



The Voter

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Ames

March 2007

Editors Julie Snyder-Yuly and Marisa Stadlman

From the Co-President

Our March 15th General Meeting for the League of Women Voters will be focused on immigration and learning more about the League's involvement in the current National Study for the League of Women Voters. Since many groups in the Ames area are also studying this topic of immigration, we hope to have others join us for this meeting. The meeting will be held at Northminster Presbyterian Church at 7:30PM. We encourage everyone to come and bring others who might be interested in this very important current issue.

We also want to remind members to attend the next Legislative Wake -Up Forum at City Hall on March 17, 2007, in the Ames City Council Chambers. Social time is at 8:30AM and broadcast will be from 8:45-10AM. Please come and continue to support this very important forum. We encourage our members to continue to ask our legislators about the issues we have identified in our legislative priorities. Remember the LWV motto is, "Study without action is futile; action without study is fatal."

In the future months, the Ames League of Women voters will be involved with the Ready to Run Campaign along with the Carrie Chapman Catt Center. This event will be held on June 1, 2007, at the Scheman Center. More information will be sent out closer to the event time.

We will hold our annual meeting brunch on April 28, 2007 at Green Hills, from 9-11 AM. Mark your calendars now. More information will be coming about this.

Please note that the March 15 program has been changed from "Update on Story County Hospital Local Study" listed in your program booklet to "Immigration 101". This change has occurred for

two reasons. While the SCMC update added new information, the position remained the same and a report on the decision to build a new facility is still under discussion. Meanwhile, the timeline for the LWVUS Immigration study has been moved forward and our local league is eager to try and understand this complex issue.

We hope you all can attend these upcoming events.

Randi Peters, Co-President

Calendar

General Meeting

March 15, 2007 (Thursday)

7:30 p.m.

Immigration 101

Northminster Presbyterian Church, Fireplace Room

Legislative Wake-Up

March 17, 2007 (Saturday)

8:30 a.m. Social Time

8:45 a.m. Forum and Broadcast

Ames City Council Chambers

Book Club

March 28, 2007 (Wednesday)

1:30 p.m.

Overthrow by Steven Kinzer led by Nancy Brown,

at the home of Frances Smith 2159 Country Club

Blvd

Board Meeting

April 5, 2007 (Thursday)

7:00 pm at the home of Selva Lehman

Annual Meeting

April 28, 2007 (Saturday)

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Green Hills Retirement Community

March General Meeting - Immigration 101

How can someone immigrate to the United States? How do you become a green card holder? Permanent resident? Can an international person get a visa to legally work here? Who can apply for a student visa? Answers to these questions can be had by coming to the March general meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2007 at 7:30 PM at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, Fireplace Room, 1416 20th Street, Ames.

Deborah Vance, program coordinator in the International Students and Scholars office at ISU , will present a program on the basics of immigration, thus answering some of these questions.

With the national LWV undertaking a two year study of immigration, we need to understand what are the requirements that need to be met and the problems that are encountered in the immigration process. The Ames LWV will be involved in the national consensus process. Please consider volunteering to participate in the local study.

Immigration has gained in importance as an issue that needs a government solution. Let us seek an understanding of immigration rules, regulations and problems, so as an informed electorate we can lobby for the best solution.

Call to LWV of Ames Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 28
9 - 11 AM
Green Hills Retirement Community

Brunch: \$9.00
Reservations: Barbara Munson
amesmunson@aol.com
232-5077

Summer workshop will prep potential political candidates

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University received a grant from the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Center for American Women and Politics, at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, to bring it's trademarked 'Ready to Run' Campaign: Training for Women' to Iowa. The League of Women Voters of Ames will provide some additional support, and is cosponsoring the event with the Catt Center. Sharon Wirth and Martha Isaacson represent the LWV on the planning committee.

The Ready to Run Campaign workshop is a comprehensive bipartisan campaign training workshop for people seeking public office for the first time, politicians desiring to run for higher office and citizens interested in working on a campaign. Participants will be given information on the basics of Iowa party politics, filing for candidacy, organizing campaigns, raising money and media outreach.

Thirteen hundred Iowa women received notice of the program when a save-the-date postcard was sent out in mid February.

The workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on June 1, 2007, at the Scheman Center at Iowa State University. Enrollment fee for the workshop will be \$75, but the Catt Center and Ames League are expecting to make some scholarships available.

While targeted toward women, the June 1 workshop is open to potential candidates and campaign workers of both sexes. If the program is well received, the Catt Center and LWV of Ames will look at offering this workshop annually.

Additional information and registration forms are available by calling 515-294-3181 or at our website: www.las.iastate.edu/CattCenter/readytorun.shtml

Lobby Day – 2007

This year Lobby Day was held on Wednesday February 14 and seven members of the LWV of Ames attended and met with several area legislators. Those attending were Sandra McJimsey, Jan Beran, Jeannette Bohnenkamp, Barbara Gwiasda, Lauris Olson, Nancy Brown and Martha Isaacson. The morning program began with an update from Judie Hoffman, LWV Lobbyist, followed by presentations from numerous Legislators. These presentations included Election Reforms update by Rep. Pam Jochum, Dubuque, Chair of House state Government Committee; Paper Trail for Electronic Voting Machines by Linda Langenberg, Deputy Secretary of State; water Issues by Rep. Donovan Olson, Boone, chair of House Environmental Protection Committee; and Prospects for League Priorities in the Current Legislature by Rep. Lisa Heddens, Ames, Assistant House Majority Leader.

Following the presentations in the morning, the League members went to the capital and met several area legislators over lunch. Hearing from Rep. Lisa Heddens and Rep. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell was especially heartening. These two LWV of Ames women members are working in critically important positions in the legislature on issues the LWV supports. One surprise was to learn that Iowa's container deposit law is likely to be revamped (repealed?) in the coming year or two. In the mean time Wessel-Kroeschell expects to submit and anticipates passage of an increase in the handling fee.

We were especially pleased to meet with our new Rep. Dave Deyoe. We were pleased to hear that he is supportive of requiring septic tank inspection at the time of property transfer but disappointed that he did not believe that Clean Elections would work in Iowa partly due to the Iowa Caucus bringing funds and a spot light on our candidates.

Senator Herman Quirnbach presented the LWV with a signed copy of a proclamation recognizing the League's Birthday and thanking the LWV for the gift of the original web site which lists all legislative activities and bills.

New Website is up and Running

Our League has moved to a new website that gives us more flexibility and is easier to manage. Please visit it at <http://www.ameslww.org>

Within the next few weeks we will add additional content that will help people to connect with other resources to keep informed on League issues at the local, state and national levels.

If you have suggestions please contact our webmaster, Selva Lehman, at 232-5571 or by e-mail selvarl@mchsi.com.

Political Directory Coming Soon

The new edition of our Political Directory is being printed and copies will be mailed shortly to all those that receive The VOTER. You will be able to view it and unload it at our new website <http://www.ameslww.org>

Legislative Wake-Up

The Ames League of Women Voters will hold the third of its 2007 Legislative Wake-Up Forums on Saturday, March 17, in the city council chambers at Ames City Hall, 515 Clark Ave. Coffee, tea, juice and rolls will be available at 8:30 a.m. The forum will be begin at 8:45 a.m. and is scheduled to end at 10 a.m.

The forum will be broadcast live on Cable Channel 12 and rebroadcast the next week on Cable Channel 16. Reaction panelist will be Iowa League of Women Voters lobbyist Judie Hoffman.

Approximately 50 minutes will be allocated for audience questions and comments.

League of Women Voters of Ames
4037 Fletcher Boulevard
Ames, IA 50014
Co-Presidents:
Joyce Hertz
Randi Peterson

**READY TO RUN™: CAMPAIGN
TRAINING FOR WOMEN
Friday, June 1, 2007
8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.
Scheman Center, Iowa State University**



Anyone considering seeking public office, running for higher office or working on a campaign will want to attend this one-day workshop.

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics and the League of Women Voters of Ames is offering a comprehensive, bi-partisan campaign training workshop for candidates:

Learn about...

- Confronting stereotypes
- Putting together your campaign
- Raising money for campaigns
- Conquering the camera
- Crashing the parties

For more information about *Ready to Run*™, or to get registration materials, please visit our website at www.las.iastate.edu/CattCenter or contact Julie Snyder-Yuly at 515-294-3181 or cattcntr@iastate.edu