



## President's Message

Dear Leaguer,

Happy New Year!

It is 2015 and this is the year that the League will be celebrating its 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday! The League was formally organized in February, 1920, just months before the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was ratified. But the fight for a woman's right to vote actually began 57 years earlier. I got to thinking about these early years and realized that I had heard references to both suffragettes and suffragists, but what was the difference?

The simplistic explanation is that suffragists was a more general term for members (male and female) of the suffrage movement and later associated with peaceful lobbying and negotiating within the movement.

Suffragettes was meant to be a demeaning term and was applied to middle and upper class

British women who were more militant and engaged in hunger strikes, chained themselves to railings to provoke arrest, broke windows at prestigious buildings, and engaged in nighttime arson at unoccupied buildings.

But whether we talk about suffragists or suffragettes, I do hope that you will plan to join with other Milwaukee County League members on Sunday, February 15, in celebration of this special birthday and to hear more about our history and our accomplishments.

See you at League,


*Joanne Barndt*, President



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# CALENDAR

January 2015			
8	Thurs	10 am	<b>International Relations</b> Wauwatosa Public Library, 7635 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa Contact: Ned Maxwell, 414-258-9222
8	Thurs	9 am 11 am	<b>Naturalization / New Voter Registration</b> Federal Courthouse, 517 E. Wisconsin Ave., Courtroom 320 Contact: Mary Jo McDonald, 414-962-8195
12	Mon	12-2 pm	<b>Membership Committee</b> St. John's on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee Contact: Anne Creamer
14	Wed	6-7:30 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b> 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Milwaukee Contact: Joanne Barndt, 414-962-5634
21	Wed		<b>Unit Meetings (National Program Making)</b> Contact: League Office, 414-273-8683
22	Thurs	9 am 11 am 2 pm	<b>Naturalization / New Voter Registration</b> Federal Courthouse, 517 E. Wisconsin Ave., Courtroom 390 Contact: Mary Jo McDonald, 414-962-8195
28	Wed	7-9 pm	<b>Natural Resources Committee</b> Conference Call Contact: Helga Guequierre, 414-225-0460
31	Sat	9 am - 11:30 am	<b>General Meeting - People Are Not For Sale: Human Trafficking in Milwaukee</b> St. John's on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee Contact: League Office, 414-273-8683
February 2015			
5	Thurs	9 am 11 am	<b>Naturalization / New Voter Registration</b> Federal Courthouse, 517 E. Wisconsin Ave., Courtroom 320 Contact: Mary Jo McDonald, 414-962-8195
11	Wed	6-7:30 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b> 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Milwaukee Contact: Joanne Barndt, 414-962-5634
12	Thurs	10 am	<b>International Relations</b> Wauwatosa Public Library, 7635 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa Contact: Ned Maxwell, 414-258-9222
15	Sun	5 pm	<b>Suffragist Souper Supper</b> Kingo Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall 1225 E. Olive Street, Shorewood Contact: League Office, 414-273-8683
16	Mon	12-2 pm	<b>Membership Committee</b> St. John's on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee Contact: Anne Creamer
17	Tues		<b>Spring Primary Election Day</b>
18	Wed		<b>Unit Meetings (Human Trafficking)</b> Contact: League Office, 414-273-8683
19	Thurs	9 am 11 am 2 pm	<b>Naturalization / New Voter Registration</b> Federal Courthouse, 517 E Wisconsin Ave., Courtroom 390 Contact: Mary Jo McDonald, 414-962-8195
25	Wed	7-9 pm	<b>Natural Resources Committee</b> Conference Call Contact: Helga Guequierre, 414-225-0460
28	Sat	10 am	<b>SRD Training</b> Wauwatosa Library, Firefly Room, 7725 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa Contact: Peggy Creer, 414-961-7004

## Sex and Labor Trafficking

Mary Kae Nelson

(Information taken from the LWV Texas Education Fund article, *Facts and Issues: Human Trafficking in Texas*)

“Trafficking” can describe illegal activity in buying and selling goods, such as drugs or guns or even babies. “Human Trafficking” refers to selling adults and children into servitude. They are exploited for sex or labor as well as for organs and use as soldiers.

Labor trafficking victims can be nannies and domestic workers, sweatshop workers, or construction and agriculture workers. Labor trafficking affects both international and domestic victims. A study of labor trafficking must discuss questions of fair wages and “fair trade,” the role of domestic and international unions and labor brokers, oversight in the chain of manufacture, corporate liability issues, and immigration issues.

Sex trafficking victims are exploited as prostitutes and in sexually oriented businesses. A study of sex trafficking must discuss the underlying issues that make someone vulnerable, who is punished, what the penalties should be, what victims need to become survivors, and who pays for services.

Sex and labor trafficking are not always clearly separate issues. Nevertheless, a study of the laws, remedies, and services relevant to labor trafficking leads in different directions.

To read the entire Facts and Issues article: [http://www.lwvtexas.org/Facts%20and%20Issues/Human%20Trafficking/Facts & Issues Human Trafficking 2013.pdf](http://www.lwvtexas.org/Facts%20and%20Issues/Human%20Trafficking/Facts%20and%20Issues%20Human%20Trafficking%202013.pdf)



## REDISTRICTING

**Do boundary lines for district representation make no sense to you?**

**All members of the League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County are invited to join a Work Group on Redistricting.**

Please contact:  
Hannah Dugan  
[hannahdugan@aol.com](mailto:hannahdugan@aol.com)  
or 414-774-5839

## Statement of Position on Human Trafficking

As adopted at the LWV-US  
2014 National Convention

The League of Women Voters opposes all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking. We consider human trafficking to be a form of modern day slavery and believe that every measure should be taken and every effort should be made through legislation and changes in public policy to prevent human trafficking. Prosecution and penalization of traffickers and abusers should be established, and existing laws should be strictly enforced. Extensive essential services for victims should be applied where needed. Education and awareness programs on human trafficking should be established in our communities and in our schools.



League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County  
January 2015 General Meeting



**People Are Not For Sale:  
Human Trafficking in Milwaukee**

**Saturday, January 31, 2015**

9:00 A.M. Gathering and Refreshments

9:30-11:30A.M. Program

**Saint Johns on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee 53202**

Free guest parking on the south side of the South Tower Enter on the Lake Michigan (back) side of the building

**Contact:** League office at 414-273-8683 or Mary Kae Nelson at 414-964-9988 or [marykae2@gmail.com](mailto:marykae2@gmail.com)

**Resources:** Human Trafficking Task Force of Greater Milwaukee  
<http://city.milwaukee.gov/staysafe/HTTFGM#.VJCco2TF9jx>

**Unlucky Thirteen**

<http://unluckythirteen.org/>

The Human Trafficking Task Force created its Unlucky Thirteen campaign, which includes bus shelter public service announcements, digital billboards, and online and social media efforts to spread awareness of human trafficking in Milwaukee.

# Expanding the Infrastructure Discussion to Wisconsin League

Carol Diggelman



Infrastructure is the foundation that connects the nation's businesses, communities, and people. It drives our economy and improves our quality of life. For many years, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has provided a comprehensive assessment of current infrastructure conditions and needs. Every four years they grade 16 infrastructure categories with estimates of both needs and costs of improvement. Included are aviation, bridges, dams, drinking water, energy, hazardous wastes, inland waterways, levees, ports, public parks and recreation, rail, roads, schools, solid waste, transit and wastewater. At the October 25, 2014, general meeting presented by the LWV-MC Natural Resources Committee, Carl Sutter, P.E., C.C.S., Vice President, McMahon Architects/Engineers and ASCE Region 3 Governor, showed why the ASCE's 2013 Report Card results for the US were a D. A rating of D (Poor/At Risk) indicates infrastructure that is mostly below standard, with many elements approaching the end of their service life. A large portion of the system exhibits significant deterioration. Conditions and capacity are of significant concern with strong risk of failure. ASCE estimated the necessary investment to improve the US infrastructure by 2020 at \$3.6 trillion.

Professor William L. Holahan, Emeritus Professor of Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, explained that the Gross Domestic Product is directly related to sum of consumer spending (C), business investment (I), government spending (G) and exports (X) minus imports (M), according to the equation:

$$GDP = C + I + G + (X - M)$$

He indicated that wages for the majority of Americans are stagnant so C is stagnant. A significant segment of the business community is holding cash and some companies are buying back their stock, so I is modest at best. The US government did pump money into the

economy after the 2008 housing bubble burst, but that influx has ended. Americans continue to import more than we export, so (X-M) is negative.

However, government support for spending to repair our physical infrastructure remains a possibility.

- First, even the most anti-government politicians can observe that our streets, roads, and bridges are in disrepair.
- Second, the unemployment rate for construction workers is in double digits, so increased spending in that sector would not be inflationary.
- Third, at today's low interest rates, the benefits of such reconstruction easily outweigh the cost of capital to support it.
- Fourth, wear and tear on cars caused by potholes cost drivers \$300 annually, or roughly \$0.50/gallon for the average driver. On the other hand, infrastructure repairs are estimated to cost the average driver about \$0.05/gallon. We have an opportunity to spend \$0.05 to save \$0.50/gallon.
- Fifth, infrastructure is immobile. Once the investment is made, it remains in the United States for workers and businesses to use to boost productivity and improve competitiveness.
- Finally, deferred maintenance constitutes a physical debt as real as financial debt.

Recently, the Natural Resources Committee has been exploring the possibility of expanding the program on infrastructure given on October 25 at the suggestion of Professor William Holahan. Carl Sutter has agreed to work with us and we also have members willing to work on this project. We are currently meeting to discuss how to move the infrastructure discussion to the state level, working with ASCE and others to host meetings around the state. We are researching state and national LWV positions to determine if it is possible to define/justify an action item on infrastructure investment. Stay tuned.

# Voter Services

Mary Jo McDonald

Our League had a busy year working hard in the areas of voting information, voter registration, election night reporting, and elections observers. Wow!

Please become involved again in 2015 as we will need help with

- new citizen/new voter registrations;
- high school voter education project;
- Special Registration Deputy (SRD) status;
- National Voter Registration Day;
- candidate forums;
- website updates to provide voter information; and
- writers for The Voter.

We have volunteer opportunities to fit your availability and skills. Stay updated on our website ([lwvmilwaukee.org](http://lwvmilwaukee.org)) for lots more information.

It's expected that many changes in the coming year will affect voters in Wisconsin. League is concerned that the requirement for Voter Photo ID could be enacted and in force by the February 17 primary election. Changes are also expected for the Government Accountability Board, online voter registration, and further restrictions of voter rights. Our work is cut out for us.

Contact me if these activities interest you. We need all willing hands. And you can make a difference.

Mary Jo McDonald  
Voter Service Chair  
414-962-8195 or [mjom365@gmail.com](mailto:mjom365@gmail.com)



*Dorothy Sherman and Shirley Halloran at the Federal Courthouse to register voters*



## Interested in Registering Voters in Milwaukee County?

### Announcing **SRD** **(Special Registration Deputy)** **Training**

conducted for us by Claire Woodall,  
Election Services Specialist with the  
City of Milwaukee Election Commission.

**Saturday, February 28, 2015**  
**10 a.m.**

Wauwatosa Library, Firefly Room  
7725 West North Avenue  
(enter off 76<sup>th</sup> Street  
1 block south of North Avenue)

Please RSVP to reserve a seat. You do not need to be a League member to attend.  
Contact: Peggy Creer at 414-961-7004  
or [subdebpeg@gmail.com](mailto:subdebpeg@gmail.com)



## Program Planning Meeting on January 21

Every year, Leagues participate in local and state program planning. The Program Planning Process is an important League tool for identifying issues/positions for study, review, update, and concurrence. It is at this time that we remind ourselves and others that the League works on more than just voting issues.

At the January unit meetings, members will be making recommendations to the local and state League boards for implementation in 2015-2016. To prepare for these meetings, please review the local and state positions at [www.lwvwi.org](http://www.lwvwi.org) and [www.lwvmilwaukee.org](http://www.lwvmilwaukee.org). Also review information from our October and November general meetings on Economic Infrastructure and Redistricting also found at [www.lwvmilwaukee.org](http://www.lwvmilwaukee.org).

These meetings are very important to the League process. See you on January 21 at unit meetings. See the calendar on p. 2 for locations.

## Election Night Reporting

Louise Petering, Coordinator

It is personally rewarding to know League members are committed to our organization. On November 4, forty-four League members, along with spouses and friends, traveled to municipal clerks' offices in Milwaukee County or other Southeastern Wisconsin counties to report election results. To be fair to Wisconsin Election Service, Associated Press, and Reuters, the three news services that we had agreements with to report election returns, we fielded a second reporter at fifteen Milwaukee County sites. Depending on the municipality or county, reporters left their sites between 8:45 p.m. and 12 midnight. My special thanks to Ned Maxwell, who once again represented LWV-MC at WES

until the wee hours of the morning. Also many thanks to Carol O'Neill who held out in Brown Deer until 1:42 a.m.! You all demonstrate that you value League and our reputation as a reliable organization.

The spring primary falls on Tuesday, February 17, and we will again field reporters. Be part of the project! It provides a glimpse into one aspect of our democracy. And it helps raise funds for our League that keep our office open and occupied. Contact me at 414-351-3617 or [l.petering14@att.net](mailto:l.petering14@att.net) and help the League make democracy happen.

# Important Dates and Deadlines for Spring Elections 2015

## **Spring Primary, Tuesday, February 17, 2015 (if required\*)**

\* Last date to file papers for election: Tuesday, January 6, 2015

Wednesday, January 28	Last day to register to vote by mail or with a Special Registration Deputy. (Registration forms due by 5 p.m. in clerk's office or postmarked by that day.)
Monday, February 2	First day for in-person absentee voting.
Thursday, February 12	Last day to request absentee ballots by mail.

## **Spring General Election, Tuesday, April 7, 2015**

Wednesday, March 18	Last day to register to vote by mail or with a Special Registration Deputy. (Registration forms due by 5 p.m. in clerk's office or postmarked by that day.)
Monday, March 23	First day for in-person absentee voting.
Thursday, April 2	Last day to request absentee ballots by mail.

There is one statewide race for the spring election: a State Supreme Court Justice. There are no countywide races for this election. Other races to be determined at the local level may include municipal judges, mayors, council members, and/or school board.

Stay updated at our Website ([lwvmilwaukee.org](http://lwvmilwaukee.org)) whether a photo ID will be required for these elections.

## **I-94 Highway Expansion**

The Department of Transportation held hearings on the I-94 Freeway Corridor Study the first week of December. The study includes 3.5 miles of I-94 from 16<sup>th</sup> Street to 70<sup>th</sup> Street where two of the alternatives involve expansion to four lanes. Copies of the hearing packet can be obtained at



[www.dot.wi.gov/projects/sereion/94stadiumint/index.htm](http://www.dot.wi.gov/projects/sereion/94stadiumint/index.htm); the packet also has information on submitting testimony, either by mail or email. The deadline for testimony is January 13, 2015. The final Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared soon after that date with the Record of Decision being issued in mid-2015.

### **In Memoriam**

Flora Cohen passed away on November 27, 2014, at the age of 96. A promoter of civic duty and human rights, Flora went out of her way this past fall to be sure that her voter registration was up-to-date and that she could vote in the November 4 elections. And vote she did!



## Call for Nominations

It is January and time for the Nominating Committee to begin its work to develop a slate of candidates for the 2015-2016 LWV-MC Board of Directors. The slate will be presented to members at our Annual Meeting in May. Being a board member provides you with an excellent understanding of how League works and enables you to polish your leadership skills. Do you have a member in mind who you think would make a good leader? Or perhaps you would like to serve as a board member yourself. The committee is ready to accept suggestions for one- and two-year terms. Please call or email:

Joanne Kreimendahl, Chair, 262-255-2127,  
[jokre\\_76@yahoo.com](mailto:jokre_76@yahoo.com)

Beverly Katter, 414-277-9158,  
[beverly.katter@gmail.com](mailto:beverly.katter@gmail.com)

Sarajane Kennedy, 414-453-3494,  
[sarajane.kennedy@gmail.com](mailto:sarajane.kennedy@gmail.com)

Mary Kae Nelson, 414-964-9988,  
[marykae2@gmail.com](mailto:marykae2@gmail.com)

### NEW MEMBERS

**Mary Fiedler** plans to become active in registering newly naturalized citizens at the Courthouse. She is already an active member of AAUW and the Osher Institute.

**Alexis Gassenhuber** and her husband **Jose Sanchez** are joining because Alexis's mother, Kathleen Slamka, is a long-time League member. They attended the Fall Kickoff in September.

**Joyce Goulet** is particularly interested in the discussions of the Great Decisions group which meets at the Wauwatosa Library. Mary Kae Nelson has influenced her decision to join League.

**Kathy Johnson** is joining the League after attending several Great Decisions discussions of the International Relations Committee. She's retired and has taught classes at the Osher Institute. She's interested in voter registration.

**Kate Kaiser** is Professor Emerita from

Marquette University where she taught business. She helped register new citizens at the Folk Fair in November.

**Carole Kauss** grew up on Milwaukee's East Side near the League office. She's especially interested in health care and gun control issues.

**Martha Prince** is a resident of St. John's on the Lake who re-joins after belonging to the Ozaukee League 30 years ago. She was walking past a LWV general meeting at St. John's, asked what was going on, then came right in and joined!

**Gabriella Verder** is a friend of Joanne Barndt who is retired from teaching French at UWM.



Mark your calendars for the

### Suffragist Souper Supper!

The Suffragist Souper Supper is a get together to celebrate the 95th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters. It will be held on:

**Sunday, February 15, 2015**  
**5:00 p.m.**

Kingo Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall  
1225 E. Olive Street, Shorewood, WI 53211

Heather Dawson and Jane Kieffer Rath will perform a piece as Suffragists. Come celebrate our history and the 95th anniversary of the League of Women Voters and our efforts to make Democracy work.



## Meet the new Administrative Assistant of LWV-MC

Please welcome Jennifer Bottesi, LWV-MC's new Administrative Assistant, hired in early November. Jennifer's background is diverse. She has worked within the non-profit sector and the public university setting with Boys & Girls Clubs of Milwaukee, Fondy Food Center, and UW-Milwaukee. She currently works full-time in the private sector as support staff in the legal field. Jennifer graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science - Pre-Law and a certificate in Peace Studies from UW-Milwaukee in the summer of 2013.

You will usually find Jennifer in the office on Saturdays or Sundays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you need to work with Jennifer on a project, it is recommended you schedule an appointment with her via email at [jbottesi.lwv@gmail.com](mailto:jbottesi.lwv@gmail.com) or by phone at 262-573-6181. In addition, Jennifer makes every effort to attend LWV meetings, so please introduce yourself if you see her.

*Jennifer Bottesi and her daughter, Soleil, at a recent holiday party with Big Brothers Big Sisters Ozaukee County.*

## LWV International Relations

We will meet on **Thursday, January 8, at 10 AM** at the **Wauwatosa Public Library** to discuss Russia and the Near Abroad.

For further information, contact  
Ned Maxwell at 414-258-9222 or Gloria Weiskotten at 414-354-9783.

### ***The Voter Production Crew:***

Chris Hansen, Sr. Editor & Layout  
Shirley Halloran, Editor  
Louise Petering, Advisor

Contact us at:  
1845 N. Farwell Ave., Suite 102  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
[League@lwvmilwaukee.org](mailto:League@lwvmilwaukee.org)  
414-273-8683



**Join the  
League of Women Voters**

**Not a member yet?  
Use the form on the reverse side  
to sign up today.**

**Join Up! Join In! Join the League of Women Voters - Today!**

**Non-partisan, non-profit since 1920!**

Where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement and leaders are actively engaged in effecting change at the local, state, and national levels.

Website: [lwvmilwaukee.org](http://lwvmilwaukee.org)

Email Address: [league@lwvmilwaukee.org](mailto:league@lwvmilwaukee.org)

**Milwaukee County Dues** (circle one):

\$65 Individual            \$100 Household            \$ 25 Student

\$100 (supports \$25 memberships)            \$165 Centennial (supports action & activities)

Financial support available upon request -- call 414-964-9988

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ WI Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Interests:** Voter Service \_\_\_\_\_ Lending Practices \_\_\_\_\_ Government \_\_\_\_\_

International Relations \_\_\_\_\_ Environment/Natural Resources/Water \_\_\_\_\_

Health Care/Social Policy \_\_\_\_\_ Education \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please** complete this form and **mail it** with your check to: League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County, 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Suite 102, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

[league@lwvmilwaukee.org](mailto:league@lwvmilwaukee.org)

414-273-8683

Milwaukee, WI 53202

Suite 102

1845 N Farwell Avenue

**JOIN UP!  
JOIN IN!**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY**

