

May 14 – The 1989 Groundwater Protection Act ... did it work?

THE 1989 GROUNDWATER PROTECTION ACT

This sweeping legislation changed groundwater regulation Minnesota.

Still controversial!



Addressed:

- Non-degradation goal
- Mechanism for addressing nonpoint sources
- Increased conservation
- Implementation of Clean Water Act
- Data and information

Come to LWV ABC's May 14 meeting to learn more!

Monday, May 14, 2018, 6:00 PM

Andover Senior Center, at north end of City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Blvd

6:00 Enjoy a light supper with friends.

6:30 - Announcements and adjourn to City Council Chambers for the presentation by Gretchen Sabel, retired MPCA policy analyst and chair of LWV Upper Mississippi River Region. Former Minnesota Senator Steve Morse, a chief author of the 1989 Groundwater Protection Act, has been invited to tag team this presentation with Gretchen. (He'll be doing the color commentary if he can make it.) Presentation will begin at 6:45.

The Minnesota Groundwater Protection Act was passed in 1989 to deal with increasing groundwater contamination from pesticides and fertilizers, declining water levels due to over pumping, poor well construction practices that lead to unsafe water and a lack of state capacity to implement the requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. This act brought together many diverse interests and changed how Minnesotans manage this precious resource. Did it work? There are still many problems today... in this talk we will look at what has been accomplished and what still needs to be done, and why it is still so controversial.

NOTICE: MODERATOR TRAINING TO BE OFFERED The League of Women Voters will have a busy forum schedule this fall – moderators and needed here for LWV ABC forums and in surrounding areas to help meet the need. If you are interested in being a moderator, here’s the training class you will need: **June 12th 6-9 PM**, at the Andover Senior Center. Sara Berg-McConville is organizing this – please contact her at sberggrn@hotmail.com to sign up!

LWV ABC members are invited to attend this meeting of our partner organization, the Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League!

Izaak Walton Breckenridge Chapter Meeting:
Tues. May 22, 7:30 PM

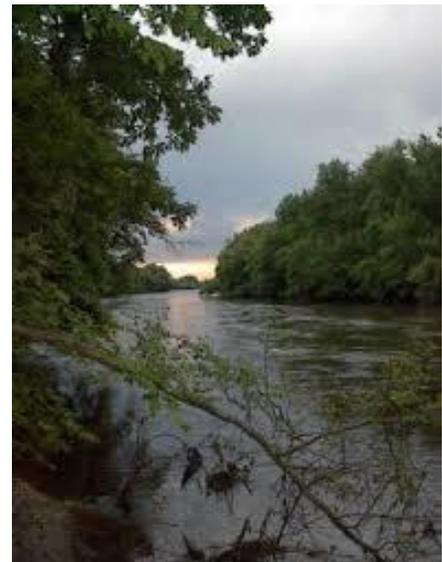


David Zentner, past President of the National Izaak Walton League and past MN. DIV, IWLA President, will present a forum on the Upper Mississippi River (UMR) Project involving MN, Wisc., Iowa and Illinois. The goal is to instigate methods of cooperation between people: urban, suburban, land owners, farmers, businesses and local Government leaders.

To understand the needs, wants and perceptions of each and how to meet the goals of the 1972 Clean Waters Act for “fishable, swimmable in all waters of these United States”. Also how to monitor streams, tributaries and their watersheds to the river will be discussed.

Invite your friends, neighbors, interested students and anyone interested in cleaning up our streams, lakes and the “Great River” all the way into the Gulf of Mexico.

Izaak Walton League, W J Breckenridge Chapter
8816 West River Rd., Brooklyn Park
For more info. Please call 763 421 6781



LWV Minnesota Council in St. Cloud was attended by LWV ABC members who had excellent opportunities to learn and network with Leaguer's from around Minnesota!

A highlight of this meeting came from LWV Park Rapids, who requested a change to our policy positions regarding apportionment of districts to reflect planned changes in the US Census process. This change was approved. (additional text underlined below)

Election Process: Apportionment:

LWVUS Position: Congressional districts and government legislative bodies should be apportioned substantially on population. (Revised 1982)

LWVMN Position: Support timely redistricting based substantially on population and affecting all state and local governmental bodies. Support:

• Regular and equitable reapportionment, with definite procedures established to ensure prompt redistricting by the Legislature or by a reapportionment commission; support of procedures which provide for:

- » Compact, contiguous districts giving advantage to no particular person or group
- » Public accessibility to legislative or commission deliberations and action
- » Prompt judicial review
- » The Census of all persons be accurate and complete without bias toward any person based on religion, country of origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status or other potentially discriminatory factors. Achieving an accurate census also depends on it being adequately funded and led by qualified nonpolitical officials.



Left to right: Dee Ann Christenson, Sue Butler, Jeorgette Knoll, Sara Berg-McConville, Geri Nelson, Gretchen Sabel and Kathy Aanerud.

Highlights of LWV ABC Board Retreat, April 23, 2018

Contributed by Arlene Gillette

Because our Member Handbook is getting rather large and cumbersome, we discussed moving the League history part of it to a separate section with a link to the main information part, with it all being online.

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates for Board positions for the coming terms. We also discussed the need for another person to work on our LWV ABC website. If you are interested in finding out more about it, please contact Gretchen Sabel.

A big part of the Retreat centered on a discussion of topics we would like to address this year. There are so many pressing issues, from climate change/water, to cyber security, to public employee pension funding, to civil discourse issues. Please let us know of any suggestions for topics that you would like to see explored in the coming year.

High School Voter Registration

Our League has held voter registration events at nine Anoka County High Schools so far this Spring, with three more on the docket yet to do. Sixteen members have participated in the events, with the help of four community volunteers including one student.



Did you know that the LWV ABC Board meetings are open to all members? Join us for lunch at Davanni's Riverdale location, [3430 129th Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448](https://www.davannis.com/locations/riverdale). Order your lunch at 11, we start the meeting at 11:30 and are usually done by 1pm. It's a good way to get more involved in the work of LWV ABC!

The League of Women Voters ABC celebrated its 80th anniversary this year. Did you see the [article in the Anoka County Union](#) or on our [Facebook page](#)? (Minutes from the April 12 LWV ABC Annual Meeting are at the end of this newsletter – the last four pages.)

Bruce Pomerantz Honored With Zilla Way Award

The Zilla Way Award was created by the LWV ABC board in 1996 to honor a local League member who has provided outstanding leadership in guiding our organization. It was named after current member, Ms. Zilla Way, for her more than 50-year participation in League and her role as LWV ABC mentor and advisor. It is presented at LWV ABC’s annual meeting.

Local President Jeorgette Knoll, right, presents this year’s award to Bruce Pomerantz. A watercolor painting highlights his accomplishments. The words incorporated in the painting:

Bruce Pomerantz is an amazing Leaguer. He:

- Improves our visibility, our access to information, and our process by creating and maintaining the member-friendly LWV ABC website
- Ensures the future of effective communication by encouraging our understanding of technology
- Shares insights to encourage new and prospective members
- Challenges our thinking by respectfully introducing alternative views
- Sees firsthand the limits of our earth and models practical action: biking to meetings, using non-disposables, and volunteering with Bikes 4 Kids

Bruce makes League better for us all

The beautiful watercolor painting was created by artist Mary Jo Truchon, a member of LWV ABC





LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
ANOKA, BLAINE, COON RAPIDS AREA

THE VOTER

May 2018

Save the Dates:

Saturday, May 5, 2pm – **LWV ABC Centennial Tea**, Anoka County Historical Society

Monday, May 14 – **LWV ABC Meeting** – Andover City Hall (Senior Center) at 1685 Crosstown Blvd. Light supper at 6, program starts at 6:45 in Council Chambers. All are welcome!

Monday, May 21, 11am – **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's Coon Rapids (NOTE this is one week earlier than usual due to the Memorial Day Holiday)

Staying in Touch with LWV ABC

Visit our public website: www.lwvabcmn.org. If you need a refresher on accessing the Members Only section of the website, send an email to lwvabc@gmail.com. We will reply with the link for you to bookmark.

We're on Facebook: Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook".

Our monthly newsletter, *The Voter*: Members and other interested persons receive our newsletter by email in the early part of each month. Issues are also available on our LWV ABC website, www.lwvabcmn.org.

Have Information to share with LWV ABC?

Email your information to lwvabc@gmail.com for inclusion
In one or more of the above

LWV ABC Annual Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 9, 2018
Andover Senior Center

The meeting was called to order by President Jeorgette Knoll at 7:00PM. This is our 80th Annual Meeting. Board members present: Jeorgette Knoll, Kathy Aanerud, Susan Anderson, Sandra Connor, Kay McCulley, Susan Butler, Bruce Pomerantz, Gretchen Sabel, Mary Jo Truchon, Geri Nelson, Zilla Way, Arlene Gillett. There were 32 members attending the Annual Meeting.

Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting were approved by the Board at the 2017 Annual Retreat.

Announcements: Lonnie McCauley reported that Water Action Day at the Legislature is Wed, May 2nd. It will give you a chance to talk to your legislator about clean water. ILO is asking for volunteers to come, starting at 8 AM.

Geri Nelson reported that we will be doing many candidate forums early this year, because early voting starts in September. Geri has put down some tentative dates starting in August, and will need city chairs and lots of other help at these forums. Also, Voter Registration training will be held at Northtown Library on Sun. April 29th, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

We will be holding a moderator training session for ABC members. Sara Berg-McConville will send out a calendar to be used to determine the best date for this. We would like to be able to have two moderators at some forums.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Kay McCulley submitted a detailed report. She said because we have a big balance from last year, we now will have more expenditures. We pay \$24 dues to the State League, and \$32 dues to the National League, which leaves \$1 of our \$60 annual dues for us. They are due as of April 1st for this year and can be paid directly to Kay or online with PayPal, with an option to increase the amount as a donation. Jeorgette Knoll reports that LWV US voted to exempt students from League dues from now until 2021. LWV ABC has approved a \$10/year student rate.

Membership Report: Sandra Connor reports that we currently have 78 paid memberships. She said that we have had a lot of good exposures to the community this year, from partnering with a local group about immigration, to our "Evening With Will Rogers" fundraiser, to co-sponsoring the film "Equal Means Equal" with Anoka Ramsey Community College.

LWV ABC 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes, pg 2

Program Committee: Susan Anderson and Sue Butler, co-chairs, reported that we have had eleven programs with many good speakers this year, covering a variety of topics. Four of the programs were presented by staff and/or board members from LWV MN. Our members selected four areas to focus on for future programming. They are:

- 1 - Redistricting/2020 Census
- 2 - Automatic Voter Registration
- 3 - Government Transparency
- 4 - Civil Discourse

We welcome any and all member input and participation for future programs.

Voter Service Report: Geri Nelson and Arlene Gillett, co-chairs, report we registered 153 voters in 2017, an off-year for elections, and we will be holding voter registration events at area high schools again this Spring and Fall. We went to seven schools last year, and 17 members volunteered.

We held School Board forums in the Anoka-Hennepin district (43 attended) , and Spring Lake Park (26 attended). We held a Special Election Primary forum in Ramsey (30 attended), and one for an At-Large Council seat in Ramsey (19 attended). Geri Nelson interviewed Superintendent David Law and Chief Operating Office Chuck Holden for the Anoka-Hennepin Levy and Bond Issue.

Communications Report: Kathy Aanerud reports that we have maintained our media contacts with newspapers. The Anoka Herald is now the official newspaper for notices, not the Anoka Record. Gretchen Sabel does our Facebook page, and our newsletter with Bruce Pomerantz. Bruce Pomerantz continues as our webmaster, and would like to have a trainee to help and learn about it. QCTV taped our forums and many of our meetings, and these are always available on their website.

Our Friend of the League annual award, given to an individual or organization that has made a significant impact on LWV ABC, receives a beautiful water color certificate created by Mary Jo Truchon. Jeorgette Knoll compiles our Member Handbook.

NEW BUSINESS:

By Laws - There are no recommended bylaws changes.

LWV ABC 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes, page 3

Proposed Budget: Gretchen Sabel, Budget Committee Chair, reports that our total budgeted revenue is \$7,650 for next year. With our expenses, including dues to the State and Federal LWV, and adding our balance from last year, our balance as of 04/01/2018 is \$8,995.71. Geri Nelson asked that we increase the Voter Service expense to \$1,000, an increase of \$200. Kay McCulley suggested that memorials donated from the family of Sandra Shanley be used in our History Center exhibit. Gretchen Sabel moved that we accept the Budget, Mary Jo Truchon seconded, motion passed.

Local Program - Susan Butler and Susan Anderson, Program co-chairs, reviewed local positions April 10, 2018.

- 1 - Appointive Process in Local Government: KEEP as is, approved.
- 2 - Appointive Process in Anoka-Hennepin School District 11. UPDATED to include all school districts in our LWV ABC boundaries. Zilla Way moved, Joan Molenaar seconded, motion approved.
- 3 - Metro Watershed Management Organization and the Implementation of the Metro Surface Water Management Act. We discussed the need to UPDATE the language to include the mention that we could be active in the comprehensive plan in each city. Joan Molenaar moved to accept, Mary Jo Truchon seconded. Motion approved.
- 4 - Anoka County Park System. KEEP as is, approved. Wes Volkenant brought up the fact that the Park System is going to be restructured, so we need to keep an eye on it. Sue Butler suggested that we schedule a speaker on this topic - moved and accepted.
- 5 - Licensing of Rental Properties. We discussed the need to UPDATE the licensing of rental properties. Amir Malik brought up the Airbnb issue, do we want to do a study on it? Joan Molenaar said it could be an opportunity to learn more about it, that other metro communities will be looking at it, too. Wes Volkenant said that perhaps an update of our position on licensing would cover the Airbnb and the issue of a homeowner renting part of a home to a relative, not do a new study. Wes Volkenant moved we UPDATE our position, Susan Anderson seconded, motion approved.
- 6 - Home Health Care - KEEP as is, approved.

Non-Partisan Policy - Geri Nelson, Voter Service co-chair, asked us all to read it. She reports that it seems to be working well. Motion to KEEP it, moved and accepted.

LWV ABC 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes, page 4

Nominating Committee Report: Mary Jo Truchon reports that all of the current Board have agreed to continue to serve in the 2018 - 2019 year. We do need two Nominating Committee members for next year. Contact Mary Jo Truchon or Jeorgette Knoll. Mary Jo Truchon moved we accept the report, Marcia Baudino seconded, motion approved.

We celebrated Zilla Way's birthday, with a song and a cake. The Zilla Way Award this year is presented to Bruce Pomerantz, with a beautiful watercolor by Mary Jo Truchon. The Friend of League Certificate will be presented in the Fall.

Sandra Connor told us about the League Tea, occurring on May 5th. It is a celebration as well as an re-enactment (our League started with a Tea), and a fund raiser for the History Center 100th Anniversary Exhibit. The exhibit will go up in January of 2019, and be up for a year. We plan to have memorabilia, artifacts, and member statements. We need help with the committee planning the display, please let her know if you can help. We still have some spaces available for the Tea, tickets are \$25.

Program Ideas: Suggestions:

Marcia Baudino - A meeting on climate change.

Wes Volkenant - Maybe a summer meeting about how our History Center exhibit is doing. He also said that several highways in Anoka County have upgrades coming up, a report on how these changes will impact our county might be of interest.

Jeorgette Knoll - Cyber Security and voting security are big topics.

Hospitality: Gretchen Sabel asks us to look at the list of hospitality volunteers, and let her know if you can help fill the blank spots.

Jeorgette reports that the Board Retreat will be on Monday, April 23th, and will let us know of the location. All are welcome. The Council meeting is in St. Cloud on Sat. April 28th, with lots of good workshops.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM
Arlene Gillett, Secretary