



60th Annual Meeting - May 7, 2015

League of Women Voters of Wheaton

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PROGRAM FOR THE 60TH ANNUAL MEETING

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WHEATON

SIXTIETH ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 7, 2015

Welcome Missey Wilhelm

Call to Order of 60th Annual Meeting Missey Wilhelm

Quorum established Missey Wilhelm

Adoption of Rules for Annual Meeting..... Missey Wilhelm

Minutes of 59th Annual Meeting Roberta Jacobson

Presentation and adoption of 2015-2016 Budget.....Shannon Burns

By-laws Committee Report Martha Barmantje

Local Positions.....Diane Niesman

Nomination and Election of Officers and DirectorsLori Miller

Introduction of New Board for 2015-16..... Missey Wilhelm

Direction to Board League Members

Adjournment

Secretary for the Annual Meeting..... Roberta Jacobson

Parliamentarian..... Allene Harding

RULES FOR 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Parliamentary procedures are tools to expedite fair, full and orderly considerations of business before the annual meeting. These procedures are contained in our by-laws, the Order of Business, and Rules Adopted at the Meeting, and, where applicable, Robert's Rules of Order, revised. Rules of the Meeting are adopted by a majority vote, but may be changed by a two-thirds vote.

Voting	Only members of the League of Women Voters of Wheaton may make motions and vote. The chair will decide which method of voting should be used.
Admission	No member may be admitted to the meeting during the time a motion is being presented, debated, or acted upon. This rule is made so that no member may vote on an issue on which he/she has heard only one part of the discussion.
Debate	Debate from the floor shall be limited to three minutes. No one shall speak more than once to a question until all who desire the privilege of the floor shall have spoken. The speaker will give his/her name and will state whether he/she speaks for or against the motion.
Recommended Program	The recommended program items will be presented and each will be separately moved and seconded for adoption. No vote will be taken until all recommended and non-recommended items have been presented. Questions will be asked for clarification only; there will be no debate at this time.
Consideration of Non-Recommended Program	Non-recommended* items shall be presented immediately after the presentation of the recommended items. After the motion has been moved and seconded, the member requesting consideration may make a statement limited for five minutes in explanation of the reason for asking consideration. Only questions for clarification may be asked. Then the vote to consider is taken, a majority is required to pass. If a non-recommended item is voted consideration by the Annual Meeting, the board shall be allowed five minutes to explain its reason for not recommending the item.
Discussion	There will be discussion and debate on the recommended and non-recommended items, which have been voted consideration. Amendments may be proposed and voted on at this time. Final action on program items will be taken once each item has been discussed.
Adoption of Items	The vote will be taken on each item in the order presented. Recommended program items require a majority vote; non-recommended items require a two-thirds majority vote for adoption.

*Our by-laws state that, Recommendations for 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.

1. These minutes can be read along with the 2014 Annual Meeting Report, to answer questions about reports, recommended changes and so on. Each time a * appears in these minutes, that Report is referenced.
2. We met at 1:30 PM at the Egg Harbor Café on Hale street in Wheaton. After lunch, the meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM by President Missey Wilhelm, A quorum was established, as reported by Allene Harding.*
3. A motion was made by Jane Hodgkinson and seconded by Olga Rammer to adopt the rules of the annual meeting.* The motion carried.
4. A motion was made by Denise Niesman and seconded by Barbara Laimins to waive the reading of the minutes from the 58th Annual Meeting.* Motion to approve the minutes was made by Nancy Wilen, and seconded by Tom Wilhelm. The motion carried.
5. Beryl Jacobson presented the 2014-2015 Proposed Budget* and reviewed various changes that were made in expenditures and revenues. The new budget reflects a decrease in membership and in revenue. Revenues and expenses are not balanced in the proposed budget; there is a shortfall of \$1,038. We were conservative in estimating income from donations based on our experience over the past few years.

Membership As of Jan. 31, 2014, we had 41 individual and 13 household memberships, numbers we used to estimate income and PMP for the budget. LWVIL PMP is \$27 per individual and \$40.50 per household membership. LWVUS PMP is \$31 per individual and \$46.50 per household membership.

Delegates and Travel We reduced National or State Conventions to \$700. The committee believes that this will cover registration and some of the travel expenses. Workshops and Regional meetings were not funded.

General Administration Board Tools and LWV President were reduced to \$50 each.

Operating Costs PayPal was budgeted at \$50, for processing dues payments at about \$2.30 each.

Programs and Activities We cut out \$450 budgeted for Event Rental, and cut the unused Special Event item.

Budget Committee Suggestions

- Consider appointing a Ways and Means Committee to explore fund raising ideas and sources of other income. The League needs to actively seek donations, both from members and non-members. (Comment by Art Pape: we need to be sure we ask everyone who might give. Art mentioned that he had not been asked.)
- Consider seeking in kind donations for printing and food at meetings, for example.
- Ask PayPal users to make a donation to cover the costs associated with using that service.
- Ask members who want printed materials to cover the costs. One suggestion was to allow members to order printed materials along with their membership renewal.
- Continue to work on membership recruitment. Consider advertising in local publications.
- Consider asking for a donation with the membership renewal. If the Wheaton LWV were able to average a donation of \$15.50 per member the deficit would be covered.

A motion was made by Roberta Jacobson and seconded by Don Westlake to accept the budget. The motion carried.

6. Martha Barmantje presented the By-laws Committee's recommendation* to make several changes to the bylaws for purposes of consistency and clarity, to specify the communities we serve, to account for remote meetings, through email or phone, to revised the dues payment schedule to allow full membership to those joining in the 4th quarter of our fiscal year, through the following fiscal year, for one year's dues. The revised bylaws are attached to the minutes for the record. Seconds were not required as this was a committee report, per Allen Harding. The changed bylaws are attached as Addendum A.

We voted on each bylaw change, as follows:

Article	Approved/Not approved	Moved by
Article 1	Approved	Liz Quigg
Article II	Approved	Barbara Kilton
Article IV	Approved	Liz Quigg
Article VI	Not approved, 3 abstentions	Barbara Pape

7. Di Niesman reported on changes to local positions (Local Programs)* as voted at the Program Planning meeting which was held on March 27, 2014. We voted on each program change individually, after discussion. The results are below. The revised program positions are attached as Addendum B.

Position	Approved/Not approved	Moved by	Seconded by
Local Government Bodies	Approved	Roberta Jacobson	Jane Hodgkinson
Home Rule	Approved , 1 abstention	Beryl Jacobson	Barbara Pape
Cable TV	Approved removal	Pat Schwarze	Beryl Jacobson
Housing change	Approved	Beryl Jacobson	Don Westlake
Recreation	Approved removal	Pat Schwarze	Jane Hodgkinson
Transportation	Approved	Pat Schwarze	Beryl Jacobson
Health Care	Approved	Liz Quigg	Beryl Jacobson
Education	Approved	Denise Niesman	Martha Barmantje

8. Jan Kay presented a Marget Hamilton award to Betty Bradshaw. Missey Wilhelm presented the Margaret Hamilton award to Barbara Pape. Their remarks on the recipients are in Addendums C and D.
9. Don Westlake presented the following candidates for two-year terms on the Board of Directors. The motion to accept the nominating committee's slate was made by Don Westlake and seconded by Beryl Jacobson. The motion passed.

Office	Nominee	Terms ends
Vice-President	Olga Rammer	(2016)
Treasurer	Nancy Wilen	(2016)
Director	Roger Kotecki	(2016)
Director	Diane Niesman	(2016)
Director	Pat Schwarze	(2016)

2015 Nominating Committee:

Lori Miller	Chair
Jane Hodgkinson	Non Board Member
Beth O'Malley	Non Board member
To be appointed	2 Board Members

10. Missey Wilhelm introduced all Board Officers and Directors for 2014-2015 to the members.
11. Missey then asked members to provide direction for the 2013-14 Board. There was none.
12. Missey Wilhelm spoke of our priorities for the coming year. They were, in order of importance:
- Increase membership
 - Raise money, and manage expenses
 - Recognize members who are active, perhaps with awards
 - Partner with other organizations as appropriate, such as AAUW, and SCARCE, the Sierra Club.
 - Continue our work on mock elections.
13. The Annual Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM; motion made by Denise Niesman, seconded by Jane Hodgkinson and approved.

Submitted by: Roberta Jacobson, Secretary

ADDENDA TO MINUTES OF 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

Addendum A:

LWV of Wheaton Local Positions

Local Government:

Local Government Bodies: Revised May 2014

We believe in representative government by districts when geographic population distribution allows. For the city of Wheaton, we support Council-Manager government with no fewer than six councilpersons and one Mayor. Four councilpersons should be elected from districts and two councilpersons and one mayor should be elected at large. In drawing district boundaries, the League of Women Voters of Wheaton agrees with present Illinois State Statute (65 ILCS 5/5-2-18.2) (from Ch. 24, par. 5-2-18.2) Sec. 5-2-18.2) which stipulates: "The city council shall divide the city, whenever necessary thereafter, into districts which shall be of as compact and contiguous territory as practicable and of approximately equal population."

Home Rule: Revised May 2014

We support Home Rule for the City of Wheaton and DuPage County.

Zoning and Annexation: Revised 2014

We support professional planning to balance residential and commercial development with substantial open space; the maintenance of a viable central business district and, where compatible, expansion of the tax base.

Social Policies

Housing: Revised May 2014

- We support Open Housing.
- We support housing units and housing assistance for low and moderate income families, senior citizens, and the disabled.

Transportation: Revised: May 2014

We support and encourage bicycling for transportation and recreation wherever and whenever possible. Whenever city streets are upgraded, planners should evaluate ways to make cycling safer and implement bike lanes where feasible. Planners at the municipal and county level should coordinate bicycle path routes in order to enable cyclists to travel to different areas, for both transportation and recreation.

The League supports a bus system for Wheaton and encourages the coordination of the Wheaton system with systems throughout the region, rather than owned and operated by Wheaton. Ridership might be increased by publishing routes, times and destinations at bus stops or in the local newspaper, newsletter, etc. Pullover lanes might be added on heavily traveled roads, so as not to hinder traffic flow.

Health Care: Revised May 2014

We support improved access to health care and improved coordination of preventive health service.

Education: Revised May 2014

We reaffirm our support of quality education. Quality education should be sufficiently diverse to meet the needs of all students. Public education should provide a foundation for lifelong learning, which includes critical thinking and communication skills, as well as fundamental knowledge to function independently in society.

Some of the ways to achieve these goals include:

- reasonable and appropriate class size
- teachers and administrators who meet high professional standards
- teachers and administrators maintained in positions for which they are trained
- quality and equity throughout the system of physical plant, program and materials
- mutual trust and communication between the community and school system

Adequate resources are necessary to accomplish these goals, and they should include sufficient constitutionally-mandated state funding and exploration of alternative sources of funding. We support a balanced budget, but not at the expense of quality education.

It is in the interest of the entire community to invest in and support public education. Moreover, the League firmly believes it is also the obligation of the citizens of a participatory democracy to support public education to foster an informed electorate.

Addendum B:

Revised bylaws (not the complete bylaws)

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Wheaton. This local league is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

ARTICLE II

Purpose and Policy

Section 1. Purpose. The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Wheaton shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues. **The League of Women Voters of Wheaton serves the residents of Carol Stream, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield.**

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 5. Meetings.

(a) There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

(b) Remote Meetings. If circumstances make it inconvenient or impossible for the Board to meet, they may conduct business by holding a meeting through electronic communications, (e.g., e-mail or conference call by telephone). Such meetings shall be referred to as remote meetings. All materials for consideration at a remote meeting must be distributed to all members of the Board. Remote meetings shall count as no more than one half of the nine regular meetings.

Addendum C:

2014 Marget Hamilton award to Betty Bradshaw

The Wheaton League of Women Voters was formed through the strong work of Marget Hamilton whose belief has always been the importance of community involvement and high interest in citizen understanding of the issues of the community, local, state and national. Leagues around the Country are filled with members who encompass those same interests and the value of fully understanding those issues before taking any actions.

Betty Bradshaw is an outstanding example of those same values held by Marget Hamilton.

Having grown up in Wisconsin prior to moving to Beverly, IL, where Betty was a league member, Betty joined the Wheaton League when she and her late husband, Jerry Bradshaw, a very involved and outstanding leader in business and banking, moved to Wheaton from Beverly. Jerry and Betty were encouraged to see there was a local League of Women Voters. This was in 1971 and the president of our League was Jo Schleicher.

The highest priority for Betty has always been to be well informed on what is taking place in the public world at all levels and to be part of the work to influence those issues as best she is able.

It has always been important to her to encourage diversity in the organization including political, social and cultural.

Betty continues to believe the major way to work for a better community to be the well thought out and well studied positions the League has taken at all levels. The positions of the Wheaton League are no exception to that positive piece. Through the years the League has always looked at the issue in a complete manner rather than simply one position. This has contributed to the credibility of our positions.

Betty highly supports educating the community well on the issues as they appear.

In addition to informational education, Betty has always supported the League's efforts in our candidate forums and has helped in these efforts throughout the years.

Since the beginning, Betty has taken the responsibility for the Great Decisions study group which is part of the Foreign Policy organization as it meets in her home. Again, she believes in this program as it is a greater educational opportunity in the wider world's major concerns. Her home is filled with individuals from our League as well as others who are just interested in the discussions each year.

It is a great understatement to say that Betty has always been a remarkable League member in many capacities. She has worked in membership, nominating committees, voter services and as an observer for schools, City council and the Park board. She has recruited many members for our League throughout her years in League. She has hosted new member trainings, giving the newly joined members the background of what League is all about, including our positions, which has resulted in ongoing work in a meaningful way for those members.

In addition, Betty has graciously hosted league monthly meetings as well as annual holiday luncheons which have added ease in knowing other league members through the years.

Betty's most extensive work throughout the years has been the yearly Finance Drive. She and her committee created a very effective order to that process which brought sense to this part of the League's work. She put together a plan which had been so effective in garnering funds and support for our League throughout the entire business community here in Wheaton. Other leagues often inquired as to our ability to bring in finances as they observed our success. Many thanks to Betty for this.

Given the contact with businesses in Wheaton on a personal basis, we were privileged to be of service to them and we have served as a contact on the various local issues around Wheaton.

To aid in this drive, Betty each year put together a Finance Drive business advisory committee from around Wheaton who would gather for breakfast at her home to select businesses they worked with and would write a personal note on those letters which went to the businesses to encourage donations to the League. To this day, we realize how important these recommendations can be to the possible donors around Wheaton.

Betty would also host the league members as we picked up our packets and two by two went to the businesses to ask for their support. As we called on them we would also give them an opportunity to give suggestions they might have regarding the business climate in town that might be worked upon through the positions we have. Member commitment was very good, even though the schedules were very full even as they are today. If work schedules kept folks from doing the calls on that day, they did take on responsibilities which worked for them as well.

These calls were always followed by a lunch prepared by Betty as members returned with the checks they had collected.

To say thank you to Betty now for her solid commitment to the League throughout all these years by presenting her the Marget Hamilton Award is our highest privilege.

Betty, you stand for all that Marget Hamilton still stands for and for all the League of Women Voters deeply support.

Thank you, Betty.

Addendum D:

Marget Hamilton award to Barbara Pape:

BARB PAPE is a member of the league since 1992 (we think) serving as president 1999-2001. She served the league organizing the Candidates' Forums and Voter Registration drives. She initiated the first website. Barb hosted the LWVIL Phonathon, which benefited our league with a participant share of donations and worked on our own local fund drives. She spent time in the park during events where we registered voters and promoted League, including the Library registrations on Tuesday nights. I know that Barb believes that voter registration and awareness of issues and candidates in local, state and national elections is one of Leagues most important duties. Barb is an active participant in annual program planning events, as well as local and state studies. She also served the league well on the nominating committee...I know that because she kept after me for a few years when I transferred from the LWV Glen Ellyn to serve on our board.

Barb is a vital member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church here in Wheaton, serving as a Faith Circle leader, Assisting the minister, deacon, serving on church council, served as liaison to Wheaton Youth Outreach, supporting fellow member at a time of grief on the Funeral hospitality committee and singing in the choir.

Recently installed as the President of the Woman's Department Club, Barb previously served on the Board as antique and collectible chair. The Woman's Department Club supports many causes primary of which is giving scholarships to 4 girls each year (2 from WWS and 2 from WN). As you might expect, knowing Barb, there is also a social side to this group that she enjoys.

Barb is an active member of Metropolitan Family Services, serving as Chairman of Metropolitan Family Shelter's auction and fund raising efforts. She also serves as Vice President and is a Treasure House volunteer (the Treasure House is a resale shop in Glen Ellyn whose profits go to supporting MFS).

Barb is also a sustaining member of Junior League and activities in past years include - Junior Committee of the Cleveland Orchestra-- Key concerts (Children's Concerts with the Cleveland Orchestra), Cleveland Classic Tournament publicity, running the Band Wagon (a gift shop at the summer home of the Orchestra, head start volunteering, activity director for girls' home (Mary B. Martin).

A University of Pittsburgh and member of the Pitt Alumni Club – Barb and Art created the Arthur and Barbara Pape Endowment, which provides funds for study at the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology, which is part of the University of Pittsburgh.

Barb enjoys taking therapy dog, "Gordy" to WDSRA and other venues, attending the Metropolitan Family Services book club, playing the piano for husband, Art, who started taking voice lessons 3 years ago at age 70, playing bridge (especially duplicate), bowling, reading, spending time at the farm in PA and spending time with family and friends.

We are honored to present the Marget Hamilton to our dear friend, Barb Pape.

BUDGET FOR 2015-2016

EXPENSES	2014-2015 Budget	2015-16 Budget	Comments
Affiliations			
Greater Wheaton Chamber	150	165	Chamber dues increase
LWVIL PMP	1634	1768.50	\$27/member;\$40.50/household
LWVUS PMP	1876	2096	\$32/member; \$48/household
Lake Michigan LWV	25	25	
Delegates and Travel			
National or State Conventions	700	1500	To cover registration + part of expense
Workshops or regional meetings	200	0	
General Administration			
Board Tools	50	50	
LWV President	50	50	
Operating Costs			
Bank Charge and office expense	150	0	Bank online; no charge
Cost of finance drive	250	200	Reflects realistic use of funds in past
PayPal expense	50	50	
Insurance	85	85	
Postage & PO Box fee	200	200	
Printing	350	250	Most business conducted via email.
Website fee	200	212.50	Includes bi-annual website domain fee
Programs and Activities			
Action	0	0	
Annual dinner expense	0	0	
Events	450	250	
General meetings and programs	100	100	
Member recruitment and retention	500	500	
Publications	100	100	
Voter service	100	100	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$6445	\$7702	

INCOME			
Contingency income	0	0	
Fund raisers	0	0	
Interest income	0	0	
LWV dues	3932	4257.50	Paid memberships = 46 individual + 13 household Suggest appointing a Ways & Means committee to seek donations
Member contributions	400	500	
Non-member contributions	1075	1200	
TOTAL INCOME	\$5407	\$5957.50	Budget Deficit: 1744.50

ASSETS INFORMATION: 2/28/2014			
LWVIL Education Fund	0	250	
Certificate of Deposit	7125.57	7126.64	
Checking	7685.01	7739,54	
Savings		0	
TOTAL CASH & BANK ACCOUNTS	14810.58	15116.18	

LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities	0	0	
Equity	\$14810.58	\$15116.18	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$14810.58	\$15116.18	Represents an increase of 305.60 over last year

Current: **ARTICLE III**
Membership

Section 1. Types of Membership.

- (a) Voting members shall be citizens at least 18 years of age.
- (b) Associate members shall be all other members.
- (c) Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.
- (d) When two members reside at the same address in a common household, they shall be considered household members.

Proposed: Membership

Section 1. Types of Membership.

- (a) Voting members shall be citizens at least 18 years of age.
- (b) Associate members shall be all other members.
- (c) **Student members (individuals who are 25 years or under, but no less than 18 years of age and enrolled either full or part-time in an accredited institution).**
- (d) Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.
- (e) When two members reside at the same address in a common household, they shall be considered household members.

Current: **ARTICLE VI**
Financial Administration

Section 2. Dues. Dues shall be payable upon initial joining of the League and thereafter annually on the first of July. Any member who fails to pay the dues within two months after they become payable by September 1, shall be dropped from the membership rolls. Any proposed change in the amount of dues shall be submitted in writing to the membership at least one month before the Annual Meeting. Approval of a change shall be by a 2/3 vote of members present and voting at the Annual Meeting. When two members reside at the same address in a common household, their combined dues shall be equal to one and a half times the amount of dues for an individual.

Members who join after January 31st will pay one-half the annual dues

Proposed: Financial Administration

Section 2. Dues. Dues shall be paid once per calendar year; new members upon initial joining of the League and renewing members on July 1st. Any member who fails to pay the dues within two months after they become payable (by September 1), shall be dropped from the membership rolls. Any proposed change in the amount of dues shall be submitted in writing to the membership at least one month before the Annual Meeting. Approval of a change shall be by a 2/3 vote of members present and voting at the Annual Meeting. When two members reside at the same address in a common household, their combined dues shall be equal to one and a half times the amount of dues for an individual.

~~Members who join after January 31st will pay one-half the annual dues~~

Annual dues for Student Members shall be equal to one-half the amount of dues for an individual.

Respectfully submitted by the By-laws Committee:

Martha Barmantje, Diane Knable, and Denise Niesman

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING 2015

Twenty-one members met on 2/19/15 for our program planning meeting, and first tackled the state League's positions to determine our recommendations to retain, update, or remove positions and/or to suggest new studies. The group determined that the County Government Structure position needed updating, in light of recent state laws allowing the DuPage County Board to consolidate taxing bodies in the county. After further discussion, members felt a statewide study of consolidation of units of government should be recommended. As many members might recall, recommending a new study is a daunting undertaking. However, Roberta Jacobson and Barbara Laimins did some research and found that the League of Women Voters of New York (state) has a position on consolidation of units of government. We will be recommending a concurrence with New York's position at the LWVIL Convention in June. Members also identified four issues to recommend as action focus items: Redistricting, graduated rate income tax (GRIT), the criminalization of the mentally ill, and children at risk. The first step is to notify LWVIL of our League's recommendations. The next step will be to have the recommendations adopted at the convention. After much discussion of state positions, we made quick work of our Local Positions, since we made extensive changes in 2014. At the annual meeting, we will be recommending a new study for a Parks & Recreation Position, since the old position was removed in 2014. We will probably hold our Program Planning meeting in January next year to allow more time to garner support for recommendations from other Leagues. If you have an interest in any of these issues, please let us know.

Diane Niesman, Program and Advocacy Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2015

The Nominating Committee places the following candidates in nomination for two-year terms (unless otherwise designated) on the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Wheaton:

Officers	Office	Term will end
No nominee	President	May 2017
Liz Quigg	Vice President	May 2017
Pat Schwarze	Secretary	May 2017

Elected Directors

Barbara Kilton	May 2017
Diane Knable	May 2017
Allene Harding	May 2017

Nominees for the 2016 Nominating Committee:

Roberta Jacobson	Chair
Denise Niesman, Barbara Wonser	2 Non Board members
To be nominated by board	2 Board Members

Respectfully Submitted, the 2015 Nominating Committee

Lori Miller	Chair
Jane Hodgkinson, Beth O'Malley	2 Non Board members
Barb Kilton, Barb Laimins	2 Board Members

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2015 – 2016

<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>TERM ENDS</u>
None	President	May 2017
Liz Quigg	Vice President	May 2017
Pat Schwarze	Secretary	May 2017
Olga Rammer	Vice President	May 2016
Nancy Wilen	Treasurer	May 2016

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Barbara Kilton	May 2017
Diane Knable	May 2017
Allene Harding	May 2017
Diane Niesman	May 2016

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

To fill out the normal 6 director positions, the new board will appoint two people for one year each, to finish 2 terms ending in 2016, one for Roger Kotecki who resigned, and one for Pat Schwarze who starts a new term as the board secretary. Shannon Burns will likely fill the former, and Barbara Laimins the latter.

OFF BOARD POSITIONS

To be determined by new board

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2014 – 2015

<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>TERM ENDS</u>	
Missey Wilhelm	President	May 2015	Voter Service
Liz Quigg	Vice President	May 2015	Webmaster
Roberta Jacobson	Secretary	May 2015	Local Data Base
Olga Rammer	Vice President	May 2016	
Nancy Wilen	Treasurer	May 2016	
<u>ELECTED DIRECTORS</u>			
Allene Harding		May 2015	Voter Registration
Barbara Kilton		May 2015	Program Committee
Barbara Laimins		May 2015	Candidate Forums
Roger Kotecki		May 2016	Resigned as of 11/6/14 board meeting
Diane Niesman		May 2016	Programs, LWVIL Issues Committee
Pat Schwarze		May 2016	Finance drive
<u>APPOINTED DIRECTOR</u>			
Shannon Burns		May 2015	Appointed to Roger Kotecki's position
<u>OFF BOARD POSITIONS</u>			
Jane Hodgkinson			Membership
Denise Niesman			Voter, Publicity, LWVUS Data Base

ACTIVE COMMITTEES 2015-2016

We welcome interested members to join a committee at any time.

Finance Drive	Pat Schwarze, Chair Nancy Wilen, Treasurer	Programs & Advocacy	Di Niesman, Chair Barbara Kilton, Barbara Laimins, Roberta Jacobson
Voter Service	Barbara Laimins, Chair Candidate Forums Jane Hodgkinson Voter Registration Allene Harding & member registrars	Budget	Chair, Shannon Burns Beryl Jacobson, Barbara Laimins, Nancy Wilen
Membership	Jane Hodgkinson, Chair Denise Niesman, Data Barbara Kilton, Allene Harding	Viable Downtown Businesses	Chair, none Barb Deli, Jan Kay Jane Hodgkinson, Mary Wachter
Nominating	Roberta Jacobson, Chair Denise Niesman, Barbara Wonser - non-board members Barbara Kilton, Barbara Laimins - board members	Bylaws	Martha Barmantje, Denise Niesman, Diane Knable
Observer Corps	City Council – Jan Kay Park District – Jane Hodgkinson DuPage Forest Preserve-Shannon Burns Board of Education-TBD		

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



In 2013, at the beginning of this term, the board set goals which we continue to work on. They are to 1. Grow our membership while retaining current members, 2. Review positions to recommend they be retained, revised, dropped or re-studied, and 3. Meet the LWVUS 2013 Challenge to host voter registration events, host candidate forums, and meet with local elections officials with the idea of improving early and grace period voting and communications.

Our first goal was challenging in 2013, but we added 6 new members, ending the year with a total membership of 69. The membership committee, (Jane Hodgkinson, Barb Laimins and I) working with the Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) coach, Barb Marsh, decided to try some new ways to encourage membership in the league. We made presentations introducing the league to the Carol Stream Women's Club & the Wheaton Warrenville PTA Council. We talked to candidates running for office in races all over our service area. We adopted an approach of always asking women and men to join the league at our events. Jane or Barb will ask anyone sitting next to them or within 5 feet....just saying.



The committee held a special meeting to **Get the Scoop** on upcoming meetings and so new members could learn more about the league. Jane and Barb decided to run with the idea of **Discussion over Drinks** to attract business people to get together after work for a drink and some interesting conversation. The first guest speaker, Sandy Pihos, spoke frankly about the Illinois fiscal mess, attracting about 25 guests. We hope for a much larger turn out and a fun evening in April, when Lt Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti will be our next speaker.

We will end the year with **77 active members** and welcome the **10 new members** who joined: Noreen Ligino-Kubinski, Melissa Birch, Paula McGowan, Carrie Fullerton, Kerry Dexter, Erica Loiacono, Marilyn Kroll, Mary McGinty, Emily Consolazio and Susan Drinan. I cannot say enough about the stellar work by Jane and Barb and anyone who helps make these events successful. Extra points to Denise Niesman who keeps those press releases out there!

Unfortunately, we are also saddened by the loss of Helen White, a 50 year member of the league, who remained active into her 90's and by the loss of a former president (1987-1989) Maggie Lane, who will be long remembered by all of us.



The Book Club started meeting in May, 2014 - a great way to read interesting books, socialize a little, and then talk about the books! Just finished Orphan Train, A Novel by Christina Baker Kline and are currently reading The Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan by Jenny Norberg. If you are interested, contact the Book Club Committee: Diane Knable, Diane Niesman, or Roberta Jacobson. Great first efforts, ladies!

Our second goal of position reviews was completed in spring of 2014. At this year's program planning meeting, the idea that LWVIL didn't have a specific position related to the consolidation of units of government was raised. Barb Laimins recommended that we suggest using the New York position on government consolidation for the LWVIL convention to approve by consensus. Everyone thought it was a good idea considering there are already legislators making recommendations to consolidate, such as the DuPage Forest Preserve and the DuPage County. Other meetings focused on the LWVIL Charter School position update, including a film "Rise above the Mark," with Q&A afterwards with LWVIL Issues specialist, Jeanne Pierce, and a consensus meeting of members. Other meetings covered Food Safety & Labeling and "Deconstructing Supper". Diane Niesman and the Program Committee (Barb Kilton, Barb Laimins, & Roberta Jacobson) who deserve all the credit for putting these together!



Finally, we met with the DuPage Election Commission (DEC) who made changes to improve in the areas mentioned and will continue to provide feedback when needed. The DEC once again supported the LWV of Wheaton leadership working with the 5 other DuPage leagues to sponsor [2014 Mock Elections](#) in 13 high schools in the county and over 4,000 local students participated. We also held forums for recent elections in Wheaton, West Chicago, our first meet and greet in Warrenville, and a strong (6) candidate forum in Winfield. The league hosted a forum and invited stakeholders from the College of DuPage to participate & take questions from the public about issues at the college, drawing an audience of nearly 100. Oh, and we registered at least 300 new voters! Thank you, Barb Laimins and Allene Harding and all the volunteers who worked on these events.

The LWVIL State Convention is June 5 – 7 in Lisle. Roberta Jacobson (recruiting volunteers for the event) and Barb Laimins (Wares and Auction) are volunteering on behalf of the Wheaton League.

To the board of directors and all the members who participate in league activities and the behind the scenes work – THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

Missey Wilhelm, President

PER MEMBER PAYMENT (PMP) REPORT AS OF JANUARY 2015

Membership Numbers reported in January 2015 to LWVUS are the basis for our Per Member Payments

TYPE OF MEMBER	# of MEMBERS	ESTIMATES FOR FY 2015-16	PMP RATES & WHEATON LWV (WLWV) DUES
Local individual L1	45	45 Total Individual members PMP \$2655 (LWVIL \$1215, LWVUS \$1440) Dues \$2925 LWVIL budget committee as of 2/2015 is considering an increase of \$1-\$2 for FY 16-17, but not for 2015-16.	
1st Household L2, R2	13	13 Total Household Estimate FY15-16: PMP \$1150.50 (LWVIL \$526.50, LWVUS \$624) Dues \$1267.50 When two or more members reside in the same household, the full PMP is charged for the first member and one-half of the PMP is charged for the additional member.	
2nd Household L3, R3	14	See amounts in box above.	
National N1, N2, N3, N4	0	WLWV nets \$7 for individual dues and \$10.50 for household dues with dues set at \$65 for one person and \$97.50 for household.	
Honorary L4, R4	2	No dues paid by honorary members of more than 50 years.	
Student	0	None	
Total Members Jan. 2015	74	TOTALS FOR FY 2015-16 \$4192.50 DUES WHEATON COLLECTS <u>-\$3805.50 PMP REQUIRED TO BE PAID</u> \$387.00 NET OF DUES TO WHEATON	

FOR FISCAL 2015-2016:

Wheaton LWV Dues: \$65 for individual members and **\$97.50** for households.

PMP rates: \$59 for individual members and **\$88.50** for households.

LWVIL PMP \$27 for individual members and \$40.50 per household.

LWVUS PMP \$32 for individual members and \$48.00 per household .

What is a Per-Member Payment (PMP)?

Local Leagues pay PMP to support the national and state levels of our organization. The PMP obligation for the fiscal year (FY 2015-2016) is based on the January 2015 paid membership count reported to the LWVUS on January 31, 2015, via a member database.

New Members

The Membership Committee of the League was very active in 2014-15. We had ten (10) people join the league: They are:

1. Melissa Birch
2. Emily Consolazio
3. Kerry Dexter
4. Susan Drinan
5. Carrie Fullerton
6. Marilyn Kroll
7. Noreen Ligino-Kubinski
8. Erica Loiacono
9. Mary McGinty
10. Paula McGowen

Welcome to all of you! We want to maximize your membership! Please let us know what your interests are and we will try to direct you. We encourage our more experienced members to help new members feel welcome at meetings and get-togethers.

In addition to these new members, we have several more individuals who are interested in joining and we will continue to encourage them to do so.

Discussions over Drinks

In 2014-15, the Wheaton League launched the Discussion over Drinks series where we invited the public to learn and discuss information about a current topic, in a casual setting. Our first issue was the Illinois Budget. We asked State Representative Sandy Pihos to lead us through that discussion in October and we had approximately 30 people who attended at the Ivy Restaurant in Wheaton.

Representative Pihos was very generous in sharing her time and expertise, as well as candor about the budget issues that existed. This discussion took place shortly before the gubernatorial election and helped people clarify what qualities our next governor would need. Evaluations were very positive and we introduced the league to new audience members.

Our spring "Discussions over Drinks" will feature Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti on April 28th at John and Tony's Restaurant in West Chicago.

Membership Survey and Social Events

We did not conduct a membership survey this year but will in 2015-16.

We tried to add to the social nature of some of our membership meetings this year, particularly in October, with ice cream and desserts for the members to allow for some social time to re-connect with each other. Thanks also to Philo and Mary Suess who again hosted the League holiday luncheon.

In Memoriam: Helen White

We want to remember our dear member Helen White, who recently died at the age of 92. Helen once said that it was the “best decision of her life to join league.” She made many friends and last year had celebrated her 50th year in the Wheaton league.

Book Club

Book Club has remained active this year, reading and discussing The Orphan Train, and The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, among others. Thanks to all who have been involved with organizing it including Diane Knable, Roberta Jacobson, Liz Quigg, and Barb Kilton.

Membership Matters

National League has made membership one of the top priorities for states and local chapters. To this end, Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) has been going on for over a year. The Wheaton League and our MLD coach (from LWVIL) review our league plans each month for membership development. Through this process we have identified voids in our identification and orientation for new members. Goals for 2015-16 will include expanding the committee, developing a member fact sheet, and an orientation procedure. If this area is of interest to you, we welcome your involvement on the committee. Please feel free to volunteer or offer suggestions. We're listening.

Thanks to all of the following who helped this year:

Roberta and Beryl Jacobson, Liz Quigg, Jan Kay, Barb Kilton, Marilyn Kroll, Emily Consolazio, Denise Niesman, Barbara Pape, Nancy Wilen, Diane Knable, Allene Harding, Diane Niesman, Missey and Tom Wilhelm

Jane Hodgkinson and Barbara Laimins, Membership Committee

FINANCE DRIVE REPORT

In the fall of 2014 letters were mailed to 141 area businesses in five communities inviting them to partner with the League of Women Voters in promoting civic responsibility and encouraging informed and active participation in government and the governing process. In response, the League received \$1,351 from 15 contributors, eight of whom were new this year. In addition, \$642.50 was received in contributions from League members.

To encourage contributions in the future, I would recommend exploring more visible ways to recognize those businesses that support the League, e.g. certificates to display at their business location and a poster to display at League functions identifying League supporters, as well as listings in The Voter. Supporters should also receive invitations to League programs.

Pat Schwarze, Finance Drive Chairman

Candidate Night

LWV of Wheaton co-sponsored with the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce and Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce, five separate forums in Warrenville, Wheaton, Winfield and West Chicago for the fall election and spring municipal elections. Candidates for State and local office had the opportunity to meet with constituents and answer questions. Recognition has to be given to all the League members who willingly gave of their time to volunteer at these events.

National Day of Registration

The League participated in the National Day of Registration in September by coordinating the voter registration of new voters at high schools within the League's service area. The day was very successful due to the efforts of Social Studies Teachers at West Chicago Community High School, Glenbard North, Wheaton/Warrenville South and Wheaton North who assisted the League with publicity within the schools and the League volunteers.

Mock Elections

The League coordinated a mock election that was held in October in cooperation with the DuPage Election Commission. League volunteers at Wheaton Warrenville South, Wheaton North, Glenbard North, and West Chicago Community High School supervised voting for over 8,000 students. Students were able to experience the election process with ballots and scanners provided by the DuPage Election Commission

Community

Voter registration opportunities continue to be provided at the Wheaton Public Library and high schools within the League service area. Voter Registrar training was held prior to the February Meeting and the League now has approximately 20 voter registrars.

Looking to the Future

The LWV of Wheaton needs to continue to provide forums for the service region. In order to accomplish this goal, it is hoped that more members will be trained as moderators.

Barbara Laimins, Voter Service Chair

Allene Harding, Voter Registration Chair

PROGRAM & ADVOCACY REPORT

Our schedule of unit meetings is often predicated on what is happening nationally, in the state, and locally. We also try to introduce new partnerships and new venues. Maybe some year, we will schedule unit meetings on days and times other than 7:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday of the month. We do have members who enjoy the unit meetings but don't feel comfortable driving at night. We should be sensitive to their needs, too.

Because we anticipated a consensus meeting for the LWVIL Charter School Update, our September meeting was a viewing of "Rise Above the Mark," a documentary about Indiana's public school problems. Jean Pierce, Co-Chair of Charter School Update Committee, moderated Q&A after the film, which we showed in the auditorium of Edison Middle School. We were pleased to see members of other DuPage Leagues at this meeting.

Thinking possibly "less is more," we did not schedule a unit meeting for October, but nature hates a vacuum, and apparently so does Wheaton League. The date was filled by Membership Committee who planned a "Get the Scoop" meeting for members and potential members. The November unit meeting was the consensus meeting for the Charter School Update, and December, as always, had no scheduled unit meeting.

Deliberately leaving a January meeting unplanned, that void was filled by the controversies swirling around the College of DuPage. A panel of stakeholders at COD filled the meeting room with anywhere from 85-95 citizens. I give my committee all the credit for putting that meeting together. February's meeting was the annual Program Planning meeting, which is detailed in another article. We added a new agenda item for the first time. We asked for suggestions from the 21 members in attendance for topics for unit meetings for 2015-2016. We got more ideas than we have dates, but it is nice to have choices. The March meeting was co-sponsored by the Glen Ellyn League and held in Glen Ellyn's Civic Center. It was the first of two meetings about food safety, a topic which was selected because of the 2014 updated LWVUS Agriculture Position. Part 2 of food safety featured a documentary called "Deconstructing Dinner." Wheaton League partnered with the Wheaton Public Library for the April meeting. WPL publicized the meeting in their spring newsletter.

Topics for the fall, winter, and spring unit meetings beginning in September 2015 are to be determined. Suggestions from our members are always welcome.

Di Niesman, Chair of Program & Advocacy Committee

WEBMASTER REPORT

We continue to use our website (wheatonlwwil.org), created and updated with LWV Easyweb. It supports our generic email addresses and provides an online presence for the League. Our website also provides a way for non-members, candidates and others to communicate with us when they have questions.

Missey Wilhelm has made very good use of Facebook to inform our membership. We now have fifty-nine members and most posts get over twenty readers and often more. Facebook provides a way to inform our members. Of course, we also use email to contact members.

Our Facebook group is at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wheatonlwwil/>

Liz Quigg, Webmaster

BOOK CLUB REPORT

The LWV book club, Wheaton chapter, was established on May 3, 2014. Our first meeting was at Diane Knable's home beginning with a discussion, led by Roberta Jacobson, on the book "Slavery by Another Name" written by Douglas Blackmon.

Since then, we have met and read "When Bad Things Happen to Good People" by Rabbi Harold Kushner; "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot; "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd; and "A Call To Action, Women, Religion, Violence and Power" by Jimmy Carter. Next up is "Orphan Train" by Christina Baker Kline at Liz Quigg's house on March 12th. Discussion will be led by Roberta Jacobson.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday, odd numbered months, Jan, March, May, July, Sept, and November at 7 – 9 PM.

Meetings are held in members' homes allowing time to gather, have a beverage and snack. The remainder of the meeting is devoted to the discussion of the book selected for that evening. Every third meeting we choose three books and the hosts for the next 3 meetings. At that time we also pick a discussion leader for each book.

It was decided that we will read any books that we feel will open our minds and generate discussion. The books do not have to relate to the mission or actions of LWV. They can be fiction or non-fiction. The person nominating a book must have read it and will be the discussion leader if that particular book is chosen for the club.

It is enjoyable to meet other league members in this informal setting, socializing, discussing issues and sharing views of a good (or not so good) book. Join us!

VIABLE DOWNTOWN WHEATON REPORT

In accordance with "Maintaining a viable central business district" which is part of the Wheaton League of Voters' Local Government position, the Workgroup has met regularly to discuss how we can continue to support our City leaders in this effort. The Workgroup has had a new member, Emily Consolazio, to join the work of this issue alongside of continuing members, Mary Wachter, Barb Deli and Jan Kay.

In order to get a good understanding of the action going on in our Central Business District, the Committee has met with several leaders who deal with just that piece. We met with Jim Kozik who serves as a City staff person in Economic Development whose department serves to attract new businesses to Wheaton as well as to retain existing businesses with planning tools for survival in the City. He told of several new businesses now in the Central Business District as well as addressing the possible new businesses to come into the City.

We also met with the Executive Director of the Downtown Business Association, Paula Barrington, who shared her vision for what the District might be as well as some of the newly arrived businesses in the District. There are at least six new stores opened this year. The Association also sponsors many events in the downtown such as the Wine Festival, Christmas Parade and tree lighting, the Ice Sculpture event and many more. The Workgroup continues to follow this Association and the work coming in the future.

One part of the Wheaton community which is part of our downtown population is the Wheaton College student population. There was one meeting with a student who expressed many good thoughts of his own and other of his friends. Among those thoughts were: early shut down of stores, entertainment like the theater, good restaurants that might be less expensive, a sports bar type of place to hang out and maybe bands playing at times and a dance floor, good burger places and other hangout places like River City Roasters.

The Workgroup receives regular reports from the Grand Theater Corporation which keeps the community aware of all the good work in the positive movement in the development to open a freshly restored theater in

our downtown. We met with the Project Manager in his office to hear of the work towards the complete restoration of the Theater. We heard of the Corporation's outline of the various components including architectural plans, ticket sales, uses for the Theater [live performances, movies, group meetings etc.], funding and the business plan. The Corporation works in a positive manner with the Wheaton Drama and Wheaton College and with the City as part of a "theater district" which would tie into the City's proposed Festival Street plan. We continue to follow and support this project throughout the restoration and opening.

We continue to explore ideas which might be a part of our position for maintaining a viable downtown business district.

Jan Kay, Chair

OBSERVER REPORT FOR WHEATON CITY COUNCIL

In order to follow the work of the public policy work in Wheaton and the possible support or objection of issues as they relate to the Wheaton League's studied positions, the League has observed each of the City Council meetings twice each month as well as the City Council Planning Sessions twice each month. This year we have not made public comment representing the League due to no conflicts with our positions.

In person attendance at these meetings demonstrates to the Council our interest in good public policies.

League members may also observe the meetings on the Wheaton City web site as well as on Wheaton's public television station, CH 10 throughout the week. The meeting agendas are available on-line as well.

It has been my privilege to continue to take this responsibility for the Wheaton League of Women Voters.

Jan Kay