



# the Voter

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Ames, IA

Web site: <http://www.ameslww.org>

## President's Column,

September 8, 2013

With regularity, things happen that leave me totally in awe of the League of Women Voters.

Yesterday several of us attended a memorial service for Joyce Hertz. It was a celebration of an extraordinary life. I realize how fortunate I am to have known this amazing woman who has contributed so much to our community. I probably would not have had the chance to know her but for the League. Looking around at so many League friends there, I realized that – even though I have no siblings of my own – I have managed to become a part of a wonderful family of women and men. We all benefit from the support and kinship offered by the League.

We were all drawn to the League because of a shared vision of democracy and a commitment to register and educate voters and to work toward a more-just society. Working together to further our shared vision leads us to kinship.

A few weeks ago several of us traveled to Des Moines to celebrate with Dr. Deb Turner, President of the Metro Des Moines League, as she was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. Dr. Turner is a gynecologic oncologist who also holds a law degree and travels yearly to Africa as a medical volunteer. Her story is truly inspiring.

Let us continue to celebrate the accomplishments and lives of all of us. Even though we may not achieve fame, we are all making a difference, and we are doing it together.

I look forward to another League year, to continuing our efforts to increase voter awareness and participation, and to making new friends.

- Linda

### Mark your calendar

- Sept. 19 - - - General Mtg.**
- Sept. 21 - - - Issues Briefing**
- Sept. 24 - - - Voter Registration**
- Sept. 25 - - - Book Club**
- Oct. 7 - - Civility Workshop**
- Oct. 22 - - Food Day at ISU**

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## Agriculture Event of Interest

The ISU Sustainable Ag Student Association is pleased to welcome Wenonah Hauter, executive director of the Food & Water Watch and author of Foodopoly, to ISU this fall. She will give a public lecture on October 22nd at 7 pm in Ross Hall, Room 0124, on the ISU campus. Please join us for this important talk!

This lecture will be our official Food Day event. It is free and open to the public.

Parking is available (coins only) at the East Parking Deck at the ISU campus or in the Memorial Union Parking Garage (cash, cards accepted).

Co-sponsors: Women, Food and Agriculture Network, Iowa Environmental Council, and Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement.

For more information: Food Day: <http://www.foodday.org/> Foodopoly: <http://www.foodopoly.org/> Food and Water Watch: <http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/>

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## Get Involved!

Continue the record of LWV accomplishments:

-- September 24: help **register voters** at the Ames Public Library on National Voter Registration Day. Contact Carolyn Klaus at 515-292-1438 or [candjlklaus@aol.com](mailto:candjlklaus@aol.com) for details.

-- October 7: attend the Civility in Government event being co-sponsored by the Ames League. See page 5 for the formal invitation.

-- Be a League observer of community government--see page three for details.

## WATCH FOR IT! New League Website Will Launch This Fall

Our new website will be more useful for members and more attractive to potential members and the public. It will reduce the costs of printing and provide more timely information to members and the public.

Members will be notified by email before the new site replaces the current one. You will be provided with simple directions for logging in and navigating the new site.

New features to look forward to include:

**Members log-in for access to Ames League-specific information.** For example, the public will see the list of books the Book Club will discuss; members will also see the names and addresses of the hosts. Minutes and dates of Board meetings will be available only to members.

**The new Home page** will include notice of upcoming events, easy links to League info, a recent image of Ames League activities and **a blog of recent events.**

**To reduce your inbox clutter,** email to all members will include a link to a webpage rather than an attached file.

The website redesign committee has been planning and developing our new website for over a year. We look forward to introducing you to it during the opening minutes of general meetings this fall.

Jim Noland, web manager,  
for the committee: Mary Richards, Cheryl Binzen, Mike Coveyou.

**Keep an eye on democracy**--be part of the Observer Corps.

Nancy Marks, Observer Corps Drill Sergeant (okay, the editor just made that up) needs YOU, either regularly, or once or twice a month or as an occasional substitute, to sit in on one of these:

- Story County Board of Supervisors
- Ames School Board
- Ames City Council

League observers cannot participate in the meetings they are observing. Contact Nancy for details: [nancy.marks@me.com](mailto:nancy.marks@me.com), 515-233-6953

### September General Meeting

7 p.m. Thursday, September 19, Northminster Presbyterian Church

**Topic:** U.S. Agriculture: How Sustainable Is It?

**Speakers:**

**Cornelia Flora**, ISU distinguished professor & former director of rural development regional center

**Drake Larsen**, Practical Farmers of Iowa

Stay after to visit with the speakers and your fellow Leaguers.

### It Takes a Team



Above, Linda Murken and Bev Kruempel register an ISU student to vote on August 26 at the Women's Equality Day celebration at the Carrie Chapman Catt Center. Yes, it was hot!! Others who helped register voters were: Monica Leier\*, Randi Peters, Barbara Gwiasda, Rebecca Hoepfner, Jean Prestemon, Carolyn Klaus\*, Jane Johnson\*, Jan Beran and Dianne Bystrom. We registered a total of 46 ISU students, many of whom were first-time registrants. Many also expressed interest in joining the League.

(\* also pictured)



Photos courtesy of ISU Daily, Kelby Wingert, photographer

## 2014 Issues Briefing

Saturday, September 21, 2013 • 10:00AM-3:00PM  
Marshalltown Public Library • 105 West Boone, Marshalltown

9:30 am - Registration

10:00 am - Welcome & Quick Review of Priorities  
Bonnie Pitz, LWVIA President

10:15 am - Focus Issue: Water Quality Panel  
Steve Falck, Senior Policy Advocate, Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Ralph Rosenberg, Executive Director-Iowa Environmental Council  
Bill Stowe, CEO, Des Moines Water Works

11:30 am - Networking Lunch

12:15 pm - Issue Update: Voting Rights & Absentee Voting  
Myrna Loerhlein, LWVIA Advocacy Committee  
Rep. Mark Smith, Legislation on Absentee Voting in Vets Home

1:00 pm - Focus Issue: HIV/AIDS Criminal Code Modernization  
Tami Haight, Community Organizer, CHAIN

1:45 pm - Issue Update: MH/DS Redesign & MH Advocate Legislation  
Amy Campbell, LWVIA Lobbyist-Review of issues pending in 2014

2:30 pm - Plenary Session: Local League Planning  
Bonnie Pitz, LWVIA President

- Important dates, questionnaires, next steps, action plans.
- What can your local league do to promote these priorities?
- What do you need from the state league to do this?

3:00 pm-Finish & Turn in Evaluations!

**Get a jump on the 2014 Legislative Session. Attend this briefing!**

Register with Melissa Cahalan at [melissacahalan@yahoo.com](mailto:melissacahalan@yahoo.com) Cost \$12

If you would like to carpool with other Ames League members, please contact Carole Alexander Phillips, Legislative Action Co-Chair, at [caphill@mchsi.com](mailto:caphill@mchsi.com) or 232-0595. Indicate whether you want a ride or would be willing to drive.



*Are you tired of incivility in politics?*

*Have you tried to be part of the solution?*

*Are you frustrated by the intractability of the problem?*

*Have you ever found yourself contributing to it?*

The League of Women Voters of Ames and the Ames Chamber of Commerce invite you to an evening devoted to restoring civility in politics and in our daily lives.

Monday, October 7, 2013, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Iowa State University, Iowa State Center, 175-179 Scheman Building, Ames, IA 50011

We are inviting citizens of Story County to hear Mary Kramer, former President of the Iowa Senate and former Ambassador to Barbados, discuss the problems created by incivility and help us to begin the process of finding solutions.

You are part of a group of Story County leaders in government, politics, business, education, the faith community and the media to whom a special invitation is being extended.

We hope you will be able to join us for what will be a unique and worthwhile event. For more information, call Linda Murken at 515-460-5080 or Angela Davidson at 515-232-2310. To RSVP, please email [angela@ameschamber.com](mailto:angela@ameschamber.com) or call 515-232-2310.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Culhane".

Dan Culhane, President & CEO  
Ames Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Murken".

Linda Murken, President  
League of Women Voters of Ames

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public political issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

*The Ames Chamber of Commerce strives to make Ames a better place to live, work, and do business by strengthening the economic vitality and the quality of life in the Ames community.*

**In Memoriam**  
**Joyce Hertz, 1945-2013**

Joyce was a faithful member of the Ames League of Women Voters for many years and served as president twice. During her first term she was very active in the establishment of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center at ISU.

In addition, she served on the Board, led and served on study groups, and participated in the Observer Corps and the Book Group.

Joyce was the 2007 recipient of the Carrie Chapman Catt award, given each year to a member who has served and led in the League and the community in significant ways.

Joyce lost her battle with cancer on August 28. She will be greatly missed and warmly remembered.

**Book Club Schedule**

**September 25 -**

*Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage*, by Hazel Rowley (2011)

Leader/hostess: Jan Beran, 1802 20th St.  
A 11

**October 23 -**

*EcoMind: Changing the Way We Think, to Create the World We Want*, by  
Frances Moore Lappé (2013)

Leader: Cheryl Binzen  
Hostess, Jan Beran, 1802 20th St. A 11  
*Please notify hostess if you are coming.*

Ames League of Women Voters  
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