



# Supporting Democracy for a Century and Beyond



## **FY24 Yearbook**

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**44th Annual Meeting of  
The League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County  
June 13, 2024  
AGENDA**

- 6:15 PM      Registration
- 6:30 PM      BUSINESS MEETING
- Call to Order: President Shari Kochman
- State of the League: Video Presentation
- Financial Report: Treasurer Beth Baranski
- Old Business
- New Business
- Presentation of the FY25 Budget: Beth Baranski  
   Membership Vote
- Nominating Committee Report: Betsy Eaton  
   Membership Vote
- Election of Officers: Shari Kochman  
   Membership Vote
- Bylaw Changes: Vice President Kathy Pearson  
   Membership Vote
- Adoption of Program Positions and Foci: Shari Kochman  
   Membership Vote
- Recognition of Outgoing Board Members: Kathy Pearson
- Adjournment
- 7:10 PM      Program: "Listening to our Youth"  
   Meggie Jenkins, Galena High School government teacher  
   Featuring Galena High School students from Class of 2024
- 8:00 PM      Dessert Reception
- 8:30 PM      Conclusion

**League of Women Voters  
of Jo Daviess County  
June 13, 2024**

Annual Meeting Rules

1. Names tags shall designate members, board members, and visitors.
2. Only voting members and those authorized by the chair may address the assembly.
3. The name of each speaker shall be announced when addressing the assembly.
4. Any lengthy motions must be written and sent to the chair.
5. The assembly shall try to stay within a reasonable time schedule.

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POLICIES

**Nonpartisan Policy**

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political party or candidates. Individual members are encouraged to participate fully in supporting the party and candidates of their choice and to serve their communities.

Re-adopted September 26, 2012

**Diversity Policy**

Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission and achievements as well.

Updated by LWVUS Board 1/21/2024

## **PURPOSE**

The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

- Membership is open to all persons at least 16 years of age.
- Household memberships are open to two adults living in the same home.
- Honorary life membership is granted to those who have been voting members of the LWVJDC for fifty years or more.
- All others who join the LWVJDC shall be associate members.

## **DUES**

- Dues are payable by June 30 for the following year.
- When two members reside at the same address, in a common household, a payment equal to one and one-half times the payment per person shall be made.

New members will pay dues at the time they join the LWVJDC. Any members who join after January 1 will be considered paid members until the second January 1 following their original dues payment.

Dues payment amounts:

- \$25---Student or Young Adult Member (under 35)
- \$60---Regular Member
- \$90---Household Membership

**NOTE:** Dues structure and payment process will change in 2025 with revisions at the national level.

## FY24 MEMBERSHIP

Patricia Allen-Stewart	Lynn Giles	Geraldine Oberman
Jane Baldinger	Eleida Gomez	Emily Painter
Beth Baranski	Char Goode	Gregg Painter
Jim Baranski	Judy Gratton	Deborah Pausz
Carol Bell	Christie Hensley	Katherine Pearson
Pam Bernstein	Nanette Hoff	Liv Pfeifer
Linda Broderick	Linda Howard	Charlene Price
Toni Campbell	Peter Kaufmann	Hendrica Regez
Diane Checchin	Shari Kochman	Carole Sullivan
Judith Chiarelli	Bonnielynn Kreiser	Kimberly Thompson
Paul Chiarelli	Kimberly Kreiser	Earl Thompson
Stephanie Cocagne	Jan Lavacek	Irene Thraen-
Bonnie Cox	Susan Lipnick	Borowski
John Cox	Alice Lundh	Keith Thraen-
Marcia Crook	Loretta Mattas	Borowski
Betsy Eaton	Beverly Mellskog	Karlyn Van Gelder
Mary Edwards	Peg Murphy	Georgia Walter
Janet Eggleston	Barb Mutch	Linda Weeder
Nicole Frank	Dolores Nack	Diane Westervelt
Gail Gabbert	Leah Neal	Lynn Zehnder
Diane Gallagher	Jean Ann Norman	Janet Zehr

## PAST PRESIDENTS

1982-1983	Margaret Moss	2007-2008	Executive Committee: Lu Bleveans, Jake Bleveans, and Julie Bruser
1983-1984	Marge Hospodar	2008-2009	Executive Committee: Lu Bleveans, Jake Bleveans
1984-1985	Mary Purdy	2009-2010	Executive Committee: Lu Bleveans, Jake Bleveans, Kathy Pearson
1985-1987	Esther Lieberman	2010-2011	Executive Committee: Bonnie Cox, Ellen Wittenbrink, Kathy Pearson, and Ruth Foley
1987-1989	Judy Gratton	2011-2016	Bonnie Cox
1989-1990	Carolyn Gustafson	2016-2018	Sue Cording
1990-1991	Fern Anderson	2019-2020	Sue Cording and Irene Thraen-Borowski (Co-Presidents)
1991-1992	Fern Anderson and Lois Kruse (Co-Presidents)	2020-2021	Jeanie Norman & Irene Thraen-Borowski (Co-Presidents)
1992-1994	Faye McCoy	2021-2024	Shari Kochman
1994-1995	Unfilled		
1995-1999	Marcella Arnold		
1999-2001	Bonnie Cox		
2000-2004	Carrie Altfillisch-Melton		
2005-2006	Richard Pouzar		

## HISTORY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of JO DAVIESS COUNTY

The idea of a League of Women Voters in Jo Daviess County began with Marge Hospodar and Bonnie Cox. Marge had been very active in the League in Oak Park and she talked with Bonnie about starting one here.

In February, 1981, representatives from the Illinois LWV spoke to a public meeting at the old Kentucky Fried Chicken (now home to the "Galena Gazette". Interest was great and so the process began, starting with the designation of our League as "pre-provisional" in September, 1981. Following completion of certain requirements, our League was given "provisional" status in March, 1983.

Our activities during these two stages included:

*Juvenile Court Watching (1981)*

*Study and consensus on:*

- Alternatives to Prison (3-83)
- National Security (10-83)
- Conducting a jail survey (12-83)
- Conducting an income assistance survey (2-84)
- Marital Property Law (4-84)

*Conducting a Child Welfare Roundtable, led by LWVIL members (3-83)*

*Attending legislative seminars in Springfield*

*Attending LWVIL conventions*

*Hosting candidate forums*

*Building an observer corps (of public governing bodies)*

*Voter registration and*

*Attending regional workshops.*

In order to become a full-fledged League, we also had to:

- Have at least 40 members;
- Write bylaws;
- Prepare a feasibility study;
- Do a study of local government issues;
- Write a nonpartisan policy;
- Develop program;
- Do citizen education;
- Elect officers;
- Financially support the League;
- Publish a "This is Jo Daviess County" booklet; and
- Publish a "Voter" newsletter.

Having accomplished all of this, we gained full local League status in January, 1985!

With our new status, we were able to conduct local studies, come to consensus and take action on:

- Natural Resources (1983)
- Mental Health Services: Preventive and Early Intervention (1985-86)
- Land Use and the Environment
- Planning and Zoning: Study of Land Use Planning & Practices in JDC (1989-90)
- Ground –Water Quality in JDC (1986)

#### Studies conducted and consensus building continued:

- Landfill Proposals (involving public meetings to educate residents re. the expansion of a landfill near Galena, circulating petitions and mounting an intensive letter-writing campaign. The landfill sale did not take place and EPA closed the landfill site.) (Fall, 1993)
- Children at Risk (2000)
- Breaking the Cycle of Violence (2001)
- Citizen Involvement (2005)
- Immigration in the Tri-State Area (2006)

#### LWVIL Studies:

- Education (1980s)
- Community Mental Health (1987)
- Early Childhood Intervention (1998)
- KidCare (Illinois program providing health care coverage to children of low-income, working parents)
- Local Government
- Election Administration
- Campaign Finance (2000)
- Death Penalty (2003)
- Pension Study (2012)
- Charter Schools (2014)

#### LWVUS Studies:

- Agriculture (1987)
- Health Care (1991)
- Education (2011)

#### Honors Received:

- JDC Bar Association's **Lifetime Liberty Bell Award** in special recognition to persons or organizations with many years of outstanding service to their communities (May, 1997)
- Riverview Center, Inc.'s **Outstanding Community Leadership Award** (for efforts in helping to establish the Mental Health 708 Board) (2001)
- **Making A Difference Award** from LWVIL for our 3-year project on "Smart-Growth for Our County" Roundtable, "Tour de Sprawl" and a citizen education project on the County Comprehensive Plan (at the request of the JDC County Board and chaired by Lu Bleveans and Dick Pouzar) (Summer, 2003)
- **56<sup>th</sup> Biennium Community Impact Award from the LWVIL** for LWVJDS's "work in engaging and educating its community to appreciate the myriad issues and perspectives triggered by the siting of a mega dairy in Nora, Illinois, including learning more about the geology and hydrology of Jo Daviess County and encouraging science-based stewardship goals to protect water resources in the region." (2013)
- **Awarded the "Effective Community Engagement Award" at the LWVUS 2016 Convention in Washington, D.C.**, for our Water Resource Management Planning efforts in the county.
- **Nutrient Sensor Action Challenge Stage I Prize** of \$10,000 received for winning proposal to conduct continuous nutrient monitoring on the Galena River with low-cost sensors (2017).
- **2018 Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Award** for our water resource management work
- **2018 Watershed Stewardship Award from the Illinois Lake Management Association**



### Fundraising Efforts:

- Garage Sales
- “League Day” for shopping (Participating merchants donated 10% of any sale to a customer stating, “This is a League purchase.”) (November, 1981)
- Fund Drive through telephone calls (June, 1985)
- Ads in our “Voter”
- Fudge Booth (1985 – 2005) (201? – current)
- League to League B&B (Summer, 1987)
- Chocoholic Dreams Booth at the June Arts Festival (1989, 1990)
- Silent Auction (1993)
- LWVIL fundraising calls
- “Celebrating People, Products and Progress in JDC” dinner (2015)
- From 2013 through 2018 received over \$32,000 in donations for water resource management work from various sources (City of Galena, East Dubuque Fertilizer Plant, Galena Lions Club, Grace Episcopal Environmental Committee, John & Marge Cooke, the Oak Lodge Foundation, and other private donors)
- Garage Sales. In 2021, in concern for the efforts of the Covid-19 effect, the decision was made to change our format to “If you need it, take it.” Patrons could make a donation if they were able. This provided our best garage sale ever! It also built community.

### Other Activities:

- Sponsored a roundtable on ways to improve service to children and youth in JDC. (3-83)
- Participated in “Great Decisions”.
- Members attended National and State League Conventions.
- Conducted legislative interviews.
- Spearheaded a task force to organize Galena’s ordinances.
- Prepared voters’ guides at election times.
- Walked in Galena’s 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parades for several years.
- Farm Tour (2002)
- Luncheon series (2003, 2004, 2005)
- State of the County (2002, 2003)
- Held panel on computer voting at the Galena Library (the result of the “Help America Vote Act”). (2002)
- Sponsored Public Dialogue on the U.S. Health Care System leading to Congressional Hearings and action in Springfield. (2006)
- Sponsored forum on “Homeland Security Here at Home.” (2006)
- Sponsored production of the play “Great American 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade”. (June, 2008)
- Members attended legislative seminars, regional workshops and leadership workshops.
- Sponsored a Mega Dairy Seminar with panel including representatives from the Illinois E.P.A. and the U.S.D.A., held at the Galena Middle School. (June, 2011)
- Members attended LWVIL issues briefings (2012, 2014-2017)
- Members attended LWVIL “State of the State” Luncheons (2013-2017)
- Members attended LWVIL conventions (2013, 2015, 2017)
- Coordinated an all-day tour for Ralph Martire with the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, to educate on the need for a Graduated Rate Income Tax amendment to the Illinois Constitution. (2014)
- Sponsored a Gun Violence Prevention Panel Discussion with over 100 attendees (2014)
- Participated in and LWVIL Membership/Leadership Development training and implementation

- Worked with Galena Rotary Club to offer daylong conference, *Water: We're All in the Same Boat* (2017).

Other Activities Continued:

- Initiated and led process to create the *Galena River Watershed Plan: Phase I* supported with \$38,000 Clean Water Act Section 319 grant funding through the Illinois EPA (completed in September, 2018).
- Initiated (in 2016) and led the formation of a farmer-led group in the Galena area, the "Soil & Water Health Coalition" and coordinated educational events with \$20,000 grant funding support through the US Fish & Wildlife Services Fishers & Farmers program.
- Created Jo Daviess County karst feature database in 2016 and continue to populate with data (springs, caves & sinkholes) as a model for the Driftless Area. \$17,000 in grant funding support from the US Fish & Wildlife Fish Habitat Assessment program has been received to date for this work.
- Conducted water sampling project on the Galena River and tributaries in the summer of 2017 and again in the spring of 2018 to analyze for nutrients.
- Worked with farmers in Galena River watershed area in the fall of 2018 to plant 100 new acres of cover crops as a best management practice expected to improve soil health and water quality.
- We started a book club of members and non-members, meeting every other month. Books read have a theme that we can relate our goals and stands as a League. This includes books of fiction as well as non-fiction. (2020-2021)

Working with Other Groups:

- Worked with the County Comprehensive Planning Committee.
- Participated in Child Welfare Roundtable led by the LWVIL. (3-83)
- Worked with the LWV of Dubuque on the Arms Control Study.
- Joined with others to see that a 708 Board was established.
- Provided a panelist for the JDC Joint Law Enforcement Association's State's Attorney race presentation.
- Served as tour guides for Top of the State Tour by 40 legislators (sponsored by the Community Development Fund of Galena).
- Joined the Driftless Area Partnership on committee to set up educational conferences to gather citizen input on County Land Use Management for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Plan. (1998),
- Conducted a bus tour on land use "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly." (Sept., 1998)
- Co-sponsored a Kidcare Forum with the Galena Library.
- Co-hosted a forum on outdoor lighting and drafting a strong proposal for lighting with International Dark Skies Association.
- Suggested the 2001 Rotary Roundtable program of "Smart Growth for Our County" as follow-up to our "Tour de Sprawl: Working Together for Smart Growth."
- Sponsored Voter Education Forums with the Galena Chamber of Commerce on: 1) Proposed sales tax increase and 2) Highland Community College referendum. (2004)
- Co-sponsored "Challenges for a New Millennium" with the LWV of Dubuque, Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation, JDC Natural Area Guardians, Sierra Club and the Dubuque Audubon Society.
- Sponsored viewing of the movie "Iron-Jawed Angels" recounting the struggle of suffragists who fought for the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. (2005)
- Participated in the Take Five Series on the Environment." (2006)
- Hosted forum on possible ordinance to make Galena's commercial establishments smoke-free, at the request of Galena City Council. (September, 2006)

### Working with Other Groups Continued:

- Our members Kathy Pearson, Julie Bruser, B'Ann Dittmar and Bev Mellskog worked on the Rotary Roundtable planning committee for the 2008 roundtable on the structure of the JDC Board.
- Kathy Pearson represented the League on the Jo Daviess County Board committee researching, studying and making recommendations to the Board on board structure (2009)
- Water Protection Partnership convened (2013)
- Two-year Water Resource Planning Project commenced, including Illinois EPA-approved surveys given to all township boards and city councils, resort core boards and the county board. Every-other-month committee meetings of stakeholders were held to set goals, objectives and an action plan for a county-wide water resource management plan completed in 2016. (2014)
- Provided booth at Galena Earth Day celebrations (2013-2017)
- Presented an interactive forum ("The Land and Water Beneath Us") with the Illinois Water and Geological Survey scientists as presenters. (2103)
- Sponsored a luncheon and made a presentation to the Prairie Institute Retreat in JDC
- Sponsored a teleconference with Dr. Lynn Haefele, Classrooms First Task Force, for county superintendents and school board members to explore cost savings through cooperation. (2013)
- Several members participated in a Rotary Roundtable on Illinois" Fiscal Crisis.
- Co-sponsored a meeting on the Affordable Care Act and Health Insurance Marketplace with Midwest Medical Center and JDC Health Department. (2013-2014)
- Booklet sponsor and attendees on the Geological Survey Field Trip (2014)
- Co-sponsored, with the LWV of Dubuque, two public programs on storm water management.
- The boards of the LWV of Dubuque and LWV of JDC worked with other Leagues to form a League of Women Voters Upper Mississippi River Region Inter-League Organization (2014-2015)  
Sponsored first annual meeting of the UMRR ILO (October, 2015)
- Applied for a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to complete spring testing in Jo Daviess County. (2015)
- LWV of JDC named a Watershed Leader on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife website "Fishers and Farmers" (2016)
- Co-sponsored a regional conference on water issues in the Upper Mississippi River Watershed with the Galena Rotary Club. (2017)
- Worked with University of Minnesota Extension personnel to organize the training of 47 Watershed Game facilitators from Jo Daviess County and other communities in Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois.
- Participate actively in the Watershed Leaders Network, which brings a multi-state group of farmers and those working in watersheds together.

### Advocacy:

- Supported and evaluated the County Board's implementation of the County Comprehensive Plan.
- Lobbied for the Equal Rights Amendment. (2005)
- Voices for Children: Worked to increase public awareness of needs and provide information about resources
- Worked on Health Care: Dick Pouzar testified. (2006)
- Secured an Illinois Pollution Control Board hearing for Elizabeth, IL regarding the suitability of a CAFO near Nora, providing some of the testimony. (2012)
- Sent members to Springfield to lobby for a GRIT amendment on the November, 2014 ballot.
- Members passed petitions to get the Fair Map Amendment on the ballot. (2014 and 2016)
- Equal Rights Amendment (2017-2018)
- Abolishment of the Electoral College (2018 – current)

- Our League was represented by John and Bonnie Cox and Kathy Pearson as part of the 55+ statewide members of IWWIL's committee to pass the Fair Tax in 2020. Working in a coalition of scores of other committees and organizations, they logged many hours of meetings and actions, including: writing letters to the editor, getting "Vote" yard signs up around the county and urging people, through social media, to vote for the amendment. Though ultimately unsuccessful, the League will again pursue this as soon as it comes up in Illinois. (2020)
- Started a Mental Health Committee to examine mental health services in Jo Daviess County. We act as a facilitator for whatever interested people would like to work on this issue, as well as League members, to come together to learn what exists and what we might advocate for in the way of services. (2021)

#### Outreach:

- Joined Facebook (January, 2012)
- The LWV of Jo Daviess County website went online. (2016)

#### League Work Leads to...

- Marge Hospodar began as an observer of the Oak Park Zoning Board and eventually became a member and chair of that board.
- Judy Gratton began as an observer of the JDC Board and went on to get elected to the board and become its first female chair.
- Bonnie Cox served on the board of LWVIL board of directors (2013-2017) and as LWVIL president. (2017-2019)

*Prepared by: Kathy Pearson, March, 2010*

*Updated by: Bonnie Cox, December, 2015 and January, 2017  
Kathy Pearson, 2018, Beth Baranski, 2018  
Committee 2021 and 2023*

## **PRINCIPLES of the LWVUS**

The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States. The League of Women Voters of the United States 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: legislative, executive, and judicial.

The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

The League of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.

The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people. Government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.

The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

### **WHERE DO THE PRINCIPLES COME FROM?**

The Principles are "concepts of government" to which the League subscribes. They are a descendant of the Platform, which served from 1942 to 1946 as the national repository for "principles supported, and positions taken by the League as a whole in fields of government to which it has given sustained attention." Since then, the Principles have served two functions, according to the LWVUS Bylaws:

- Authorization for adoption of national, state and local program (Article XII)
- A basis for taking action at the national, state and local levels (Article XII).

The appropriate Board authorizes action to implement the Principles once it determines that member understanding and agreement do exist, and that action is appropriate. As with other action, when there are ramifications beyond a League's own government jurisdiction, that League should consult other Leagues affected.

The National Board suggests that any action on the Principles be taken in conjunction with current League positions to which they apply and on which member agreement and understanding are known to exist. The Principles are rather broad when standing alone, so it is necessary to exercise caution when considering using them as a basis for action.

Furthermore, since 1974, most of the Principles have been an integral part of the national program, most notably in the criteria for evaluating government that appear at the end of the summary of public policy positions [on [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)]

## **FISCAL YEAR 2024 IN REVIEW**

**May 2023:** LWV-JDC supports Mental Health Awareness month encouraging residents to become aware of mental health needs and resources in our community.

**May 2023:** Board members attend and report on the Upper Mississippi River Region Inter-League Organization Annual Meeting. LWV-JDC was integral in forming this Inter-League Organization that now includes dozens of leagues across the Upper Mississippi Region.

**June 1, 2023:** The 43rd Annual Meeting of the LWV-JDC is held at the Galena Center for the Arts. We begin with a business meeting including adoption of the fiscal year 2024 budget, Program, and election of board and officers. We then enjoy the keynote presentation by League of Women Voters National President Dr. Deborah Ann Turner with her speech, "Framing the Future." The meeting ends with a dessert reception.

**June 10-11, 2023:** Board Members Linda Broderick and Shari Kochman attend and report on the LWV-IL State Convention.

**August 2, 2023:** LWV-JDC Book Club features *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore.

**August 24-26, 2023:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Recycle, Reuse and Repurpose fundraiser is held under the leadership of Bonnie Cox inviting participants to take what they need or could use and leave a donation only if able and desiring to do so. Once again, it is a tremendous success both financially and in terms of building community goodwill.

**October 4, 2023:** LWV-JDC Book Club features *Letters to the Sons of Society* by Shaka Senghor.

**October 8-9, 2023:** Country Fair Fudge Booth fundraiser – a SELL OUT. The League holds its major fundraiser at the Galena Country Fair making and selling fudge. Tremendous appreciation to Bonnie and John Cox and Shari Kochman for co-chairing the effort and to the many volunteers who make it possible. Weather is perfect as is the fudge. Not only is this the second sell-out year in a row, the Cox family steps up to make more fudge Saturday night so that we have something to sell on Sunday.

**November 8, 2023:** LWV-JDC hosts a panel presentation and discussion *The Mental Health of Jo Daviess County: Past, Present, and Future* at the Galena Center for the Arts. The panel of mental health professionals and community leaders lend their perspectives on the state of mental health and mental health services in Jo Daviess County.

**December 6, 2023:** LWV-JDC Book Club features *Two Heads: A Graphic Exploration of How Our Brains Work with Other Brains* by Uta Frith, Chris Frith, and Alex Frith.

**February 7, 2024:** LWV-JDC Book Club features *The Right Kind of Crazy: A True Story of Teamwork, Leadership, and High-Stakes Innovation* by Adam Seltzer.

**February 20, 2024:** LWV-JDC President Shari Kochman and Board Member Linda Broderick present a program to Galena High School students on the importance of voting and reminding those students turning 18 by the November General Election that they are eligible to register and vote in the March 19 primary.

**February 21, 2024:** LWV-JDC encourages voting in the Illinois General Primary and local elections on March 19 with a full-page ad in the Galena Gazette.

**March 2024:** LWV-JDC participates in the Broad Ideas Exhibit at the Galena Center for the Arts with a work created and designed by several LWV-JDC members. The theme is COMMUNITY and how the League creates and contributes to community.

**April 3, 2024:** LWV-JDC Book Club features *The Vanderbilts* by Anderson Cooper.

**Spring 2024:** LWV-JDC Board Members reinstate new member coffees to meet our new members and to help them learn about the League. Such welcome meet and greets will continue in the future.

**April 2024:** In honor of Earth Day, LWV-JDC partners with the Galena Public Library to present the traveling art exhibit, "Sparkling Stream Water" by artist Christine Curry and supported by the Upper Mississippi River Region Inter-League Organization. The exhibit is displayed at the library April 12-20 and includes an opening presentation by the artist.

**May 2024:** LWV-JDC supports Mental Health Awareness month encouraging residents to become aware of mental health needs and resources in our community. We place a full page ad in the Galena Gazette about Mental Health Awareness month and area services.

**June 13, 2024:** LWV-JDC holds its 44th Annual Meeting at the Galena Center for the Arts featuring Galena High School government teacher Meggie Jenkins and students from the graduating class of 2024.

## Water Work Program Activities:

- The League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County initiated the planning process for the 2016 *Jo Daviess County Water Resource Management Plan*. To update the plan in 2022, the League partnered with the University of Illinois Extension, and to help ensure that the plan remains an active document, the League has invested \$10,000 in an endowment fund with the Community Foundation of Jo Daviess County. Proceeds from this endowment go to the University of Illinois Extension and they have agreed to maintain updates to the plan. The League and the Extension meet annually to review the document and to compile information to be considered for inclusion when the full planning committee is convened for an update. This past year, we continued to bring the 2022 updated *Jo Daviess County Water Resource Management Plan* to the local governing boards. To date it has been presented to the Jo Daviess County Board (and approved unanimously), 6 of the 9 municipalities (Apple River, Elizabeth, Hanover, Nora, and Warren have approved the plan. East Dubuque voted to “Acknowledge receipt” of the plan). The updated plan has been presented to 11 of the 23 townships (Apple River, Menominee, Warren, and West Galena townships approved the plan, no vote was taken at Berreman, Derinda, Nora, Pleasant Valley, Scales Mound, East Galena, and Stockton Townships). The Galena Territory Owners Association approved the plan and no vote was taken by Apple Canyon Lake Owners Association.
- Our Upper Mississippi River Region Inter-League Organization received a grant to support a traveling art exhibit, “Sparkling Stream Water.” To celebrate Earth Day our League assisted with the exhibit installation at the Galena Public Library where it was on display for the week of April 12-20. We provided food and lodging for the artist, Christine Curry, and hosted a light reception at the Library following her presentation about her art and environmental work.



## **LWV Mental Health Interest Committee Activities:**

The Mental Health Interest Committee continues to learn and grow. The committee currently has 36 members representing various sectors including mental health, not-for-profit, healthcare, education, and public interest. Here is a recap of the year's activities:

- July: Learned about the development of Midwest Health Clinic's Behavioral Health Program from Katie Meusel.
- Sept: Met Thom Dennis a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor who relocated to Galena. Thom has created a counseling program for grief called "Grief River". He works in private practice and for Midwest Health Clinic.
- Oct: Renee Dieschbourg of the Riverview Center talked about Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the activities hosted by the agency.
- Nov: Presentation by Heather LuGrain, OSATP Social Worker with Veteran's Affairs/VA, Dubuque, IA.  
Hosted the Mental Health Forum at Galena Center for the Arts. A panel of local experts described their perspective of the mental health strengths and needs in the county.
- Jan: Committee meeting to brainstorm new ideas discussed at the Mental Health Forum.
- Feb: Sherri Auscherman and Jami Ditto of Rosecrance described the services available through the organization which has now expanded into Jo Daviess County.
- March: Committee brainstorm and planning for Mental Health Awareness Month (May)
- April: Katie Grant, LCPC and Illinois Counseling Association Regional Representative explained her role in the ICA. Katie also described the various divisions and chapters within ICA. ([www.ilcounseling.org](http://www.ilcounseling.org)). The Counseling Compact was discussed and Katie provided an explanation of the benefits and concerns with this legislation that has not been passed by Illinois but is expected to be passed later this year.
- May: Mental Health Awareness Month Activities
- LWV Sponsored ad in the Galena Gazette. The ad, designed by Emma Furlong, was a collaboration by the League and the Galena High School Art Department.
  - Thom Dennis set up a table at Piggly Wiggly with information about mental health awareness month and local services. A gift basket was raffled and sponsored in part by the League.
  - Informational table set up at Midwest Medical Center with mental health awareness month items and brochures.
- June: Pride Month: K Kriesel of the Riverview Center presented about the NWIL GSA and Pride Month activities.

Thanks to all who have joined and have helped support mental health awareness in Jo Daviess County. Please contact Stephanie Cocagne [stocks.cocagne01@gmail.com](mailto:stocks.cocagne01@gmail.com) to join the Mental Health Interest Committee.

**We thank the many members who support our League of Women Voters in Jo Daviess County! We are grateful for the help and support you give your local league. The following acknowledgements are for special services provided to us:**

Throughout the year, our members have continued to work on the Jo Daviess County Water Resource Management Plan, including collaboration with other Leagues in the area around the Mississippi watershed. Beth Baranski and Bonnie Cox are leaders from our LWV-JDC.

We thank Kathy Pearson for keeping members apprised of the League Calls to Action.

Our Board of Directors faithfully led our local LWV with monthly board meetings to plan, coordinate, and evaluate our role in the Jo Daviess County community. All members are welcome at board meetings. You can contact our board President for meeting specifics and how to attend. Thank you to our local board leaders of FY2024: Shari Kochman, President; Kathy Pearson, Vice President; Janet Eggleston, Secretary; Beth Baranski, Treasurer; Linda Broderick, Bonnie Cox, and Christie Hensley.

We're grateful for Alice Pearson Lundh, who uses her communication skills to help us organize, format, and send our newsletters.

Thank you to our nominating committee: Chairperson Irene Thraen-Borowski, Betsy Eaton and Shari Kochman.

Thank you to our volunteers for our two major fundraisers: the RRR event in August and the Country Fair Fudge Booth in October.

Most of all – thank you to our entire membership for supporting LWV-JDC.

## FY 2024 Actuals to Date and Proposed FY2025 Budget

<b>LWV of Jo Daviess County</b>				
<b>Budget: July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025</b>				
5/20/2024				
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>BUDGET</b> July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	<b>BUDGET</b> July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	<b>ACTUALS TO DATE</b> July 1, 2023 - May 20, 2024	<b>ACTUALS</b> July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023
1 Annual Meeting	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$475.00	\$630.10
2 Country Fair	\$2,000.00	\$1,700.00	\$3,880.00	\$2338.20
3 Gifts/Contributions	\$50.00	\$350.00	\$239.32	\$1185.00
4 Member Dues	\$2,800.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,624.52	\$3197.98
5 Fundraising Event (RRR)	\$2,125.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,200.70	\$1744.50
6 Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
7 Transfer from Checking Account	\$2,739.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8 Transfer from LWVIL Education Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$786.22	0
9 Water Project Funds	\$18,745.72	\$18,795.72	\$0.00	\$28,895.02
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$28,959.72</b>	<b>\$27,965.72</b>	<b>\$11,205.76</b>	<b>\$38,140.80</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
1 Annual Meeting	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$227.14	\$610.78
2 Country Fair	\$900.00	\$800.00	\$1,876.76	\$1,088.31
3 Fundraising Event (RRR)	\$300.00	\$175.00	\$294.00	\$165.24
4 Gifts/Contributions	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
5 LWVIL Convention	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6 LWVUS Convention	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
7 Membership/Leadership Development	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$10.00	\$78.58
8 Membership Recruitment	\$750.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9 Mock Elections	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10 Online Media	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$63.53	\$149.90
11 Per Member Payments - US & IL	\$3,500.00	\$2,800.00	\$3,408.00	\$2,544.00
12 Postage & Postal Box	\$304.00	\$200.00	\$66.00	\$157.80
13 Program/Public Events	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$580.32	\$588.00
14 Mental Health	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
15 Printing	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$93.65	\$497.46
16 Upper Mississippi River Region Inter League Organization	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
17 Voter Services	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$30.87	\$573.40
18 Website	\$610.00	\$70.00	\$68.55	0
19 Water Project Expenses	\$18,745.72	\$18,795.72	\$50.00	\$8,899.30
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$28,959.72</b>	<b>\$27,965.72</b>	<b>\$9,218.82</b>	<b>\$15,527.77</b>
<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,986.94</b>	<b>\$22,613.03</b>
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE 6-30-2023: \$31,428.99				
\$18,795.72 Water, \$12,633.27 General League +\$786.22 in EF				
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE 5-20-2024: \$33,415.93				
\$18,745.72 Water, \$14,670.21 General League, +\$0 in EF				

**LWVJDC Where We Stand  
Our Program Positions**

**PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN JO  
DAVISS COUNTY**

**Position:**

The League supports legislation, funding, and administration of a wide range of prevention and early intervention mental health services in order to meet the needs of the residents of Jo Daviess County. These services should be provided by qualified personnel working for private and governmental agencies and organizations, as well as individual health care providers. The League supports the use of all possible funding sources, but favors a strong base of continuous local funding. (Late 1980s)

**PLANNING AND ZONING: STUDY OF LAND USE PLANNING AND PRACTICES IN  
JO DAVIESS COUNTY**

**Position:**

The League supports the principles of sound land use planning and zoning to guide growth management in Jo Daviess County. A zoning ordinance should make adequate provision for open space and buffer zones to preserve the rural character of the county, and for the removal of abandoned and non-conforming signs. Group homes should be permitted in residential districts. The League supports the hiring of a full time professional zoning administrator who meets high and clearly defined qualifications. (1988)

**GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION AND THE POTENTIAL FOR CONTAMINATION  
IN JO DAVIESS COUNTY**

**Position:**

The League supports a wide range of measures to control potential sources of groundwater contamination in Jo Daviess County. Both existing and future county and city ordinances which influence groundwater quality should be consistently enforced. The League supports efforts to educate residents of Jo Daviess County about groundwater contamination and methods to reduce potential sources of contamination. The League opposes local control of landfill operations. (1991)

Re-adopted: February 2021

## ***LWV of JDC SUGGESTED PROGRAM for FY24***

### **1. Access to Mental Health Services in Jo Daviess County**

- a. Researching mental health services currently available
- b. Increase knowledge of how to access services

#### **Program Position Basis:**

The League supports legislation, funding, and administration of a wide range of prevention and early intervention mental health services in order to meet the needs of the residents of Jo Daviess County. These services should be provided by qualified personnel working for private and governmental agencies and organizations, as well as individual health care providers. The League supports the use of all possible funding sources but favors a strong base of continuous local funding. (Late 1980s)

### **2. Natural Resources**

- a. Continue local water quality projects as outlined in the Jo Daviess County Water Resource Management Plan's Action Plan.
- b. Continue work on curbing nutrient pollution.

#### **Program Position Basis:**

"LWVIL Where We Stand 2011-2013", pg. 34: Support measures to reduce pollution to protect surface water, groundwater and drinking water.

LWVJDC Position: The League supports a wide range of measures to control potential sources of groundwater contamination in Jo Daviess County. Both existing and future county and city ordinances which influence groundwater quality should be consistently enforced. The League supports efforts to educate residents of Jo Daviess County about groundwater contamination and methods to reduce potential sources of contamination. The League opposes local control of landfill operations. (1991)

#### **Proposed Program Foci for FY 25:**

1. PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances known as "forever chemicals") Monitoring and Reporting in Jo Daviess County.
2. Regenerative Agriculture.
3. Abolishing the Electoral College.

**League of Women Voters: Jo Daviess County  
Nominating Committee Report  
Proposed Board and Slate of Officers  
For July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025  
Annual Meeting: June 13, 2024**

**Following is the proposed Board for the LWV-JDC for FY25:**

Linda Broderick  
Janet Eggleston  
Gail Gabbert  
Linda Howard  
Shari Kochman  
Deborah Pausz  
Kathy Pearson

**Following is the proposed slate of Officers and Board Positions for the LWV-JDC for FY25**

President: Shari Kochman

Vice President: Kathy Pearson

Secretary: Janet Eggleston

Treasurer: Shari Kochman (acting)

Director: Linda Broderick

Director: Gail Gabbert

Director: Linda Howard

Director: Deborah Pausz

**Following is the proposed Nominating Committee for FY 25:**

Betsy Eaton, Chair; Toni Campbell; Shari Kochman

Respectfully submitted by Nominating Committee FY 24: Irene Thraen-Borowski, Betsy Eaton, Shari Kochman.

## Proposed FY25 Calendar\*

Watch for details in the bi-monthly digital newsletter, Facebook page, and on our website.

July 8	Board Meeting
August 7	Book Club: <i>The Lost Daughters of Ukraine</i> by E. Litteken
August 12	Board Meeting
August 22 - 25	Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose Fundraising Event
September 9	Board Meeting
September 19	National Voter Registration Day
October	Mock Elections at Jo Daviess County High Schools
October	Candidate Forums
October 2	Book Club: <i>Prequel</i> by Rachel Maddow
October 7-8	Jo Daviess Country Fair and LWV Fudge Booth Fundraiser
October 14	Board Meeting
November 18	Board Meeting
December 4	Book Club: <i>The Righteous Mind</i> by Jonathan Haidt
February 5	Book Club: <i>The 1619 Project</i> by Nichole Hannah-Jones
Spring	Special Events
April 22	Earth Day Event
June	LWV-JDC Annual Meeting
June	LWVIL Convention

\*Board Meeting dates for January through June 2025 to be determined.

Continued work through the year on the LWV led “Water Resource Management Plan” for Jo Daviess County and coordinated actions with the LWVIL, LWVUS, and LWV—Upper Mississippi River Region ILO.

All Members are invited to attend monthly board meetings. Contact the board president at [lwvjdc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvjdc@gmail.com) for specific information.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF JO DAVIESS COUNTY**  
**BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I

Sec. 1 Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVJDC. The LWVJDC is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

ARTICLE II

Sec. 1 Purposes. The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Sec. 2 Policy. The League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

ARTICLE III  
Membership

Sec. 1 Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Sec. 2 Types of Membership.

a. Voting Members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS as follows: 1. Individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League; 2. Those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large; 3. Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.

b. Associate members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

ARTICLE IV  
Board of Directors

Sec. 1 Number, Manner of Selection and Terms of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the League and no more than four appointed directors, as they deem necessary to carry out the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year and



shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting. The terms of office of the elected officers shall begin following the annual meeting at which the officers were elected.

- Sec. 2 Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless that person is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County.
- Sec. 3 Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting by any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.
- Sec. 4 Powers and Duties.  
a) The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage general membership. The Board of Directors shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program adopted by the national convention, the state convention, and the Annual meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.  
b) Appointed directors shall accept portfolios as designated by the President and the Board.
- Sec. 5 Meetings. There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President or Co-Presidents may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of three members of the Board. Meetings and votes may be conducted electronically, as needed, and quorum rules shall apply to such meetings. A quorum shall consist of 50% plus one of the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 6 Executive Committee. The officers shall constitute an executive committee which shall meet at the call of the President or Co-Presidents or any other two officers.

## ARTICLE V Officers

- Sec. 1 Enumeration and Election of Officers. The elected officers of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County shall be a President or Co-Presidents, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected for terms of one year by the general membership at the Annual Meeting and shall take office immediately.

- Sec. 2 The President or Co-Presidents. The President or a Co-President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. The President or a Co-President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer appoint a director in their stead, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes, and shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President or Co-Presidents shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office and perform such duties as may be designated by the Board.
- Sec. 3 The Vice-Presidents. There may be three Vice-Presidents. The First Vice-President shall, in the event of absence, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office until such time as the Board of Directors shall select one of its members to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Meeting. The Vice-Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and the Board may designate.
- Sec. 4 Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of the Annual Meeting and all of the meetings of the Board, and shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election. The Secretary shall sign, with the President or a Co-President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other functions as may be incidental to the office.
- Sec. 5 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due and shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE VI Executive Committee

- Sect.1 The currently elected officers shall comprise an Executive Committee.
- Sect. 2 This Executive Committee shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage general membership. The Executive Committee shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program adopted by the national convention, the state convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.
- Sect. 3 The Executive Committee may add members to its committee as it deems fit.
- Sect. 4 There shall be as many meetings of the Executive Committee as deemed necessary. Meetings can be called by at least two Executive Committee members. A quorum will be a majority of Executive Committee members.

ARTICLE VII  
Financial Administration

- Sec. 1 Fiscal Year. The Fiscal Year of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County shall commence on July 1st of each year.
- Sec. 2 Dues. The dues, to be set at the annual meeting, shall be payable annually on or by the annual meeting. When two or more members reside at the same address in a common household, the payment determined by the Annual Meeting shall be made for the first member; a payment equal to one-half the dues shall be paid for each other member. The Board shall set the policy regarding the dates after January 1 at which new members shall pay only one-half dues or no dues until the following fiscal year. Any member who fails to pay dues within three months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls.
- Sec. 3 Budget. A budget for the ensuing year, approved by the Board, shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.
- Sec. 4 Budget Committee. A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the President prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget following approval by the Board, shall be received by all members at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Budget Committee.
- Sec. 6 Dissolution. In the event of dissolution for any cause of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County, after payment of all outstanding debts, all monies and securities owned by the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

ARTICLE VIII  
Meetings

- Sec. 1 General Meetings. The board shall determine the topic, time, place and purpose of general meetings and shall notify members of such meetings.
- Sec. 2 Annual Meetings. An Annual Meeting shall be held each year. The exact date shall be determined by the Board. The Annual Meeting shall:
- a) adopt a local program for the ensuing year,
  - b) elect officers and directors and members of the Nominating Committee
  - c) adopt an adequate budget, and
  - d) transact such other business as may properly come before it.

- Sec. 3 Minutes. The Board of Directors shall approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting at their first Board Meeting following the Annual Meeting.
- Sec. 4 Quorum. For all General Meetings and the Annual Meeting, twenty percent of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE IX Nominations and Elections

- Sec. 1 Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three, but not more than five members, with at least one member from the Board of Directors and the remaining committee members from the general membership. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current nominating committee. The committee shall be elected at the annual meeting. Any member may send suggestions for nominations to this committee, whose function is to prepare a slate of nominations for Officers and Directors and the succeeding Nominating Committee to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 2 Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors, and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be submitted to all members at least two weeks before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any member, provided the consent of the nominee has been secured.
- Sec. 3 Elections. The election at the Annual Meeting shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for each office, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for the entire slate. A majority of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting will not be permitted.

#### ARTICLE X Program

- Sec. 1 Authorization. The governmental principles adopted by the national convention, and approved by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization of the adoption of the program.
- Sec. 2 Program. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County shall consist of:
- a) action to protect the right to vote for every citizen, and

b) those governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Sec. 3 Program Making. The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations proposed by the members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a proposed program.

b) The proposed program shall be sent to all members at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting.

c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the proposed program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors. However, in the case of a program item involving only one local government unit, action shall be as follows: those voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting who live in the governmental jurisdiction involved shall vote on the motion to adopt the item. All voting members present and voting shall then have the opportunity to vote to accept or reject the proposed item.

d) Recommendations for Program submitted by members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that: 1) the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote; and 2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.

e) When the Board of Directors determines an issue is of such a serious and urgent nature that it must be dealt with before the next regular program adoption at the Annual Meeting, the issue may be adopted provided that: 1) information concerning the proposed change has been sent to all members at least two weeks before a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed and a vote is to be taken, and 2) the proposed change must be approved by a majority of those voting members present.

Sec. 4 Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XI

### National Convention, State Convention, and State Council

Sec. 1 National Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the National office shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted to the League of Women

Voters of Jo Daviess County under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Sec. 2 State Conventions. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of the delegates must be sent to the State Office shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County under the provisions of the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

ARTICLE XII  
Parliamentary Authority

Sec. 1 Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XIII  
Amendments

Sec. 1 Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least two weeks in advance of the meeting

Approved: 2/14/82

*Revised:*

4/26/1984	4/14/1993	11/2006	1/24/2015	11/6/2021
4/30/1985	04/1995	11/08/2007	3/21/2017	
4/30/1987	10/1999	11/2008	1/27/2018	
4/28/1989	11/2000	11/09/2010	1/2019	
4/28/1992	11/2001	01/26/2013	2/1/2021	

## **LEAGUE GLOSSARY**

**ACTION** - The League acts (through monitoring, lobbying, litigating) on current program positions and on League Principles.

**CONSENSUS** - Member agreement reached after sustained study of an issue.

**CONCURRENCE** - Agreement with a position. Concurrence could come on recommendation of a resource committee, board decision statements and/or positions reached by another league.

**CONVENTION** – A State or national League meeting held every other year at which delegates elect officers and directors for the biennium, adopt program, make bylaws changes and adopt a budget.

**DUES** - Payment made by a member to the local League to remain a member in good standing.

**EDUCATION FUND** – The tax-deductible arm of a League that handles funds to be used only for educational purposes, not for advocacy purposes.

**GENERAL MEETING** - Meeting for membership at which a speaker is presented or action as a body is taken. At the Annual Meeting, the membership selects officers and adopts local program.

**ILO** – An Inter-League Organization, formed by local Leagues to act on issues that are beyond the local League's area in scope.

**OBSERVER CORPS** - A group of League members who sit in on community meetings and make written reports of those meetings. Observers do not participate in the meetings or speak for the League.

**PMP** - Per Member Payment is a set amount that is paid to the LWWIL and to the LWWUS each year, for each person on our memberships list.

**POSITION** - The League's point of view on an issue. Positions are broad statements which reflect the consensus at which the League arrived as a result of study. Positions are the basis for League action.

**PROGRAM** - The governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

**TFA** – Time for Action, a request from the LWWUS or LWWIL to take action in support of a position.

**VOTERS SERVICE** - Activities to encourage an informed and active electorate, including candidate forums, voter registration and speaker forums.

## Our State & National Elected Officials

### **U.S. House District 16 - Representative Darin LaHood**

Website: <https://lahood.house.gov/>

DC Office: 1424 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-6201

Peoria Office: 100 NE Monroe Street, Room 100, Peoria, IL 61602

Phone: 309-671-7027

### **U.S. Senator - Dick Durbin**

Website: <https://www.durbin.senate.gov/>

711 Hart Senate Building

Washington D.C. 20510

\* see website for District Office addresses

Phone: 202-224-2152

### **U.S. Senator - Tammy Duckworth**

Website: <https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/>

524 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

\*see website for District Office addresses

Phone: 202-224-2854

### **IL House Representative District 89 – Tony McCombie**

Website: <https://repmccombie.com/>

District Office: 9317B IL Route 84, Savanna, IL 61074

Phone: 815-232-0774

Springfield Office: 316 Capitol Bldg, Springfield, IL 62706

Phone: 217-782-3992

### **IL Senate District 45 – Andrew Chesney**

Website: <https://senatorchesney.com/>

District Office: 50 West Douglas St., Suite 1001, Freeport, IL 31032

Phone: 815-232-0774

Springfield Office: Stratton Office Bldg. Section A, Office J, Springfield, IL 62706

Phone: 217-782-0180

### **Governor – JB Pritzker**

website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/Pages/default.aspx>

207 State House, Springfield, IL 62706

Phone: 217-782-6830 or 217-782-6831