

Whitewater-Area LWV Newsletter

Program on Child Poverty

September 17th 2009 — Please join us for an important community discussion on child poverty.

See Page 5



The President's Corner

A Stimulating Schedule of Programs for 2009-2010!

Although there are no historic elections scheduled for the year ahead, the Whitewater LWV board has developed a stimulating schedule of programs for 2009-2010. Our goal in developing public programs is always to present topics in solidarity with the LWVUS and LWVWI program priorities as well as topics of local interest determined by membership vote at our annual meeting. National legislative priorities for 2009-2010 are global climate change and health care. At the state level, the recommended program recently voted on by the LWV State Board includes a two-year Supreme Court Study of issues related to the selection of Supreme Court Justices including election vs. appointment and public financing of Supreme Court races. LWVWI will also participate in coalitions on two statewide action campaigns: one on universal/affordable healthcare, the other on climate change and sustainability. At the local level, league members in attendance at the June 6th Annual Meeting, voted for the 2010 Census with emphasis on redistricting consequences and an update on Whitewater housing and zoning as the lead local issues for 2009-2010.

Our slate of programs for 2009-2010 reflects these priorities. On September 17th a program on child poverty will highlight the Vision 2020 Campaign, a collaborative effort of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, the Wisconsin Community Action Program

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The LWV Newsletter is now printed on 100% recycled paper. See page 4 to find out how you can help save the LWV money (and save trees as well) by signing up for your copy of the newsletter via email!

In the News...

League Summer Garage Sale a Success!

We're delighted to report that the League raised \$379.00 at the July garage sale fundraiser! Fantastic weather, excellent advertising, amazing donations, and lots of hard work went into making this event a great success. Many thanks to all who donated items and who priced items pre-sale, and to Betsy Brandt, Tom Drucker, Marian Hanson, Ginny and Jerry Laurent, Ellen



Penwell, Julia Ross, Sarah Linn, and Joyce VandeBunt who worked the day of the sale. Special thanks to Ben Penwell who catered a delicious lunch.

Every effort resulted in this being a successful fundraiser! We definitely think it is worth doing again, perhaps in 2011.

2009-2010 Contemporary Issues Lecture Series

The College of Letters and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is once again offering the Contemporary Issues Lecture Series. All lectures will be in the Young Auditorium at 7 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Contact Susan Johnson (johnsons@uww.edu or 472-4766) for further information.

October 12, 2009 — “How to Be a Mexican” Alma Guillermoprieto

Alma Guillermoprieto is considered an authority on the cultural and political life of Mexico and South America, especially as they relate to the United States. For the last thirty years, she has traced the history of Latin America incorporating her personal experiences. Born in Mexico, and raised in Mexico and in the U.S., Guillermoprieto is a MacArthur Fellow, and a winner of the George Polk Award for Foreign Reporting. Two of her books, *Looking for History* and *The Heart That Bleeds*, are collections of her stories on Latin America, covering everything from the Colombian Civil War to the "Dirty War" in Argentina. Drawing from one of the most respected bodies of journalism of the past three decades, Guillermoprieto is now asking, what does it mean to be a Mexican today?

City Listening Session on September 29

The Whitewater League of Women Voters will co-host a listening session with the City of Whitewater on Tuesday evening, September 29th, from 6:00PM-8:00PM in the Cravath Lakefront Community Center. After a brief presentation on issues related to the 2009-2010 budget, city staff and council members will be present to address citizen concerns and questions. Please attend and bring a friend or neighbor. We are all stakeholders in the life and future of our community.

Kick-off for Membership Drive

The September 17th League Meeting is the kick-off for the League's annual membership drive. The Membership Committee asks that you invite a friend or neighbor to join us at this meeting and learn about the League's activities. The membership form is in this newsletter. Please contact Gerry Jennings (262-473-3909) or Ginny Laurent (262-473-4719) for further information.

Calendar of Whitewater-Area LWV Events



Date: September 17th (Thursday)

- ⇒ **Event:** Whitewater Area LWV Public Program on child poverty
- ⇒ **Where:** 7:00 PM Municipal Building, Council Chambers

Date: October 3rd (Saturday)

- ⇒ **Event:** Whitewater Area LWV Board Meeting
- ⇒ **Where:** 10 AM Whitewater Public Library

Date: October 15th (Thursday)

- ⇒ **Event:** Whitewater Area LWV Public Program on local solutions to global climate change and sustainability issues
- ⇒ **Where:** TBA

Other Notable Events

Date: September 12th, 2009

Fighting Bob Fest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, Wis. For more information on the event and scheduled speakers visit www.fightingbobfest.org

Date: October 2-3rd, 2009

Lake Michigan LWV 2009 Annual Meeting, Saugatuck, Michigan. To register by Sept 16th contact Suzanne Dixon, 616-335-5076; sydbarret7@aol.com

Date: October 22nd, 2009

Panel on The Role of Civil Society and the Private Sector Working with the United Nations. Sponsored

by the LWV Milwaukee, Italian Conference Center, Milwaukee, Wis. A distinguished panel will be headed by Dr. Louise Kantrow, member of the International Chamber of Commerce and Permanent Representative to the United Nations. To register for this 6:00PM event including dinner and panel presentation (\$35 general admission) contact Louise Petering or Mel Bromberg at 414-273-8683 or 414-342-0883.

Fairhaven Lecture Series

All lectures are open to the public at no charge on Mondays at 3 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall, located at the Fairhaven, 435 West Starin Road, Whitewater, WI 53190. Sponsored by the UW-Whitewater Office of Continuing Ed. The Fall 2009 Series will look at various aspects of our global, U.S., and local economies.

September 14th, 2009: “Prospects for Economic Revitalization in Urban and Underserved Communities.” Richard McGregory, Interim Director, Academic Support Services

September 21st, 2009: “What Happened to the Greatest Companies on Earth?” Nikki Mandell, Associate Professor, Department of History

September 28th, 2009: “Why Prices are Good, Trade is the Same as Technology, and Other Fun Things in Economics.” David Welsch, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

October 5th, 2009: “The Spillover Benefit of Student Housing on Property Values and Tax Revenues in Whitewater.” Russ Kashian, Associate Professor, Department of Economics

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Children and Families, the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association and the Wisconsin Head Start Association. For October we invited a representative from Wisconsin Partners for Sustainability to address how concerns about global climate change can be addressed through local action – Think Globally, Act Locally. A November program introducing the 2010 Census will be followed in January by a program explaining how Census results impact redistricting. February is a closed meeting for membership to select among governmental issues identified by LWVUS for concerted action and study. By March the Supreme Court Study should be underway to support a program on this topic. In April 2010 we will consider Whitewater neighborhood associations and update the community on the housing and zoning issues we highlighted in April of 2009.

Board members welcome your ideas and support in implementing programs! The Board is also investigating development options for our own website and should reach a decision very soon. We're also soliciting ideas on how our League should celebrate the 90th Birthday of the League of Women Voters in February 2010. Please contact a board member if you have a creative birthday celebration idea that incorporates an educational component with League visibility, membership, and fundraising.

~ Ellen Penwell

An Opportunity to Serve – Seeking Volunteers

Andrea Kaminski, LWVWI Executive Director, is asking all local leagues to identify one member to join a listserv focused on health care reform and one member to join a listserv about climate change and sustainability. The state league will connect these task forces electronically and possibly by conference calls. If you are interested in being the Whitewater League's point person for either of these two topics, please contact Ellen Penwell at 262-203-6529, ellen.penwell@wisconsinhistory.org. Please call or e-mail to learn more about this opportunity to serve.



2009-2010 Board Members

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Vice President

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Duties of secretary will rotate

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E-Mail Edition Available

You can receive your monthly League Newsletter sooner *and* save the League postage and printing expense. To sign up for the email edition, please contact our newsletter editor Sarah Linn at 262-949-1418 or e-mail sarahslinn@mac.com

September 17th Program on Child Poverty

Please join us on Thursday evening, September 17th, at 7:00PM in the Municipal Building Council Chambers for an important community discussion on child poverty. Our guest speakers are Sabrina Gentile, Governmental Relations Manager for Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, and Jo Bernhardt, Principal of Lincoln Elementary in Whitewater. Sabrina will provide an overview of the Vision 2020 Campaign – A Perfect Vision for Wisconsin to End Child Poverty by the Year 2020.



The goals of this advocacy campaign are to increase awareness of child poverty, develop statewide policy solutions that address the root causes of poverty, and encourage communities and policymakers to make the elimination of child poverty in Wisconsin their top priority. Whitewater Elementary School Principal Jo Bernhardt will provide a local perspective on this pressing social issue by sharing observed affects of child poverty in Whitewater schools. For more information about Vision 2020 visit www.2020wi.org.

September is membership month so please consider bringing a friend or neighbor with you to this meeting!

www.2020wi.org

Cut Here and Return

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2009-2010

Name _____ Phone _____

Second Person in Household _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Annual Dues Enclosed:

Single Membership \$55

Two Persons in One Household \$80

Student Membership \$27.50

Contribution \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____



Make Check Payable to:

LWV – Whitewater Area

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**Whitewater-Area League of Women Voters
Board Members
2009-2010**

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