **April 27 – The Second Amendment in a 21st Century Democracy.** See event details on [page 7](#); 4 p.m.
- **April 28 – April Board Meeting.** See details on [page 1](#); 7 p.m.

Voter Article Submission Deadline

Submissions for the next issue of The Voter are due 10 days before the end of the month. If you have any questions or information to submit for the newsletter, contact Rachel Geiser at rachelsoup@gmail.com.



League on the Radio — 1928 Presidential Campaign
(Source: LWV Media Library)