



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

ANOKA, BLAINE, COON RAPIDS AREA

THE VOTER- APRIL 2017

LWV ABC 79th ANNUAL MEETING



Katherine Tomsich, LWV Minnesota Democracy Task Force, co-chair, is the keynote speaker for the 79th LWV ABC Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 10, at the Andover Senior Center, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover. She will present information on League legislative activity concerning the priorities of protecting Minnesota's election system, redistricting reform, and money in politics.

Ms. Tomsich will provide a workshop on *Local Leagues = Grass Roots Power* during the 2017 bi-annual state convention, May 28-29. Information about the convention is provided in another article in this newsletter.

Ms. Tomsich began her association with the League at LWV ABC, later transferring to the White Bear Lake Area LWV. She joined the state Action Committee to follow bills affecting immigrants in Minnesota and then switched to election law to fight the Voter ID constitutional amendment. Her Democracy Task Force responsibilities focus on LWV Minnesota's legislative priorities.

The Annual Meeting is the most important business meeting of the League year. It is the entire membership's opportunity to direct the course of LWV ABC.

The Annual Meeting has four basic goals:

1. To elect a slate of officers representative of the membership.
2. To adopt a local program on governmental issues which reflects the interests of the membership and to re-adopt or drop present local positions.
3. To adopt a budget that provides for the financial support of the League as a whole.
4. To review and/or amend local League bylaws.

[Use this link to access the annual meeting agenda, committee reports, proposed budget, and other important information.](#)

To facilitate learning about fellow LWV ABC members, the Board requests that members sit at tables with the fewest people they know.

Volunteers Asked to Staff LWV ABC Exhibit at Green Expo at National Sports Center



LWV ABC members, from left to right, Kathryn Whelchel, Susan Anderson, and Geri Nelson staffed the LWV ABC exhibit in 2016 at the 2016 Green Expo

LWV ABC will again exhibit on conservation at the eighth annual Green Expo, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on April 22, at the National Sports Center, 1700 105th Avenue, Blaine. Admission is free. The cities of Blaine and Coon Rapids and the National Sports Center sponsor the event.

LWV ABC members are asked to staff the exhibit table for two hour shifts from 10 a.m. to noon or noon to 2 p.m. Contact Kathryn Whelchel at kathiew7contacts@gmail.com or phone 612-618-6882.

LWV ABC will have a door prize drawing for people who stop at the exhibit.

More than 65 local exhibitors, ranging from energy specialists to governmental and educational resources, will share sustainability ideas, products and services to promote sustainable living in Minnesota. The Green Expo seeks to present information, resources, services and products that promote healthier, more ecologically sound lifestyles as well as educate attendees about the environmental impacts of consumer actions and choices.

2017 LWV MINNESOTA BI-ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION



Register now to attend the state convention April 28-29 at the Normandale Community College, 9700 France Ave South, Bloomington. A discount price of \$115 is available until April 15. Full registration is \$140.

This year's bi-annual convention is themed Planning Ahead! Convention brings together local League members to learn, engage in discussions, hone leadership skills, and discuss important LWV Minnesota business.

Each local League is allocated Voting Delegates, according to membership, who will vote on the Budget, Plan of Action, By-laws, and Slate of Officers for the Board of Directors.

[Use this link to the LWV Minnesota Bi-Annual Convention webpage to obtain more information.](#)

Privacy Consideration on LWV ABC Membership Roster

The LWV ABC members-only site provides a roster of LWV ABC members that includes addresses, phone numbers, and email information. If you prefer to have only your name and city listed, contact Bruce Pomerantz at brucep@usfamily.net

MARCH PROGRAM MEETING

Rob Edward, Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health and Well Being executive director, and Scott Nadeau, Columbia Heights police chief, discussed different aspects of behavioral health concerns at the March 13 program meeting. [Use this link to access their presentation online, courtesy of Quad City Television.](#)

