



# The Voter

A Publication by the League of Women  
Voters of Ames, IA  
Annual Report Special Edition

## Call to Annual Meeting

April 23, 2005

Brunch at 9:00 a.m.

Green Hills Retirement Community

Cost is \$6.00.

Call in your reservations or e-mail Martha Isaacson at  
292-5233 or misaacso@iastate.edu.

We need to know how many are coming!

**PLEASE BRING A COPY OF THIS ANNUAL  
REPORT WITH YOU**

## From the Co-Presidents

### CO-PRESIDENTS REPORT

It's been a pleasure to work with the Ames League, especially the board of directors, this year. You have made an impressive record, and one that is very gratifying to review. We are proud to be Iowa's largest League in Iowa's far-from-largest city.

Please take time to read each one of the enclosed reports. In addition to those here are some additional year's highlights from the Co-Presidents perspective

- The new board enjoyed the outgoing board's hospitality at a salad supper and meeting, where each outgoing member mentored his/her successor.
- We are grateful for Judie Hoffman who keeps us informed on legislative issues. We again benefited from having our state lobbyist as a local member.
- Jane Greimann and Selva Lehman represented our League at the first biannual LWVIA Council in Cedar Rapids.
- Jeannette Bohnenkamp and Selva Lehman represented our League at the LWVUS Convention in Washington, D.C., and lobbied our congressional representatives while we were there. It was a good opportunity to learn about new programs and resources to use locally.

- The board had a full day retreat to review, brainstorm and plan for the year's activities
- Jeannette and Selva attended Presidents' training in Cedar Falls, and came back inspired.
- Members were invited to attend the LWVUS President Kay Maxwell presentation at the Catt Center. Several of us were privileged to meet her.
- Several members attended the Issues Briefing in West Des Moines.
- At the general meeting in November, Mary Richards a local member of the Sentence Reform State Study explained the proposed position. We accepted the proposal by consensus, as did all the other leagues in the state.
- We were proud that The Tribune published three editorials written by an Iowa LWV member, and for which the League was given credit.
- Our annual Program Planning meeting yielded good proposals for new studies. The Board will recommend, at Annual Meeting, that we do a study update on Story County Hospital (now Story County Medical Center) for 2005-2006.
- We lobbied to retain and strengthen the Bottle Bill by contacting grocers, legislators and writing a letter to the editor of the Tribune.
- The LWV Lobby Day at the Capitol was well attended and members of the Catt Associates joined League members. Lunch with our legislators gave us a chance to share the League's positions in various issues.
- We are delighted and honored that Catt Associates will have a representative to the League general meetings who would then report back to the student group and help to inform them about issues. The person elected to be the liaison for the rest of the semester is Kelly Larsen a senior in child and family services who has a strong interest in public policy.
- Together with the Metro Des Moines LWV we introduced "Liberty Circles" discussion groups. We are thankful to Stephanie Fawkes-Lee, President of the Metro-Des Moines League for bringing us this program, and the Ames Public Library for offering meeting space for future discussions.

*Continued on page 2*

# League Information

- We are busy planning to host the LWVIA Convention next month.
- We continue to hold discussion through the Book Club, observe government meetings, put out "Vote Tuesday Signs"
- We are looking forward to receive the report from the Living Wage Study Group who is finalizing their study and plan to bring it for action of the Leagues' membership at the coming June meeting.
- We celebrate that thank to the hard work of the Finance Committee we had a very successful Finance Drive.

Jeannette Bohnenkamp and Selva Lehman  
Co-Presidents

## PROPOSED BUDGET, 2005-2006

	Budget	Proposed Budget
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>
<i>Dues</i>	\$6,200.00	\$6,200.00
<i>Contributions</i>		
Member		
Nonmember		
Subtotal	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<i>Other</i>		
Interest	\$10.00	\$10.00
Ed Fund*	\$1,710.00	\$1,602.00
Dinners	\$250.00	\$250.00
From Beg. Cash Balance-LWV	\$500.00	\$392.00
From Beg. Cash Balance-EF		\$1,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$10,470.00</b>	<b>\$11,254.00</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
<i>Board and Administration</i>		
President	\$100.00	\$100.00
Treasurer	\$100.00	\$150.00
Misc. Board Expenses	\$50.00	\$50.00
<i>Administrative Committees</i>		
Finance	\$150.00	\$150.00
Membership	\$50.00	\$100.00
Publicity	\$30.00	30.00
<i>Delegates &amp; Travel</i>		
State Convention/Council	\$500.00	\$250.00
National Convention	\$1,385.00	\$2,700.00
Regional Workshops	\$0.00	\$75.00

<i>Other Meetings</i>	\$25.00	\$25.00
<i>Financial Support for the League</i>		
National PMP		
Local Account	\$2,000.00	\$1,332.00
EF Account*	\$600.00	\$1,332.00
State PMP		
Local Account	\$2,700.00	\$2,520.00
EF Account*	\$300.00	\$280.00
<i>Bulletins</i>		
VOTER	\$500.00	\$500.00
Membership Directory*	\$100.00	\$80.00
Web Page*	\$160.00	\$160.00
<i>Educational Activities</i>		
Publications	\$10.00	\$10.00
Study Groups	\$100.00	\$100.00
Observer Corps	\$10.00	\$10.00
Voter Service*	\$300.00	\$500.00
Local LWV Meetings	\$100.00	\$100.00
<i>Position Support</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Other</i>		
Dinners	\$150.00	\$150.00
Legislative Forums	\$150.00	\$150.00
Scholarships*	\$250.00	\$250.00
Awards	\$150.00	\$150.00
<i>Transfer of Final Cash Balance</i>	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$10,470.00</b>	<b>\$11,254.00</b>
*see EF		

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF AMES

### PROPOSED EDUCATION FUND BUDGET, 2005-2006

<b>INCOME</b>		
Member/Nonmember	\$1,602.00	
From Beg. Cash Balance	\$1,000.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$2,602.00</b>
<b>\$1,710.00</b>		

<b>EXPENSE</b>		
National PMP	\$600.00	\$1,332.00
State PMP	\$300.00	\$280.00
Membership Directory	\$100.00	\$80.00
Web Page	\$160.00	\$160.00
Voter Service	\$300.00	\$500.00
Scholarships	\$250.00	\$250.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$1,710.00</b>	<b>\$2,602.00</b>

## Annual Reports

### Nominating Committee

Clayton Swenson, Betty Johnson and Jane Greimann report that the following LWV members of Ames members have accepted nominations for office, for two-year terms unless indicated otherwise:

Co Presidents-Elect:	no nomination
Secretary:	Martha Isaacson for a one-year extension (to 2006)
Treasurer:	Jackie Manatt
Publicity:	Jeri Prescott
Observer Corps:	Betty Johnson
Nominating 2005-2006:	Jane Greimann and Mary Richards

The Nominating Committee regrets that they were unable to locate a candidate or candidates for the President(s)-Elect position. A common concern from those contacted was that this position and the position of President(s), as stated in the job descriptions, undoubtedly would require more time than was available.

The Committee (swensonc@iastate.edu, epjohn2000@yahoo.com, Jgreimann@aol.com) would like to hear from anyone who is interested in this position, or who has a suggestion (approved by the candidate), so that a nomination for (co) President(s) Elect may be submitted from the floor at the General Meeting.

Submitted by Nominating Committee 2004-2005

*Clayton Swenson  
Betty Johnson  
Jane Greiman*

### Annual Publicity Report

Notices of general meetings, meetings that LWV sponsored, candidate forums, and legislative wake-ups were sent to local news media. The Tribune and Ames Life & Times (Thursday supplement in the Des Moines Register) have published information prior to events and have sent reporters to cover some events. KASI radio has been sent information. Jeannette Bohnenkamp notified a number of local organizations about the February meeting and even more organizations were notified about the March meeting on Liberty Circles. Publicity information on meetings and forums was also sent to the ISU Daily. Publicity information on all meetings and forums of interest outside of Ames was sent to the Nevada Journal and the Tri County Times.

Clippings of articles, which mention League and its activities over the last few years, were taken to the Iowa State Library Archives and copied in summer, 2004. A special thank you to all Board members who gave information to the media and/or collected clippings when I was out of town.

*Jeri Prescott*

### Legislative Action

A forum was held December 3, 2004 to present the League's priorities for the 2005 session to the Story County legislators. The forum was held at and cosponsored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Center. A number of students participated and asked about issues they had been researching. Senator Herman Quirnbach and Representatives Lisa Heddens, Jim Kurtenbach and Beth Wessel-Kroeschell attended. Senator Stewart Iverson was unable to attend. League issues were presented by Mary Richards, Sandra McJimsey, Ann Campbell and Jane Halliburton. After discussion, the legislators were asked to support the priority issues: restoration of voting rights to felons who have completed their prison terms; mental health parity; open government and sufficient notice for committee meetings; and opposition to a constitutional amendment that would require a referendum for certain revenue increases. There was good discussion and, while there was not universal support for the League positions, there was at least partial support for most.

Three Legislative Wake Up forums were held during the 2005 session. Saturday mornings continue to be a good time and there was good attendance by legislators and their constituents. All of the local legislators participated. The Ames Branch of the American Association of University Women and the Carrie Chapman Catt Center again cosponsored the forums. The public presented wide ranges of issues and the discussion among the legislators was lively.

*Tom Jackson*

### The VOTER Newsletter

This year The Voter went through some visual changes. Due to the cost savings, e-mailing the newsletter has become a significant way for the League to save money. The format was changed in order to send the newsletter via e-mail and make it still look like a newsletter, as well as be able to print out hard copies.

An additional feature was added to the newsletter called "Meet a Member." This was done to create a more personal feel to the newsletter and to give the members the opportunity to get to know one another. We have begun this section featuring the board members; however, once we have featured the board members we will begin featuring general members.

The VOTER is currently e-mailed to 95 current members, the board members of the League of Women Voters of Iowa, and approximately 15 additional individuals a month who are being recruited to join or who have made contributions to the Ames League. Additionally, 25 hard copies are mailed to individuals who do not have e-mail access. The newsletter is also posted on the League's website available at <http://ames.ia.lwvnet.org/>.

*Julie Snyder-Yuly*

## VOTER SERVICE

This year's experience with Voter Service was especially interesting because a new project was added to the mix as well as being a presidential election year. "Make Democracy Happen Vote Nov. 2" was a new banner hung across Main Street between Oct. 21 - Nov. 2 that LWV of Ames with New Voters Project, a non-partisan effort on ISU campus to engage young people in our democracy through voter registration, education and voting, did together. The banner can be used year after year because the letters and numbers can be removed and new ones added. This coming fall we will join with Ames Chamber of Commerce in the banner project.

We joined with Ames Chamber of Commerce, notably Kori Heuss, to organize and plan three candidates' forums. The first one was held on August 23 and was the School Board Candidates Forum. Jane Acker, Pat Brown and Mike Murray were the candidates. Miriam Patterson, LWV of Ames member, served on the questioning panel.

The next forum was for State Candidates and included Tracy Runkel & Jim Kurtenbach (District 10), Beth Wessel-Kroeschell & Randy Woodbury (District 45) and Lisa Heddens & Eric Cooper (District 46) on October 18. Ann Campbell, LWV of Ames member, served as Moderator and Mary Richards, another League member, was on the questioning panel.

The last forum was the County Candidates forum and Jim Hutter & Mary Mosiman ran for County Auditor and Paul Fitzgerald and Terry Stark ran for County Sheriff. This was held on Oct. 25. Jackie Manatt, LWV of Ames member, asked questions from the panel of three persons. All of the forums were held in the City Council Chambers with Channel 16 live coverage with rebroadcasts later.

We tried to get a candidates forum with Congressman Tom Latham and Paul Johnson, running for U.S. Congressional House seat. But, Latham would only agree to meet with Johnson on Iowa Press forum on IPTV.

A Voter education event at the Ames public library was planned by Judy Dolphin and Barbara Munson, Membership Chairs, at which Voter Service was also involved. Karla Hocker and Judy Schlotter, new LWV members, helped with voter registration that afternoon. Mary Mosiman brought a voter machine to give new voters an opportunity to try it out. Before the General Election, several League members agreed to register people to vote at the public library in October. They were Faith and Doug Finnemore, Etha Hutchcroft, Betty Johnson, David Sahr and Clayton Swenson. Thanks to everyone who helped with voter service this past year! It was greatly appreciated!

Peggy Baum updated the Political Directories and Voter Guides. They are distributed in various places in the county and city and the website also carries it.

*Ruth Jones and Peggy Baum*

## WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR LWVIA CONVENTION

Do you like short-term tasks? If so, we have some opportunities for you. Ames LWV is hosting state convention in mid-May and we would like someone to design the convention booklet cover. Also, we will need decorations for about 10 tables. If you have an ounce of creativity you'd like to share, call Jeannette Bohnenkamp at 232-3480.

# Approved change of wording as to Board positions and Quorum

Voted at November 2004 Board meeting to be presented to Annual meeting

## CURRENT BY-LAWS

Article IV, Sec. 1. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League, six elected directors and not more than six appointed directors. One-half shall be elected by the general membership at each annual meeting. The term of office of all elected directors shall be two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year, and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.

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Sec. 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

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Article V, Sec. 1 (Officers) Sec. 1. Enumeration and Election.

The officers of the League of Women Voters of Ames shall be a President who shall be elected for a one-year or two-year term determined by his/her choice at the time of nomination for President. If the President is elected for a one-year term, there shall be a President-Elect who shall be elected for a one-year term. If the President is elected for a two-year term, the President-Elect office will be vacant for the first year with a President-Elect elected for the second year. Each of the offices of President and/or President-Elect may be filled by two persons, who would be called Co-Presidents and/or Co-Presidents-Elect. Other officers shall be a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected for terms of two years with the Secretary to be elected in even numbered years and the Vice President and the Treasurer to be elected in odd numbered years. Officers will be elected at the Annual Meeting and take office immediately, with the exception of the Treasurer, whose term of office will be concurrent with the fiscal year.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Amended Article IV, Sec. 1. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers and/or co-officers of the League, elected directors and/or co-directors, and appointed directors, up to sixteen persons. One-half of the elected positions shall be elected by the general membership at each annual meeting. The term of office of all elected directors shall be two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. Each of the elected director positions may be filled by two persons who would be called co-directors. The elected director positions shall include Legislative Action, Voter Editor, Membership, Voter Service, Publicity, Finance, and Observer Corps. The elected Board members shall appoint such additional directors as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual meeting. At the option of the board, an elected director and appointed director may serve as co-directors for a given committee.

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Sec. 6. Quorum. Representatives of a majority of the elected board positions shall constitute a quorum. For purposes of quorum, the presence of one of the co-officers or co-directors shall be counted as the position being represented. Each elected officer and director, including co-officers and co-directors, and each appointed director may vote in decisions of the Board.

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Amended Article V, Sec. 1 (Officers) Sec. 1 Enumeration and Election.

The officers of the League of Women Voters of Ames shall be a President, a Vice President and/or President-Elect, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The President of the League of Women Voters of Ames shall be elected for a one-year or two-year term determined by his/her choice at the time of nomination for President. When the President is elected for a one-year term, a President-Elect shall be elected for a one-year term. When the President is elected for a two-year term, a Vice President shall be elected for the first year and a President-Elect elected for the second year. Two persons, who would be called Co-Presidents, Co-Vice Presidents and/or Co-Presidents-Elect, may fill each of the offices of President, Vice-President and/or President-Elect. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected for terms of two years with the Secretary to be elected in even numbered years and the Treasurer to be elected in odd numbered years. Officers will be elected at the Annual meeting and take office immediately, with the exception of the Treasurer, whose term of office shall be concurrent with the fiscal year.

League of Women Voters of Ames  
4037 Fletcher Boulevard  
Ames, IA 50014  
Co-Presidents:  
Jeanette Bohnenkamp  
Selva Lehman  
Voter Editor: Julie Snyder-Yuly

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The 2005 Political Directories and Voter Guides have been distributed to the Ames Public Library, City Hall, Story County Auditor's office and many other places around town. It is also on LWV of Ames website which is [www.ames.ia.lwvnet.org](http://www.ames.ia.lwvnet.org)