



The Voter

JUNE 2011

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Johnson County, Iowa

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and Influences public policy through education and advocacy.



From the President

It has been a privilege to serve as President of The League of Women Voters Johnson County this past year. I want to thank our Board of Directors for all their hard work. Thanks again to our Nominating Committee and those who have accepted nominations on the 2011-2012 Board of Directors. Thanks to the Budget Committee and the Audit committee. Thanks to the Regional Governance Committee who are our local study group. Thanks to the 90th Anniversary Committee who led our celebration of our 90th anniversary year.

It was great to see so many LWVJC members at our May 4, 2011 Annual Meeting! Let me share the upcoming events for this summer:

- June 4 LWVIA Convention in Cedar Rapids
- June 6 Board of Directors meeting of incoming and outgoing
- June 29 Summer "Picnic" program on How Our Community is Changing
- August 8 Board of Directors meeting / Orientation
- August 22 (tentative) Reception for Elected Officials

What is your interest? Consider joining one of the study groups of our Regional Governance Committee. Volunteer to observe the Board of Supervisors meeting once a month. Share your ideas for our social events, traditionally the Holiday Brunch and Annual Meeting. Be a timer for a forum. Polly Spencer Horton

2010-2011 Officers

<i>President</i>	Polly Spencer Horton 621.1685
<i>Vice President</i>	Rebecca Reiter 354.7163
<i>Secretary</i>	Mary Ann Bradford 354.6633
<i>Treasurer</i>	Allison Panther 530.3605

Directors

Pat Cancilla 644.2807
Carol Spaziani 338.6140
Melanie Gross 354.3179
Naomi Novick 337-4649
Dawn Suter 321-2601
Gaylen Wobeter 338.5218

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Rebecca Reiter

Please welcome new member Leah Cohen, Linda Kerber, who has rejoined and national members James Allaire, Mary Pat Lease and Jim and Syndy Conger who have rejoined as local members. We appreciate your loyalty to the League!



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www.lwvjc.org
www.lwvia.org
www.lwv.org



DIRECTORS GOING OFF BOARD

Mary Ann Bradford

Dawn Suter

Rebecca Reiter



NEW BOARD MEMBERS WITH PRESIDENT POLLY HORTON [center]

PAT JENSEN [left]

And

BARBARA HARING [right]



ANNUAL DINNER MEETING By Gaylen Wobeter-

Annual Dinner Meeting on May 5th Deemed a Success

Thirty five members and guests attended the League's annual dinner meeting at the Clarion Highlander on May 5th. During the business meeting it was announced that the following people have agreed to serve the League in the next term:

Officers

President - Polly Horton, 2011-2012

Vice-President - Carol Spaziani, 2011-2013

Secretary - Gaylen Wobeter, 2011-2013

Treasurer - Allison Panther, 2011-2012

Elected Directors

Pasquale "Pat" Cancilla, 2011-2013 Patricia Ephgrave, 2011-2013

Melanie Gross, 2011-2012 Barbara Haring, 2011-2012

Pat Jensen, 2011-2013 Naomi Novick, 2011-2012

Nominating Committee Members

Rebecca Reiter, Chair, 2011-2012

Audrey Moeller, 2011-2012

The keynote speaker was Angela Onwuachi-Willig, a University of Iowa law professor, and one of the nine finalists for three position on the Iowa Supreme Court. She spoke about the lack of gender balance on the Supreme Court and in the court system in general. She stressed that women in her generation don't understand the history of women's struggle for equality and tend to take their rights for granted. Professor Onwuachi-Willig said that half of Iowa's law school students are female and explored reasons why women are sometimes not stepping into leadership roles in the law field, especially in Iowa. Her talk was very well received and generated good questions and discussion from the audience.

Mryna Loehrlein, President, League of Women Voters of Iowa, joined our meeting for the keynote speech. She encouraged League members to attend State Convention in Cedar Rapids on June 4th, and said a key issue to be discussed then will be the Iowa Constitution and the retention of judge issue.



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KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY! JOIN OTHER LEAGUERS FOR A SUMMER "PICNIC" AND HEAR UNITED WAY CEO ON HOW OUR COMMUNITY IS CHANGING

United Way of Johnson County completed in 2010 a Community Assessment for Johnson County with data revealing facts like this:

- 6 percent all families live below the poverty line
- 40 percent of all households do not earn enough to support their basic living expenses.
- 25 percent of children are not reading proficiently by fourth grade.
- 16 percent of adults are uninsured

Based on the data and input from community leaders, United Way has come up with a 10-year plan to address the disturbing numbers in income, education, and health.

Christine Scheetz, President and CEO of United Way, will join us June 29 to fill us in on the social, economic, and demographic changes occurring in our community. **Here is your chance to do what the LWVUS strongly advises local Leagues to do: KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY.**

Date: Wednesday, June 29, 12 noon (lunch 12-12:30)
Place: Coralville Public Library, Room A
Speaker (12:30-1:15): Christine Scheetz, President and CEO, United Way of Johnson County
Topic: "2020 Vision Goals for the Common Good of Johnson County"
Question period: 1:15-1:45
Lunch: Catered sack lunches or bring your own brown bag; League provides beverages

The program will be recorded by Iowa City Community Television Service for later cablecast on Iowa City Channel 4. The Library requests us to park free in the lot behind their ramp. From that level you can enter directly to the meeting room complex.

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SEND YOUR ORDER FOR A SACK LUNCH BY JUNE 24 WITH A CHECK FOR \$10 PAYABLE TO LWVJC TO:
Carol Spaziani, 409 Crestview Avenue, Iowa City, IA 52245

Sandwich choices (Check one):

Ham Turkey Egg salad Chicken salad

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(Sack lunches will be catered by the Library Coffee Shop and will contain: Wrapped sandwich, lettuce and tomatoes, mustard/mayonnaise, chips, fruit, and a cookie. If you prefer you may bring your own brown bag and do not need to send a reservation.)