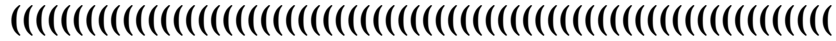


SHOP TALK

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of ELMHURST, ILLINOIS



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April Calendar

Thursday, April 5, 9:15 a.m.
At the home of Kay Gavin

Great Decisions

Thursday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.
At the home of Jeanne Davik

League Policy Review

Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m.
At the home of Laura Kratz

Board Meeting

April General Meeting
Program from the Sierra Club
Cool Cities
Speaker - Lonnie Morris

Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
At the Elmhurst Public Library
211 Prospect

Tuesday, April 24, 12 noon.
Union League Club

LWVIL State of the State Luncheon
65 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago

President's Corner

Early April means the spring elections will soon be here and, judging by the forest of candidate signs popping up on front lawns around town, there is a lot of interest in the Elmhurst races. To help voters select the candidates they prefer, our Voter Service Chairman **Gail Anderson** has been very busy compiling the candidates' responses to League questions for our on-line voters guide. Webmaster **Jeanne Davik** has set up the guide that is loaded with valuable voter information but is clear and easy to use. We are happy to see that all but one candidate in the Elmhurst elections chose to participate and, thanks to Gail and Jeanne's hard work, the guide was posted on March 17 as promised.

Our March program, "Voices Against Poverty: The UN Millennium Development Goals," was successful thanks to our program chairman, **Lisa Landreth**. Approximately 115 people including League members, high school and college students, and the general public had the opportunity to speak with United Nations Teaching and Learning Director Bill Yotive on March 8. Throughout the day Mr. Yotive discussed the MDGs in both formal and informal settings. Special thanks to **Evelyn Zerfoss** who organized a stimulating lunch discussion with members of the Great Decisions group and to **Jan Dorner** who arranged his meetings with York High School students and accompanied him during his visit to York. Our evening program drew an audience of 65 people at Elmhurst College.

Springtime also brings some important League "housekeeping" chores. We had a lively session at the home of **Connie Zillig** on March 16 when 15 members gathered for our Program Planning session. A major outcome of that meeting will be our April 19 general meeting when Lonnie Morris of the Sierra Club River Prairie Group will explain the Cool Cities program to us. Since Cool Cities is one new issue and action item being recommended for our 2007-2009 local program, we hope that you will attend this important information session.

It's also time to review and propose updates to our League's policies on candidate forums, our website, all-member emails, and board political activity. All members are encouraged to join us at the home of Jeanne Davik on April 12 at 7:30 p.m. to participate in these important discussions.

A big thank you goes out to **Susan DeRonne** who has just completed her term as Interim Voter Registrar. Her willingness to step up and take over this key job for the spring elections is certainly appreciated.

As always, it is a pleasure to welcome a new member, and this month we are pleased to add **Kathleen Hogan** of Lombard to our roster.

Finally, I hope you will consider attending the Illinois League of Women Voters State of the State luncheon on Tuesday, April 24. Not only is this an important fundraiser for the state League, the panel discussion *Financing Illinois's Future* will prepare us for the League's work on school funding in the year ahead.

Laura

Great Decisions

The Great Decisions discussion group will meet on Thursday, April 5, at 9:15 a.m. at Kay Gavin's home. Our topic will be the second one in the new book, **Climate Change and Global Warming**. What is the Kyoto Protocol? Why hasn't the U.S. ratified it? Do you agree that we made the right decision? Read the article for ideas on this and other environmental issues. As always, we welcome new participants.



The Cool Cities Initiative and Goals for Elmhurst

Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m. at the
Elmhurst Public Library
211 Prospect Avenue

This meeting is open to the public.

Come learn about the Cool Cities Initiative, presented by Lonnie Morris of the Sierra Club River Prairie Group. Area representatives will also present green building projects throughout Elmhurst and Villa Park.

The following four milestones represent the path that any community can take to reduce global warming emissions, save taxpayer dollars, and move the country towards a smart energy future:

MILESTONE #1: ESTABLISH A COOL CITIES CAMPAIGN - The city has an established group of local citizens who are committed to reducing global warming emissions in their city.

MILESTONE #2: ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY - At this stage, the local Cool Cities campaign builds support for the mayor to sign the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. It does this by working with other community groups, generating letters to the mayor, raising the issue in the media, and talking to neighbors.

MILESTONE #3: CITY SIGNS THE U.S. MAYOR'S CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT - Signing this agreement commits the city to reducing its global warming emissions 7% below 1990 levels - an emissions reduction equal to what is required under the Kyoto Protocol.

MILESTONE #4: IMPLEMENTING SMART ENERGY SOLUTIONS - The city adopts policies that reduce global warming emissions, lower energy bills, and make the city a cleaner place to live.

Voter Registration

Susan DeRonne

During March, we registered a total of 53 voters. Many thanks to deputy registrars **Gail Anderson, Marta Davy, Jan Dorner, Corinne Johnson, Colette Kubiesa**, (thanks for last minute help), **Nancy Kurotsuchi, Joanne McCurdy, Ileen Rubinstein, Marilyn Thompson, and Connie Zillig**. We couldn't have done it without you!



Candidate Information

The League of Women Voters of Elmhurst Candidate Forum featuring candidates in the Consolidated Election of April 17, 2007, for **City Council - all Wards, the District 205 School Board, and the Elmhurst Park Board** is on public access TV channel 6, **Sundays at 7:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m.**

The Candidate Forum may also be viewed on DVD. One copy is at the Elmhurst Public Library Reference Desk, available for check-out. Our League has a copy that may be checked out by contacting Laura Kratz.

The Voter Guide at lwvelmhurst.org has answers to League-generated questions for the Elmhurst candidates.

Early Voting is available March 26 through April 12, during office hours, at the York Township Office, 1502 South Meyers Road, Lombard, at the DuPage County Election Commission, 421 North County Farm Road, Wheaton, and at several other DuPage County sites.



Action Alert

Citizens of the District of Columbia pay U.S. taxes, fight and die for the U.S. during wartime, and are governed by laws that Congress passes. And yet they have no voting representation in Congress. They have only a non-voting delegate in the House of Representatives. Contact your Representative now, by phone or email, and urge her/him to vote for the bipartisan DC Voting Rights Act.



Membership

Donna Blue

Please welcome our new member: **Kathleen K. Hogan**

A Letter to the Editor:

Dear League Members,

Through the years the League of Women Voters of Elmhurst has been blessed with many great leaders, and now two of them have been wonderfully honored. **Olive Spannaus** and **Ann Timmer** were included in a new book, *Feminists Who Changed America, 1963-1975*, edited by Barbara J. Love. The book documents key feminists who ignited the second wave of the women's movement and made permanent changes in entrenched customs and laws.

Olive was a long-time Elmhurst member and has been a very active member in Seattle, Washington, since moving there in 1981. She was our President 1963-65 and was so much fun. She delighted us with her songs and music at many League events. Her work for the women's movement involved many years of successfully bringing the Lutheran Church bodies to recognize the strength and influence of women.

Ann was an active member before moving to Arizona in 1976. She was our coordinator in the fight to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, and in Arizona has been instrumental in the work of NOW.

We salute these two League friends and congratulate them for this deserved honor.

Mae Pearson

P.S. Call me if you want more information about this book.



Two News Briefs

The DuPage County Inter League Organization files (5 boxes!) have been given to the DuPage County Historical museum for safekeeping.

The 53rd Illinois League of Women Voters Convention will be held in Matteson, Illinois, from Friday, June 22 to Sunday, June 24, 2007.



Members are reminded that dues are due by May 1.
(Renewal form below.)

It's time to pay our dues for 2007-2008...

Renew before the Annual Meeting to avoid a dues increase.

___ \$50 FOR A ONE-YEAR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

___ \$75 FOR ONE-YEAR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP

For two members who share an address

___ \$25 FOR A 1 YEAR FULL TIME STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Please indicate where you are currently enrolled as a full-time student:

School: _____

Please help us keep our records up to date with the following information

NAME/NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ TELEPHONE (DAY/EVENING) _____

Would you like to receive publications via email?

Observer Reports Yes ___ No ___ **Shop Talk** Yes ___ No ___

Please make your check payable to **The League of Women Voters of Elmhurst** and return with your membership form to **Donna Blue, Membership Director**.

Check your Directory for her address, or email Donna at membership@lwvelmhurst.org

We need your voice! Where do you want to be active in League this year?

___ Voter Registration ___ Candidate Forums ___ Observer Corps

___ On-line Voters Guide ___ Monthly Programs ___ Great Decisions

___ Hospitality ___ Making Phone Calls ___ Finance Drive

___ LWVUS Immigration Study ___ Cool Cities Initiative/Environment

___ Dist. 205 Referenda Moderating ___ Illinois School Funding Reform