

**LWVJC Officers
and Directors
2007-2008**

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Barbara Beaumont
626-6227

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466-0945

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351-1684

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354-6633

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354-3179

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621-1685

Pat Jensen
338-8123

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337-9006

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466-3130

2008 Annual Meeting and Dinner

**Osterberg to Speak On
“An Iowa Specific Plan to Reduce
Greenhouse Gases”**

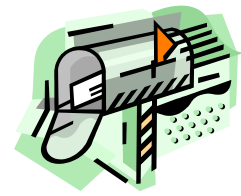
The League of Women Voters of Johnson County will hold its annual meeting at a dinner at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center on Wednesday, May 21st. The featured speaker will be David Osterberg, Executive Director of the Iowa Policy Project, an Iowa-based public policy think tank.

David Osterberg is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health at the University of Iowa. He is a former Democratic state representative who was chairman of the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee as well as the Agriculture Committee. He was the Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1998 and worked for a year as a consultant to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Osterberg holds advanced degrees in Water Resources Management and Agricultural Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The annual business meeting will address several matters. As is required, the budget for the following year must be approved (*see page 3*), as well as voting for the new officers and directors for the Board (*see page 2*). In addition, a bylaw change is to be considered (*see page 2*).

Please send in your reservations for yourself and your guests by May 18th to Treasurer Julie Pulkrabek (*see page 7*).

President's Letter



Global warming, dirty air and water, abuses of our civil liberties, torture of prisoners, suspension of habeas corpus – all these are issues we can work on, but we don't feel like we have much impact on the national and global levels.

Where we can, and do, have a noticeable impact is at the local level. We inform the public and ourselves before an election at our candidate forums. We question our State Representatives and Senators at our legislative forums. We monitor various governmental meetings.

I urge you all to get involved, if you're not already, in local politics and with our Regional Government Committee and see the difference we can make.

Also at the local level, you can support the conservation bonding initiative on the November ballot. This measure is important for conservation, recreation, and trails in Johnson County. You can contribute time and/or money. The LWVJC has signed on to support this bonding initiative. Read about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

Barbara Beaumont

Decisions for the Annual Meeting

Proposed Change to LWVJC Bylaws

The board voted to make the following small change to the bylaws:

In order to facilitate our record keeping for national dues and per member payments to LWVUS and LWVIA, the Board is proposing the following change to our bylaws to be voted on at the May annual meeting:

Article VI, Financial Administration, Section 2, Dues, e. currently reads:

" A new member who joins after nine months of the fiscal year have elapsed shall be considered a paid member for the following fiscal year also."

We would change the "**nine**" months to "**seven**" months so the new sentence would read:

Article VI, Financial Administration, Section 2, Dues, e. currently reads:

" A new member who joins after seven months of the fiscal year have elapsed shall be considered a paid member for the following fiscal year also."

Nominating Committee

Recommendations

For Officers and Directors for 2008-2009

President: Polly Horton

Treasurer: Julie Pulkrabek

Directors: Mary Ann Bradford

Lolly Eggers

Susan Craig

Nominating Committee:

Pat Cancilla

Pat Ephgrave

Board Member

Appointment

Save for budget

N. E. W. will cosponsor Spring Reception

The National Education for Women's Leadership and the Johnson County LWV to Co-Sponsor June 5th Reception

Did you know that Iowa is one of four states which have never sent a woman to the U. S. House or Senate? That the U.S. is currently ranked 71st in the world for women's representation in national government?

The Women's Resource and Action center has formed a partnership with National Education for Women's Leadership, an initiative to educate and empower the next generation of women leaders. Iowa N.E.W. Leadership is a five-day residential program during which college students learn about leadership and politics from successful women leaders.

The League of Women Voters of Johnson County is delighted to be a cosponsor of a reception for these young women on Thursday, June 5th, from 5:00 until 7:00 at the Old Capitol in Iowa City. At 6 PM, University of Iowa President Sally Mason will introduce the speaker (to be announced). Also, two participants will talk about their experience during the week.

We hope you will join us at this event. If you would like more information about Iowa N.E.W. Leadership or the reception, please contact Jessica Hook, Iowa N.E.W. Leadership Coordinator at jessica-hook@uiowa.edu or by calling (319) 335-1488.

County Candidates Forum on May 14th

Johnson County will hold a primary election on Tuesday June 3rd. There are no contests in the Republican Party, but the Democratic Party has two contests: one for the Auditor's position, and another for the three Supervisor positions.

The League of Women Voters of Johnson County will host a Candidate Forum for county supervisor and county auditor. Candidates for supervisor are Terry Dahms, Pat Harney, Terrence Neuzil, and Rod Sullivan. Auditor candidates are Mona Shaw and Tom Slockett.

The Candidate Forum will be held from 7:00 until 9:00 PM at the Iowa City Public Library, Room A, Wednesday, May 14. Come and get acquainted with these candidates! And remember to vote June 3rd.

JOHNSON COUNTY DUES

At the annual meeting, May 21, the Treasurer will be available to collect dues to cover July 1, 2008—June 30, 2009.

Individual membership	\$55.00
Family membership	\$82.50
Student membership	\$25.00

Bring your check made out to LWVJC, or mail your check to:

Julie Pulkrabek, Treasurer
Johnson County League of Women
Voters
4698 Fox Lane NE
Iowa City, IA 52240

Support LWVJC Positions

The group, *Citizens for Our Land, Water and Future*, is promoting the passage of the conservation bonding initiative on the November ballot. This bond issue would fund land purchases for conservation, recreation, and trails. The LWVJC board, in accordance with our positions on maintaining infrastructure to attract economic development and to promote resource conservation, voted to join with the citizens group to work to pass the bond issue.

Public policy research shows that Johnson County voters overwhelmingly support an initiative to invest \$20 million dollars of local money in conservation, recreation, and trails over the next 20 years to be administered by the Johnson County Conservation Board. For an average homeowner in Johnson County that would be an investment of about one specialty coffee monthly.

This local investment will be leveraged with grants, donations, and other investments for a multiplying effect of 2.5 to 3 times. With urban growth and sprawl, the opportunities to preserve unique and vital lands decrease with each year. No land will be condemned; only willing sellers will be considered. The plan will be flexible and developed with a lot of citizen input, and the spending plan will receive annual audits.

If you want to donate your time and/or money, contributions can be sent to *Citizens for Our Land, Water, and Future* at PO Box 5125, Coralville, IA 52241. For more information and to volunteer, contact 319-338-0999 (Janelle) or 319-430-0130 (Dick) or landwaterfuture2@gmail.com.

LWVUS On Immigration

The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the U.S. on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

The League supports federal immigration law that provides an efficient, expeditious system (with minimal or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the U.S.

To complement these goals the League supports federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities, and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations.

In transition to a reformed system, the League supports provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

The League supports federal payments to impacted communities to address the financial costs borne by states and local governments with large immigrant populations

Criteria for Legal Admission to the U.S.

The League supports the following criteria for legal admission of persons into the United States:

- Family reunification of spouses or minor children with authorized immigrants or citizens;
- Flight from persecution or response to humanitarian crises in home countries;
- Economic, business and employment needs in the U.S.;
- Education and training needs of the U.S.;
- Educational program opportunities; and
- Lack of a history of serious criminal activity.

Adapted from LWV National Voter

LEAGUE OPPOSES DEPORTATIONS, SUPPORTS EARNED CITIZENSHIP FOR UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS

(Ed. Note: On January 23 rd, our county League had an in-depth discussion leading to consensus. Our results were forwarded to LWVUS and compiled for this national report.)

Washington, DC– The League of Women Voters today announced its official position on immigration reform policy. □

“After a lengthy and comprehensive study of this complex issue by our grassroots members,” said national League president Mary G. Wilson, “the League’s position calls for a path to citizenship for current unauthorized immigrants.”

“As part of overall immigration reform, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria,” Wilson stated. □ “We oppose deportations of current unauthorized immigrants who have no history of serious criminal activity,” she said. □□

The full immigration policy approved by the national League’s Board of Directors in March was studied by the organization’s membership for more than eighteen months. □ The policy achieved member

consensus through a survey of the nearly 850 local Leagues. View the full position here.

Other elements of the League’s position include support for increased enforcement personnel at borders, more effective tracking of individuals who enter the U.S., and significant fines and penalties for employers who hire unauthorized workers. □ Furthermore, the League will champion due process for all persons, including the right to a fair hearing, right to counsel, right of appeal and right to humane treatment. □ The League position sets criteria for legal admission to the U.S., including family reunification of spouses or minor children; economic, business and employment needs in the U.S.; political persecution or humanitarian crises; and studying in the U.S.

The League will use this recently adopted position to guide its advocacy work on federal legislation introduced on this very important public policy issue.

Adapted from LWVUS National Voter

National Convention Set for June 13-17th

The 48th LWVUS National Convention is being held in Portland, Oregon, June 13-17. □ Delegates will be voting on Program, budget and PMP, and Convention Rules, among other things. Polly Horton will be representing our League.

New Board recommendations concern a

Health Care education program and an amendment to LWV Principles: “The LWVUS believes that all powers of the U.S. government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of a balance among the three branches of government: executive, legislative and judicial.”



League of Women Voters of Johnson County's

2008 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING & DINNER

Speaker: UI Professor David Osterberg

Presenting his perspective on

An Iowa Specific Plan to Reduce Greenhouse Gases

Business meeting	5:30-6:00 PM
Reception / Social	6:00
Dinner	6:30
Program	7:15

WHERE: Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 1220 1st Avenue, Coralville

WHEN: Wednesday May 21, 2008; 5:30 PM

COST: \$30.00 (Choice of Stuffed Pork Chop or Grilled Salmon)

RESERVATIONS: Send your choice & check by MAY 18, 2008

MENU

Stuffed Pork Chop with apple sage dressing and smothered in bourbon demi-glaze
or

Grilled Salmon seasoned with herbs and topped with Beurre Blanc Sauce

Both dinners include house salad with dressing, rolls with butter, regular and decaffeinated coffee, tea, milk, seasonal vegetables, and dessert

\$30.00 per person

Promote LWVJC Membership – bring a guest to the Annual Meeting!

(Please cut here. Fill out reservation form below, and send to Treasurer Julie Pulkrabek)



League of Women Voters of Johnson County's

2008 ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/e-mail _____

Guest(s) ' Name(s): _____

Number of Reservations: Pork Chop _____ Salmon _____

Amount enclosed [pay to JCLWV] @ \$30.00 each : _____

Send to Julie Pulkrabek 4698 Fox Lane NE Iowa City 52240 juliepulk@aol.c

New Members Welcomed

New members:



NATIONAL

Dr. Barrie Anderson, M.D.
Ms. Katherine Burford
Jeanne Cadoret
Angela Iles

LOCAL

Elizabeth Pearson

The League operates at the national, state and local levels, and each state has its own state and local leagues.

Membership at the local level entitles to receive information at all levels.

LWVJC Calendar

May—June 2008

MAY

- 5 Board Meeting ICPL Room B @ 4PM
- 14 Candidate Forum, ICPL Room A @ 7PM
- 21 Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Coralville @5:30 PM

JUNE

- 2 Board Meeting ICPL Room E @4PM
- 5 N.E.W. Reception, Old Capitol Building