

The League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria

THE VOTER

Volume 69, Issue 4

April 2016

Board of Directors

Cheryl Budzinski, President 309/253-9594 president@lwvgp.org

Pat Landes, lst Vice-Pres.

Sharon Maule, 2nd V-Pres.

Terri Campion, Treasurer

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Joyce Blumenshine

Ron Budzinski

Mary Jane Crowell

Farrell Davies

Carol Hedeman

Elaine Hopkins

Terry Matthews

Gary Stella

Newsletter editor, Elaine Hopkins <u>ehopkins7@prodigy.net</u>

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, April 7 **Correcting Corrections in IL** dinner meeting at the Waterhouse at 316 SW Washington St. Peoria.

Wednesday, April 20, 5 pm. Drinks & Dialogue. Electing Peoria County Board Chair countywide Hearth Restaurant, 4604 N. Prospect, Peoria Heights.

Continued on p. 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our March meeting presented by Leaguer Allen Mayer was very well attended and very informative about the process of electing the president. Leaguers Phil Salzer and Gary Stella also contributed much information to the discussion. The audience had a lot of questions. LWVUS has a position on this issue which is to **support a change to direct-popular-vote method of electing the President of the U.S**.

Two Peoria Health Department staff, Monica Hendrickson and Meredith Littell, talked about the Zika virus at our March 16th Drinks & Dialogue. So much is unknown at this time about the virus. Currently, people living in the Peoria area who have not traveled to certain areas in South and Central America or the Caribbean *"are generally not considered at risk for infection. Zika virus is not spread from person to person the way cold and flu are. At this time, the main concern is that Zika infection in pregnant women may be linked to birth defects" according to their website. The Health Dept is using the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) information since travelers have called after arriving home to Peoria from affected areas.*

What impressions, positive or negative, did you have of our **"Super Tuesday" election on March 15** - other than your favorite candidate winning or losing? The Peoria County Election Commission is still in its infancy. So I am sure, feedback is welcome. Email me with your suggestions to make the process better. I have already talked to the Chair of the Commission, Leaguer JoAnn Thomas, with the suggestion to collect email addresses for election judges to improve communication. I have also offered our League's assistance with volunteers to help with future mailings.

Look for publicity on our *e*-Tranparency Project results. Thanks to Leaguer Rick Fox for chairing this effort and to the 14 League volunteers who searched websites.

There is still time to collect signatures or turn in completed petitions to get **re-districting reform** on the ballot in November. Thanks to all of you who have signed or turned in completed petitions. Special thanks to Leaguers Chair Gary Stella, Bill Mahl, Shelley Epstein, and Brad McMillan who are available to speak to your organizations. And thanks to Thirty-thirty Coffee for supporting our effort. Check out our Facebook page to see what is happening in Nebraska regarding an independent redistricting effort. *(continued on p. 2)*

April 20th Drinks & Dialogue is on the topic "Should the Peoria County Board chair be elected by its members or by county-wide citizen vote?" Presenter will be former Chair Gary Stella.

Our **April 7th** Annual Dinner Meeting/Fundraiser features John Baldwin, Director of Corrections for the State of Illinois, who will speak and answer questions on "**Correcting Corrections in Illinois**." Mr Baldwin is on the IL State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform which has released Part 1 of its recommendations and is working on sentencing change suggestions and community programs suggestions. Will reducing the population 25% in State prisons become a cost and major effort for our community service providers?

Our dinner /fundraising committee, chaired by Carol Hedeman, is excited about the location and food at the Waterhouse across from the Riverfront Museum. (There is plenty of parking across Washington Street.) Raffle tickets are available also. This is our main fundraiser for the year- \$50/person. Please plan to attend our dinner and bring a friend. This should be of interest to everyone. To pay with PayPal, go to www.lwvgp.org

Our Annual Business Meeting is Thursday, May 5 at Schnucks in the Community Room (5:30 social, 6pm meeting.) Come to the meeting. Agenda includes budget, election of officers/directors, by-law revisions, and programs for 2016-17. Results of our e-Transparency Project will also be discussed. (*Our calendar year is July1 - June 30.*)

The League of Women Voters is a member driven organization of volunteers. "We Make Democracy Work!"

-- Cheryl Budzinski, President

It's not too late to sign up for the April 7 dinner/fund-raiser featuring the Illinois Dept. of Corrections director. See the website www.lwvgp.org for details, and to pay using Paypal.

Welcome New Members: Mary Kelley Lemons and David Walvoord

Thank you for your support!

We appreciate the financial contributions from all of our members, and want to acknowledge our 2015/16 Susan B. Anthony members:

Shirley Belke Beth Akeson Cheryl & Ron Budzínskí *Katherine Coyle* Farrell Davies Jan & Emíl Deíssler Tracy & Rick Fox Pat Landes Michael McCuskey Mary McDade *Elliott Murray* Irene Prítzker Kathie Raeborn Sonní & Díck Williams Bill Poorman Joan French Sherry Híllman Pat Barton

Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Thursday May 5, 2016 at 6pm (social at 5:30) Schnucks' Community Room , 4800 N University, Peoria 61614

- I. Adopt a local program for the ensuing year.
- II. Elect Officers and Directors, and members of the Nominating Committee.
- III. Adopt budget.
- IV. By-laws revisions
- V. Minutes from 2015 meeting
- VI. Awards
- VII. e-Transparency Project
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Directions to the Board
- XI. Adjourn

Programs for 2016-17.

Submitted programs for consideration at the Annual Business Meeting for 2016-17:

- voter education activities for re-districting on the Nov. ballot
- study the city of Peoria Water Company buyout
- candidate school (city elections are in a year)
- candidate forums
- presidential election activities to get-out-the-vote
- carbon standards for Illinois;
- sentencing guideline changes
- storm water utility tax
- The board suggests 4 General Meetings next year: Oct, Nov, Feb, and March;
 - Jan. LWVIL program breakfast meeting;
 - April dinner meeting;
 - May business meeting
 - Drinks & Dialogue 9 meetings (None in July, Nov, and Dec)
 - Other meetings for studies, consensus, candidate forums, summer social, etc. as committees determine

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Following is the slate for the election in May at the annual meeting:

| 1st Vice-President | Farrell Davies | 2016-2017 President-elect 2017-19 | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Secretary | Lisa Uphoff | 2016-2018 | |
| Treasurer | Dick Williams | 2016-2018 | |
| Director/Voter | Elaine Hopkins | 2016-2018 | |
| Director/Membership | Pat Landes | 2016-2018 | |
| Director | Mary J. Crowell | 2016-2018 | |
| Director | Joyce Blumenshine | 2016-2018 | |
| Director | Sherry Hillman | 2016-2017 | |
| | | | |

Nominating Committee Chair Jan Deissler Nominating Committee Fran Kepler

Submitted by: Nominating Committee 2015-16, Jan Deissler, Chair, Hettie Beers, Jo Ann Thomas, Terri Campion, Sharon Maule.

| 2016/2017 | FY Proposed Budget | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | | | | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | |
| | | | YTD | BUDGET | Prop.Budget | |
| INCOME: | | | | | | |
| | Membership Dues | | 5,315.00 | \$4,500.00 | \$5,800.00 | |
| | Fundraising Activities | | 872.44 | \$3,240.00 | \$3,000.00 | |
| | Contributions/Donations | | 652.00 | \$1,200.00 | \$700.00 | |
| | Interest | | 48.29 | \$20.00 | \$55.00 | |
| | | TOTAL INCOME | \$6,887.73 | \$8,960.00 | \$9,555.00 | |
| EXPENSES: | | | | | | |
| | Affiliations: | | | | | |
| | | LWVUS PMPs* | 1,317.98 | \$2,520.00 | \$3,010.00 | |
| | | LWVIL PMPs* | 1,589.62 | \$2,120.00 | \$2,820.00 | |
| | | Total Affil. Expense | \$2,907.60 | \$4,640.00 | \$5,830.00 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Board & Administrative: | | | | | |
| | | Supplies | | \$100.00 | \$100.00 | |
| | | Postage | | \$100.00 | \$75.00 | |
| | | Printing | 19.00 | \$150.00 | \$150.00 | |
| | | Website | | \$220.00 | \$225.00 | |
| | | Insurance | 115.00 | \$85.00 | \$115.00 | |
| | | Misc.& Affilation | | \$50.00 | \$75.00 | Upper Miss. Aff. |
| | | Total B & A Expense | \$134.00 | \$705.00 | \$740.00 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Newsletter: | | | | | |
| | | Printing | | \$60.00 | \$60.00 | |
| | | Postage | | \$60.00 | \$60.00 | |
| | | Total Newslettr Exp | \$0.00 | \$120.00 | \$120.00 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Delegates & Travel: | & Travel | | | | |
| | | Conventions | 1,492.40 | \$2,000.00 | \$1,200.00 | LWVIL |
| | | Observer Corps | | \$25.00 | \$25.00 | |
| | | Misc Meetings | 1,119.44 | \$120.00 | \$390.00 | UMR150, MLD tr-50 |
| | | Total Del & Travel | ¢2 (11 04 | 62.145.00 | ¢1 C15 00 | |
| | | Expenses | \$2,611.84 | \$2,145.00 | \$1,615.00 | |
| | Drogram & Activition | | | | | |
| | Program & Activities: | Drograme & Astivitia | 106.00 | \$700.00 | ¢E00.00 | |
| | | Programs & Activitie Voter Service | 186.82 | \$700.00 | \$500.00 | |
| | | Public Relations | 0.00 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 | 60 001 |
| | | Membership | 105.00 | \$300.00 | \$300.00 | 60-env. |
| | | Recruiting | 242.75 | \$300.00 | \$400.00 | see membership |
| | | Total P & A | | | | |
| | | Expenses | \$534.57 | \$1,350.00 | \$1,250.00 | |
| | | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$6,188.01 | \$8,960.00 | \$9,555.00 | |

BY-LAW REVISIONS for member vote at the May 5 Annual Meeting

Deletions are crossed out. Additions are in bold. The committee looked at the entire document and stated "no change" in all other sections of the By-Laws.

(Committee submitted changes on January 21, 2016 by the By-Laws Committee: Chair Fran Kepler, members Irene Pritzker and Jean Sanger. Included are revisions of the Committee revisions by the LWVGP Board at March meeting.)

BY-LAWS: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER PEORIA, ILLINOIS

ARTICLE I -- NAME (no changes)

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND POLICY (no changes)

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP (no changes)

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office - The Board of Directors of the League shall consist of the officers of the League, eight elected Directors, and not more than eight appointed Directors. Four Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding eight, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting. The immediate past President shall serve the Board in a non-voting advisory capacity for one year.

Section 2. Qualifications - No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or Director of this organization unless they are a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria.

Section 3. Vacancies - Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting of any member without valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.

Section 4. Powers and Duties - The Board of Directors shall have charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the general membership. The Board shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 5. Meetings - There shall be at least nine six regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors. Board members may participate in Board meetings electronically if equipment is available. A telephone or electronic poll for emergency situation would be included as a special meeting.

Section 6. Executive Committee - The Board may appoint an executive committee consisting of the president, vicepresidents, secretary and treasurer. The executive committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the Board on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board. A phone poll for an emergency situation would be included in "shall exercise such power and authority."

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS (no changes)

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 1. Membership Meetings - There shall be at least four meetings each year. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Notice - A written notice of all meetings shall be sent to the membership at least ten days before the meetings. Said notice shall contain time and place and agenda of business to be transacted. Notice of all General Meetings, the Annual Meeting, and all consensus meetings shall be sent to the membership at least 10 days before the meeting date. All regular committee meetings should appear on the League calendar. Notice shall contain time, place, and topic(s) to be covered.

Section 3. Annual Meeting - An Annual Meeting shall be held between April 1 and May 31, the exact date to be determined by the Board. The annual meeting shall:

(a) Adopt a local program for the ensuing year.

(b) Elect Officers and Directors, and members of the Nominating Committee.

(c) Adopt budget.

(d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it

Section 4. Quorum - Twenty percent of the voting members shall constitute a quorum- which may include up to 5% by written proxy -at the Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria. Written proxy may be voted

only by one proxy per member in attendance. Voting members shall be those members of at least one month's standing.

ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee - The nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman and two members, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations of these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for officers and Directors may be sent to this committee by any voting member.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor - The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for officers, directors, and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, providing the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Section 3. Elections - The elections shall be by ballot except when there is only one nominee for each office, the election may be by voice vote. The majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Section 4. Election Committee - After the nominations are closed, if the vote is taken by ballot, the presiding officer shall appoint an Election Committee, which shall have charge of all details of election.

ARTICLE IX - PROGRAM

Section 1. Authorization - The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League, as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of program.

Section 2. Procedure - The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

(a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program.

(b) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.

(c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.

(d) Recommendations for the Program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that:

- (1) The Annual meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote.
- (2) The Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.

(e) Changes in the Program, in the case of altered conditions may be made provided that:

(1) Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed.

(2) Final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 3. Member Action - Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria only when authorized to do so by the proper the Board of Directors. currently serving president.

ARTICLE X - NATIONAL CONVENTION, STATE CONVENTION AND COUNCIL

Section 1. National Convention - The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted by the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Section 2. State Convention - The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria under provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

Section 3. State Council - The President or the President's proxy shall be the a delegate to the State Council under the provisions of the By-Laws of the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

ARTICLE XI - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority no changes)

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS (no changes)

DIVERSITY POLICY (no changes)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER PEORIA NON-PARTISAN POLICY (no changes)

ADDENDUM TO LWVGP NON-PARTISAN POLICY (no changes)

How should the County Board Chairman be elected?

The League of Women Voters April 20th Drinks & Dialogue will discuss the topic, **How should the County Board Chairman be elected?** Gary Stella, a former City of Peoria Councilman and Peoria County Board Chairman, will be the presenter.

The method of County Board Chairman election is not consistent among all Illinois counties. Some counties, like Peoria County, elect their Chairman by vote of the sitting county board and will predictably elect their chairman by the sitting party majority of their current board. Other Counties, like Tazewell County, elect their Chairman by popular vote from the County electorate. League Board member Gary Stella will present both methods, with each having particular pros and cons, as well as the very different costs associated with each election process.

League members and the public are invited to participate in the dialogue on Wednesday, April 20th at 5:30p.m. at the Hearth Restaurant, at 4604 N. Prospect Rd. Peoria Heights. League member Ron Budzinski will facilitate the dialogue on County Board Chairman elections.

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

Drinks and Dialogue is offered monthly, on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, for one hour starting at 5:30p.m. at the Hearth Restaurant with local, state and national topics relating to approved LWV positions. Please join us at Drinks and Dialogue and join the LWV in *"Making* Democracy *Work!"*

Voter Service Report

We had the opportunity to greet and serve 91 new citizens at the Naturalization Ceremony on March 11. We could not register them for voting as the deadline for voter registration had passed, but we did give them a card that told them how to register and vote in the primary election.

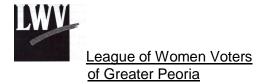
Mock elections can be organized in high schools this fall. The League of Illinois has a grant to help us conduct these mock elections. We contacted the 16 high schools in Peoria County, and to date six have said, "Yes." The Election Commission will work with us. We are not sure how many volunteers will be needed, but if you would be interested in going to a school for a day or half a day next fall, we would love to hear from you. -- Mary Jane Crowell

Observer Report/ March 16th Peoria City/County Landfill Committee Meeting:

The report from Foth Engineering mentioned that gas being flared at Landfill No. 1 has 40-45% methane. Since efforts to pull more leachate from the landfill, leachate water levels have been reduced allowing more waste to decompose and this is increasing the gas levels. The City of Peoria Public Works report on landfill finances shows the current finances in better condition than previous years. Waste Management reported that Landfill No. 2 has had above permit levels of cyanide detected at one monitoring well and they are appealing the situation as due to 'natural causes'. Peoria Disposal representative Chris Coulter reported that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) did not want the pending new Landfill No. 3 boundary to include the current area of Landfill No. 2 which is operated by Waste Management, and he presented a new map of the pending Landfill No. 3 which excludes that area. He explained that IEPA was ready to approve the permit for Landfill No. 3 if that change was made. Mr. Coulter discussed that the entirety of the rest of the existing Landfill property including Landfill No. 1 and adjacent areas are in the No. 3 application as they may have a need for excess soil storage or roll-off box storage, or other needs. Mr. Coulter also reported that the draft NPDES [water pollution permit] for Landfill No. 3 is open for public comment. The public comment deadline is March 30, 2016, and the public notice is available at http://www.epa.illinois.gov/public-notices/npdes-notices/index After the meeting was over, Mr. Coulter was asked about the status of removing crushed CRT glass from the approved Alternate Daily Cover listing in the new Landfill No. 3 permit, and he said that it was removed from that listing.

Joyce Blumenshine , LWV Observer

The Voter, Vol. 69, Issue 4, April 2016



623 W. Stratford, Peoria, IL 61614

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ON THE WEB:

www.lwvgp.org

IMPORTANT DATES

- Thurs. April 7 Annual Dinner Meeting "Correcting Corrections in Illinois" John Baldwin, Director of IL DOC 5 pm social/ 5:45 welcome/dinner 6pm. Reservations Required. go to www.lwvgp.org or mail insert The Waterhouse at Maxam Building at 316 SW Washington St. Peoria 61602 (across from the Riverfront Museum.) Plenty of parking across the street.
- Wed. April 20, Drinks & Dialogue, "How should the Peoria County Board Chair Be Elected", 5pm social/ 5:30 program at the Hearth Restaurant, 4604 N Prospect Rd, Peoria Heights 61616
- **Thurs. May 5 Annual Business Meeting of LWV Greater Peoria.** ALL members should attend! 5:30pm social/6pm meeting at Schnucks in the Community Room at 4800 N University St. Peoria



League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria

invites you to join us for a delicious buffet dinner, stimulating speaker, and conversation at the lovely Waterhouse Ballroom in downtown Peoria. (The Waterhouse, Maxam Building, 316 SW Washington St. - across from the Museum.)

Thursday, April 7, 2016 "Correcting Corrections in Illinois"

5:00 Cash Bar • 6:00 Dinner Buffet • 7:00 Speaker 7:20 Q&A • 8:00 Raffle



Baldwin and Budzinski

Keynote Speaker — John R. Baldwin

The League of Women Voters is extremely pleased to present Mr. John R. Baldwin, Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections, as the keynote speaker of the evening.

John Baldwin was named director of The Illinois Department of Corrections August 14, 2015, by Governor Bruce Rauner. As IDOC director, he is responsible overseeing the management and operations of 35 state prisons, work camps and transition centers as well as the supervision of parolees. IDOC houses 49,000 inmates with a \$1.3 billion dollar annual budget.

THREE GREAT PRIZES

Kindle Fire \$100 gift certificate to PVII restaurant \$100 gift certificate to Hearth restaurant. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Need not be present to win. Raffle license R-29-16

Please mail this form before March 25 with your check (payable to LWV Ed Fund) to: LWV Treasurer Terri Campion, 1188 County Road 00E, Wyoming, IL 61491

| NAME EMAIL |
|---|
| Please reserve seats for dinner @ \$50 for a total of \$ |
| Tables seat eight. Please indicate the names of people you want to be seated with on the back of this form. |
| I wish to purchase raffle tickets for \$10 each or 3 raffle tickets for \$25 for a total of \$ |
| I regret I cannot attend, but am enclosing a gift to the Education Fund of the LWV in the amount of \$, |
| Total amount enclosed: \$* or use PayPal at our website www.lwvgp.org |
| The dinner is a non-ticketed event. You will receive email confirmation of your dinner and raffle ticket purchases. Raffle tickets will also be available at the dinner. For more Information, call Cheryl Budzinski at 253-9594. |



*All gifts are tax deductible. \$10 of each \$50 dinner ticket is tax deductible.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Education Fund of the League of Women Voters of Illinois, a 501(c)3 organization.