



April 2016 Issue

Welcome to the LWV ABC Newsletter – the LWV ABC Voter!

What do you have to contribute for the next issue of this newsletter? Consider sharing events, follow-up on past meetings, info on member accomplishments, etc! Please direct your ideas and comments to Gretchen Sabel, at gpsabel@yahoo.com. Deadline for submittal of material for the May issue is noon, May 23. Thanks!

Our ways of communicating with members and friends are changing. This issue of the newsletter we've gone back to the longer-format document version. Next month we will send an email with links to more information on our new website – this should be the simplest way for you to access all the LWV ABC information needed to be an active member. Thanks for your patience during this transition!

Our Next Meeting:

May 9 - our meeting will focus on local water issues. We will feature Todd Haas, chair of the Lower Rum River Water Management Organization, who will talk about concerns about the Rum, including the plan to address problems. Gretchen Sabel, chair of the Anoka Water Resources Task Force, will give updates on other local water issues and share info on some new research ongoing into ways to protect and improve water quality. 6pm at Andover Senior Center for social time; program starts at 6:30 in Andover City Council Chambers. QCTV will be filming the event for later cablecast.



Rum River Beauty - Photo from Riversbend Salon and Spa in Isanti, Minnesota

April's LWV ABC Annual Meeting was a big success! Thanks to our President Jeorgette Knoll for all her hard work to bring this meeting to fruition. Photos from the event are at the end of this newsletter.



NEW LWV ABC Website – Grand Opening Soon! Check out - <http://lwwabcmn.org/>



Everyone at the annual meeting sat up and took note when Bruce Pomerantz demonstrated the new LWVABC website. It is a simple and easy to use site that gives the public basic information about LWVABC and its work in the community. Our calendar and upcoming events are posted as well as our newsletters.

There is also a link to the LWVMN Members Resource file that is stored in google drive. This is where information that was once on the LWVMN website is now kept.

Shhh...there is also a members only section on our website. That address will be sent to members in a personal email. Please, do not share the members URL information with others.

We appreciate any feedback about the website and if you have ideas about what should be stored on the site. Let us know by sending an email with your ideas to lwwabc@gmail.org.

LWV ABC Dues

We have a new treasurer, Kay McCulley. If you haven't paid your dues you can send your check to Kay at 14431 Wolfram Street NW, Ramsey, MN 55303-4630.

- \$60.00 per member
- \$90.00 per household
- \$30.00 per student

If you need assistance with dues, LWVABC offers scholarships. Scholarships are confidential. You do not need to be a paid member to attend meetings and events.



LWV ABC's Jeorgette Knoll Receives Zilla Way Award

Our League annually recognizes a member who has shown outstanding leadership in guiding our organization. This year our very worthy recipient was Jeorgette Knoll. The award is named for Zilla Way, a long-time member of our organization and our mentor and advisor. Here, Mary Jo Truchon (artist who makes the award certificate), presents the award to Jeorgette.

On the beautiful watercolor painting created by Mary Jo Truchon, the tribute to Jeorgette reads: *Jeorgette Knoll has been a member of LWV ABC almost 30 years. Her motto is "Carpe Diem", and she does.*

Jeorgette is a gifted & innovative leader who guided us through a reorganization; served in nearly every Board position & helped us navigate a sea of study & action. She also keeps us "Linked" to "What is Happening. Jeorgette's loving nature & warm personality have helped us improve ourselves & our community in so many areas, including: Sustainable Agriculture, Children's Health & Welfare, ESL Programs, Water, Bee Friendly Practices and Making Democracy Work.

Jeorgette is so often the Face & Voice of LWV ABC from QCTV PSAs to registering 18-year olds to Vote. Thank you, Jeorgette, our Mentor & Friend. --Zilla Way Award, 2016



LWV ABC Outreach and Partnership

Kathie Whelchel, ABC Membership Chair, gave a presentation on partnerships at the MSCSA (Minnesota State College Student Association) Spring Conference at Breezy Point MN on Sunday April 17. Her



networking presentation encouraged Student Senate groups at community and technical colleges to seek partnerships with local LWV chapters for Voter Service activities. Our ABC League has already established contacts with Anoka Ramsey Community College-Coon Rapids and Anoka Technical College to assist them with voter registration. *Pictured are Kathie with MSCSA Officers: President Kevin Parker, Publicity Chair Austin Rupert, and Vice President Timothy St. Claire.*



Some To-Do Requests from Our President:

Jeorgette has been doing a great job of linking our League to LWV MN activities. She has two requests of us – please take a minute or two to update your information and preferences on the LWVMN database, and to share your views of what LWVMN should be doing in the strategic planning survey. Thanks!

LWVMN Database

Please update your information on the LWVMN database. Update everything including the kinds of emails you want to receive, your birthdate (may seem unnecessary but really helpful when trying to get a complete picture of League membership), email addresses and your committees. Click [here](#) to update your information.

LWVMN Strategic Plan

League of Women Voters Minnesota is planning ahead and all League members have an opportunity to voice their opinions and comment on the direction League will take over the next few years. At the annual meeting members worked in small groups to discuss the vision for the future of LWVMN and LWV ABC’s role in that vision. If you were not at the annual meeting you can still take part in the strategic planning process. And if you were at the annual meeting, your responses have been recorded. However, if you thought of just one more thing – you can also take the survey online.

The survey is on the LWVMN web site. Click [here](#) to take the LWVMN Strategic Planning survey.

LWV ABC Board Opportunities

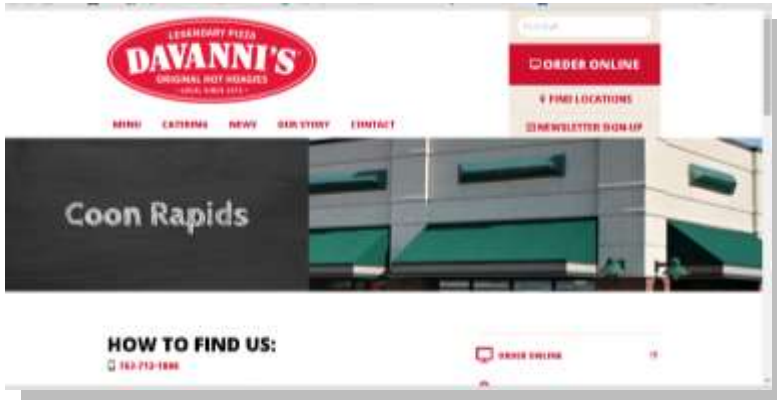
Thanks to LWV ABC Board Members! Being a Board member is a great way to get more involved with LWV – and look! There’s a spot open! This would be a good opportunity lean in with LWV! Board meetings are the second Monday of each month, over lunch at Davanni’s. (See related item on page 5.) At the Board retreat on May 23 (immediately following the Board meeting), the Board will appoint the committee members and nominating committee. If you are interested in being on the Board and being a part of the behind the scenes work let us know - email lwvabc@gmail.com.

The 2016 - 17 LWV ABC Board

President	Jeorgette Knoll
Vice President	
Secretary	Arlene Gillette
Treasurer	Kay McCulley
Membership Chair	Katherine Whelchel
Voters Service Co -Chairs	Geri Nelson and Arlene Gillette
Communications Chair	Kathy Aanerud
Program and Action Chair	Susan Anderson



Many thanks to Davanni's in Coon Rapids! The LWV ABC Board meets at the Coon Rapids Davanni's every month on the 4th Monday (except December). Davanni's is located at 3430 129th Ave NW, Coon Rapids, next to Warner-Stellian's on the Hwy 10 Frontage Road northeast of the intersection of Hwy 10 and Round Lake Blvd.



All LWV ABC members are welcome to come to Board meetings – we gather at 11 to order our lunches then meet until about 1:30. Even if you don't come to a Board meeting, you should consider stopping by Davanni's for a good pizza, salad or hoagy. And be sure to thank them for continuing to host LWV ABC's Board meetings on the 4th Monday of each month. Thanks!

Also, - remember to check our Facebook page for meeting information, too!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-ABC-Minnesota/423643367725301>



Scenes from our Annual Meeting – April 12, 2016 at Anoka First Congregational Church. More photos will be posted on the member’s page of our new website – be sure to check it out next month when it opens! *Clockwise from left: Jane Arndt and Bruce Pomerantz talk with Lonni McCauley and Bev Toppin; the Zilla Way Award; Carol Bradley and Jeorgette Knoll, and Joan Molenaar and Mary Jo Truchon*

