

**Fall Kickoff Program on
Monday evening, October 8
*Ranked Choice Voting***

6:00 All are invited for light supper and social in the **Andover City Hall Senior Center** -- at the far north end of City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Blvd NW

At **6:30**, step next door to **Andover City Hall** for announcements, presentation of this year's *Friend of League Award*, and then program by Jeanne Massey, Executive Director of Fair Vote Minnesota on the topic of Ranked Choice Voting. Explore how it works; get your questions answered. Check out Fair Vote Minnesota's website at fairvotemn.org



QCTV will record the program for community television broadcasts and on-demand viewing on their website: gctv.org

This event is free and open to the public

Candidate Forum at Majestic Oaks in Ham Lake

Our last candidate forum for the General Election will be at Majestic Oaks Golf Club in Ham Lake on October 11. **Note the 6:30 starting time.** This forum includes the candidates for city offices in Ham Lake and East Bethel and House District 31B. This forum is presented in partnership with Ham Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and East Bethel Chamber of Commerce. It will conclude with a meet-and-greet reception with the candidates.

LWV ABC holds 13 candidate forums covering more than 30 individual races – we rock!

So much work has gone into these forums – congratulations to all who made this effort the great success it has been. Most of the forums have been recorded and are available online to help voters choose their elected officials – check our website at www.lwvabcmn.org for links. Many thanks go to our cable partners who have recorded the forums and made them available.

At our November 12 regular meeting, we will dive deep into what went right and wrong as we worked our way through this prodigious effort. Now is the time to document our 'lessons learned' so that we are that much better for the 2020 election season! And thanks to our hard-working volunteers! Photos from the forums follow:



THE VOTER
September-October 2018



--Champlin -- Sue Butler and Sue Dergantz staff the welcome table.
--Champlin -- Karen Varian, Geri Nelson, Wes Volkenant and Jody Anderson prepare for their roles.



--Andover -- Cindy DeRuyter, Jane Arndt, Jane Dunn, and Jim DeRuyter check in for duties.--Ramsey -- Key McCulley and Sara Berg-McConville make a final check.



--Ramsey -- Arlene Gillett and Rim Gassar review and sort questions
--At several forums -- Roger McCulley filled the timer role.



NEW MEMBERS STRENGTHEN OUR LEAGUE AND GET INTO LEAGUE WORK IN A BIG WAY!

Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rspids Area League of Women Voters welcomes all those women and men who have joined our group during 2018. Our new members have already been a great asset to the group. New members provided enthusiastic assistance with Forums, Student Voter Registration and other projects. We are fortunate to have people so willing to share their time and talents in our group.

Change in Leadership at LWV ABC

LWVABC president, Jeorgette Knoll (right) is stepping down and vice-president Gretchen Sabel will be the president until the Annual Meeting and board election in April.

Jeorgette will be traveling for most of October, November and December. When she returns she will be moving to the Big Lake area where she and her husband are building a new home.

Gretchen who not only has a leadership position in LWVABC also chairs the UMIRRLO, an inter League organization that works on water issues. So, we are asking members to raise their hands if they can help in any way with LWV ABC management. Look at the list below and let us know if there is something you might be able to take on:

- * Help with the website. Keep information up to date, add monthly meeting notices, delete outdated info. Requires about 1 or 2 hours per month.
- * Write articles for newsletter. One or 2 hours per month.
- * Share meeting night and hostess box duties with Gretchen. One meeting per month.
- * Join the nominating committee.
- * Attend board meetings.



Note from the Newsletter Editor – LWV ABC thanks Jeorgette for her years of service in leadership to our League as well as at the state level. We need people to step up and help fill the void that Jeorgette is leaving! Now is a good time to stretch your leadership wings and get more involved.

Drafts and Discourse – October 17 at Torg Brewing, Spring Lake Park

Back again – LWV ABC’s Drafts and Discourse – in a new venue! We will be meeting at Torg Brewing in Spring Lake Park. This newly-opened brewery at 8421 University Ave NE has lots of room and is fully accessible for all. We will meet here at 6pm for... well, drafts and discourse. The third



Wednesday of each month we will meet here, get some drinks and share some snacks and then talk about events of the day. A different topic will be chosen each month for conversation starters (you can help plan them) – it could be a book to discuss, a video to watch and discuss or... there are many possibilities! These will be informal gatherings with a focus on informed and civil discourse, with beer and snacks. What could be better? Topics for each month will be announced on the LWV Facebook page and in the monthly email that announces our newsletter.

For more on Torg Brewery, check them out on Facebook at : https://www.facebook.com/pg/TorgBrewery/about/?ref=page_internal or visit their website: <https://www.torgbrewery.com/>

The brewery is located just south of Northtown on the same frontage road Key’s Café. Turn east from University 83rd Avenue.



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at

Highlights of LWV ABC Board Meeting, 9/24/2018

The LWV ABC Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month, usually at the [Davanni's in Coon Rapids](#) (see earlier story for info on the July 23 meeting which will be held at the Anoka County Historical Society). All members and invited to attend; we gather at 11 and order lunch, then eat while we meet, ending around 1pm. At each meeting, we review the treasurer's report and discuss matters relating to upcoming meetings, projects and more.

Voter Service reports that attendance at our candidate forums this Fall is definitely up, averaging about 60 people attending each forum. We have held a large number of forums this Fall, with one of our larger ones coming up on October 11th. It will be a forum done in collaboration with the Ham Lake and East Bethel Chambers of Commerce at Majestic Oaks Golf Club.

The newly opened Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park is quite beautiful, with no accessibility issues. We plan to hold our Drafts and Discourse meetings there, starting in October 17th. Possible discussion topics include a New York Times survey on parental influence on gender identity.

We are continuing to look into how we might help Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve in getting signage on the county road that visitors must cross to walk to their Cedar Lake Bog. Suggestions included contacting Gene Merriam and Carroll Henderson, newly retired head of the DNR.

Voter Service has many exciting volunteer opportunities for members fall. Look them over, and let Geri Nelson or Arlene Gillett know which ones interest you, and we will get more information to you about them. Reply to lwvabc@lwvmn.org if you can help with any of these important and fulfilling volunteer opportunities.

1 - **Fair Vote**. This is a state-wide project to look into the possibilities of Rank Choice Voting. Members are asked to work at the Fair Vote MN booth at the Anoka County Fair. League is doing a study on Rank Choice Voting, and we currently support it as a choice if the community wants it.

2 - League will be participating in the **Secretary of State's Mock Election** in state high schools again this fall. We coordinate with the state office to sign schools up for it, and then offer our assistance in setting it up, helping with the actual voting in the schools and in some cases, totaling the results. Many volunteers are needed in order to cover as many schools as possible.

3 - High School student voter registration. League goes to area high schools in the spring and fall to offer on-site voter registration to eligible students. We contact the social studies teachers or guidance counselors, tell them about it and set up a date for our visit. We usually need 2 - 3 volunteers per high school, and we try to go to every high school in Anoka County. Enthusiasm for voter registration was high last spring, and we anticipate it will continue to be high this fall. Consider doing this - it is a lot of fun, and very satisfying to be a big part of the whole election process.

Check Out This Play – The Agitators at Park Square Theater St. Paul

The Agitators – The Story of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass

Young abolitionists when they met in the 1840s, Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass were full of hopes, dreams and a common purpose. A fascinating story of a seemingly unlikely, yet true friendship – lasting 45 years from its beginning in Rochester, New York, through a Civil War and on to the highest halls of government. Great allies? Yes. And at times, great adversaries. They agitated the nation, they agitated each other and, in doing so, they helped shape the Constitution and the course of American history.



Ends October 28

<https://parksquaretheatre.org/box-office/shows/2018-19/the-agitators/>

Have you noticed that LWV ABC has done away with disposable plates, etc?

We owe our thanks for this to Marcia Baudino, who started us off bringing her table service for 50 with reusable plates and silverware that she washes and returns to us each month. When Marcia's busy in the summer and fall, we use compostable plates, etc with a goal of zero waste. Want to know more about recycling? The Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League (in Brooklyn Park) has an excellent article on recycling in their October newsletter (p.5) at this link:

<http://www.breckenridgeikes.org/Timberlines/2018/Timberlines%20Oct%2018.pdf>



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

THE VOTER
September-October 2018

Save the Dates:

Monday, October 8 – **LWV ABC Meeting** – **Learn about Ranked Choice Voting** - Meet at 6pm for light supper, meeting to follow. Andover Senior Center, 1685 Crosstown Blvd, Andover. All are welcome!

Wednesday, October 17 – **Drafts and Discourse** at the newly-opened Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park, 6-8pm; 8421 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park (just south of Northtown on the same frontage road as Key's Café)

Monday, October 22, 11am – **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's in Coon Rapids (Hwy 10 frontage road just south of Round Lake Blvd exit). Order food at 11, meeting commences at 11:30. This is a good opportunity to learn more about what LWV ABC is up to!

Monday, November 12. **LWV ABC Meeting** – **LWV ABC Voter Service 2018 Recap** - Meet at 6pm for light supper, meeting to follow. Andover Senior Center, 1685 Crosstown Blvd, Andover. All are welcome!

Wednesday, November 21 (the day before Thanksgiving) - **Drafts and Discourse** at Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park, 6-8pm; 8421 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park

Monday, November 26 – **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's, Coon Rapids. 11am to 1pm. All are welcome!

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.

Do you have Information to share with LWV ABC?

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