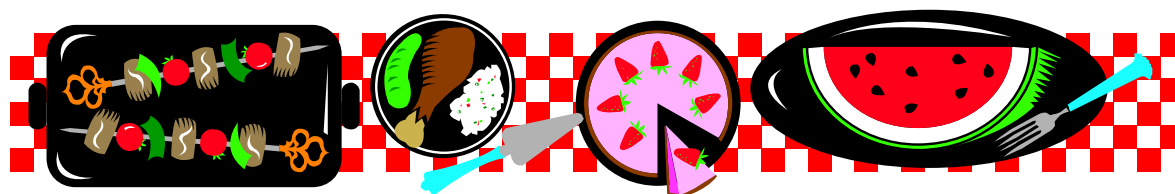




# the Bear Facts

the League of Women Voters of the White Bear Lake Area



## Save the Date!

August 17, 2017

Annual Picnic with program information and signup opportunities for coming events and committees.

Details to be announced in the August Bear Facts  
Hosted by the Mahtomedi Unit

### **From the President:**

As I step into the role of President of LWV WBLA, I'm looking back on how far women have come in the nearly 100 years that we've had the right to vote. Women are now holding elected office at the local, state, and national levels, and are also serving on our state and federal supreme courts. I'm also looking ahead to work that has yet to be done to control campaign spending and bring equity to the redistricting process.

These are turbulent times, yet I see great opportunities for the League of Women Voters to do what we do best, which is to educate voters and to give them the tools they need to participate in shaping their representative democracy. Voter education is my passion, and it's why I joined the LWV. I wanted to be part of an organization that believes in bringing nonpartisan facts and different points of view on a subject to the voters and having them decide for themselves who best represents their beliefs. Why did you join? What are you passionate about? It's a subject we'll be exploring in the coming months. I hope to learn more about our members and our community in order to better connect our strengths to our community's needs. I hope you'll join me.

Liz Lauder

The following are articles and pictures from LWVMN Convention in April. Thanks to all who attended and those from LWVWBLA who made such an impact and contribution at the Convention. Submitted by Carol Bergeson.

## **LOCAL LWV of WBLAREA MAKES BIG SPLASH AT STATE CONVENTION!**

The delegates to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota 2017 Convention, held April 29 at Normandale College, were very aware of the vibrant, active, wide-ranging LWV-WBLArea branch as they heard from many members during the day-long meeting.

**Miriam Simmons** of Stillwater made the usually mundane amending of by-laws a fun and humorous process. **Liz Lauder**, Shoreview, was re-elected LWVMN secretary and also shared the results and goals coming from a survey of members for a Strategic Plan for the future of LWVMN. The Strategic Plan has 7 goals, and the priorities for the next two years are to develop several new sustainable sources of income, to increase the number of members being trained to be moderators at our well-respected candidate forums, and to identify how LWV voting issues will affect various cultural, economic, and age groups across the state. **Kathy Tomsich** of North Oaks, LWVMN Action Chair, introduced the speaker, Mindy Greiling, former legislator and active Roseville League member.

A highlight of the day was the awarding of the prestigious Peggy Thompson Award, honoring a League member who has been instrumental in strengthening and serving her local League and community. This year's winner was **Mary Santi** of White Bear Township. Santi, a member since 1974, has led the White Bear Area LWV three times as president; helped with the beginning of recycling in White Bear, hoisting newspapers onto a truck in the WB Shopping Center; chaired multiple study committees, resulting in positions for action; marched in Manitou Days parades and collected trash during the League's Adopt a Highway responsibilities.

Candidates for public office, and their constituents, recognize **Santi** as a superior moderator during League-sponsored Candidate Forums throughout the Metro area. "Kind and inviting, quiet competence, organized, mentoring, tireless, focused, thorough, inspiring, relaxed and accepting....." These are just a few of the accolades from her fellow members in their nominating document. Santi's service to St. Mary's of the Lake church and community include organizing for Relay for Life, chaired Loaves and Fishes project, served as Eucharist Minister, usher, and videotaping services. Santi is an outstanding recipient of this award. Congratulations!

A surprised **Carol Bergeson** of North Oaks won the donor's drawing of a copy of local author Lorna Landvik's latest novel, "Once in a Blue Moon Lodge" along with a promise of her name being used as a character in Landvik's next novel.

## Convention Highlights in Pictures



Former winner Sue Hnastchenko presents this year's Peggy Thompson Award to Mary Santi of White Bear Lake

Carol Bergeson, North Oaks, will be a named character in Lorna Landvik's newest novel, which is yet to be named.





Liz Lauder reelected secretary to LWVMN Board.





Other members from the WBLArea LWV attending the convention were Judy Duffy, Birchwood (a former LWVUS board member), Lori Soukup , Marine on St. Croix, and Ruth Jones, Oak Park Heights.



Miriam Simmons explaining the by-laws.

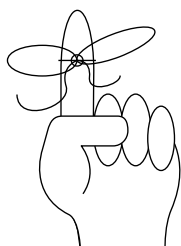


Liz Lauder ( to the right of the screen) explaining the Strategic Plan at the April Convention



Don't Forget.....We have a Facebook page!

If you are on Facebook, check out our page, " like it" and post something on it at least once a month.



You will find it if you search on Google for LWV White Bear Lake Area. It is set up as an organization page. That means we don't know who has liked it unless they post something.

Also.....The link to our website: [www.lwv-wbla.org](http://www.lwv-wbla.org)

May 10, 2017

## Treasurers Report

Elizabeth Nordling, Treasurer

		Current	YTD
<b>Income:</b>	Dues	\$1635.00	\$1635.00
	Donations	\$112.00	\$112.00
	Meetings (socials)	\$392.00	\$392.00
	Service		
	In-kind donation		
	Voters Service		
	Calendars		
	Bank interest		
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2139.00</b>	<b>\$2139.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	Meetings (socials)	\$530.72	\$530.72
	2016 National convention		
	LWVMN PMP		
	LWVUS PMP		
	Meeting site		
	Voters Service		
	Program (includes publicity)	\$124.13	\$124.13
	Bear Facts copying/printing		
	Calendars		
	Membership	\$32.13	\$32.13
	(communication, recruiting & recognition)		
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$686.98</b>	<b>\$686.98</b>

Opening balance from April 1, 2017: \$4566.83  
Income + \$2139.00  
Expenses: - \$686.98

Current balance: **\$6018.85**

Ed fund CD: **\$5029.52**

2017-18 Paid Members: 21 @ \$60  
5 @ \$75  
Total: 34 (including our 3 lifetime members)