



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - RoMaFH
ROSEVILLE, MAPLEWOOD, FALCON HEIGHTS

Also serving the communities of Little Canada and Lauderdale

November 2005

www.romafh.org

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Promoting political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

**November Joint Meeting
PANEL DISCUSSION AND FORUM**

**DIVERSITY'S HIDDEN ISSUES:
CHALLENGES in K-12 EDUCATION**

Join us for a discussion on the challenges schools face when serving students of a wide variety of abilities, economic backgrounds, races and ethnicities.

SPEAKERS:

Johanna Eager

Equity & Integration Coordinator, ISD 623

Scott Allen

Principal, Little Canada Elementary School

Tanetha Grosland

Integration Equity Coach, ISD 622

Julie S. Anderson

Parent, Valentine Hills Elementary School PTA

President, ISD 621

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

6:30pm Refreshments

7:00pm Panel Discussion

Little Canada City Hall – Council Chambers

515 E. Little Canada Rd., Little Canada

[East on Little Canada Rd. past 35E. City Center on north side almost to Edgerton.]

Sign language interpreter requests: call 651-488-0144 by 11/11/05.

2005 – 2006 Board of Directors

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Barbara Lehn
Co-Presidents

Andrea Brodtmann
Marilyn Ulrich
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Florence Sprague
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Karen Hanson (Roseville)
Lorraine Fischer (Maplewood),
Barbara Lehn (Little Canada)
Jill Lund (623 School Board)
Observer Program

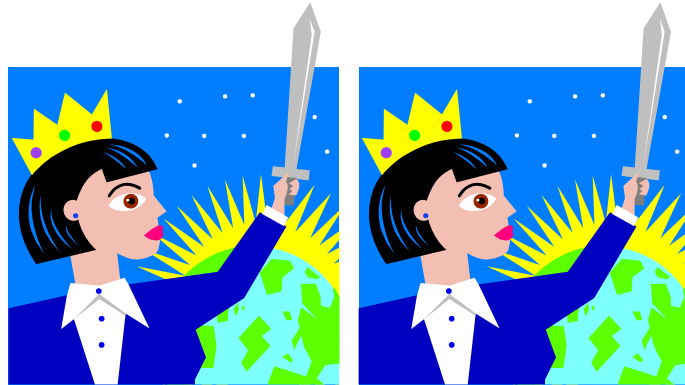
Andrea Brodtmann
Patricia DeFrancis
Sandi Lutz, Linda McLoon
Voter Service

Ann Berry
Carole Erickson
Membership

Georgiana Sobola
Units/ Admin. Asst

Laura French, Tammy Pust
Diane Nystrom
Newsletter

Vicky Lorenz
Joan Stark
Finance Committee



November Co-Presidents' Letter

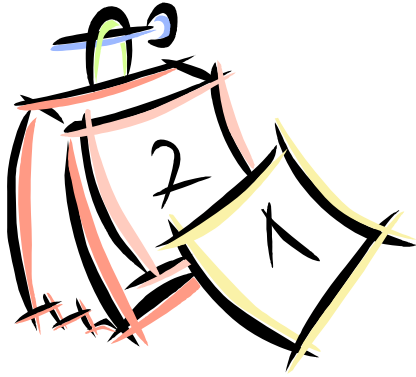
Did you know? According to the Independent Sector, <http://www.independentsector.org>, a non-partisan leadership forum for charities and foundations, an hour of work done by a volunteer was worth \$17.55 in 2004. Wow! Pat yourselves on the back, members!

On the State League front: The title of the current LWVMN study is Minnesota Government Agencies: Do their Actions Match their Charters? The study committee will focus on one agency and the goal will be to produce a template for study of any government agency. They have chosen to study the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Part of the scope will be to determine the differences between the legislative mandate and the rules and how they relate to the agency's charter; funding of the agency, and ease of citizen input are also part of the scope.

On the local front: Your local League has a Diversity/Outreach Committee that has been active for over a year. Last March a wonderful presentation about barriers to belonging was held at Roseville City Hall. On November 16th another general meeting will be held at Little Canada City Hall. The subject will be Diversity's Hidden Issues: Barriers to K-12 Education. We hope this forum will be as well attended as our first one. Please join us in listening to the people in the trenches in our schools.

Holiday party – Please join us at Axel's on December 7th for our annual holiday get-together. See the Menu Tear-off on page 6.

Barb Lehn
Teri Kysylyczyn
Co-Presidents



Windows and Mirrors for All ~ ~

Thanks????

By Florence Sprague

Calendar of Events 2005-2006

- Nov. 8 Election Day
- Nov. 16 General meeting
Diversity (Little
Canada)
- Nov. 30 Board meeting/Voter
deadline
- Dec. 7 Holiday party
- Dec. 28 Voter deadline
- Jan. 17 Evening Unit Meeting/
Lively Issues
- Jan. 18 Daytime Unit Meeting/
Lively Issues
- Jan. 25 Board Meeting/Voter
deadline
- Feb. 21 Unit Meeting
- Feb. 22 Unit Meeting/
Board Meeting/Voter
deadline
- Mar. 18 CMAL Quarterly
Meeting
- Mar. 21 Evening Unit Meeting
- Mar. 22 Daytime Unit Meeting
- Mar. 29 Board Meeting/Voter
deadline
- Apr. 16 Easter
- Apr. 18 Evening Unit Meeting
- Apr. 19 Daytime Unit Meeting

I recently attended a workshop on education issues for Native American students in Minnesota schools. One word the speaker used stuck with me as symbolic of the challenges facing all whose ancestors did not arrive across the no longer extant land bridge from Asia thousands (?) of years ago: “Thankstaking.”

Thanksgiving is one of the most universal and beloved of holidays in the United States. It transcends most religious and cultural boundaries, and while some find the gluttony offensive and others find the football boring or the relatives incompatible, virtually everyone can find a way to celebrate on the fourth Thursday in November.

Everyone except those Native Americans who have found no way to assuage the pain of the loss of land, independence, and cultural dignity their peoples have experienced. For them the story of the Pilgrims may represent not the beginning of a heritage, but the beginning of the end of one.

Sometimes intentional, sometimes just viral, but always tragic, the influx of European immigrants led to the destruction of dozens, perhaps hundreds, of Native American tribes. Too often the legacy left to today’s Native Americans is poverty, racism, alcoholism and diabetes, and choices limited by cultural imperialism.

Is this unique? Not exactly. Since time immemorial one group of people has overrun the territory of another, dynasties have risen and fallen. But the planet has become more densely populated, knowledge has grown and technologies have improved, and the wealth and longevity of this country have given to today’s Americans the luxury and burden of conscience. It is not hard to see that such changes are far less than right and inevitable.

Columbus Day is another holiday of questionable taste. To Italian-Americans it is a day of honor and celebration. To Native Americans it is a day of mourning and anger. Columbus may or may not have been a great explorer and a brave man, but he did not “discover” North America in any absolute sense. He may have learned a route between Gibraltar and the Caribbean and brought knowledge of North America to a wider group of



Europeans, but he did not discover it any more than Marco Polo “discovered” China.

We cannot undo the past. We can acknowledge how our good fortune has come at great cost to others. On November 24, and all year long, give thanks with humility, not hubris.

Ideas for weekend reading:

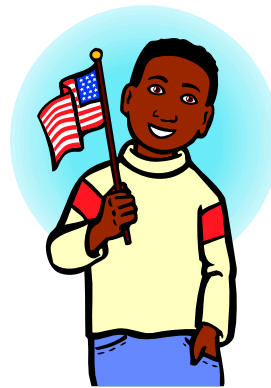
Indian Givers, by Jack Weatherford

Guns, Germs and Steel, by Jared Diamond

On the Rez, by Ian Frazier

On a lighter note, try the fiction of Sherman Alexie.

- Apr. 23 Book Sale (tentative)
- Apr. 26 Board Meeting/ Voter deadline
- May ? Annual Meeting
- May 16 Evening Unit Meeting
- May 17 Daytime Unit Meeting
- May 24 Joint Board Meeting
- June 9-13 LWVUS Convention
in Minneapolis
- June 26 Rosefest
- June 28 Board Calendar
Planning Meeting



American’s Newest Citizens Need Our Help!

Judy Stuthman needs volunteers to help register as voters the 1200 new citizens at the Citizenship Ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 9th. Governor Pawlenty will be the guest speaker at the event. We’d really like to show the Governor how hard the ROMAFH League works to register new citizens so they will be able to exercise their new rights to vote!

Here are the details:

**Wednesday, Nov. 9th
Minneapolis Convention Center
8:30 to 11:00 (when ceremony starts)**

So far, we have only two volunteers signed up. Please consider whether you can spare any amount of time that morning for this important event. If you can, call Judy Stuthman at 651-644-8588. Every one of the 1200 new citizens will thank you.



Announcements

📣 **Minnesota LWV moves back to the Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street, by Nov. 1st.** Phones should be operating by 11/1, but email may be down until 11/4. Thanks for your patience.

📣 **Are We Investing Enough in Our Children's Education?** Nov. 16th, 9:30-11am at the Shoreview Community Center, 4600 Victoria St. N. (at Hwy 96). **Mary Cecconi**, lobbyist for the Parents' United Network, and **Lori Grivna**, Mounds View School Board, will speak. LWV members and the public are invited and are welcome to attend this free event

📣 **Polls will be open** from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm on Tuesday, November 8, 2005 for the general election. Get our and vote for city council and/or school board races in your ROMAFH community.

The People Speak 2005

Building a Safer World: Defining the US-UN Relationship for the 21st Century

Thursday, November 17

Reception: 6-7 pm

Presentation and Discussion: 7-8:30pm

University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus -- Continuing Education Conference Center
1890 Buford Avenue South, St. Paul, MN 55108

BUILDING A SAFER WORLD AND THE ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY MAKING

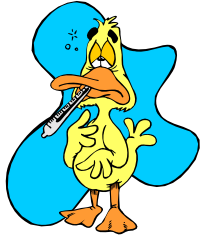
The impacts of high profile natural disasters like the tsunami in Sri Lanka or Hurricane Katrina in the U.S.A. are compounded by pre-existing environmental damage.

How does environmental policy interact with preparedness and response to disaster? What are the effects on the people, economy, and social services in our shared global world? How can environmental policy be shaped and integrated into development policy to mitigate damage from natural disasters?

What types of international environmental norms would facilitate planning for disaster preparedness and response? How can we as nations strive to integrate environmental policy with economic and development activities?

The event is sponsored by LWVMNEF and Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Speakers will include:

- Fatimata Moroh Diakite, Niger *Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow on Policy as Cause*
- Sarath Jayamanne, Sri Lanka *Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow on Policy as Response*
- Sanjay Kundu, India *Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow on Policy as Preparation*
- Robert Munson, Director, Emergency Services *Minneapolis Red Cross* international humanitarian disaster relief efforts from the U.S. perspective
- Professor Elizabeth Wilson, *Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs* on Integration of Policy Perspectives



Members Who Are Not Feeling Their Best

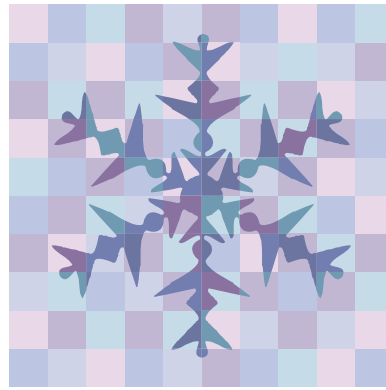
Mary Ann Palmer
 2479 Brenner St.
 Roseville, MN 55113-1002
 651/633-8140

Lila Recksiedler
 3104 N. Victoria
 Roseville, MN 55113-1936
 651/484-7782

Michael Garelick
 [Laura French's partner]
 2720 Oxford St N
 Roseville, MN 55113-2010
 (651) 229-0961

In this column, we are hoping to note the contact information for ROMAFH League members and their family members who are recovering from injury or illness and would likely appreciate a note or a quick phone call. Please contact either Tammy Pust (651/484-2573) or Laura French (651/229-0961) with any names you'd like included in this column in the future.

Thanks.



Please join us for the ROMAFH

2005 HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, December 7th
5:30 Social Time/6:30 Dinner

Axel's Charhouse, Roseville Radisson
 2540 N Cleveland Ave

Please make your menu choices below, cut this out and send it to Faith O'Neill, 2551 Fry Street, Roseville, with your check for the exact amount made out to Axel's. Faith must receive your check by December 1st in order to finalize the numbers with Axels; cancellations after that date can't be honored.

<u>Menu Choices:</u>	<u>✓ Check Your Choice</u>
8 oz Sirloin Steak	\$28.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
MN Walleye	\$28.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Fresh Tomato Basil Primavera	\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/>

Each entrée will include choice of baked or mashed potato, Caesar salad and a dessert. All beverages (coffee, tea, cold drinks or bar drinks) are extra. Gratuity is included in the prices above.

Please bring a donation for the Maplewood Family Service Center (new books, games, dolls, diapers (3-6), bottles, clothes, etc. for infants or children, or CD players, handheld games, etc., for teens). A check would be appreciated as well.

Questions? Faith O'Neill (633-7391) or Ann Berry (484-4502).



Treasurer's Report for October 2005

Previous Checking Balance, September 28, 2005	<u>\$2,294.23</u>
Income:	
Trash and Treasure Sale	\$263.39
Dues, 1 @ \$50	\$50.00
Transfer from LWVMNEF for Power of 3 donation	\$500.00
Total Income:	<u>\$813.39</u>
Expenses:	
#4045 Ann Berry, Prog./ Membership expenses	\$28.41
#4046 LWVMNEF Power of 3 donation	\$500.00
#4047 Diane Nystrom, Voter printing and postage	\$83.71
Total Expenses:	<u>\$612.12</u>
Balance on October 24, 2005	<u>\$2,495.50</u>
Fund Balances:	
Checking	\$2,495.50
Savings	\$3,806.99
Education Fund	\$3,131.12
Paid Members: 91 [3 families of 2, 84 individuals, 1 student]	



Court News

President Bush's second nomination (the first, John Roberts, Jr., was elevated to the Chief Justice spot) to fill the vacated seat of retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, White House Counsel Harriet Miers, withdrew her name from nomination last week.

On October 31, 2005, President Bush nominated Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Samuel A. Alito Jr. to replace retired Justice O'Connor.



There is GOOD NEWS and BAD NEWS -- Good news for one of our loyal LWV members, and BAD NEWS for us!

Bob Waterman has accepted a job in Washington, D.C. with the U.S. Department of Labor to begin about December 1, 2005. He joined our LWV 6 or 7 years ago and has held a committee or board position each year, currently being responsible for public relations. Bob first served on the local committee of the LWVMN study 1998-99 CHOOSING MINNESOTA'S JUDGES, and as an attorney was an invaluable member of that committee. He next chaired the committee which planned our 50th Anniversary celebration, a splendidly successful event. He has helped with registering voters at citizenship ceremonies in recent years, and has been generous with his time, talents and dollars!!!

We will miss him very much, and hope that he becomes active in the LWV of Washington, D.C. and possibly LWVUS!!

Best wishes to Bob Waterman in his newest endeavor!!!

Name:	_____
Address:	_____
Email address:	_____
I want to receive the VOTER by	<input type="checkbox"/> mail -- <input type="checkbox"/> email

The League of Women Voters of Saint Paul (LWVSP)'s Fall 2005 series of monthly Member Meet-ups continues with the topic of "African American Race Relations" featuring **Josie Johnson and Katie McWatt**, formerly of the Minnesota Council for Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of many organizations and churches working for passage by the legislature of human rights legislation, particularly fair housing. They will talk about their goals and aspirations in the early days of the civil rights movement and evaluate the state of human rights today, given the current climate. The event will take place on **Wednesday, November 9, at 5:30 pm**. There is no charge, and all members of the public are invited to attend.

Topic: "African American Race Relations"

Featuring: Josie Johnson and Katie McWatt, former designated lobbyists for the Minnesota Council for Civil and Human Rights

Date and Time: Wednesday, November 9, 5:30–7:00pm
(Please note the time change for this event.)

Location: Mississippi Market, 622 Selby Avenue, at Dale Street, in the upstairs Community Room. There is a deli in the Market where a light dinner can be purchased and brought upstairs. Please park in the overflow lot, across Hague Ave.

PLEASE RETURN TODAY!
Fill this out and send it back to Diane Nystrom at 996 Glen Paul Ct, Shoreview, MN 55126

League of Women Voters of Roseville,
Maplewood and Falcon Heights
November 2005 VOTER
Diane Nystrom,
VOTER Mailing Coordinator
996 Glen Paul Court
Shoreview, MN 55126