



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS – RoMaFH**  
**ROSEVILLE, MAPLEWOOD, FALCON HEIGHTS**  
*Also serving nearby communities, including Lauderdale & Shoreview*

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**MAY “DO-YOUR-OWN-THING”**

Arranged by the Wednesday Unit

**GOODWILL INDUSTRIES:  
IT’S MORE THAN A STORE!**

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 26, 2010

**TIME:** 10:30 a.m., for a one-hour tour

**LOCATION:** Fairview and University avenues  
Directions below

**CALL:** Georgiana Sobola at 651-644-3337 to sign up

**MEET:** If you want to carpool, come to the parking lot at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church by 10:00 a.m. Church is at 2561 N. Victoria Street, Roseville.

**LUNCH:** To be determined; suggest a Roseville restaurant

Members of the Tuesday unit, unaffiliated LWV RoMaFH members, and interested guests are all invited.

Goodwill Spokesman: “This is not your grandmother’s Goodwill!”

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Snelling Avenue south to University Avenue. Turn right onto University. Proceed on University to Fairview. Turn right onto Fairview. Proceed on Fairview to Charles Street. Turn left onto Charles, which runs in front of the Goodwill building. You can park free on Charles Street.

**2010-11 Board  
& Off-Board Positions**

**Officers**

**Co-Presidents**

Ann Cleland & Karen Schaffer

**Secretary**

Sheri Dion

**Treasurer**

Joan Stark

**Directors**

**Program Committee**

Ann Berry, Carolyn Cushing,  
Georgeann Hall, Teri Kysylczyn,  
Anne Haugan, Judy Rosenblatt,  
Florence Sprague (& coordinator of  
Diversity Subcommittee).  
Lorraine Fischer, rep. to Council of  
Metropolitan Area Leagues (CMAL)

**Voter Service**

Linda McLoon, Andrea Brodtmann

**Organization Division**

**Membership**

Stephanie DeBenedet, Julianne  
Johnston, Ann Berry

**Administrative Assistant**

Shirley Bradway

**Voter Newsletter**

Judy Berglund, editor; Tami  
Johnson, Ann Berry

**Web Site**

Jim DeBenedet

**'10-'11 Off-Board Responsibilities**

**Finance Committee**

Georgiana Sobola, Anita Mayfield.  
Joan Stark, *ex officio*

**Public Relations\***

**Action**

by members, based on information  
from all levels of League

**Annual Meeting Coordinator(s)\***

(cont'd on page 3)

# Co-president's Letter



Karen Schaffer, Florence Sprague, and I (Ann Cleland) attended the LWV Minnesota Council at the Minnesota Arboretum on May 1. The day was full of informative workshops.

The Program/Briefing Papers panel discussed our goals of identifying timely and appealing issues for study and updating our current positions. At the Membership Initiative workshop, participants shared successful outreach efforts. Keesha Gaskins, LWV Minnesota executive director, provided us with ideas on how to put new enthusiasm into our local Leagues at the Leadership workshop. The state League's Action Co-Chairs, Gwen Myers and Kathy Tomsich, reviewed the legislative session and discussed the importance of the local Leagues in advancing LWV positions at the state level.

LWV Minnesota has a new Web site. We were able to see what it looks like, and received information on how we are to use it. All of this will be shared at the May RoMaFH board meeting.

LWVRoMaFH was represented by Ann Berry at the Roseville City Council meeting of May 17 to endorse the Northeast Suburban Campus Connector. We have had a longstanding position in support of safe, non-motorized pathways. (See statement and article on page 7.)

Hope to see you all at the Rosefest parade, June 21!

Ann Cleland, Co-President

## **MURKOWSKI MOVE WOULD BLOCK NEW ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES;**

### **Attack on Clean Air Act is Just More "Waffling and Waiting"**

#### **Excerpt from LWVUS press release—Action: contact your senators**

**Washington, DC, May 19** - The League of Women Voters of the United States today announced its strong opposition to S.J. Res. 26, sponsored by Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), which would block action by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act to rein in the pollution that is causing climate change and threatening communities here and around the world. The Senate is expected to consider the Murkowski resolution soon, possibly as early as this week.

"At this critical time, when our nation needs new energy and environmental policies, Senator Murkowski's resolution of disapproval is just more waffling and waiting. It will block action to stop pollution, reinforce our nation's dependence on foreign oil, and undermine the move to a new, clean-energy, clean-jobs economy," said Mary G. Wilson, president of the national League. "The oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the recent coal-mine tragedy in West Virginia point to our dead end and dangerous energy policies," Wilson maintained.

\*\*\*\*

"The Murkowski resolution would block this progress and overrule sound, scientific decisions by EPA," Wilson pointed out. "Senators should kill this resolution and keep moving to pass new climate and energy legislation."

**Book Sale Coordinators**

Joyce Blomquist & Le Matts

**Budget Committee**

to be named; Joan Stark, *ex officio*

**Diversity Subcommittee** (of the Program Committee)

Andrea Brodtmann, Sandi Lutz, Judy Rosenblatt, Florence Sprague, Joan Stark, Judy Stuthman

**Nominating Committee**

Ann Berry, Carolyn Cushing, Georgeann Hall, Julianne Johnston, & Joan Stark

**Observers**

Unit volunteers observe at city council & school board meetings and report to the Board on issues the League might want to address.

*Sign up at your unit meeting or contact Ann Cleland to volunteer. One time commitment is okay.*

**Representative to Gavel Club\***

**Rosefest Parade Coordinator\***

**VIP Meeting Coordinators\***

*\*Volunteer(s) needed*

**Windows and Mirrors for All**

**Fruit Basket Upset**

by Florence Sprague

Sometime when you've been to the grocery store and purchased a bag of six or more of the same fruit, set this bag aside on the counter as you are putting the groceries away. When everything else is put up, make a cup of tea and sit down with the fruit and try this exercise. It has traditionally been presented as an activity for a group of people and is done with lemons, but you can do it at home; and apples, oranges, or pears will also work. I use several fruit names and metaphors here.

Reach into the bag and select one piece of fruit. Examine it well; get to know each of its traits. Does it have a stem? What color is it? Is it all one shade? Has it been bruised? When you are thoroughly familiar with it, put all of the fruit into a bowl, being sure to mix *your* piece in with the rest until you can no longer be sure which it is. Now, take out the fruit, one piece at a time, examine it and see if you can identify *your* piece.

You've likely heard some version of "All xxxxx look alike," some time in your life. Lemons are more alike than people, yet most people, even young children, can pick out *their* lemon or apple, even though the distinctions are subtle. Why? Because they took the time to get acquainted. An apple is an apple once it's in the sauce, but while whole, each one can be distinguished one from another. Each person also deserves to be seen as an individual, not just as one of a group.

Now, imagine that you peeled all of those apples to make a pie. Do you think that you could identify *your* apple now? Some things that seem to make us different are only skin deep. People, like apples, have more in common than not. Some people and some apples are sweet and some are tart, some are young and firm and others are old and wrinkled, but just as you learn to value one kind of apple for pie and another kind for snacking, people have unique skill sets and personalities that are to be valued, even though they are not evident at first glance. The differences that matter most require that we get acquainted to allow for discovery.

Now, imagine slicing open peeled apples crosswise to see the star within. Do all the stars have the same number of segments? The same number of seeds? Are any spoiling near the core? Is an orange juicy or pithy? Seedy or seedless? Any fruit has internal patterns and variations that can be a conversation starter with the children in your life, too. We all need to look for the star within each person, and share our own.

**Summer Reading Recommendation**

***The Girl Who Fell from the Sky***

By Heidi Durrow

*The Girl Who Fell from the Sky* is the haunting story of Rachel, a young biracial girl who spent her early years in Europe with her Danish mother and African American father. After a series of tragic twists in her young life, she comes to live in Oregon with her African American grandmother and is abruptly confronted with the expectations of a culture where identity is tied to race. It is a beautifully written and compelling story that will send ripples into your life.

**2010–11 Membership Dues—  
New fiscal year began April 1**

A friendly reminder: dues for 2010–11 were due as of April 1. To join or renew, make your dues check payable to LWVRoMaFH.

Individual	\$60
Household	\$90
New member 1st year discount	\$45
Scholarship	negotiated

Send to: Stephanie DeBenedet  
LWVRoMaFH Membership  
808 Millwood Ave.  
Roseville, MN 55113

**Book Sale—  
Another Success!**

In the face of what seemed insurmountable odds, we had a very successful Book Sale on April 25! After finding out Thursday afternoon before the sale that we wouldn't have any Boy Scouts to help carry up boxes of books from Georgiana Sobola's basement, we were very happy when Georgeann and Dave Hall and several others volunteered to help with that BIG effort. Actually, one Scout family did come to load up their van, and help unload and move boxes at Fairview Community Center. We had help with another big job of moving heavy bookcases from Falcon Heights City Hall to the Community Center.

We received many nice donations this year, notably children's books, games, and puzzles, and special books. Our expense of \$75 for room rental was the same, and our total income was \$710, \$60 more than last year's. We also printed more LWV bookmarks this

**Treasurer's Report  
Joan Stark, Treasurer**



**Treasurer's Report –May 14, 2010**

**Previous Checking Balance – April 28, 2010** **\$2,893.27**

**Income:**

Dues – (1) Household, (15) Individual	\$990.00	
Book Sale	.50	
Annual Meeting	168.00	
In Kind, Carole Erickson, Ann'l Mtg. refreshments	14.00	
In Kind, Joan Stark, Ann'l Mtg. <i>Rose Awards</i>	11.99	
<b>Total Income:</b>		<b>\$1,184.49</b>

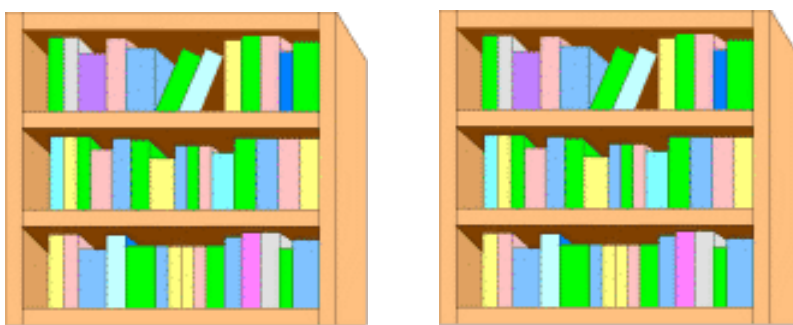
**Expenses:**

#4318 – Ann Berry, <i>Voter</i> printing (64.70),	\$117.31	
Annual Mtg. Booklet (61.41), less (-8.80)		
chk. #4296 adjustment		
#4319 – Shirley Bradway, Annual Mtg. supplies	57.77	
#4240 – Carole Erickson, Annual Mtg. desserts	206.72	
In Kind, Carole Erickson, Annual Mtg. refreshments	14.00	
In Kind, Joan Stark, Annual Mtg. <i>Rose Awards</i>	11.99	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>		<b>\$407.79</b>

**Checking Account Balance – May 14, 2010** **\$3,669.97**

**Savings Account Balance – April 30, 2010** **\$2,563.19**

**Education Fund Balance – April 29, 2010** **\$5,690.27**



year to give to our buyers.

Many thanks to nearly 30 members, husbands, and friends, and to young people and adults from Troup 297 who helped. The best bonus was that Scouts helped at the end of our sale to unload and carry boxes back down the basement steps. We couldn't have done the Book Sale without the cooperation and help of so many great volunteers—too many to name! A huge THANK YOU to all who helped before, during, and after our April 25, 2010, Book Sale!!

A special thank you to Georgiana Sobola, who keeps all the book boxes in her basement year round, and to Marty Everest, who loads and unloads so many bookcases, tables, and boxes of tablecloths to help with our sale.

**Joyce Blomquist, Chair, Le Matts, Co-Chair**

## Draft of Minutes of the LWVRoMaFH Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 6, 2010, 6:00 - 8:00pm

Falcon Heights City Hall

A dessert was served at 6pm; Carole Erickson and Shirley Bradway were the Annual Meeting Coordinators.

**Call to Order:** The 2010 Annual Meeting was called to order by Co-President Ann Cleland at 7:40 p.m.

- Quorum check: 24 were present.

- Introductions: RoMaFH Board Members were introduced. New members were welcomed and introduced: Shari Dion, Marcella Jerome, Jane Klehr, Carole Lynne

- Mary Ann Palmer was appointed parliamentarian.

**Order of Business:** The order of business was adopted by consent.

**Secretary's Report:** Anne Haugan moved and Ann Berry seconded that the minutes of this Annual Meeting 2010 will be approved at the first LWVRoMaFH Board Meeting after this meeting. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joan Stark called attention to the Treasurer's Report of Fiscal Year April 1, 2009–March 31, 2010, on page 6 of the Annual Report. Kathy Ciernia moved, Joyce Blomquist seconded, motion passed, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and filed for audit.

**Presentation of the Budget:** Florence Sprague presented the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010–2011. She noted that there will be a small PMP increase at the national level and our LWVRoMaFH membership dues have increased to \$60.00/member. There is also budget money for one of our members to attend the National LWVUS Convention in June. Florence Sprague moved, Mary Ann Palmer seconded to accept the proposed budget. Motion passed.

**Proposed Local Program** was presented by Ann Berry and found on p. 8. The vote was that the positions will remain the same and the study, review of city ordinances, will continue. Ann called attention to the Local Study Item, under Government, and noted that the Board had approved a letter and testimony to the City of Roseville urging that once the City completes inspections of all sections of the City for violations of the City Code, the whole process should be repeated. HRA funding will pay to continue the inspections. Ann also said that we should be prepared to lobby on the "organized trash collection" issue.

Ann Berry moved to accept the Proposed Local Program as printed in the Annual Meeting Booklet. It was seconded and motion passed.

**Co-President's Remarks:** Ann Cleland stated she has enjoyed her time as Co-President. She thanked Jim DeBenedet for his work on the Web site and Judy Rosenblatt for her work on the VOTER. Ann told about representing our League at the Arboretum May 1 at the LWV Minnesota Council, along with Karen Schaffer and Florence Sprague, and thanked all members for the opportunity to serve as Co-President.

**Proposed Changes to Bylaws:** Mary Ann Palmer, as chair of the Bylaws Committee, asked to put this Committee Report on the agenda. Mary Ann, on behalf of the Committee, noted the changes proposed on p. 12 of the Annual Report. She said the new wording would be easier to understand and interpret. Most important change is what constitutes a "quorum." Another small change will be to add "fund raising" to the Organization Division's duties. The Local Program Selection wording was cleaned up.

Mary Ann moved that the proposed bylaws changes be accepted. Motion was seconded and passed.

Mary Ann noted that the use of electronics for communications was not addressed and in the future the need to do so may arise.

**Rose Award Presentation was done by Ann Berry and Joan Stark:** Roses for exceptional service to the local League were presented to Carole Erickson for her five years as coordinator of the Annual Meeting; Judy Rosenblatt for her work publishing the VOTER; Jim DeBenedet for his work as Webmaster; Stephanie DeBenedet for her work communicating with the membership; Barb Yates as a thank you for being Co-President; Joyce Blomquist, Georgiana Sobola, and Marty Everest for their work on the Book Sale; and to Ann Cleland for wearing so many hats.

**Nominating Committee Report:** Ann Berry presented the Nominating Committee Report. Le Matts was added as co-chair of the Book Sale. Julianne Johnston moved, Carolyn Cushing seconded, that the nominations be accepted. Motion passed.

**Directions to the Board:** Karen Schaffer noted that she had just received a letter concerning a public hearing on May 17 for the proposed Bike Trail along the Fairview corridor from Co. Rd. B-2 to the University of Minnesota. (the LWVRoMaFh had heard about this at the Annual Meeting 2009). Ann Berry suggested that an e-mail be sent to the membership announcing the hearing and include the League's position and that a Board member should speak officially at the hearing on behalf of the organization.

**Announcements:**

- Georgiana Sobola announced that the May "Do Your Own Thing" event sponsored by the Wednesday morning unit will be a field trip to the Goodwill Industries on Wed., May 26, at 10 or 10:30 a.m. All members and any guests are welcome to participate. Tour will be for one hour at the Fairview and University location. Meet at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church to carpool. Complete information will be on the Web site and in the May/June *Voter*.

- Joyce Blomquist thanked everyone for their participation with the Book Sale. Receipts totaled \$710.00.

- Judy Rosenblatt announced that the May/June VOTER will come out toward the end of May. Deadline is May 14. She also called attention to the local LWV 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting photos she had found and had on display on the back table.

- Ann Berry noted that the Board Meeting on May 26 will be attended by the combined old and new members of the Board.

- Mary Ann Palmer asked for opinions of this evening's event. Twenty-five attended, which is one-third of the membership, yet there were 35 reservations. Comments included: have the meeting on a regular unit meeting date, send out a reminder card, have a program, start later for an evening meeting: six o'clock start time seemed early for a dessert event.

Adjournment at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Anne Haugan, Secretary

**Minn. Defies Census Odds,  
Could Gain Rep. Seat**

Reporting

Esme Murphy ST. PAUL (WCCO) online Apr 29, 2010

About 80 percent of Minnesotans mailed back their census forms. That's the second-highest in the nation.

There was some concern Minnesota could lose a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives if people didn't step up and fill out their forms.

Now, that's more of a worry for five other states— New York, California, Texas, Arizona and Florida.

It's a big deal because experts agree that over a decade, having an extra congressional seat can mean billions of dollars of extra federal aide for a state, for roads, education and other government programs.

The overall number of the House of Representatives never changes. It's at 435, but as the population shifts, how those 435 seats are divided between the 50 states changes.

Last year it looked as if Arizona and Florida would gain a seat, meaning at least two states would end up losing a seat. It also looked like Minnesota would lose a seat.

State demographer Tom Gillaspay told WCCO-TV last year he would have given Minnesota less than a 50 percent chance of holding on to the seat. Now he says it's better than 70 percent, and getting better every day.

Gillaspay points to two key factors that have happened over the last year.

The first is the recession, which has devastated boom states like Arizona. The second is something that has just happened.

Gillaspay believes that Arizona's tough new immigration law will discourage Hispanics from filling out the census forms and answering their doors when census workers go door to door starting next week.

His view is backed up by Hispanic groups nationally who fear the growing tension over immigration will depress the counting of Hispanics both legal and illegal in not just Arizona, but in other states with large Hispanic populations like Texas, California, New York and Florida.

That is good news for Minnesota when it comes to the effort to keep up its congressional seats. The census results will be announced on Dec. 31, 2010....

## May 17 statement from LWVRoMaFH at Roseville City Council meeting hearing

“Thank you, Mayor and City Council, for the opportunity to speak this evening. My name is Ann Berry and I am representing the League of Women Voters of Roseville, Maplewood and Falcon Heights, speaking to you with the consent of the Board of Directors of our organization regarding the Northeast Suburban Campus Connector, Non-Motorized Transportation Corridor.

“Since 1983 our chapter of the League of Women Voters has consistently maintained a position in support of safe, non-motorized pathways. At that time our chapter conducted a formal study of the issue and our position was adopted as a result of the consensus of our members. This position has been re-endorsed every year thereafter at the annual meeting of our chapter, most recently at our 57<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of May 6, 2010.

“Our position reads as follows: ‘We support policies, procedures and programs which promote safety and reduce hazards to non-motorized traffic; support non-motorized pathways, either on or off road, along high volume and high-speed thoroughfares likely to generate non-motorized traffic where no other access is possible.’

“The proposed Northeast Suburban Campus Connector, Non-Motorized Transportation Corridor project is exactly the type of program that our position contemplates, and the League respectfully urges the Roseville City Council to implement, in whole or in part, the project that has been proposed or a similar project.”

## Pedal power expanding in the suburbs

Star Tribune online Last update: May 15, 2010

Residents in Roseville and Arden Hills could pedal their bicycles to distant reaches of the metro area as new trails link them to surrounding cities.

Roseville, which is bordered by nine other cities, wants to build safer routes for cyclists and walkers. Putting more neighbors face to face on pathways is a goal, too. In Arden Hills, a city carved into portions by highways, lakes and railroad tracks, some smaller trail connections totaling about a mile will pull people together.

“Our goal here is to provide connections to Minneapolis and St. Paul from the suburbs,” said Debra Bloom, city engineer in both cities. “One of the challenges a city has when we have highways and busy streets, those neighborhoods get really isolated from each other because the only way you can get in and out is by car.”

The Fairview Pathway trail from Roseville south to Falcon Heights and the University of Minnesota’s east campus would mostly follow existing streets. The idea is to connect to the transitway running to the west campus in Minneapolis.

The joint project, now in the design stage, will be reviewed at a Roseville City Council public hearing

(cont’d at top right) 7

## Pedal Power (cont’d from col. 1)

Monday night [5/17].

Federal funds would cover the estimated \$1.1 million expense. Transit for Livable Communities (TLC) administers the program in Minneapolis and adjoining communities. Roseville’s plan was selected because it reaches beyond the city’s boundaries, said the TLC’s Steve Clark.

“It wasn’t just Roseville saying they want to do this,” he said. “It was encouraging to us that you could have multiple jurisdictions get together and work an agreement for a good bikeway and also a better walkway.”

The need for new places for people to bike and walk in Roseville was apparent because they were forging their own trails, he said.

The corridor would follow Fairview Avenue from Rosedale Mall south to Larpenteur Avenue, then west to the university campus.

“We will be constructing an off road pathway where one does not currently exist and designating the shoulders along the road in most areas of the corridor as bike lanes,” Bloom said.

Construction of the three miles of trails should begin later this year if the City Council gives its approval, she said.

In Arden Hills, three pathways are now under construction, she said — on the south side of County Road E-2 between Old Hwy. 10 and New Brighton Avenue; from County Road E-2 to Venus Avenue through the Ramsey County open space, and from Perry Park to the Elmer L. Andersen Trail.

Walking and biking opportunities in Arden Hills are limited and in some areas, potentially hazardous, the city said on its website.

Bicycling across the Twin Cities continues on an upswing, according to Census data. The latest numbers, from 2008, show 4.3 percent of residents relying on bikes to travel back and forth to work. That compares with 3.8 percent in 2007 and 2.5 percent in 2006. Some of the fastest growth is in Minneapolis, which has seen significant growth in bikeways in recent years, Clark said.

“What we’re finding pretty much everywhere is there have been increases in the rates of cycling,” he said. “This is being embraced, it seems, universally.”

Kevin Giles • 612-673-4432

## Memorial brick to be installed

LWVRoMaFH is waiting to hear from the City of Roseville that the brick we have ordered to be installed in the Roseville Arboretum memory walk in memory of Gloria Froelich has arrived. The League will schedule an event for the dedication. Watch for a message about this. Gloria was copresident of LWV of Roseville from 1979 to 1981. She died January 6, 2010, at the age of 70 after battling cancer for several years.

## Upcoming LWV RoMaFH Calendar

### May 2010

Wed, 26, “Do your Own Thing,” *See page 1.*

Wed, 26, **Board** meeting (new and old boards)

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages.

#### NOTE:

**Board meetings** are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th Wed at the Roseville Skating Center, Raider Room.

**Third Tuesday evening unit meetings** are held at Little Venetian Restaurant, 2900 Rice St., Little Canada, at 7:00 p.m.; social time and dinner optional at 5:30 p.m. (No minimum cost for dinner.)

**Third Wednesday morning unit meetings** are held at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2561 N. Victoria Ave., Roseville, at 9:30 a.m.

*All meetings are public*

League of Women Voters of  
Roseville, Maplewood & Falcon Heights  
and nearby communities  
Ann Berry  
1059 Woodhill Drive  
Roseville, MN 55113-2017