



We hope you have already marked your calendar for our upcoming League of Women Voters White Bear Lake Area annual picnic:

**Thursday, August 20th at 5:00 PM**  
**via ZOOM.** Check your email for the invitation to join the meeting.

Gather your favorite foods, a beverage, and your computer to see old and new faces and hear about the upcoming year's events.

Although it will be awhile before we gather in person, we have a program full of interesting topics and speakers and a calendar jam-packed with opportunities in which you can get involved. (See pages 8-9)

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We hope that those who have not used Zoom previously have had a practice session with their units. If you were not able to participate in that, here is a link from Senior Planet which gives a great explanation of how to use Zoom: <https://seniorplanet.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Zoom.pdf>



## **OUR SEPTEMBER SPEAKER**

Are you Ready for November 2020?

The White Bear Lake Area League of Women Voters invites the public to attend their September general meeting, which is a Zoom discussion about elections, election security, and mail-in ballots with former State Elections Director Joe Mansky, [on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 6:30 PM](#). The talk is free and open to the public. All current LWVWBLA members will be invited directly to the Zoom meeting. All others (guests, family members, members of the public) must

preregister at [www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com).

Search on "League of Women Voters White Bear Lake Area MN" or "Answering Election Concerns". Eventbrite registrants will be sent the Zoom invitation shortly before the meeting.



The 2020 general election is often touted as the most important in many of our lifetimes. The decisions voters make in November promise to affect a generation of Americans, all three branches of government and our country's role in world politics. Voters will decide between competing visions of America's future as they elect US senators who will help

determine appointments to the US Supreme Court and other federal courts, the US Senate, and the US House of Representatives. Minnesotans will also be deciding key state senate, representative, and judicial seats as well as county, city, and township and school board races, and important local ballot questions, all of which have the potential to affect the quality of life in Minnesota. Meanwhile, the results of the 2020 census will affect the decennial redrawing of congressional and legislative district boundaries and states' eligibility for federal funding. Both parties consider the redistricting process to be critically important for their political futures. This takes place against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, creating special challenges and potential conflict between the need to avoid large-scale social contact, necessary to combat the pandemic, and the need to ensure that every eligible American can register and vote as safely, securely, and conveniently as possible.

This program will address these challenges in a short talk, and then answer questions posed by members of the audience. Mr. Mansky has almost 40 years experience with framing and oversight of Minnesota's election laws and procedures. He worked in Minnesota Secretary of State Joan Grove's office for two decades, overseeing statewide redistricting during the Ventura administration and, beginning in 2002, supervising elections for Ramsey County. For additional (and entertaining) background on Joe Mansky, visit <https://editions.lib.umn.edu/electionacademy/2019/03/04/minnesota-election-legend-joe-mansky-to-retire/>

*-Lisa Larson, Joan Neumiller, Lori Delahunt*



**CELEBRATE WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY ON  
AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>**

2020: the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment  
-AND the year when so many plans had to change.

The original plan for this year was to mark the centennial with several special events. One of these events was to have taken place on August 26<sup>th</sup> when the LWV of Minnesota hosted Women's Equality Day at the Minnesota State Fair.

**Even though the State Fair was canceled, we can still find ways to celebrate this important day in our nation's history.**

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**Read:**

- *The Woman's Hour* by Elaine Weiss, about the events leading up to the State of Tennessee's historic vote as the final state to ratify the amendment.
- The "Suff Buffs" blog posts about some "not-so-average" makers of "herstory," <https://www.womensvote100.org/the-suff-buffs-blog>,
- *Finish the Fight* by Veronica Chambers and the staff of the *New York Times* that includes stories about women of color who fought for the right to vote (<https://www.hmhbooks.com/shop/books/Finish-the-Fight/9780358407829>).

(continued on next page)

- **Watch:**

- “The Vote” on PBS.com (<https://www.pbs.org/video/the-vote-part-1-3kph5d/>)
- “Forward Into Light,” about suffragette Inez Milholland (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/inez-milholland-forward-into-light-into-light-screening-and-discussion-tickets-115793999971?aff=erelexpmlt>)

- **Support:**

- Buy women’s suffrage stamps from the US Postal Service [https://store.usps.com/store/product/buy-stamps/19th-amendment-women-vote-S\\_476604](https://store.usps.com/store/product/buy-stamps/19th-amendment-women-vote-S_476604)
- Buy a signed copy of Joan Grove’s new autobiography, *Turnout*, co-written by Lori Sturdevant. Attend the book launch party and raise money for the LWV of Minnesota (<https://www.mnhs.org/event/8508>)

- **Visit:**

- The Minnesota Historical Society’s new exhibit, “Votes for Women,” which opens online on August 26<sup>th</sup> (<https://www.mnhs.org/historycenter/activities/museum/votes-for-women>) and will open in person in the spring of 2021.
- LWV of Minnesota’s traveling history exhibit: <https://www.lwvmn.org/traveling-exhibit-virtual>

**Don’t let this important anniversary go by without taking a moment or two to thank the people who made sacrifices for all of us.**

*-Liz Lauder, President pro tem*

## **It's A Whole New World, and "no, it's not Aladdin!"**

### **-It's Candidate Forums during a Pandemic!**



Candidate forums will be **virtual only** for fall 2020. Due to COVID-19, the state league has advised all local leagues to host "candidate only" forums. While this might seem like a deficit, our league is embracing the online format as a way in which we can spread the candidate's messages more widely than in the past.

This means that forums WILL:

- be attended by candidates
- be moderated by LWV
- allow for questions from the public
- be available on cable
- be available through recordings on YouTube
- be available as links to recordings on our FaceBook page and website:  
[www.lwv-wbla.org](http://www.lwv-wbla.org)

We currently have four forums scheduled, and more will be set up in the near future, including:

North Oaks - Senate 38B, mayor, council	9/21/2020
Oak Park Heights - House 39 A and B, Senate 39	9/14/2020
Oak Park Heights - School district, mayor, council	9/17/2020
Shoreview - House 42 A and B and Senate 42	9/15/2020

As part of our unit meetings in October, we are asking members to listen to the forums for their areas and come prepared to discuss current issues in their area. Look for information from your unit leaders related to our October program. **See the following page to see how you can help with forums!**     *-Heidi Boyd*

## FORUM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Voter Services committee anticipates a busy election season despite the pandemic challenges. There are currently four in-person candidate forums planned with no audience attendance. With this new format, fewer League volunteers are needed. **We are looking for an additional volunteer for the evenings of September 14th and 17th in Oak Park Heights, and lead volunteer or "point person" for the evening of September 21st in North Oaks.**

There may be additional forums planned.

Please contact Molly Anthony if you're interested in volunteering or have questions.

[msanthony3@gmail.com](mailto:msanthony3@gmail.com)

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## MORE WAYS TO HELP

VOTE from HOME - Start Now!

What you need to know to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy

At this critical time, we as LWV members need to be advocates for people who want to vote, but are concerned about being safe during the pandemic. The best option for voters may be to **Vote From Home!** Please help spread the word to your colleagues, families and friends. Here are tips from the Minnesota League.

Step 1: Register to Vote

Step 2: Request an Absentee Ballot

Step 3: Vote!

Step 4: Return your Ballot

Step 5: Sit back and relax on election day

For details, please visit: <https://www.lwvmn.org/vote-from-home>

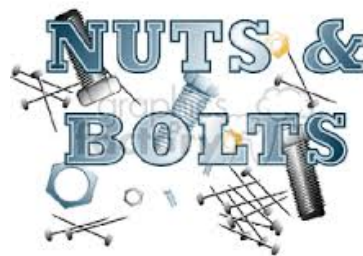
In addition, we will have lawn signs and posters available for *all members*. More details will be shared at our August picnic. Please help our state ensure a diverse and strong voter turnout by sharing how Minnesotans can Vote From Home.

If you would like to be part of the Voter Services committee to help register and educate voters, please contact Heidi Boyd at 651-329-7059.



## THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF A SUCCESSFUL LEAGUE:

Whether you joined the League of Women Voters due to an interest in registering voters and defending voting rights or helping promote an informed voting public through candidate forums and civic-minded speakers, there are many opportunities to get involved. If we all, in addition to attending our unit and general meetings, lend our talent, energy and time in some way, we will be part of a vibrant chapter that we can be really proud of.



The previous two pages provided information about connecting with voter services and volunteering at the candidate forums. Please consider making that call or sending that email! The following two pages showcase our calendar for the year. This is a key reference outlining the major events planned between now and June. Take some time before the picnic to identify a topic you are interested in pursuing along with fellow members. There are committee heads (Action, Publicity, Social Media, Budget) who would appreciate your help as well. There will be an opportunity to volunteer for any of these opportunities through the "chat" function during our picnic. Your unit leaders will also be asking for a volunteer to write up a short summary of your meetings to submit to The Bear Facts, so that we are kept abreast of what is happening in our neighboring units - and as a reference for members who were not able to attend that day.

**REMEMBER: MANY HANDS MAKE FOR LIGHT WORK - AND MORE FUN!**

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Many members have not yet paid their dues for the year (which were to be collected in April). If you owe your dues, please send a check (\$60 per person or \$75 per household) made out to LWV-WBLA, to our treasurer, Margaret Westin at 200 Wildwood Avenue, Birchwood, MN 55110.

If paying dues is problematic this year due to Covid-19 (or other unforeseen circumstances), contact Margaret at 651-429-9229 or [marg.westin@gmail.com](mailto:marg.westin@gmail.com) to let her know. Some members have contributed to a fund to cover dues for those with extenuating circumstances.

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA PROGRAM CALENDAR 2020-2021








UNIT LEADERS	MEETING LOGISTICS
<b>Mahtomedi Unit – usually meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7 pm</b> Theresa Casey-Wolf <a href="mailto:tcaseywolf@gmail.com">tcaseywolf@gmail.com</a> 651-324-4372 <b>North Oaks Unit – meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 12:30 pm</b> Molly Anthony <a href="mailto:msanthony3@gmail.com">msanthony3@gmail.com</a> 651-214-1263 <b>St. Croix Valley Unit – meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 3 pm</b> Lori Soukup <a href="mailto:soukup524@gmail.com">soukup524@gmail.com</a> 651-491-4735 Gladys Ritter <a href="mailto:logos48@aol.com">logos48@aol.com</a> 612-598-1045 <b>White Bear Lake Unit – meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 7 pm</b> Kathy Gaylord <a href="mailto:kbgaylord@gmail.com">kbgaylord@gmail.com</a> 651-503-3660	Due to Covid-19, and for the foreseeable future, all meetings will be held via Zoom. Current members will be invited and provided a Zoom link to each Unit and General/Public meeting. Others who wish to participate in meetings (guests, family members, members of the public) need to pre-register for each program at <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com">Eventbrite.com</a> . Use the program title to search at Eventbrite. The Zoom link to join the meeting will be sent shortly before the meeting.

Month	Lead	Detail
<b>AUGUST 2020</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	11 Primary Election 20 Virtual Kickoff Picnic, 5 pm	<b>PROGRAM KICKOFF</b> Our annual LWV WBLA picnic is "virtual" this year. New member introductions. Program Calendar 2020-21 introduced for Unit and General meetings. Traveling Bear Award presentation. Video conference starts at 5 pm. Unit leaders will instruct about how to attend the meeting.
<b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	8 General Meeting, Mansky 6:30 pm 9 North Oaks Unit 10 SCV Unit 10 WB Lake Unit 14 Mahtomedi Unit 22 Nat. Voter Regist.	<b>ANSWERING ELECTION CONCERNS</b> Joe Mansky worked behind-the-scenes of Minnesota election laws and procedures—two decades in the Secretary of State's office, becoming elections director. Beginning in 2002 Mansky supervised elections for Ramsey County. He retired in 2019. Units meet to discuss Mr. Mansky's presentation.
<b>OCTOBER 2020</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	8 SCV Unit 8 WB Lake Unit 12 Mahtomedi Unit 14 North Oaks Unit 13 Pre-registration ends	<b>CONSIDERING CANDIDATES' POLICY POSITIONS</b> Unit members choose an issue and use Vote411.org, candidate websites, party platforms, newspaper interviews and candidate forums to learn candidate positions. Compare with LWV positions.
<b>NOVEMBER 2020</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	3 ELECTION DAY 10 General Meeting, Prof. Aoki, 6:30 pm	<b>ASSESSING ELECTION IMPLICATIONS</b> Andy Aoki, professor of political science at Augsburg University will help us understand local, state, and national implications of the election results. Aoki teaches courses on American politics, and has published work on immigration, Asian American and other ethnoracial politics, multicultural education, and popular culture and politics.
<b>DECEMBER 2020</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	7 Mahtomedi Unit 9 North Oaks Unit 10 SCV Unit 10 WB Lake Unit	<b>EXPLORING EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY NEXT STEPS</b>  Meet as Units via Zoom for Holiday social.



Month		Lead	Detail
<b>JANUARY 2021</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	11 Mahtomedi Unit 13 North Oaks Unit 14 SCV Unit 14 WB Lake Unit	Gladys Ritter	<b>TALKING ABOUT RACE</b> Members discuss race at Unit Meetings using <i>A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota</i> edited by Sun Yung Shin. Sixteen of Minnesota's best writers provide a range of personal perspectives on what it is like to live as a person of color in Minnesota. Prepare for a discussion to challenge, discomfort, disorient, galvanize, and inspire us.
<b>FEBRUARY 2021</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	18 General Meeting, Tawanna Black, 6:30 pm	Lisa Larson	<b>ADVANCING INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH</b> Tawanna Black, Founder and CEO, Center for Economic Inclusion, the nation's first such organization, will talk about her work to dismantle structural racism and economic disparities in Minneapolis and St. Paul.
<b>MARCH 2021</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	8 Mahtomedi Unit 10 North Oaks Unit 10 SCV Unit 11 WB Lake Unit	Kathy Tomsich and Gladys Ritter	<b>RESTORING THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT</b> The now named John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019 aims to restore the full protections of the original, bipartisan Voting Rights Act of 1965, which was last reauthorized by Congress in 2006, but gutted by the Supreme Court in 2013.
<b>APRIL 2021</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	22 Annual Meeting	Lisa Larson	<b>ANNUAL MEETING – REVISITING REDISTRICTING</b> Members decide on program and budget and elect officers and directors for the coming year. Invited guest speaker Peter Wattson, who has drawn election maps for Ramsey County and served as Senate Counsel for MN and on numerous national and international redistricting committees will talk about redistricting.
<b>MAY 2021</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	10 Mahtomedi Unit 12 North Oaks Unit 13 SCV Unit 13 WB Lake Unit	Mary Santi	<b>EXAMINING POLICE REFORM PROPOSALS</b> From defunding the police totally to restructuring to oversight and training, to transparency--what are the main proposals for police reform that are being raised and enacted? What benefits and constraints come with each of these proposals? What do we think?

## Event Key

	Unit Meetings
	General/Public Meetings
	All-Member Events
	Board Meetings, 6:30 pm
	Bear Facts Deadlines
	Bear Facts Issued
	Election-Related Dates

[www.lwv-wbla.org](http://www.lwv-wbla.org)

Check our website for updates to program, scheduled candidate forums and voter registration events.


[Facebook.com/League of Women Voters White Bear Lake Area](https://www.facebook.com/LeagueofWomenVotersWhiteBearLakeArea)

Facebook is the place to learn about and comment on what's happening today.



We are so excited to welcome new members to League of Women Voters- White Bear Lake Area! In the following pages, you will meet some of our new members through short bios written by our Membership Director, Barb Memory. **Additional bios will be in the next (October) issue of The Bear Facts.** Meet these new members during our Zoom Picnic on August 20th.

In addition to meeting and greeting those new to the League, Barb has written this piece below which you may use or adapt to invite people you know (perhaps through church or another organization you belong to, to 1) vote by mail and 2) join our league. Thanks, Barb!

#### Mail-In Voting and Invitation to League of Women Voters

##### Did you know?

Did you know that you may request your mail-in absentee ballot NOW for the upcoming November election? And that witness signatures will not be required? It is easy! Go to [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org) to request your balloting materials.

Also, did you know that the League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that welcomes women and men? The League encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The White Bear Lake Area League has 4 units that serve the communities of WBL, Mahtomedi, St. Croix Valley, and North Oaks/Shoreview. Visit [www.lwv-wbla.org](http://www.lwv-wbla.org) and our Facebook page to learn more.

For more information, contact Barb Memory, Membership Chair, LWV-WBLA. [memoryb@ecu.edu](mailto:memoryb@ecu.edu)

(Add your own name to make this personal for your church or friends.)

The League welcomes new member **Elsbeth Howe**, (Mahtomedi unit) who was born in Minneapolis, moved as a child with her family to many states, and returned to settle here with her husband 26 years ago. Elsbeth will complete a 2-year term on the Dellwood City Council in December, having run in a special election for an unexpired term. She has decided not to run again, and joins the League as a way to stay engaged in civic activity, especially voting rights and election issues.

Elsbeth earned a degree in history from Drake University (Des Moines) and continued in Law School at the University of Iowa. She worked for 18 years with the St. Paul-based headquarters of Students United, a non-profit student advocacy group that serves all students in the seven campuses of Minnesota's state universities. The 50-year-old organization is a "mega-student government" that assists with student issues, scholarships, etc. The last six years Elsbeth served as Executive Director. She is currently the Director of Development for Inver Hills Community College.

Elsbeth's husband is Dr. Jason Ross, DDS, a dentist with Lakeshore Family Dentistry. They have 3 children: a daughter who is a junior at the U of MN with a double major in English and self-designed studies; a son who will begin study at Century College, and a son who will be a junior at Mahtomedi High School.

Elsbeth enjoys biking, tennis, and travel; the whole family had a wonderful trip to London during Spring Break this year just before the lockdown was declared.

Welcome, Elsbeth!

*Submitted by Barb Memory, Membership Chair*





The League welcomes **Karen Suzukamo**, a new member of the White Bear Lake unit who lives with her husband in Vadnais Heights. Karen has had a life-long admiration for the work of the League. She attended the citizenship ceremony of a friend last year, saw voter registration information being distributed by the League, and decided that now is the time to join. Karen sees that voter participation levels are not where they should be, and joins to be active in voter education and mobilization.

Karen grew up in the San Francisco Bay area, graduated from UC Berkeley in economics, worked a few years, and then completed an MBA at Stanford.

Karen and her husband were offered jobs and moved to MN in 1984. She worked first in marketing at General Mills, and then for 25 years at 3M before retiring in 2013. Her husband is retired from a career as a journalist for *The Pioneer Press*. Their older daughter, Alison, lives in Chicago and has worked in data analysis with a non-profit organization providing therapy for severely traumatized children, and is now returning to school in industrial psychology. Louise, their younger daughter, passed on in 2011 having had life-long health challenges.

Karen's favorite job at 3M was in her last few years when she was on an "e-Hub" team, a centralized organization that developed e-commerce and e-marketing for the consumer group.

Karen enjoys gardening, reading, volunteer work, and traveling with her husband. Her volunteer work has been focused on kids – tutoring, classroom aide in her local elementary school- and serving on the Caring Community team of her Temple. They support members and others with needs such as meals and rides.

Karen and her husband have enjoyed a unique travel life: Explore the World One Winter at a Time. Every other year they choose a place and live there for 3-4 months. On alternate years they visit family in California.

Welcome, Karen!

*Submitted by Barb Memory, Membership Chair*

### The League Welcomes Janet (Jan) Ciegler

The League welcomes new, that is, re-joining, member Janet Ciegler to the St. Croix Valley Unit. Janet moved to Boutwells Landing recently to be near 3 of her grown children who live in the area. Janet was a League member when she lived for 20 years in Peoria, IL and for 6 years in Louisiana. Janet is interested in League support of voting, access to polls, and mail-in voting.

Janet has also lived in Germany, South Carolina, Wisconsin, Arkansas, and rural Indiana over the course of her life. Janet's husband passed away in 2003, and was in government work, with numerous scientific publications.

Janet grew up near New York City, studied 2 years at Earlham College, earned her B.S. in microbiology at Cornell U., and earned a M.S. in microbiology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She and her husband have 2 daughters and a son who live in St. Paul and Stillwater, and a third daughter who lives in Los Angeles.

Janet worked for the U.S. Geological Survey in IT, but her great love is beetles! Yes, the insects – in their many genera and types. While in SC she wrote five books on the identification of South Carolina beetles, which were published by Clemson University. A collector of many things as a child, a book given her by her father on insects got her started, and beetles were eventually chosen as a specialty because “they were light-weight and free.”

Janet enjoys walking with her adult children who live locally; they meet often and walk in the area parks, socially distanced. She is enjoying meeting new people in her residence as she settles in her new home.

Welcome, Janet!

Submitted by: Barb Memory, Membership Chair



### The League Welcomes Michelle Wood

The League welcomes new member Michelle Wood, a nine-year resident of North Oaks who joins because of her interest in supporting voter education and participation, and who was inspired by the TPT episode: American Experience: The Vote. Michelle wishes to help commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment through League activities.

Michelle grew up on a farm near Eldora, Iowa, and graduated from Iowa State University in Journalism and Mass Communications. She completed her Ph.D. at The University of Wisconsin and is an adjunct instructor in the University of Minnesota Department of Journalism, teaching a capstone course: Strategic Campaigns. This course prepares students for careers in advertising, public relations, and corporate communications. Michelle has put her skills into action volunteering with Neighbors United in support of the Mounds View School District's successful levy last fall and a successful bond issue three years ago.

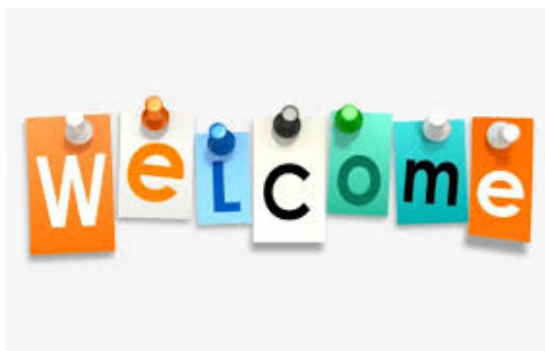
Michelle is married to Jon, a radiologist with Suburban Imaging in Coon Rapids. They have two children: daughter Leigha is a rising sophomore at Mounds View H.S., and son Grant will be a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Chippewa Middle School. Leigha plays the violin and is on a high school robotics team; Grant plays jazz on piano and sax. Jon assists with Grant's Boy Scout Troop.

Michelle has a background in travel and living abroad. Her junior year was spent in Marburg, Germany, and she spent one year at the University of Salzburg, Austria, pursuing graduate studies on a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship. It is no surprise that her family loves to travel, and a planned summer trip to Europe has been postponed. Instead, they will likely take a camping trip to Yellowstone this summer.

The family enjoys camping at Minnesota's beautiful state parks and canoe trips in the Boundary Waters. In addition, Michelle enjoys reading and making the five-mile loop around Pleasant Lake in their neighborhood.

Welcome, Michelle!

*Submitted by: Barb Memory, Membership Chair*





### The League Welcomes Rebecca (Becky) Kanten-McCoy

The LWV-WBLA welcomes new member Rebecca (Becky) Kanten-McCoy. Becky, who joins the White Bear Lake unit, has experience with voter registration, public policy, advocacy, and lobbying, and is joining the League “to help make the world a better place.” Becky is now working at Allina Health, in the information technology (IT) area, managing a team of 10 who support electronic medical records, all of whom are working from home.

Becky grew up on a farm near Milan, a small town in western MN, and then attended St. Olaf and graduated in nursing. She worked as a nurse in the VA Hospital in Minneapolis, and then moved to Iowa where she managed an organ transplant team at the University of Iowa Hospital. The team performed heart, liver, and kidney organ transplants. She then completed a graduate degree at the University of Iowa in Business, specializing in health technology, and marking a career shift away from surgical and bedside nursing into Health IT.

She and her husband, Jack, who now works in IT at Unisys, moved back to the Twin Cities when their son and daughter were born in order to be closer to family. Their son, Noah, manages Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI, and their daughter, Caitlin, works for USAID in Washington, D.C. They are fortunate that Caitlin was visiting in White Bear Lake when the quarantine rules were announced, so she is staying with Becky and Jack and working from her MN home.

Although full-time work takes most of her time, Becky is very involved with advocacy, policy, and lobbying for issues that arise from a faith-based group, as well as with a local women’s advocacy group, See Justice. She has attended Ecumenical Advocacy Days in the capital, and independently finds opportunities to work for issues of importance to her. She volunteers with the Food Shelf, and has done voter registration at farmers’ markets.

Becky enjoys walking and biking, and she and Jack enjoy traveling. Her favorite trips have been two visits with family to Norway, where they see Norwegian relatives. When it is safe, she and Jack will resume their travels.

The League welcomes you, Becky!

*Submitted by Barb Memory, Membership Chair*





Don't forget to check out our Facebook page. You will find it if you search for **League of Women Voters White Bear Lake Area**. This is where we post and discuss our day-to-day happenings. Our page has a calendar for upcoming events. We post replays from our forums that have already taken place. Check out our page, "like" it "share" it and post your own comments on it.

[www.lwv-wbla.org](http://www.lwv-wbla.org)

LWV White Bear Lake Area also has a Website. You will find it at [www.lwv-wbla.org](http://www.lwv-wbla.org). There you will find an events calendar, back issues of *The Bear Facts*, board information, and an invitation and instructions on how to join.

### CONTRIBUTE TO THE BEAR FACTS!

If you read a book, watch a movie, listen to a podcast or plan to attend an event related to league issues, please share it via *The Bear Facts*. Future issues will feature a "May I Recommend?" section highlighting reviews or summaries that you send in to let others know what's "out there" that's worth their while. Submissions can be sent to [ldelahunt@comcast.net](mailto:ldelahunt@comcast.net). Please include "Bear Facts" in the subject line so it doesn't get confused with the scores of emails that get deleted each day! For most months, the deadline for submissions is the third Thursday, but consult your calendar (pages 8-9) for specific dates.

## Treasurer's Report

August 1,2020

Margaret Westin, Treasurer

		Current	YTD
<b>Income:</b>	Dues	\$ 735.00	\$2,325.00
	Donations	\$ 505.00	\$ 755.00
	Memorials	\$	\$
	Meetings (socials)	\$	\$
	Service	\$	\$
	In-kind donation	\$	\$
	Voters Service	\$	\$ 300.00
	Calendars	\$	\$
	NOHOA	\$	\$
	Bank interest	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,240.01</b>	<b>\$ 3,380.01</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	Meetings (socials)	\$	\$
	LWVMN PMP	\$	\$
	LWVUS PMP	\$	\$
	Meeting site	\$	\$
	Voters Service	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
	Program (includes publicity)	\$	\$ 48.32
	Bear Facts copying/printing	\$	\$
	Calendars	\$	\$
	Membership	\$	\$
	(communication, recruiting & recognition)		
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$900.00</b>	<b>\$948.32</b>

Opening balance from July 1, 2020:	\$	4,275.45
Income	+	\$ 1,240.01
Expenses:	-	\$ 900.00

Current balance: **\$4,615.46**

Ed fund CD: **\$5,128.88**

2020-21 Paid Members: 34 @ \$60 3@ \$75

Total: 43 (including our 3 lifetime members)