



The League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria

THE VOTER

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August 2016

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IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, August 17,
Drinks & Dialogue,
Medical Marijuana.
5:30 – 6:30 pm.

Thurs. Sept 29, 6pm
Public meeting on
"Public Ownership of
the Water System"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Summer Renewal Social was enjoyed by members, new members, and guests! Thank you to Dave Koehler and Nora Sullivan for hosting our event at their home -beautiful house and view. And, thanks to Pat Landes, Jan Deissler, our Board, and our Membership Committee for their work getting 59 people there and the yummy refreshments.

Our League in cooperation with ICC and NAACP is holding classes in October at ICC on "Running for Elected Office- Tips for a Successful Campaign." On the April 2017 ballot will be municipal, school board, township, ICC, and other candidates. We hope to encourage dedicated citizens to collect petition signatures this Fall to get on the ballot. Considering running for office or helping a friend who wants to run.

We are starting to plan for an October 2017 LWVGP trip to New York. Included at this time is: Rochester NY to visit Susan B Anthony house; Seneca Falls to visit the Wesleyan Chapel, M'Clintock House, National Women's Hall of Fame, and the Elizabeth Cady Stanton house; Auburn to visit Harriet Tubman's house and Secretary Seward's house; and Hyde Park to visit Eleanor Roosevelt's Val-Kill, FDR's museum and cottage, and dine at the CIA (Culinary Institute of America.) Call me if you are interested in helping with the planning or possibly going on the trip.

Please check our Face Book page for updates on the ballot amendment on ReDistricting. We were disappointed in the Cook County Court ruling recently, but the case has been accepted by the Illinois Supreme Court for an expedited hearing on our appeal. Thanks to our League's Redistricting Committee co-chairs Gary Stella and Connie Romanus and the committee who have been meeting regularly.

We have an active schedule of meetings, forums, and events for the 2016-17 year again. If you are willing to help, please email or call me.

Cheryl Budzinski president@lwvgrp.org 253-9594

Call your county's election authority about:

- training dates to be an *election judge*, if you want to be a paid election judge for the November 8 election.
- or, if you are interested in being a *volunteer voter registrar*, you can ask them about getting trained - which takes 30 minutes or less. Then, email Mary Jane Crowell to get on our League's list of volunteer registrars. crowellm@mtco.com

Peoria: 494-8683

Tazewell 477-2267

Woodford 467-2822

Voter Service Rocks!

Our registrars are certainly some of the busiest members of the league this summer and fall.

- 48 new citizens were registered at Naturalization in July and about 2 dozen citizens were registered at the Mosque.
- As partners with National Voter Registration Day, we will register students at E. Peoria ICC on Aug 15 and 16. We will need 8 registrars on those days.
- At a Folk-sing on Aug 20 at Fondulac library we will be ready to register citizens.

To help educate citizens and involve them in their government:

- We, with LWVIL and Peoria Election office, are working with 10 high schools in the county to hold mock elections for their students in Sept.
- We will hold 1 or 2 events late Sept/ Oct. for candidates of our 4 contested races in Peoria County and 2 races in Tazewell County. Included may be the 18th congressional candidates.

Perhaps, **best of all**, we are partnering with the NAACP to show “Selma, The Bridge to the Ballot” at the Lincoln library on **Sat. Sept. 10 at 1 pm**. A discussion will be part of that.

We **urge** every member to seriously consider being a registrar, election judge, engage friends and neighbors with involvement in their government, and attending some of the extra events, like the “Selma” movie.

-- Mary Jane Crowell

Medical Marijuana: How Is Need Determined? What Is the Process for Acquisition?

The League of Women Voters **Drinks & Dialogue August 17th** meeting will discuss Medical Marijuana, its availability, the process for obtaining it and how to obtain it once approved for its use.

Bresha Brewer, Executive Director of Medical Cannabis Alliance of Illinois and Caprice Sweatt, Founder, Medical Cannabis Outreach, will lead the discussion.

As marijuana has become a potential medication for people with particular types of illnesses or conditions, it is important for the general public to have information regarding its use. This program will answer many of the questions people have and allow participants to discuss the issue.

League members and the public are invited to participate in the dialogue on Wednesday, August 17th, at 5:30 p.m., at the **Hearth Restaurant, 4604 North Prospect, Peoria Heights**. League member Nora Sullivan, will facilitate the dialogue.

There is no cost to participate. Refreshments are available to purchase.

Membership Report

Thank you to all the Membership Committee members and League members that volunteered to create a memorable 2016/17 Summer Renewal Social. And a special thanks to League members Nora Sullivan and Dave Koehler for hosting our event at their lovely home.

The social was attended by 47 members and 12 guests. The great news is that half of the guests joined that evening, bringing our new membership total up to 129 members, doubling where we were 2 years ago. Our strong programming and community presence are key for attracting and retaining members.

MLD Coaching

Our League has participated in the League's national program for Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) for the past 2 years, using many of the MLD techniques to not only grow membership but to develop leadership in all levels of our organization.

Membership Chair Pat Landes was asked to present our successes at the statewide MLD training in July in Aurora. She has also agreed to coach the Leagues in Elgin and Wheaton for the following year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are very pleased to welcome several new members:

Donna Uphoff
Ray Keithley

Deloris Turner
Rita Ali

Kate Pastucha
Nancy Sizeman

Sue Ann Kortkamp
Dawn Harris

LAST CHANCE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Memberships expired on July 1, and we want to thank everyone who has renewed through the mail, online, and at the social.

If you haven't renewed yet, there is still time to do so to be included in our annual Members' Directory. Please either fill out the form below or go online to our website lwvvp.org and renew before your membership becomes inactive. We would hate to lose you. Remember, in addition to receiving educational and breaking alerts from us, LWVIL, and LWVUS, your membership gives us the clout to make democracy work.

2016/17 League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria Membership Form

Please select your desired membership category and fill out the following:

- Name(s) _____
- Mailing address: _____
- Primary phone (s) & email address(es) _____
- Make check payable to LWVGP for the membership amount, and mail this form and check to LWVGP Treasurer: Dick Williams, 5802 W. Woodbridge Pl., Peoria, IL 61615

Category	Individual	Household
Regular	\$62	\$93
Student/ Young Professional/Scholarship	\$31	n/a
Defenders of Democracy		
• Susan B. Anthony	\$100	\$150
• Carrie Chapman Catt	\$200	\$300
• Eleanor Roosevelt	\$300	\$450

Membership categories:

- *Household = 2 members living at the same address. Student = full-time student. Young Professional = member 30 or younger*
- *Scholarship = limited income, contact Membership Chair Pat Landes 309-648-3504*
- *Defenders of Democracy = increased level of support acknowledged in Voter.*

Thank you, your membership makes democracy work!

Thank you for your support

Since 100% of a regular dues' payment goes to the LWVIL and LWVUS, we need to raise money through fundraisers and donations to pay for our operating expenses. At this time we would like to acknowledge those members that selected the Defenders of Democracy membership category as a way to donate to LWVGP. Thank you for your additional support!

▪ **Carrie Chapman Catt members:**

- Elliott Murray
 - Carol & Allan Hedeman
-

▪ **Susan B. Anthony members:**

- Shirley Belke (Life Member)
 - Joyce Blumenshine & David Trachtenbarg
 - Jerry Brady
 - Cheryl & Ron Budzinski
 - Farrell Davies
 - Jan & Emil Deissler
 - Sherry Hillman
 - Dave Koehler & Nora Sullivan
 - Sue Ann Kortkamp
 - Pat Landes
 - Kathleen Leson
 - Michael McCuskey
 - Roberta Parks
 - Irene Pritzker
 - Kathie Raiborn
 - Sandy Stemler
 - Connie Torrey-Romanus
 - Sonni & Dick Williams
-

LOGO REPORT: Peoria City/County Health Department, June 25, 2016

The Strategic Planning Committee of the staff has been meeting every other Wednesday. One group has been looking at external factors and another at internal factors. They are working on the Community Health Improvement Plan. Starting in August they will combine and work on objectives and tasks to be accomplished. The goal is to have the plan and specific tasks to achieve objectives written in August. They will use the SMART format- Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely.

An Employees Climate Survey has taken place. This was a survey of the employees' feelings about their job climate (acceptance, support of supervisors etc.) The results were generally quite positive.

-- Elliott Murray

LOGO REPORT: Springdale Cemetery Authority board July 19th, 2016

During public comment Pat Lewis voiced concern regarding the tone and content of the May policy document published on the web He requested its review and removal.

Mike Rucker gave his quarterly update on savanna and woodland restoration his volunteers have been doing. The board thanked him for his continued efforts.

New mausoleum sale contract revised 3 times, hopes for it to be signed soon Cell tower public hearing Aug 4th Prospect road entrance plan to go the Historic Preservation Commission

Major trees and erosion problems have been identified from July 6 & 13th storms. Roads eroding, 16 dangerous trees identified. Need to deal with trees, looking for direction; bids, PPD, or City of Peoria. Also, need a tree planting program.

There was a follow-up discussion, for previous meeting, on need for public restrooms in the cemetery. No decision or formal direction from the authority

Cash balance is down to minimum levels, they have requested funds transfer from city.

Foundation authorized \$15000 for monument restoration.

Foundation membership up by 1/3. Fundraising continues at pace. Private (silent) fund raising will continue until they reach X% of their target then move to public.

Becky Doubleday has been appointed by the county, to replace Mary Ardapple.

Per request from Matt Ryan there was discussion of the posted policy changes that were motioned by Pat Lewis in public comment. This included discussion of cash payments and why they are no longer allowed. Also the complexities of Insurance policy assignment, and why they are no longer allowed in most situations. After explanation from the manager, the board seemed generally satisfied.

Rick Fox



League of Women Voters
of Greater Peoria

623 W. Stratford, Peoria, IL 61614

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ON THE WEB:

www.lwvqp.org

IMPORTANT DATES

Wed. August 10 First day to request a vote-by-mail ballot (mailing of ballots starts Sept 29)

Wed. August 17, 5:30 – 6:30 pm. **Drinks & Dialogue, Medical Marijuana**
Hearth Restaurant, 4604 North Prospect, Peoria Heights. IL 61616

Tues. August 30 First day to circulate petitions for (some) Spring elections

Wed. Sept. 21, 5:30-6:30 pm. Drinks & Dialogue

Thurs. Sept. 29, 6pm Public Meeting on Public Ownership of Water System
(special meeting of League study committee)

Sept. 29 – Nov. 7. Early voting starts

Mon. Oct 3, 10, 17 6:30-8:30 pm Classes on "Running for Elected Office - Tips for a Successful Campaign"

Oct. 12 –Nov. 8. Grace Period Voting – you can register and vote, requires photo ID.

Nov. 8. General Election