

# The Voter

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Ames, IA  
 Web-site: <http://www.ameslww.org>

## October 2008

### From the President

October is the League of Women Voters' month. Most elections may be held in November, but October is the month for us when we shift our voter services into overdrive.

The number of calls and e-mails inviting us to partner on candidate forums and in voter registration drives with various social and civic groups began to rise in September. Your board had anticipated that we might be approached several times, so this summer we decided to limit the number of events and activities.

Our busy October gets underway Friday, Oct. 3, and Saturday, Oct. 4, with a voter registration drive at Borders Books, 1200 S, Duff, in conjunction with their special Salute to Educators observance. I might have declined the invitation were it not for how

Borders employee Teresa Larson presented the request.

"I know there are a lot of groups out there registering voters, but they all seem to be partisan", Larson said to me. "These are teachers and we wanted them to get an opportunity to register without pressure about one candidate or party or another. I know that means I need to get the League."

We switch next to debate watching, although we may offer some more voter registration opportunities later in the month if the board approves a request to provide volunteers for a registration booth at the Ames Public Library.



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### General Election - November 4, 2008 - Polls Open 7 am to 9 pm

Remember that you will be voting not just for presidential candidates but there are other issues on the ballot.

For more information please go to the Story County General Election Information at

<http://www.storycounty.com/index.aspx?DN=3618,53,50,6,1,Documents>



You will find links ...

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### Mark Your Calendar for October

- October 11 Saturday** **LWVIA Fall Issues Workshop**  
 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Newton, Iowa  
 Newton Inn, 2000 West 18th Street South.
- October 16 Thursday** **1:00 p.m. General Meeting**  
 Mary Greeley Medical Center Rm.  
 LWVUS item: "Health Care Reform"
- October 20 Monday** **7:00 p.m. Candidates' Forum**  
 Iowa General Assembly Candidates  
 Ames City Council Chambers
- October 27 Monday** **7:00 p.m. Candidates' Forum**  
 Candidates for County Office  
 Ames City Council Chambers
- October 29 Wednesday** **Book Club - The good German** by Joseph Kannon.  
 Frances Smith hostess, 2159 Country Club Blvd.
- November 4 Tuesday** **GENERAL ELECTION**  
 Remember to vote!

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(Continued from page 1) *President*

The Ames League of Women Voters will join with the YWCA Ames- ISU and the Carrie Chapman Catt Center to host the Oct. 7 presidential debate in Room 2121 at Martin Hall on the Iowa State University campus. The debate starts at 8 p.m., but we encourage everyone to get there a bit early.

I will be asking our board to provide snacks for Oct. 7. The YWCA will bring the beverages. We have also been asked to provide a few leaders for the post-debate small discussion groups. We will be using the national League of Women Voters debate notebook form for viewers to take notes during the debate.

Contact me at 451-7293 or [President@ameslwy.org](mailto:President@ameslwy.org) if you would like to join the fun and what I am sure will be lively discussion to follow.

The Catt Center has also arranged for Room 2121 in Martin Hall to be available for a debate watch during the Oct. 15 presidential debate.

On Monday, Oct. 20, and again on Monday, Oct. 27, the Ames League joins with the Ames Chamber of Commerce to present local candidate forums.

Our state legislative candidates for Iowa House Districts 10, 45 and 46 will take questions and talk about the issues at 7 p.m. on Oct. 20. County office candidates will do the same at 7 p.m. on Oct. 20.

Both forums will take place in the Ames City Council chambers at Ames City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

While we were hoping to sponsor a fourth forum this election year, the candidates for Iowa's Fourth Congressional District had other plans.

The Ames League of Women Voters WILL NOT be sponsoring one of the debates between the candidates for Iowa's Fourth District Congressional seat.

I received a nice letter from Matt Hinch, incumbent Tom Latham's campaign manager, saying that "the Latham for Congress and Greenwald for Congress campaigns have agreed to three wide-audience accessible debate forums." I also spoke with Robert Brennan, campaign manager for challenger Becky Greenwald.

The three debates are:

- Friday, Oct. 3. Iowa Press will tape a debate in the morning that will be broadcast on Iowa Public Television at 7:30 p.m. that evening and at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5.
- Monday, Oct. 7. WHO Radio 1040 AM will host a live debate with listener participation at 7 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 10. KGLO Radio 1300 AM will host a live debate with listener participation at 10 a.m.

Brennan said that the Greenwald camp is still trying to get Latham's staff to agree to a debate on WOI Radio 640 AM in Ames.

I know this information comes with short notice, but I hope that many of our members will be able to watch or listen one of the broadcasts.

As I noted at the beginning of this article, October is our month. Please find some time to get involved!

*Lauris Olson*  
President

### 2008-2009 Program and Directory books



The 2008-2009 Program and Directory booklets are now available. Most of you already should have received your copy. If you do not have one, please contact program meeting co-chairs Mary Richards, at 292-8174, [maryrich@isunet.net](mailto:maryrich@isunet.net) or Ellen Fairchild at 515-275-2652, [cruising@netins.net](mailto:cruising@netins.net).

Thank you to Marry and Ellen for putting this together. The programs were issued a bit later than they have been in the past. However, the delay allowed them to include a few more pieces of information on the 2009 Iowa League of Women Voters' legislative priorities.

**Please notice the following changes and corrections to the Directory**

**The Monday, Oct. 20, Candidates Forum at 7 p.m.**

at Ames City Hall is for candidates for the Iowa General Assembly, not the Ames City Council.

**The annual meeting on April 25, 2009**, will not be at the Green Hills Retirement Center. The location will be announced in November.

**Page 6 corrections:**

Bev Kruempel should be [kruempel@msn.com](mailto:kruempel@msn.com)

Jackie Manatt should be [rmanatt@iastate.edu](mailto:rmanatt@iastate.edu)

The correct address for president Lauris Olson is: 1705 Buchanan Drive, Ames, 50010.

Her cell phone number: 451-7293.

Marion and Harry Weiss' new e-mail address is:

[hweiss@ghhome.com](mailto:hweiss@ghhome.com)

Betty Dahm new address is: 1801 20<sup>th</sup>. St – Unit J 15, Ames, IA 50010-5164

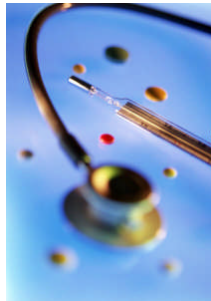
Mary Jo Brearley new address is: 1801 20<sup>th</sup>. St, Ames, IA 50010

**October 16 General Meeting**  
**1 PM at Mary Greeley Medical Center**  
**LWVUS: " Health Care Reform"**

The LWVUS Convention in June adopted a Health Care program to educate members and communities in order to be better prepared to do health care advocacy as needed. This education project is not a study and will not result in a change in our position

The National Board is in the process of appointing the Health Care Education Task Force (HCET) that will design a program for educating our members about health care.

The October program will focus on some of the National and Local issues related to Health care and will focus on the LWVUS Position on Health care and the LWVUS President's letter to '[An Open Letter to the Next President](#)' that appeared in the last issue of



the National VOTER

The League believes that quality, affordable health care should be available to all U.S. residents. Other U.S. health care policy goals should include the equitable distribution of services, efficient and economical delivery of care, advancement of medical research and technology, and a reasonable total national expenditure level for health care. Furthermore, the League believes that all Americans should have access to a basic level of care that includes the prevention of disease, health promotion and education, primary care (including prenatal and reproductive health), acute care, long-term care and mental health care.

*Selva R. Lehman*

**October Candidates' Forums are set**

The Candidates for Iowa General Assembly Forum is on Oct. 20 at 7pm at the Ames City Council Chambers, City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

The Story County Candidate's Forum will be on Oct 27 at 7 pm at the Ames City Council Chambers, City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

We are still looking for those interested in participating to contact Randi Peters. Lauris Olson has agreed to be the moderator at the Oct 20th forum.

On Oct 27, the Chamber will have a moderator.

We will be trying a different format for the Oct. 27 county candidate forum. The forum time frame will be shortened to one hour and there will be no panel. Audience questions will begin following the candidate's opening statements.

*Randi Peters*  
Voter Services

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**... for the following information including a sample Ballot**

[Election Calendar](#)      [Candidate List](#)  
[Absentee Voting](#)      [Information for Voters](#)  
[Polling Place Hours & Locations](#)  
[Precinct Maps](#)  
**Candidate List & Candidate Profiles**  
[Candidate List & Iowa Constitutional Amendment Text](#)  
[Candidate Profiles](#)  
**Judicial Retention Elections**  
[About Judicial Retention Elections](#)  
[2008 Voter Guide to Judicial Retention Elections](#)

[List of Judges in District 2](#)  
[2008 Judges Standing for Retention](#) (statewide list)  
**Iowa Constitutional Amendment**  
[Link to the Iowa Secretary of State's](#) statewide list of General Election races and text of a proposed Iowa constitutional amendment that will appear on the

November 4, 2008, General Election ballot  
The amendment must achieve a simple majority of 'Yes' votes for passage.

**Sample Ballots** [Sample Ballots](#)  
**Early Voting**

[Absentee Voting Information](#)  
[Sample Absentee Request Form with instructions](#)  
[Tentative Satellite Voting Dates & Locations](#) (subject to change)

[Absentee Ballot Request Form](#) (Adobe Acrobat)

The first day that ballots will be mailed and in-person voting is available in the Auditor's Office is **Thursday, September 25**. The last day to submit a request for a mailed absentee ballot is **Friday, October 31**. The last day to vote in-person at the Auditor's Office is **Monday, November 3**.

The Auditor's Office will be open the following Saturdays for in-person absentee voting

- Saturday, October 25, 8 am - 5pm
- Saturday, November 1, 9 am - 5 pm

### Membership Report

It is nice to start the League year with some new members, plus our current members also. I would like to introduce and welcome our new members who joined since May, 2008.

Cheryl Binzen	Fran Mauldin
Susie Petra	Karen Shimp
Marcia Thompson	Maureene Wilt

Please remember to continue to send names of prospective members to:

Barbara Gwiasda [bgwiasd@iastate.edu](mailto:bgwiasd@iastate.edu)  
or Angie Shirk [ashirk1@hotmail.com](mailto:ashirk1@hotmail.com)

Thank you.

*Barbara Gwiasda*  
Membership Chair

### Angie Shirk, assistant for Membership



Hello VOTER readers! I'm Angie Shirk, and I am Barbara Gwiasda's new assistant for Membership duties on the board. As we progress into our busier fall season, I look forward to visiting with more of

you.

Ames, IA is my hometown. I graduated from Ames High, and I have a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in Communications & Journalism. And yes, I cheer for both the Cyclones &

Hawkeyes!

After college I lived in San Diego for 4 yrs, working in event marketing until a real estate company recruited me. Then I moved back to Ames. I am completing my 7th year as a Realtor at Hunziker & Assoc.

When I am not at the office, I enjoy taking dance lessons, gardening, exercising, & sewing. I am a member of Collegiate Presbyterian Church, and I also serve on the board of the Story County Community Housing Corporation.

### NEWS FROM LWVIA

#### Reminder Legislative Issues Briefing

**When:** Saturday October 11, 2008, 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM, registration begins at 9:30.

**Where:** Newton Inn, 2000 West 18th Street South, Newton Iowa

**Cost:** \$10.00 for lunch

Join League members for an informative day learning about LWVIA 2009 lobby priorities for the Iowa Legislature. This year the priorities are: immigration, sentencing and correction reform, land conservation/flooding and predatory lending.

### Update on State Mental Health Study

The study group has met six times during the past year. We have attempted to sort out issues, identify sources of information, review material, and outline the content of background papers to inform League members about how mental health services are delivered in Iowa. In the next 6 months, we will be preparing background papers relating to delivery of these services to mentally-ill children, adults, and offenders in the correctional system.

These papers will be printed in issues of the IOWA VOTER and be posted on the LWV of Iowa website.

A proposed position will be developed and dis-

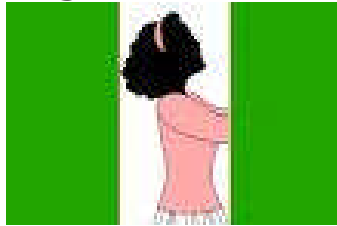
tributed in January, and a presentation will be available to local Leagues that will include discussion of the proposed position.

Local Leagues are invited to request the presentation in February or March 2009. Feedback from these discussions will be considered in making any modifications to the position.

The state board will review the position and decide whether to recommend that the position be adopted. The delegates at state convention will vote to concur or not concur with the final position.

*Nancy E. Brown*  
LWV of Ames

## Conversations with Nigerian Women



Iowa Resource for International Service (IRIS) is hosting another delegation of women from Nigeria as part of its Women in Nigeria Leadership Program. The goal for the program is to learn more about the political elections, good governance and women in leadership positions.

The Ames League of Women Voters has been asked to participate in creating a dialogue with the delegation arriving the first week of October. We are scheduled to meet with the eight women and their IRIS coordinators from 2:30 to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, in Room 233 at Ames City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

Our past interaction with women from the program has provided much new and thought-provoking information for members of both groups.

All Ames League members are encouraged to attend this dialogue, but I am putting out a special call to our more seasoned members to share their

knowledge and memories of their many years in the League. I know from past program visitors that they are facing many of the same cultural, organizing and socio-economic dynamics that you faced during your early years in the League.

We will start with a 15 to 20-minute slide presentation on the history the League (national to local), voter services, and our study and consensus process. The remainder of our time will be spent talking about league positions, hearing about their political system and answering their questions.

Please contact me at 451-7293 or [President@ameslww.org](mailto:President@ameslww.org) by 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, if you would like to participate.

I look forward to seeing you there,

*Lauris Olson*  
President

### CELEBRATE SUFFRAGE OCTOBER 25, 2008 Iowa Women March for the Right to Vote

To celebrate this event join us on Saturday October 25, 2008 for the reenactment of the original 1908 Boone suffrage parade.

"Help celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the only Woman's Suffrage Parade held in Iowa and one of the first held in the US."

This invitation comes from the Boone Historical Society, the parade organizers.

The day's program includes dedication of a Boone Suffrage Parade Monument, parade reenactment, an original play and other festivities. The reenactment parade will include participants in period costume playing the parts of original marchers. Additional information is available at

[www.celebratesuffrage2008.org](http://www.celebratesuffrage2008.org).



#### Another way to support the Parade

Here is a way to support the Parade without marching! The League of Women Voters has offered to provide "Old Fashioned Desserts" as part of the reception following the parade.

Please select one of the recipes listed below as a contribution to the parade.

Contact your League President to help you find marchers to transport your dessert to the parade if you are not planning to attend. **Thank you for your help!**

Contact person is Lorrie Hayes telephone (515) 223-7890 or email address [elmst4656@aol.com](mailto:elmst4656@aol.com) for help with getting your dessert to the parade.

RECIPES START ON NEXT PAGE

**Membership in the League offers personal involvement for the public good.  
The League of Women Voters is  
where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to  
civic improvement.**

**Recipes for the Boone Suffrage Parade Re Enactment October 25, 2008**

The following recipes are from "The Church Supper Cookbook" Edited by David Joachim, a compilation of generations of family recipes served at Church Suppers.

**Blueberry Muffins**

2 eggs	1 teaspoon salt	2/3 cup sugar	4 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 cup cooking oil	1 cup milk	3 cups flour	2 cups blueberries

Beat together eggs, sugar, and oil. Sift flour with salt and baking powder. Add to egg mixture with milk and blueberries, stirring just enough to blend. Fill greased muffins tins Three-quarters full and bake at 400 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Makes 18 muffins- please double recipe

**Oatmeal-Cranberry Bar Cookies**

(Try dried apricots or raisins in place of cranberries)

2 navel oranges	Water (1 cup with juice of oranges)	1 cup chopped walnuts
1 1/2 tsp baking powder	3 1/2 cups (1 Pound) dried sweetened cranberries	
teaspoon cinnamon	1 cup butter softened	1/4 cup granulated sugar
2 c packed light brown sugar	1 teaspoon Salt	2 eggs, beaten
2 cups flour	2 cups rolled oats	

Grate rind from oranges. Squeeze juice into measuring cup; add enough water to make 1 cup. Place rind, juice-water, cranberries, granulated sugar, and a pinch of salt in medium saucepan. Cook over medium-high heat until boiling. Reduce heat and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 4 minutes or until syrupy. Remove to cool slightly. In bowl, combine flour, oats, walnuts, baking powder, cinnamon, and pinch of salt. In another bowl, beat butter. Gradually add brown sugar, beating until smooth. Beat in eggs and vanilla until smooth. In three additions, stir in dry ingredients until no flour is visible. Dollop half of batter in greased 13" X 9" pan. With clean, wet hand, spread dough evenly cranberry mixture. Dollop remaining dough in tablespoonfuls over cranberries. With clean, wet hand, spread dough evenly. Bake at 350 degrees F for 30 minutes or until puffed and browned. Remove to cool completely before cutting. Makes 48 bars.

**Almond Spice Cookies**

1 cup butter	1 tablespoon cinnamon	1/3 cup molasses
2 teaspoons cloves	1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon baking soda
2 egg yolks	2 cups flour	3 tablespoons crystalline ginger, cut up fine
1 cup slivered almonds		

Beat together butter, molasses, sugar, and egg yolks. Stir in ginger. Sift together cinnamon, cloves, baking soda, and flour. Add almonds. Stir into first mixture. Mix well. Pat dough into 2 long rolls about 1 1/2" in diameter. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze. When ready to bake, slice frozen dough into 1/4 " rounds; place 1" apart on ungreased cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees F for 8 – 10 minutes, or until brown and crisp. Cool on racks. Makes about 6 dozen.



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League of Women Voters of Ames  
Voter Editor: Selva Lehman  
4037 Fletcher Boulevard, Ames, IA 50014

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.

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### **Chocolate Brownies**

1 cup butter	5 eggs	1 package (6 ounces) chocolate bits	1 tablespoon vanilla
3 cups sugar	1½ cups flour	½ cup chopped walnuts (optional)	

Melt together butter and chocolate bits. Remove from heat and add sugar. Beat eggs, one at a time, and vanilla. Add flour and walnuts, if using, and stir well. Spread on ungreased jelly-roll pan (10" X 15") and bake at 350 degrees F for 25-30 minutes. Do not over bake—they should be fudgy when done. Cool and cut--- small, because they are **rich**. Makes 32

### **Almond Butter Balls**

¾ cup butter	1 ½ teaspoons baking powder	1 cup brown sugar
½ teaspoon salt	1 egg, lightly, beaten	½ cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla	2 cups flour	2 cups flour
1 cup slivered almonds		

Cream butter and brown sugar. Add egg and vanilla. Sift flour, baking powder, and salt, and add to mixture. Beat well. Form into balls, 1 teaspoon at a time. Roll in sugar. Place on greased cookie sheet. Press whole almond in center of each. Bake at 400 degrees F for 12 minutes. Makes about 5 dozen.