



THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS®

May 2008

President: Patte Newman  
President-Elect: Mary Boschult  
Secretary: Carol Connor  
Treasurer: Corrie Kielty-Wesely  
Voter Editor: Jim Johnson

**Calendar of Events**

**May 13 (Tuesday): Election Day**  
Polls open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**May 15 (Thursday): Noon**  
Lunch & Learn,  
US Bank Bldg 20<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
13<sup>th</sup> & M.  
Guest: Mark Intermill,  
Nebraska AARP  
Associate Director for Advocacy.  
*See article at right.*

**LWV Lunch & Learn Thursday, May 15.**

Mark Intermill, Nebraska AARP Associate Director for Advocacy will speak at the May 15th League of Women Voters Lunch and Learn.

Mr. Intermill will discuss the prospects for meaningful health care reform, an environmental scan through a demographic lens. The presentation will review some of the factors that shape the debate on health care reform. The League of Women Voter's Lunch and Learn is open to the public and will be held Thursday May 15th at noon on the 20th floor of the US Bank Building, 13th and M streets. The cost is \$8.00 which includes lunch, tax and gratuity. Reservations are required by noon Monday, May 12th and may be made by contacting the League Office by e-mail at [lwv-ne@inebraska.com](mailto:lwv-ne@inebraska.com) or by phone at 475-1411. Please include your name, the number of reservations

requested along with your phone number or e-mail address.

Mark Intermill has served as Associate State Director for Advocacy with AARP for five years. In that role, he facilitates the participation of its members in the political process. Mark has worked in the field of aging services for 30 years. Prior to joining AARP, he served as the Administrator for the Division of Aging Services with Nebraska Health and Human Services. He is a graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in political science. Mark and his wife, Nancy, have lived in Lincoln since 1990. They have two children, Jessica, an attorney in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Micah, a policy analyst with the Assisted Living Federation of America in Alexandria, Virginia.

The League of Women Voters Lunch and Learn events are held on the third Thursday of each month from September through May at noon on the 20th floor of the US Bank Building, 13th and M streets.

**Reminder:**

Nebraska's Primary Election is this next Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Take a friend to the polls. (Better yet, take **several** friends!)

For information and a sample ballot, see the Lancaster County Election Commissioner's Web site, <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/cnty/election/08Elections.htm>.

See you at the election booth!



**Message from Patte Newman,  
President, LWVLL**

As the recently elected president of the Lincoln Lancaster County League of Women Voters, I look forward to a new and exciting year working with a very dynamic board and getting to know many of you better.

First, I want to thank Pat Walter for her service over the past year, as well as the many other volunteers who made it a memorable year!

For those not able to attend the April Annual General Meeting, your LWV board, committees and several hard working volunteers were successful in the following:

- Maintaining membership of about 129
- Organizing events including candidate forums, well-attended Lunch and Learn presentations and two evening educational forums (with approximately 120 attending a session on the Death Penalty in Nebraska)
- Establishing a local website that is up and running at [www.lincolnleague.org](http://www.lincolnleague.org)
- Volunteering for voter registration efforts and working with Time Warner and the League to produce ads to encourage the same

We are pleased, but need to do more. Several current and ex-board members have been planning and plotting on how to achieve record membership numbers for the next year. We want more educational forums, we want to continue and build on the success of the Lunch & Learns and LWV forums so they are THE must-do events in the community. We are going to be aggressive and assertive in getting those numbers up and making sure people hear of and FROM the League of Women Voters! Take the challenge to heart and make it a goal to recruit at least one new member in the next few months.

We'd also like to encourage you to submit articles for the local newsletter "The Voter" on issues that concern you - locally, statewide or nationally.

And, just for fun, Jim and I will be the first volunteer victims of a quirky "Know Your Board Members" series. Over the next few months we'll ask board members to introduce themselves by answering a few questions and hope they have fun with it. It should let you know a few things about each of us, but isn't intended to be intrusive.

In the meantime, here is a quick snapshot of the new board:

- President-Elect Mary Boschult - is retired from Nebraska Health and Human Services where she served her last ten years as Assistant Director. She has hit the ground running by taking on the duties of Voter Registration Chair.
- Secretary Carol Connor – will retire from her job as long-time Lincoln City Libraries Director this autumn.
- Treasurer Corrie Kielty-Wesely works at St. Monica's and has been politically active in neighborhoods and various city issues for over a decade.
- And I'm working with Lancaster County Substance Abuse Action Coalition and enjoy the flexibility (and incredible opportunities to meet new people) my job provides.

Other board members include Karen Dienstbier, Ann Harrell-Avery, Tari Hendrickson, Nancy Intermill, Jim Johnson, Peggy Struwe and Maura Tolzin. All have stepped up to take on projects and fill in where help is needed. There are many, many others out there who make this organization click and we are grateful for everyone's help and support.

We all look forward to working with and for you in the coming year!

**Thanks to Voter Registration Volunteers!**

Thanks to all who helped with voter registration this spring. We covered 30 registration sites including the citizen Naturalization Ceremony at the Federal Building and 3 high schools which were great opportunities for first time voters. Our efforts were successful in making it easy for people to register for the first time or to change their registration. Voter registration is one of the ways the League of Women Voters helps to 'Make Democracy Work'. Thanks for your help. I'm looking forward to the fall registration.

*Mary Boschult, Voter Service Chair*

## Long Term Service Award Presented at LWVLL Annual Meeting

A Long Term Service Award was presented at the LWV Lincoln/Lancaster County Annual Meeting on April 12, 2008. Prior to the presentation, the names of the previous recipients of the Long Term Service Award were read. For those who were not able to attend, a copy of the Long Term Service Award Presentation is printed here.

*The following comments were made by Lois Poppe, at the request of the LWVLL Board of Directors.*

### LONG TERM SERVICE AWARD

I am pleased to be able to present this Long Term Service Award to a very deserving member. This member has served the League of Women Voters in many ways for many years. Frankly, this member is not one who seeks to be recognized but quietly serves in valuable ways.

Active in small discussion group units, she ably served as a discussion leader and a unit leader, for example. I was told that she served on a study committee on Hunger and Poverty in Lincoln/Lancaster County along with Don Hanway, Sharon Nemeth, and others. She also acted as one of several observers of City Council meetings.

She prepared study material for unit discussion on the sources and quality of Lincoln's drinking water. She also initiated and delivered testimony before the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission on storm water and land use in southwest Lincoln.

She was an active member of a study committee for the League of Women Voters of Nebraska – a water study. This study produced a resource used in college classes and is well respected by water experts in Nebraska and adjoining states. “Nebraska’s Water, Nebraska’s Wealth” copyright 1997, is still a valuable resource. Three Lincoln members served on this LWVNE water study committee – Howard Ottoson, Chair, Zita Schneider, and Amy Tuttle.

I was told that **Amy Tuttle**, our Long Term Service Award recipient, served as Voter Editor for our local

league. Amy and her husband, Morrie, also prepared our newsletter for mailing for many years.

Amy Tuttle served as League of Women Voters of Lincoln/Lancaster County Treasurer for eighteen years – 1989-2007. My husband audited the League Treasurer books several times. He commented that they were easy to audit as everything was complete and in order.

Amy, please come forward. We have a framed certificate for Amy. Her name will be added to the Long Term Service Award Plaque, which hangs in the League office. We are also presenting Amy with a yellow rose. The yellow rose tradition goes back to early suffrage days.

#### Note of Appreciation from Amy Tuttle

April 13, 2008

My dear friends,

What a surprise and delight yesterday morning, when you placed my name on the plaque for Long Term Service Award recipients. Of course it's an undeserved honor, but that doesn't make it less appreciated.

League means a great deal to me, as I'm sure it does to all of you. It's the place where Helen Boosalis began her political activism, and where Sue Bailey refined her tact at dealing with local governing bodies. Lincoln is a better governed, more humane place because of League. Looking around the meeting room yesterday, I was impressed by the character and quality of the women (and men) who are carrying on League's community service.

Again, thank you for your generous recognition. If I'd known it was coming, I'd have combed the wind out of the hair. ☺

Sincerely,

Amy Tuttle

**Pictures from the LWVLL Annual Meeting  
April 12, 2008**



## Know your Board Members

Beginning this month, the *Voter* will feature short bios of LWVLL Board members. There is no particular order to the selection of “victims”; just depends on who forgets to say “no” when LWVLL president Patte Newman comes calling. This month’s issue features LWVLL President Patte Newman and *Voter* Editor Jim Johnson.

### Name – *Jim Johnson*

**Hometown** – Ainsworth. (Many people remember that it’s one of those “A towns,” but can’t remember whether I’m from Auburn or Alliance or Atkinson or Aurora or Alma or ...)

**Family Status** – Single

**Favorite TV show** – The Lehrer Newshour (honest!) In the last few years I’ve also gotten hooked on reruns of Matlock and Perry Mason; unfortunately I tend to fall asleep before the case is solved, which drives me crazy ‘cause then I don’t know who dun it.

**Favorite Movie** – *Coal Miner’s Daughter*. The Loretta Lynn character came across as kind of a country hick; movie reminded me of myself, and it came out just at the time of my life that I needed to know that being a country hick ain’t such a bad thing.

**Mode of transportation (what kind of car?)** – Cheap ones that don’t last long. (“Weird Wally Special.”)

**Last / current book read** – I’m reading *Einstein: His Life and Universe*, by Walter Isaacson. (Again, honest!)

**Most Prized Possession** - A couple of gold medals that I won at the Chadron Interscholastic Contest when I was in High School. Wasn’t any good at athletics, so I had to get my kicks off of academic stuff instead.

**Something everyone knows about me** – I like to hang out at First-Plymouth Church; active as an usher, a Sunday School teacher, and a ticket seller at Abendmusik concerts.

**Something few people know about me** – PhD in Mathematics, University of Minnesota.

**Current Pets** – I like cats but am currently petless.

**Secret Passion** – Karaoke.

**Surprising prior occupation or hobby?** – Tried teaching at UN-L for a year, as a “Visiting Assistant Professor” in mathematics. Loved the teaching, but decided that I wanted to do research on my own rather than following the available grant money. Still scribble out little mathematical equations, when no one is watching.

**What’s the craziest thing you’ve ever done?** - Ran for School Board last time there was an open seat in my subdistrict; got clobbered by Lillie Larsen. (Love ya, Lillie!)

### Name - *Patte Newman*

**Hometown/High School** – Beatrice

**Family Status** – Married a guy I met on a blind date - Darrell Klein, Nebraska HHS attorney

One son – Marc – currently 24, graduate from UNL with major in math and minor in

Russian. Marc works for local website development company.

**Favorite TV shows** – Boston Legal (no contest!)

**Favorite Movies** – Depending on my mood; “Cinema Paradiso” (long version) and for a B&W classic “To Kill a Mockingbird”. Just can’t not watch either one if it’s on or the mood strikes me.

**Type of Car or Mode of transportation** - Subaru Impreza wagon or Mercury Cougar – both new in 2000 and both with less than 40,000 miles!

**Last / current book read** – The book pile next to my bedstand is probably not in compliance with some Building and Safety code since it’s a tall, dangerous stack. I read several books at once.

Currently, the fluff books are Joelle Fraser’s “The Territory of Men” and Stephen Colbert “I am America and So Can You”. I’m in the middle of Singh’s “Fermat’s Enigma” and what I hope is a very bad translation of Bulgakov’s “The Master and Margarita”. And there are Noam Chomsky, Molly Ivins, Eric Schlosser and Camille Paglia books in the pile calling my name.

**Most Prized Possession** – I used to think it was my Nebraska Admiralty from Gov. Bob Kerrey. My husband has two from Gov. Heineman just to show me up!

**Something everyone probably knows about me** - I served a four year term on the Lincoln City Council. My very first candidate’s forum was put on by LWV at the Bethany Center and Sharon Nemeth told me something along the lines of “It’s refreshing to hear a candidate say exactly what they’re thinking.” I knew then I wasn’t electable.

**Something few people know about me** – I lived a year in London and 16 years in Switzerland; returned to Lincoln in 1993.

**Pets** – We have a sometimes moody to strangers, but sweet and needy mutt-cat from the Humane Society named Pepper who only goes outside on a leash and drools when he’s very happy. And an inherited fat-tailed gecko named Gordito who is probably 150 in reptile years. And lots of backyard wildlife including a bat we dubbed Renfield and swallows who love our breezeway and lots of other furry and feathered critters.

**Secret Passion** – I love digging in the dirt (aka gardening) and relax by pounding out Rachmaninoff or Chopin on my Grotrian Steinweg piano.

**Surprising prior occupation or hobby?** I was an “international business woman”; a regular woman-of-the-world who spoke pretty fluent German and managed to find a way to break into the Indonesian market with our European made products.

**What’s the craziest thing you’ve ever done?** Oh, the list is so long. There was organized chaos in being an AFS student to Australia when I was 16 and being let loose on the streets and public transportation of San Francisco for a treasure hunt of sorts in 1972 with 50 teenagers from all over the U.S. But, running for City Council probably ranks up there as pretty goofy.

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Time Dated Material  
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### 5CITY TV DEBATES' AIR TIMES

In addition to being able to view the debates on Time Warner Cable Channel 5, they can also be accessed via video-on-demand at <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/cic/5citytv/video.htm> (VOTE 08 Candidate Debates) or viewed on Nebraska on Demand Channel 101 on any Time Warner cable system (digital cable required).

***The times below are approximate—the debates are aired back to back; most last about one hour, Unicameral District 21 runs about 1.25 hour.***

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#### TUESDAY

7:30 pm US Senate Republican  
8:30 pm Unicameral District 25  
9:30 pm Unicameral District 27  
10:30 pm UNL Board Regents District 1  
11:30 pm Unicameral District 21

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#### WEDNESDAY

3:30 pm Unicameral District 21  
4:30 pm Unicameral District 25  
5:30 pm Unicameral District 27  
6:30 pm UNL Board Regents District 1  
7:30 pm US Senate Republican

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#### THURSDAY

8:00 pm US Senate Republican  
9:00 pm Unicameral District 21  
10:00 pm Unicameral District 25

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#### THURSDAY (continued from column 1)

11:00 pm Unicameral District 27  
12:00 am UNL Board Regents District 1

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#### FRIDAY

1:30 pm Unicameral District 21  
2:30 pm Unicameral District 25  
3:30 pm Unicameral District 27  
4:30 pm UNL Board Regents District 1  
5:30 pm US Senate Republican

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#### SATURDAY

4:30 pm Unicameral District 21  
5:30 pm Unicameral District 25  
6:30 pm Unicameral District 27  
7:30 pm UNL Board Regents District 1  
8:30 pm US Senate Republican