

The President's Podium

Jane Klekamp

This is the final column I write as the president of the League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Area. I love the League and its positions and hope to stay involved in areas that most interest me. I encourage you; whether it's behind the scenes as a letter writer, a position developer or a voter registrar - or whether it's a more public role - to do what you can to promote voting rights in our community, state, and nation.

You are invited to attend the annual meeting on May 18th at the Radisson Hotel. It is an opportunity to further hear about what the board has been working on, vote on by-laws changes, and elect officers. It is also helpful to the board to hear input from members about issues important to the people. Please contact Dee Peacock to register for the annual meeting.

The local League has a fantastic board that is working on streamlining processes. As the board was redefining roles and responsibilities it was amazing how technology influences the efforts underway by the League of Women Voters. We were surprised by the amount of time it takes to keep abreast of the different aspects of information delivery in this time of instant communication. It continues to be a growing area of board responsibilities that - at times - has stymied us how to manage it.

Thank you for the opportunity to be board president. I enjoy the time spent with informed, thoughtful, and wise people.

League Book Club

WHEN: May 20, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Java Vino
1505 Losey Blvd. S.
La Crosse, WI 54601

BOOK: "The Good Food Revolution: Growing Healthy Food, People and Communities" by Will Allen

A pioneering urban farmer and McArthur Genius Award Winner points the way to building a new food system that can feed and heal communities. The son of a share cropper, Will Allen had no intention of ever becoming a farmer himself, but after years in professional basketball, as an executive for Kentucky Fried Chicken and Proctor & Gamble, he cashed in on his retirement account for a 2 acre plot just outside Milwaukee's largest public housing project. The area was a food desert with only convenience stores and fast food restaurants to serve the needs of locals. Allen has built the country's preeminent urban farm - a food and educational center that now produces enough produce and fish year round to feed thousands. This book is the story of Will's personal journey, the lives he has touched and the grass roots

movement that is changing the way our nation eats.

This will be our last meeting of the book club until September. We would like to choose a book for our next read that is League related. It could be history of the founders or the general voting movement, etc. Come to the May meeting or email me with ideas.

Hope to see you there!

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Proposed Bylaw Changes

The link below opens a pdf with our local bylaws with proposed changes underlined. State league recommended the changes and they generally reflect the changes at the state level in nomenclature and structure. There are no local changes recommended. Under the bylaws, proposed amendments are provided to the membership at least one month in advance of the annual meeting and they will be voted on at that meeting.

[Bylaws](#)

If you have any questions, you can contact Ellen Frantz at ellen@johnsflaherty.com.

Notification of Election of Officers & Directors and Annual Meeting Announcement

Nominating Committee Chair: Carolyn Mahlum-Jenkins

The League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Region will be having their annual meeting on **Monday, May 18, 2015** at the Radisson Hotel, 200 Harborview Plaza, La Crosse, Wisconsin. The annual meeting is scheduled as follows: 5:30 pm cocktails, 6:00 pm dinner.