

The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.
2019 CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT AWARD RECIPIENT
🌹 Ingrid Rothe 🌹

Like the founder of our national league, this year's Carrie Chapman Catt award winner is committed to women's rights, and works strategically with other organizations to achieve the league's policy goals.

Before Ingrid Rothe joined the league as a member in 1995, she worked with the state league in the 1980's to achieve marital property reform.

Ingrid was co-president of the Dane County League from 2013 to 2015, and then served as vice-president until 2018. During her tenure as co-president, our league ended its years of operational deficits. Under her leadership, we implemented a database system for our office operations.

While she strengthened our organizational capacity, this was always in service of policy goals. Ingrid is the rare leader who sets priorities and adheres to them—avoiding busywork that won't advance the organization's major goals.

Ingrid led a league project with the Dane County NAACP to form the Voter ID Coalition in the spring of 2015, and she was named as the co-chair representing the Dane County League. The Coalition has made voter ID a very high-profile issue in Dane County, working with other groups to organize voter outreach, billboards, a voter ID hotline, cab rides to the DMV, and trainings for voter outreach volunteers.

She is the unit leader of the Capitol Lakes (downtown dinner) unit, one of our larger units. You may have seen her roaming around as the league's unofficial photographer at meetings here at Capitol Lakes.

And, Ingrid chairs the state league's legislative committee, which evaluates proposed legislation according to state and national league positions to determine which the league will support and oppose, and then drafts statewide action alerts and hearing testimony.

I am very pleased that our Board has chosen Ingrid Rothe as this year's Carrie Chapman Catt award winner.