



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

March 2009

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

## Calendar of Events

**March 17 (Tuesday):** Afternoon and Evening; see schedule on p. 2. 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 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, 13<sup>th</sup> & M Streets, Lincoln  
Topic: *Why Don't More Women Run for Office?*

**April 4 (Saturday):** 10:00 a.m. LWVLL Annual Meeting, Savannah Pines, 40<sup>th</sup> & Pine Lake.  
*See articles on pages 3 & 4.*

**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

## **League of Women Voters Lunch & Learn to Explore Why More Women Don't Run for Public Office**

At the March 19th Lunch and Learn, Senator **Kathy Campbell** and former Senator **DiAnna R. Schimek** will explore the question "*Why Don't More Women Run for Public Office?*" Drawing on their own experiences running for public office, years of public service, and networks with other women they will offer valuable insights to the question.

In 2008, Kathy Campbell returned to public service with her election to the Nebraska Unicameral, District 25. She previously served sixteen years on the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners, five as the board chairperson. She retired from active management of Campbell's Nurseries to become Executive Vice President of Cedars Home for Children Foundation and Cedars Youth Services. She continues to serve on numerous community boards and advisory councils.

DiAnna Schimek was elected to the Nebraska Unicameral, District 27 in 1988 and served continuously until term-limited in 2008. During her tenure, she served on numerous legislative committees, many of which she chaired. She is a former member of the Legislature's Executive Board and served as vice-chair of the Legislature's Reapportionment Task Force. Her legislative priorities were in the areas of children and families, health care and election law. Currently, she is on the Habitat for Humanity Board and serves on the National Historic Preservation Trust's Advisory Council.

Lunch & Learn events are open to the public. The luncheon will be held Thursday, March 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, March 16 and may be made by contacting the League Office by e-mail at [lww-ne@inebraska.com](mailto: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 April Lunch & Learn will feature Dr. Ken Dewey discussing "*Global Warming: Fact or Fiction.*"

## **Tap Project news release**

*For further information, call Anita Fussell, (486-2330)*

Ten Lincoln restaurants will participate in UNICEF's second national Tap Project, Sunday through Saturday, March 22 – March 28, National Water Week.

"It's a great time to eat out and take your friends," says Sara Stephenson, Tap Project coordinator for the Nebraska Division of the United Nations Association, "because the program gives you and your guests a chance to 'make change in the world' for a dollar." In other words, restaurants will invite patrons to contribute \$1 or more for the tap water they usually enjoy for free. Every dollar raised through the Tap Project supports UNICEF water, sanitation and hygiene programs. The organization reports nearly 900 million people worldwide lack access to safe drinking water. Waterborne disease is the second highest cause of childhood death in the world, killing 4,200 children each day.

The League of Women Voters is a strong supporter of the United Nations and its many programs. This project gives local League members an opportunity to make a difference globally. Stephenson said the local UNA last year--through participating Tap Project restaurants--raised \$600, which provided clean water for 100 children for a year. With more restaurants participating this year, and with League's help, UNA hopes to reach even more children with safe and clean water.

All restaurants are listed on the internet, at [www.taproject.org](http://www.taproject.org).  
Lincoln participants to date are:

**Billy's**, 1301 H St.; **Blue Orchid**, 129 N. 10<sup>th</sup>; **Dish Restaurant**, 1100 O; **La Mexicana**, 1637 P; **La Pas**, 321 N. Cotner; **Mazatlan**, 211 N. 70<sup>th</sup>; **The Oven**, 201 N. 8<sup>th</sup>; **The Oven (east)**, 4101 Pioneer Woods Dr.; **Tina's**, 616 South St.; and **Wasabi Japanese Grill**, 114 S. 14<sup>th</sup>.

# DRAFT

## DAY OF DEBATES AGENDA AND CANDIDATE LIST\*

(Draft: March 8, 2009)

Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 "M" Street, March 17, 2009

**The deadline for candidate commitments to the debates is March 10.**

**2:45 pm—3:45 pm**     *Lincoln Airport Authority*  
**Nonpartisan**                     *At large (2 seats)*

CANDIDATES: John Hoppe, Jr., John-Paul Jamison,  
Mark Long, Val Schmiedeskamp, Walter Zink II  
MODERATOR: Nancy Intermill, LWVLL  
TIMER: Pam Dingman, MCW

*If four or all five candidates participate, this debate will be held over the one hour it is scheduled for and each candidate will have two minutes to answer each question.*

*If only two or three candidates are available, the debate will last just ½ hour, still beginning at 2:45 pm. Each candidate will have only one minute to answer each question.*

*All other timing allotments will be same no matter how many candidates are debating.*

**5:30 pm—6:30 pm**     *LPS Board of Education*  
**Nonpartisan**                     *Subdistrict #5*

CANDIDATES: **Lanny Boswell**, Norman Dority,  
**Kevin Keller**, Mike Laughter  
MODERATOR: Marthaellen Florence, NCNW  
TIMER: Jeraldine Mays, NAACP

*If all four candidates participate, this debate will be held over the one hour it is scheduled for and each candidate will have two minutes to answer each question.*

*If only two or three candidates are available, the debate will last just ½ hour, still beginning at 5:30 pm. Each candidate will have only one minute to answer each question.*

*All other timing allotments will be same no matter how many candidates are debating.*

**4:00 pm—4:30 pm**     *LPS Board of Education*  
**Nonpartisan**                     *Subdistrict #1*

CANDIDATES: **Kathy Danek**, Greg Wiltshire, Kirby  
Young  
MODERATOR: Peggy Briggs, Live & Learn Host,  
LAAA  
TIMER: Jan Gauger, LWVLL

**6:30 pm—7:00 pm**     **BREAK**

**7:00 pm—9:00 pm**     *Lincoln City Council*  
**Nonpartisan**                     *At large (3 seats)*

CANDIDATES: Toberlin Burger, **Eugene Carroll**,  
Mike Deal, John Haltom, Adam Hornung, Jane  
Kinsey, **Bruce Kitchen**, Terry Kubicek, Erin  
Pierson, **Jayne Snyder**, Ken Svoboda  
MODERATOR: Patte Newman, President, LWVLL  
TIMER: Debbi Barnes-Josiah, NCNW & LWVLL

**4:30 pm—4:45 pm**                                     **BREAK**

**4:45 pm—5:15 pm**     *LPS Board of Education*  
**Nonpartisan**                     *Subdistrict #3*

CANDIDATES: **Barbara Baier**, JezikaIvy Hilgenfeld,  
Tony Merritt  
MODERATOR: Sonja Smith, MCW  
TIMER: Jan Gauger, LWVLL

**5:15 pm—5:30 pm**                                     **BREAK**

*\*Candidates are listed in alphabetical order.*

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS / LINCOLN LANCASTER COUNTY

Annual General Meeting  
Savannah Pines, 3900 Pine Lake Road

Saturday, April 4, 2009  
10:00 AM

## Agenda:

9:15 AM Registration

10:00 AM Call to Order                      Patte Newman  
Self-Introductions of attendees

### Rules for procedure:

1. Rules of procedure will be in accordance the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln - Lancaster County and Revised Roberts Rules of Order.
2. No member may speak twice on any questions until all have had a chance to speak.
3. Debate is limited to two minutes for each speaker.
4. Motions and amendments must be submitted to the secretary in writing on motion slips.

Adoption of Agenda  
Minutes of April 12, 2008

10:15 AM Presentation of Proposed Budget      Corrie Kielty-Wesely

10:30 AM Report of Nomination Committee      Ann Wahl  
Election of Officers

10:45 AM    Other Reports:  
- Candidate's Forums                      Sharon Nemeth  
- Education Fund Report                      Pat Stephen  
- Lunch and Learn Committee              Karen Dienstbier                      - Voter Registration  
Mary Boschult

11:00 AM New Business  
Recognition / Presentations  
Priorities for Coming Year  
Other Announcements  
Directions to the Board

11:30 AM Adjourn

## LWVLL Nominating Committee Amended Slate

*This slate is amended from the mailed version; amended slate will be presented at the Annual General Meeting on April 4.*

### Officers:

President: Patte Newman (2010)  
President-elect: Mary Boschult (2010);  
Voter Services Chair  
Secretary: Carol Connor (2011)  
Treasurer: Margaret Remmenga (2011)

### Elected Directors:

Karen Dienstbier (2011); Lunch & Learn Chair  
Nancy Intermill (2011)  
Jim Johnson (2010) Voter Editor  
Peggy Struwe (2010)  
Maura Tolzin (2010); Yearbook Editor  
Corrie Kielty-Weseley (2011)

### LWV of Lincoln-Lancaster County Education Fund

#### Trustees:

Joan Anderson (2010)  
Anita Fussell (2010); Treasurer  
Amy Birky (2010)  
Pat Stephen (2010); Chair  
Dorothy Thompson (2010)

#### Nominating Committee for next year:

Beth Goble; Chair  
Linda Lannin  
Jan Gauger  
(Two more to be appointed by LWVLL board.)

Respectfully Submitted by

Ann Wahl, Nominating Committee Chair

## Local LWV Education Fund: A Brief Review

Recognizing the need to provide a way for people to give to the local League of Women Voters and be able to also get a tax deduction, the LWV of Lincoln/Lancaster County chose to follow the lead of the national and state leagues in establishing an Education Fund.

In June 1987 the League of Women Voters Education Fund of Lancaster County was incorporated as a 501(c)3 charitable organization. The purpose of this organization is to support educational efforts that relate to the purpose of the League of Women Voters, which is "to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government."

Our Education Fund dollars cannot be used for advocacy or to provide political support of any kind. There is a detailed protocol designed to evaluate each grant request. The protocol is very specific with timelines and requirements. All requests must be submitted in writing using the proper form and in a timely fashion that allows both the Board of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln/Lancaster County and the Trustees of the Education Fund to review the proposal. Organization bylaws do not allow retrospective grants. That is, no funding can be provided for an event that has already occurred.

Remember: all donations to the Education Fund are tax-deductible. It is a great way to designate some of your annual charitable dollars to help educate others about the importance of being a responsible and educated voter.

Recently the Education Fund has funded the Directory of Elected Officials, partial funding for the taping of Primary and General Election debates, and the cost of advertising for Lunch and Learn programs.

Please contact any of the current Trustees of the Education Fund for further information:

Pat Stephen, Chair  
Anita Fussell, Treasurer  
Dorothy Jo Thompson, Secretary  
Joan Anderson  
Amy Birky

## **C.J. Johnson addresses Behavioral Health Issues at February Lunch & Learn**

The February 19<sup>th</sup> Lunch and Learn crowd learned more about some of the successes of the 2004 Behavioral Health Services Act from C.J. Johnson. Mr. Johnson is the Administrator of Region V Systems, the Southeast Regional Behavioral Health Authority in Nebraska. He is also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist and has worked in behavioral health services for over 30 years.

The primary purpose of the reform was to redirect funding from hospital based adult inpatient treatment at the state's 3 Regional Centers (Lincoln, Norfolk, Hastings) to community based services to allow people to receive services closer to their homes and families. This funding creates the opportunity for the uninsured and underinsured to receive mental health and substance abuse services in their communities.

The inpatient population at the Lincoln Regional Center has reduced from 275-300 to 75-80 people. The Peoples Health Center in Lincoln has reported that 25% of the people served there also present with a behavioral health issue. National data indicates that the seriously mentally ill will die 25 years sooner than the population at large if they do not access treatment services.

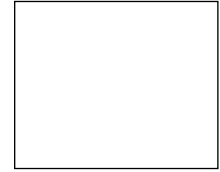
Region V Systems provides a number of programs including both short and long term community based treatment. In the Centerpointe Program 80% of the 70 seriously mentally ill people served are able to maintain their own apartments. The Harvest Program provides support services for persons who are 55+ years old.

Behavioral Health Reform was the vision of Governor Johanns and Senator Jim Jensen and has been successful. The ability to meet the increasing need for community behavioral health services for children and adults is at risk. The state has not reinvested \$6.2 M savings in child welfare services into children and family community services as had been previously agreed in the reform effort.

If you would like more information about Region V Systems and their programs you can visit the website at [www.region5systems.net](http://www.region5systems.net) or contact C.J. Johnson at 1645 N St, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68508. The phone number is 441-4343.



The Lincoln Lancaster *Voter*  
League of Women Voters ®  
The Apothecary, Suite 215  
140 North 8th St.  
Lincoln NE 68508  
475-1411  
<http://www.LincolnLeague.org>



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, 50<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.AnnainTheMiddleEast.com). You may also visit the webpage for the Peacemaking Workshop XXII for more information: [www.fmclincoln.org/peacemaking\\_workshop/2009](http://www.fmclincoln.org/peacemaking_workshop/2009)

Timothy F. Shaw, Convener  
Peacemaking Workshop XXII Planning Committee