

The Voter

The official publication of the Minnesota League of Women Voters
Roseville, Maplewood, Falcon Heights and surrounding communities

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April Meetings Will Take Consensus Based Upon Local Policy Study

By Karen Schaffer



The April 19 and 20 unit meetings of the Roseville Area League of Women Voters will take consensus on the issues raised by the recently-completed year-long study of police services provided in Roseville, Maplewood, Little Canada, Falcon Heights and Lauderdale. The consensus process is the method used by the League at all levels to develop official positions that are the basis for advocacy and support. Consensus positions adopted by the Roseville Area LWV based upon this study, if any, will serve as the basis to advocate to the city councils.

Before the April 19 -20 meetings, each League member will receive a copy of the final report, which includes the potential consensus positions. At the meetings, there will be a presentation on the study, followed by discussion and voting on the consensus positions. Agreed upon consensus positions become official positions of our local League, subject only to vote of the members at the annual or other all-League meeting. To get the most out of the consensus process, members should read the report and consider the consensus positions before the meeting.

The April 19 meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Little Venetian, 2900 Rice Street, Little Canada. Bonnie Koch and Karen Schaffer will present. Members may gather for dinner at 5:30 p.m. Contact Stephanie DeBenedet at 651.483.1006 or jdebenedet@msn.com by April 18 to make a dinner reservation.

The April 20 meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 910 County Road D, Roseville. Carolyn Cushing and Rita Mills will present.

Annual meeting set for May 3

The Annual Meeting of the Roseville Area League of Women Voters is set for May 3 at Little Canada City Hall, 515 Little Canada Road East. A social hour will begin at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Members will elect new officers, approve a budget, and set the local program for the 2016-17 year. The Nominations Committee report is on page 4. The proposed program is on page 5, and the proposed budget is on page 6.

This year, we are offering a full dinner featuring Parmesan Crusted Chicken for \$25. A vegetarian option is also available for that price.

Please send checks to Joyce Blomquist, 1980 Skillman Ave., Roseville, MN 55113-5403 by April 25. Please indicate if you prefer the vegetarian option.

Questions? Contact Blomquist at 651-631-0688 or cjblomquist@comcast.net.

President

June Stewart

Vice President

Bonnie Koch

Secretary

Marge Stanwood

Treasurer

Teri MacNabb

Administrative**Assistants**

Shirley Bradway

Beth Salzl

Membership

Stephanie DeBenedet

Mindy Greiling

Program

Teri MacNabb

Rita Mills

Public Relations

Gwen Willems

Voter Service

Linda McLoon

Cecelia Warner

Voter Newsletter

Judy Berglund

Web

Jim DeBenedet

At Large

Carolyn Cushing

Starting the month with a few details about League

**State Office**

The statewide meeting of the LWV Minnesota is April 30. It is at the Wilder Center at University and Lexington in St. Paul. One of the sessions will include planning for the future of the state office. Please attend Council if you can.

The information is at LWVMN.org, look for the tab that says "inclusion" and click on the Council. You can then access the proposed agenda.

If you are not able to attend, but have an opinion about what you would like to see the state office doing or how they relate to local leagues, please let me know and I will try to represent your views.

Broadening My World and Making Connections.

League has provided me the opportunity to make many connections. I've been able to meet members who have fascinating stories about their work, paid and volunteer, and also memories of past League events. Through the programs and speakers at unit meetings, just this year, I've been able to learn about issues affecting local cities and our state, learn a bit about our schools from local superintendents, listen to police chiefs discuss what they do and what issues they are facing, and learn about training for peace officers.

I wouldn't have found all this information on my own. It really is the power of all of us working together that brings this information to light. During this election season, I think we are really going to have to work together. Two of my coworkers came to me to find out about caucus, because "you belong to the League and know all that stuff." Well, I certainly don't know it all, but was able to give them information and details about attending so that they attended caucus for the first time.

Tour of Eureka Recycling Facility set for May 11

By Donna Peterson

Eureka Recycling processes over 200 tons per day at their single sort Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in Minneapolis. This starts with the mix of recyclables and ends with 17 different types of materials which leave the facility ready for production into new materials.

Roseville has a three-year contract with Eureka Recycling. Eureka has processed recyclables from St Paul for 15 years and recently signed a five-year contract with the City of Minneapolis. Lauderdale's recyclables as well as White Bear Lake's are other communities in our area using this facility.

Tour Details:

- * All participants must be able to climb stairs
- * Meet at 9:30 on north side of Roseville Ice Arena, along Woodhill Dr. to carpool
- * One hour tour starts at 10 a.m. at 2828 Kennedy St NE, Minneapolis
- * Limit: 20 people
- * RSVP to Donna Peterson: peter080@umn.edu by May 6
- * Lunch at a nearby restaurant for those interested following the tour.

An Oft-Overlooked Gem

By Florence Sprague

Just a few blocks from the Cathedral of St. Paul lies an oft-overlooked gem: the Penumbra Theatre, founded in 1976 by Lou Bellamy as a part of the Black Arts Movement. He sought “to create a forum for African-American voices in the Twin Cities’ well-respected theater community.” It is located in the same complex as the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center and the Martin Luther King Recreation Center, just a few blocks from the upscale bars and restaurants on Selby Avenue, and the wealth of ethnic restaurants on University Avenue. Yet, tucked in a residential neighborhood, it is too often unnoticed by too much of the community. Forty years of thoughtful and thought provoking theater is a lot to miss out on. We are so fortunate to have one of only three professional African American theaters in the country offering a full season of performances, a place which has nurtured the careers of playwrights and actors, fed the soul of a community and won awards along the way. <https://penumbra theatre.org/history/>

This season the Penumbra Theatre offers entertaining and challenging plays and so much more under the theme of Revolution Love.

On a tight budget? Check out the REEL Talk series. This film series is free, just reserve your seat and show up for films touching on race in America from a variety of perspectives, followed by guided discussion. Last year I took a group of teachers to see “Dark Girls,” a documentary about colorism. This year we saw “Anne Braden: Southern Patriot,” a biography of a white ally to the Civil Rights movement. One resource connected to the film about Anne Braden is her “Letter to White Southern Women.” <http://annebradenfilm.org/assets/files/BradenLetter.pdf> This letter entreats white women to recognize how the rules and biases that put them on a pedestal also keep them infantilized and limited and they are used by the system to restrict, intimidate and punish African Americans. Be an ally and read her impassioned plea. Still to come this spring are films about Angela Davis and about black LGBTQ youth. Such a deal you should not pass up.

A theatre lover? Add some of their plays to your schedule. You may know that the Twin Cities has a vibrant and diverse theater scene, with “nearly 100 theater companies, more than 30 venues and more theater seats per capita than anywhere outside of New York.”

www1.umn.edu/wishyouwerehere/artsandculture/theaterscene.html It is impossible to attend performances at all of them, so I am putting in a plug for this one. There are others that explore non-white topics, plays and playwrights, like Theater Mu and the Mixed Blood Theater, so a theatergoer need never be limited to the white writer classics. Try them all. Start small and then try more.



“Sunset Baby” is currently playing at the Penumbra Theatre.

Looking for insight into current events? The Penumbra Theatre also sponsors panel discussions and speakers. The Let’s Talk series facilitated by Co-artistic Director Sarah Bellamy begins with refreshments and a social time followed by a 90 program with discussion. An upcoming event in this series includes Bobby Seale, co-founder of the Black Panthers. It has generated so much interest that it has been moved to a larger venue at the University. If you miss these programs live, they are sometimes repeated on MPR. For example you can listen to the “On the Front Lines” discussion about race from September at www.mprnews.org/story/2015/09/24/mpr_news_presents (MPR is a place where you can find all sorts of informative talks!)

This is a theater with a mission to “create professional productions that are artistically excellent, thought provoking and relevant, and illuminate the human condition through the prism of the African American experience.” This is a prism too often lacking in the consciousness and experience of the white theater-going audience. Minnesota is incredibly blessed to have this resource.

Among Penumbra’s enumerated goals is a drive “[t]o use theatre to create an American mythology that includes African Americans and other peoples of color in every thread of the fabric of our society.” This is what we all need in order to live together more peaceably and respectfully.

The Penumbra Theater also has educational programs for youth, curricular materials for teachers, race workshops, a speakers’ bureau and more. It is a place for growth for all segments of the community.

Recently I attended a pair of challenging one act plays at the Penumbra Theatre, Dutchman and The Owl Answers, and in the study guide it says--“At Penumbra,

(Continued on page 4)

Nominations Committee recommends Mills, Stephens

The Nominations Committee has recommended Rita Mills to succeed June Stewart as president of the Roseville Area League of Women Voters. Marquita Stephens was recommended as vice president.

Other board positions recommended are: Margaret Stanwood, secretary; Shirley Bradway and Joyce Briggs, administrative assistant; Stephanie DeBenedet and Beth Reinhart, co-chairs of the membership committee; Mindy Greiling, chair of the program committee; Gwen Willems, public relations; Judy Berglund, Voter editor; Cecilia Warner, chair of the voter services committee; James DeBenedet and Barbara Anderson, Web.

Other off-board leadership positions recommended by the committee are: Gladys Jones, action; Joyce Blomquist and Ann Cleland, annual meeting; Karen Schaffer, CMAL; Joyce Briggs, Faith O'Neill, Joan Stark, Jane Spartz-Audit, finance committee; June Stewart, Gavel Club; Mary Duddleston, Judy Berglund and Beth Salzl, membership committee; June Stewart, Mary Duddleston, Mary Jo Rourke, nominating committee; Bonnie Koch, Ann Haugen, Carrie Dickson, Diana Menanteau, Kathleen Juenemann, Valerie Swenson, and Karen Hobert, program committee; Karen Gill-Gerbig, data; Lois Cunningham, Karen Lake, Emma Duran and Judy Stuthman, voter services; Mary Jo Rourke, Voter (newsletter) distribution; Mary Ann Palmer, budget, and Dawn Mathers, membership directory.

Members will vote on the recommendations at the May 3 annual meeting.



Rita Mills



Marquita Stephens

Hays, Sobola to be honored as lifetime members

The League of Women Voters of Roseville Area will celebrate two of their members attaining lifetime membership status in League. These honored members are: Jackie Hays and Georgiana Sobola, both of Roseville. Certificates from the national League will be presented to them for their 50 years of service at the League's annual meeting May 3 at Little Canada City Hall.



Jackie Hays



Georgiana Sobola

Windows and Mirrors

(Continued from page 3)

transformative art illuminates ways to move humanity forward with compassion – join us as we move from empathy to action, from emotion to solution. Ours is a brave, honest, intelligent, responsible, and hopeful community and there is a place for you here. Welcome.” I encourage you to support this unique and special community resource with your presence, and then your voice to spread the word. As actor T. Mychael Rambo says “Penumbra doesn't just recreate what we see—it makes us see!” Amen.

Editor's note: Florence Sprague is a member of the Roseville-Maplewood-Falcon Heights chapter of the League.

“Windows and Mirrors for All” has been a regular column in the Voter since 2004. The title is derived from an essay by Emily Style, “Curriculum as Window and Mirror,” found in Seeding the Process of Multicultural Education. Style states that “education needs to enable the student to look through window frames in order to see the realities of others and into mirrors in order to see her/his own reality reflected.” People of all ages need both mirrors and windows with which to view the world, but too often we only have mirrors.

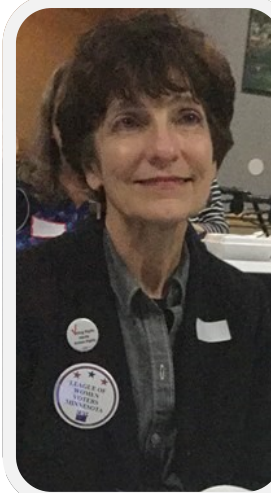


Nathan Gove and Roseville Area League President June Stewart.

March meetings focus on police training

Nathan Gove, executive director of the Peace Officers Standards and Training Board (POST), outlined Minnesota's unique system of licensing police officers, and its plans for the future at the Roseville Area League's March meetings.

POST is responsible for licensing over 10,500 active peace officers and over 250 part-time officers in Minnesota.



Roseville Area League members Gladys Jones and Barbara Anderson.

Proposed local program

Editor's note: Members will vote on this proposal at the May 3 annual meeting.

GOVERNMENT

Support opportunities for citizen participation in city government, including early public participation in the decision-making process, and open appointment for advisory committees. (1988)

Support City Manager form of government for Maplewood and Roseville (Plan B).

Police position (TBD, See story on page 1)

SOCIAL POLICY

Support emergency medical services in Roseville with user fees. (1978, 1981, 2003)

Support volunteer fire fighters with appropriate wages and benefits; oppose fees for fire department services. (2003)

Support transportation options that serve the needs of the area. (1983)

Support safe non-motorized pathways with costs assessed area-wide. (1983)

Support equal opportunity for all students in public schools with use of unbiased educational materials free of gender stereotypes. (1984, '85, '86, '87 '88, 2000)

Support electing School Board members-at-large for Districts 621, 622, 623. (1985, updated 1988)

NATURAL RESOURCES/ENVIRONMENT

Support organized refuse collection contracted with haulers by the city. (1985, 2010)

Support action to remove yard waste, newspaper, glass, metal and other recyclables from the waste stream going to landfills; and government support of yard waste composting by encouraging individual composting and providing and maintaining sites for community composting. (1982)

LOCAL STUDY ITEM recommended by the Board

Affordable housing.

LWV RoMaFH 2015-2016 Proposed Budget

	Budget 2015-2016	YTD March 2015-2016	Proposed Budget 2016-2017
INCOME:			
Dues (110 pd members/\$70 dues)	5,580.00	4,920.00	7,700.00
Contributions (unrestricted)	2,500.00	1,595.50	2,000.00
Annual Meeting	600.00	1,395.00	750.00
Misc., Incl. Voter Service Grants	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
Unit Meetings		926.00	0.00
Holiday Dinner	600.00		600.00
Reserves	228.00		1,325.00
In Kind	0.00		0.00
TOTAL INCOME	9,508.00	11,336.50	12,375.00
EXPENSES:			
Program Division			
Program	100.00	227.90	250.00
CMAL Meeting	0.00		0.00
Community Relations Division			
Public Relations/Advertising	25.00		25.00
Publication Purchases	100.00		100.00
Finance Committee	250.00		150.00
Voter Service/Citizen Info	50.00		250.00
Organization Division			
Printing	450.00	540.95	500.00
Voter Mailing	50.00		50.00
Membership	300.00	179.08	300.00
Unit Meetings	Incl. in program	1,008.56	0.00
Annual Meeting (food/booklet)	Incl. in Printing		Incl. in Printing
Catering	Incl. in other areas		Incl. in other areas
Publishing/Printing/Misc.	Incl. in Printing		Incl. in Printing
Membership Directory	Incl. in Printing		Incl. in Printing
Board Expense			
President/Vice President	25.00		25.00
Secretary	25.00	19.14	25.00
Treasurer	25.00		25.00
Board Expense	100.00		100.00
Facility Honorarium	200.00	200.00	200.00
Delegate, Travel, Affiliation			
Delegates, Convention, Workshop	1,500.00	910.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous			
Recognitions and Remembrances	100.00		100.00
Other Club Dues (Gavel Club)	15.00		15.00
Holiday Dinner	600.00		750.00
Annual Meeting	600.00	676.79	600.00
Miscellaneous	150.00		150.00
Website	100.00		100.00
In Kind	0.00		0.00
Per Member Payments			
PMP National (\$30.00/110 members)	2,790.00	2,688.00	3,300.00
PMP State (\$25.00/110 members)	1,860.00	1,596.00	2,750.00
CMAL Dues (\$1.00/110 members)	93.00		110.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	9,508.00	8,046.42	12,375.00



START BY



You're Invited

to a community dialogue on sexual
violence in our community

Wednesday, April 13

Hamline University Sundin Music Hall
7:00-9:00 p.m.

- Hear voices of sexual violence survivors
- Help transform our community's response to sexual violence victims
- Pledge to build a community that starts by believing sexual violence survivors

Hosted and Presented by:





**League of Women
Voters, Roseville,
Maplewood, Falcon
Heights**

**Judy Berglund, editor
2075 Farrington St.
Roseville, MN 55113**

Calendar for 2015-16

2016

April

19 - 20 - *Police study consensus, Little Venetian Inn*

May

3- *Annual Meeting, Little Canada City Hall*

11- *Tour of Eureka Recycling, 2828 Kennedy St. NE, Minneapolis*



Happy Spring!