



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

February 2009

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

Calendar of Events

February 19 (Thursday): Noon

Lunch & Learn,
US Bank Bldg 20th Floor,
13th & M Streets, Lincoln
Topic: *Behavioral Health Services
in Nebraska*
See article at right.

March 10 (Tuesday): 5:30 p.m.

LWVLL board meeting
Hawley Bed & Breakfast
545 N. 25th Street

March 11 (Wednesday):

Iron-Jawed Angels
HBO film about the early
suffrage movement.
Shows at 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Edgewood Theatres,
56th and Hwy 2

Free showing; Free popcorn/soda

March 17 (Tuesday): Times TBA

Candidate Debates (Primary Elect.)
St. Paul United Methodist Church,
1144 M Street
See article page 2.

March 19 (Thursday): Noon

Lunch & Learn,
US Bank Bldg 20th Floor,
13th & M Streets, Lincoln
Topic: *Why Don't More Women
Run for Office?*

April 4 (Saturday): Time TBA

LWVLL Annual Meeting,
Savannah Pines, 40th & Pine Lake.
See article at right.

April 14 (Tuesday): 5:30 p.m.

LWVLL board meeting
Hawley Bed & Breakfast
545 N. 25th Street

April 18 (Saturday): Time TBA

LWVNE biennial Convention,
Seward (location TBA)

April 20 (Monday): Times TBA

Candidate Debates (General Elect.)
St. Paul United Methodist Church,
1144 M Street

Focus of February Lunch and Learn is *Behavioral Health Services in Nebraska*

From institutions to community to recovery, C.J. Johnson, Regional Administrator, Region V Services, will discuss the Behavioral Health Service Act (LB 1083), passed in 2004. He will provide a statewide view of the changes that have occurred over the past four years as the reform efforts have been implemented, bringing individuals out of long-term institutional care and back to their communities. He will also discuss potential next steps to address children and family issues exposed as a result of the Safe Haven Law.

Johnson is a licensed clinical social worker and marriage and family therapist with more than thirty years experience working in the field of behavioral health. He is currently the Regional Administrator with Region V Systems, the Southeast Regional Behavioral Health Authority. He is also the director of Family & Youth Investment, a service coordination program that partners with families who have children with serious emotional disturbances.

Lunch & Learn events are open to the public. The luncheon will be held Thursday, February 19th at 12:00 noon on the 20th floor of the US Bank Building, 13th and M Streets. The cost is \$9.00 and includes lunch, tax and gratuity. Reservations are required by noon Monday, February 16th and may be made by contacting the League Office by e-mail at lww-ne@inebraska.com or by phone at 475-1411. Include your name, the number of reservations requested and contact information: your phone number or e-mail address.

The League of Women Voters Lunch & 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. All luncheons are open to the public with advance reservations. The topic for the March 19th Lunch & Learn is "*Why Don't More Women Run for Office?*"

LWVLL Annual General Meeting to be held April 4

Plans are being made for the 2009 LWVLL Annual General Meeting. The meeting will be held on Saturday morning, April 4th, at the Savannah Pines Adult Community, 40th & Pine Lake Rd. Details and time will be announced in next month's *Voter*.

Parking for the meeting will be in a parking lot at the back of the building; there is a walkway from the lot up to a set of double doors that are unlocked during the day. For those parked in the back, you should come into the double doors, turn left, and walk past a small shop and the main dining room area to get to the meeting room, which is an extension of the dining room. These directions will be reprinted in materials that will be sent out next month to LWVLL members.

Primary Election Candidates' Debates Scheduled for March 17

Debates for the April 7, 2009, primary election are scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, in the Bevins Family Life Center at Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 "M" Street. There will be two positions on the Airport Authority, four subdistricts for the Lincoln Public Schools Board, and three at-large City Council seats on the ballot. Debates will be held only in the races where there are enough candidates that one or more cannot be nominated for the general election. At this writing, this means there will be debates for LPS subdistricts 1, 3, and 5, and the debate for City Council candidates. The City Council debate will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The times for the LPS subdistrict debates depend on how many candidates file in each subdistrict; if there are only three, the debate will be a half hour, four or more candidates will require an hour. The filing deadline for those races is March 2, so the times of the debates will not be scheduled until after that deadline. However, they will take place some time in the afternoon on March 17.

Any suggested questions—for any of these offices—need to be received by Saturday, March 7. They may be sent to Sharon Nemeth at dnetlnk@hotmail.com or mailed to the League office at 140 North 8th Street, Suite 215, 68508. Members can volunteer by using the same email address—or call Sharon at 489-3571.

Debate co-sponsors are the Friends of the Mayor's Commission on Women, the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging, the National Council of Negro Women [Lincoln Section], the North 27th Street Business and Civic Association, the NAACP, and Saint Paul United Methodist Church. The LWVLL Education Fund is the primary source for debate funding, including the taping costs incurred by 5CITY TV. All co-sponsors are contributing either additional funding or volunteers and, in some cases, both.

***Iron Jawed Angels* to be shown on March 11**

Come to a **free** showing of the HBO film
Iron Jawed Angels,
a movie which details the
early days of the suffrage movement.

Wednesday, March, 11, 2009
Edgewood Theatres, 56th & Hghwy 2
Two Shows 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM
FREE showing; **FREE** Popcorn & Soda

For more information about the movie, see
<http://www.hbo.com/films/ironjawedangels/>

League of Women Voters Celebrates 89th Birthday

Washington, DC— The League of Women Voters will celebrate its 89th birthday on February 14, 2009. The LWV was formed in Chicago on February 14, 1920.

A birthday message from the LWV national office states: "We celebrate this year with a strong commitment to build on the civic energy generated during the 2008 election season by continuing our 89-year history of fostering meaningful citizen participation in our government processes and vigorous public dialogue about public policy issues."

Paul Glenn discusses Future of Air Travel in Lincoln at January Lunch & Learn

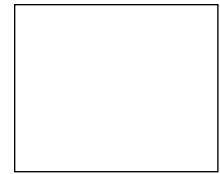
Paul Glenn presented “The Future of Air Travel in Lincoln” at our January Lunch & Learn. It was interesting to get an insider’s perspective on the political (small p!) ins and outs of air travel. One the comments I’ve often heard from Lincolniters is that we need an airport between Lincoln and Omaha – maybe in Cass or Sarpy? But it’s clear to me now that won’t happen – simply because the people in Omaha won’t support it. In fact, Glenn said it is more likely that the airlines would consider serving Omaha and the area east (Des Moines) instead.

That being the case, it is wise to weigh your options when deciding to make your trip out of Lincoln or Omaha. Depending on your length of stay out of town, and the current price of gas it might be wise to drive out to Omaha the night before your trip, stay at a hotel, and take their free shuttle to the airport the next day. This can save some frantic moments on the interstate as well as money on parking. But first compare the price of airline tickets to your destination from Lincoln and Omaha because you could find that the Lincoln fare is low enough that you can have one more night’s rest in your own bed. And, for some of us, that’s worth a lot!

Paul also shared information about some great travel buys to fabulous places. If you have a VERY flexible schedule, you can get rock bottom fares – just as long as your passport is nearby and you can leave with one or two days notice. It’s almost worth scheduling some time off and *then* deciding where you want to go. It’s more exciting that way, too! Check with your travel agent to find (possibly) the trip of a lifetime!



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Time Dated Material
Please Do Not Delay

Peacemaking Workshop XXII

The Peacemaking Workshop XXII has announced that Anna Baltzer has accepted their invitation to be the resource person for the Peacemaking Workshop, which will be held on April 3 and 4, 2009. The April 3 sessions will be at First United Methodist Church, 50th and St. Paul Streets, and the April 4 session will be at First Mennonite Church, 7300 Holdrege.

Baltzer is a 29 -year-old Jewish American Columbia graduate, Fulbright scholar, author, and the granddaughter of Holocaust refugees. As a volunteer with the International Women's Peace Service, she has documented human rights abuses in the West Bank and supports Palestinian-led nonviolent resistance to the Occupation.

Her presentation is an account of her eyewitness experience of the conflict in the Middle East and the joint Palestinian and Israeli nonviolent resistance. It is in keeping with the mission of the Peacemaking Workshop to encourage discussion within our community of challenging contemporary issues and to motivate individuals to act for peace with justice.

Baltzer is the author of *Witness in Palestine: A Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories*. For more information about Anna's work, please visit www.AnnainTheMiddleEast.com. You may also visit the webpage for the Peacemaking Workshop XXII for more information: www.fmclincoln.org/peacemaking_workshop/2009

Timothy F. Shaw, Convener
Peacemaking Workshop XXII Planning Committee