



# THE VOTER

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May 2015

### *Board of Directors*

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### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Thurs. May 7  
Annual Business  
Meeting, 5:30 pm,**  
733 W Washington,  
Peoria.

**May Board meeting  
TBD**

**May 20, Drinks &  
Dialogue, "The  
Changes in Addictions  
since Betty Ford" at  
the Hearth Restaurant,  
4604 N Prospect Rd  
(Continued on p.4)**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

What a wonderful dinner with Illinois Supreme Court Justice Thomas L. Kilbride speaking on "Money in Judicial Campaigns."

We were happy to see Federal Court Judge James Shadid who oversees the Naturalization Ceremonies wherein League members conduct voter registration for new citizens. Chief Circuit Judge Stephen Koury and Judges Lyons, Wilson, Joos, McCuskey and States Attorneys Brady and Baurer attended. Peoria County Board Chair Andrew Rand attended.

This was a start to be more informed on "Money in Politics" which is a 2015-16 LWVUS study focus. The background reading list is difficult to find online so copy/paste: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/suggested-readings-money-politics> I have already purchased the book "Big Money" by Vogel and that will be available to borrow soon. Terry Matthews has agreed to co-chair our re-study on this topic.

Hope you will attend our Annual Business meeting this **Thursday May 7 at 5:30 pm at the IFT-AFT offices at 733 W. Washington St in Peoria.** (Parking is free in the lot at the entrance.) We will elect some of the officers and board, decide the program for next year, and vote on the budget. The information was included in the April Voter which was emailed or to you and is also available at our website [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

Drinks & Dialogue will continue through summer on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:30, but the location will change. If a topic interests you, come to the one hour discussion.

Information on our Summer Social/Renewal will be available soon.

-- Cheryl

*Try the City of Peoria Budget Challenge- I did, and it is interesting.  
[www.peoria.budgetchallenge.org/](http://www.peoria.budgetchallenge.org/)*

## DRINKS & DIALOGUE, Wed. May 20, on ADDICTIONS

"The Change in Addictions since Betty Ford" will be discussed at Drinks & Dialogue hosted by LWVGP. Understanding of new areas of addictive behavior over the last few decades, including their causes and services provided to treat these new addictions, supports the LWV position of promoting positive Mental Health. League members and the public are invited to participate in the dialogue.

Wednesday, May 20 at 5:30pm

Hearth Restaurant at 4604 N. Prospect Rd, Peoria Hts 60616



Please note this NEW LOCATION for May

The dialogue will open with comments from **Dr. Ted Wolgamot, Psy. D., a former Betty Ford Center counselor** and be facilitated by a League member.



Drinks & Dialogue provides an opportunity for people to share opinions and ideas, ask questions and become more aware of local, state, and national issues and the options for making change.

There is no cost to participate, and refreshments are available to buy.

Drinks & Dialogue is offered monthly, on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, for one hour starting at 5:30pm with local, state, and national topics.

Once again, please note the location for May 20th is the Hearth Restaurant at 4604 N. Prospect Rd, Peoria Hts.

### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday May 7 at 6 pm; social at 5:30  
IFT-AFT offices at 733 SW Washington St. Peoria 61602  
(bring an appetizer or dessert to share)

### ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

President's remarks  
Minutes of 2014 meeting  
Election of Officers and Board  
Adoption of Program  
Adoption of 2015-16 Budget & dues structure  
Other business from the floor and/or directions to the 2015-16 Board

### From LWVUS: **Supreme Court Rules in Key Judicial Campaign Finance Case**

This week the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in an important campaign finance case *Williams-Yulee v. Florida Bar*, upholding a state ban on direct campaign solicitations by judicial candidates. The League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Florida joined an amicus brief on *Williams-Yulee v. The Florida Bar*, in favor of the constitutionality of a state prohibition because the public must have confidence in the independence and impartiality of judges.

### CAUSES OF DEATH/ PCCHD Observer Report

LOGO REPORT: Peoria County Health Department Board Meeting April 20, 2015.

The PCCHD epidemiologist compiled and presented a Peoria County Community Health Indicator Report for 2015. She will do this yearly from now. Her report has graphs and tables which are easy to view and understand. It was divided into four sections: Community Demographics, Health Outcomes, Leading Causes of Death, and Disease Prevalence for Peoria County. It compared these Peoria rates to all of Illinois and to the USA. Cancer is the leading cause of death in Peoria County closely followed by heart disease. Suicide is in 9<sup>th</sup> place. Diabetes is present in 10% of the population and obesity is also a significant problem in both adults and children.

This presentation should be available for you to view on the PCCHD web page which can be accessed from the PEORIA County web page.

By Observer Elliott Murray



## Volunteer Opportunities

Help us with a study or a program. League members at our Annual Meeting May 7 at 5:30 will choose officers & directors; decide program topics for next year's meetings; decide which issues to "study" for consensus; and how to budget for next year. Are you willing to be on a committee or help setup a general meeting? Contact Cheryl 253-9594 or [c\\_budzinski@hotmail.com](mailto:c_budzinski@hotmail.com)

Topics may include: **LWVUS' "Money in Politics"** a position restudy;

LWVUS study on **Amending the US Constitution**;

**Re-Districting petition drive and ballot referendum** for Nov 2016;

**Local Issues - LOGO submitted study request for Township of the City of Peoria**;

**Environmental portfolio - Recycling**;

Plus, from our February Program Planning meeting: criminal Justice, residential solar power, immigration, state convention directives, and candidate school.

What are you interested in? Tell me by email, or at the Annual Meeting.

**Need volunteers to oversee an election Friday, July 24 in Springfield at 9am.** We need 25 volunteers to help run the officer and director elections for the national Vietnam Veterans of America convention at the Springfield Convention Center this summer. (Springfield doesn't have a League.) Farrell Davies and Fran Kepler are co-chairing this. (VVA is giving our Ed Fund a generous donation for the work.) [farrelldavies2@gmail.com](mailto:farrelldavies2@gmail.com) (subject line: VVA volunteer)



League of Women Voters  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ON THE WEB:

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

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**May 7. Thur. 5:30 pm. Annual Business Meeting, AFT-IFT Office, 733 W. Washington, Peoria, IL.**

**May Board Meeting TBD**

**May 20. Wed. 5:30pm. Drinks & Dialogue- "The Changes in Addictions since Betty Ford"  
Hearth Restaurant, 4604 N. Prospect, Rd., Peoria Heights.**

**May 18. Mon. LOGO, Lakeview Library study room**

**June 6-7. Illinois LWV Convention, Naperville/Lisle, IL.**

**July 24. Friday. 9 am. LWV-monitored election at V.V.W. Convention, Springfield, IL**

**July 7. Special General Primary 18<sup>th</sup> District Congressional seat.**

**August. Congressional District Candidate Debate in partnership with WEEK TV**

**Sept. 10. Special General Election, 18<sup>th</sup> District Congressional seat.**