



# The Voter

Wheaton LWV January 2014

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### Important Dates

When	Where	What
1/16 7:00	Park District	State of Our Communities
2/1 All Day	Chicago	LWVIL Issues Briefing
2/20 6:30	Gary Methodist	Program Planning Pizza Party

Check the internet at  
[http://www.wheatonlwv.org/  
calendar.html](http://www.wheatonlwv.org/calendar.html) and watch for  
 announcements in the Voter to  
 keep up to date with LWV  
 activities.

## President's Letter

*Wishing you all a very  
 healthy and HAPPY  
 NEW YEAR.*

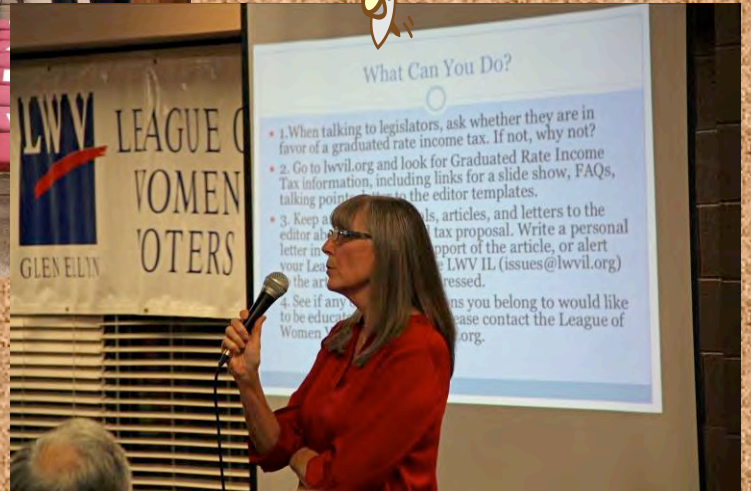
*I hope your resolutions include joining  
 active members at a future meeting!  
 I look forward to seeing you there.*

*Missy  
 Wilhelm  
 President*





# GRIT



# Holiday Brunch



## **NEWS AND NOTES**

### **WINTER MEETINGS 2014**

Are we in for a hard winter with long stretches of cabin fever? Hope not, because, if weather permits, the League of Women Voters has some excellent programs scheduled to give us all something to do while we wait for Spring.

**Thursday, January 16, 2014**, Wheaton League will host the first ever “State of Our Communities” panel including civic leaders from Wheaton, Warrenville, West Chicago and Carol Stream. Join us at the Wheaton Park District Community Center, hear what is happening in your town and ask questions of your local government officials.

**Saturday, February 1, 2014**, LWV of Illinois holds its annual Issues Briefing in Chicago. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet Leaguers from all over the state and learn a lot about the issues in Illinois. The agenda and registration forms are in this VOTER.

**Thursday, February 20, 2014**, Wheaton League will conduct its annual Program Planning meeting at the Gary Methodist Church. Instead of having a potluck supper meeting, this year we’ll provide pizza, and all you have to bring is your enthusiasm to discuss both the National League’s positions and our own local positions (programs). If you are stuck indoors on a cold and snowy evening, what a good time that would be to read these positions, and ask yourself if they should be retained, reviewed/revise, or removed. League, at every level, uses its positions for advocacy purposes, so it is important for these positions to be as up-to-date as possible. The complete national positions can be found in Impact on Issues at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) and the positions in brief can be found at this link:

[http://www.wheatonlwv.org/files/national\\_programs.pdf](http://www.wheatonlwv.org/files/national_programs.pdf)

Read all our local positions here: [http://www.wheatonlwv.org/files/local\\_programs.pdf](http://www.wheatonlwv.org/files/local_programs.pdf)

### **LWV WHEATON BOOK CLUB STARTS UP THIS SPRING**

Perhaps you’ve been thinking of reading a biography of a public figure, or an explanation of the science behind public policy, like fracking regulations. We’d like to start a book club and read 2-4 books per year on a variety of topics. We need to choose books, set meeting dates & places, and work out the logistics of a LWV Wheaton book club.

Contact Roberta; let her know you’re interested. She’ll send you a document with a list of books; and you can recommend others to add to the list.

### **AGRICULTURE UPDATE**

At the 2012 League of Women Voters National Convention, an update to the Agriculture position was approved. Essentially, the only difference between a study and an update is whether it is for a new position (study) or an existing position (update). The process is the same. To read more about the Agriculture Update go here: <http://www.lwv.org/content/about-agriculture-update-and-committee> To read the current position (in Impact on Issues) go here: <http://www.lwv.org/content/agriculture-policy>



The LWVUS Agriculture Update Committee completed its work in mid-November 2013. Some of the Update background documents have been posted online at [lww.org/member-resources/agriculture-update](http://lww.org/member-resources/agriculture-update).

All documents and the consensus questions are expected to be posted by the end of December. Consensus meetings must be completed by April 2014.

Sheri Latash, member of the Glenview LWV sitting on the Agriculture Update Committee, will lead a workshop on the Agriculture Update at the 2014 LWVIL Issues Briefing.

The question for LWV of Wheaton members is one of participation. This is a members' decision. Do you want to participate in the update of the national Agriculture position? If yes, are you willing to serve on an update committee? The committee would review materials supplied, make a presentation to interested members and conduct a consensus meeting. The presentation and consensus meeting could be combined into one meeting (location, date and time to be determined). Please contact Di Niesman at [dniesmans@aol.com](mailto:dniesmans@aol.com) if you are interested in being on the update committee, or if you are interested in attending the consensus meeting.

### **League of Women Voters of Roselle/Bloomingtondale**

The League of Women Voters of Roselle/Bloomingtondale celebrated full chapter status recently at its annual program planning dinner at Villaggio's restaurant in Roselle.

The League became a full chapter this November, after meeting specific requirements during its two years as a "members at large" group. Besides celebrating this important event, members set the calendar for the upcoming year. They brainstormed on how the group can continue to serve the residents of both villages and throughout the Bloomingtondale Township through informational programs, candidate forums, high school mock elections and lectures, and voter registration events.

For more information, please contact Diana Hoke in Bloomingtondale: 630-351-8523, or Roberta Borrino in Roselle: 630-217-0122.

### **Engage 200**

Those members who live in CUSD 200 have probably read about the new initiative Engage 200. If not, go to this link to learn more: <http://c2.cusdsandbox.schoolwires.net/domain/43>

**The first Engage200 Session will be held on  
Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Monroe Middle School, 1855 Manchester Rd., Wheaton.**

**All District 200 residents are invited and encouraged to participate in this engagement process that will help guide the direction of the District in the future.**

If you attend any of the sessions, your Board of Directors would welcome your observations, especially as they relate to our local program position. This is our current education position:

Education:

The League of Women Voters of Wheaton reaffirms its support of quality education in Wheaton-Warrenville District 200. 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.



*2014 Issues Briefing: February 1, 2014*

**Registration Deadline: January 20, 2014.**

**Register Online or Download a Paper Registration Form**

Mark your calendars: the annual LWVIL Issues Briefing is Saturday, February 1, 2014. Taking place at the University Center, 525 South State Street, Chicago and beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m., this year's briefing will feature a plenary session on redistricting and another on fracking (hydraulic fracturing). Here's a sneak peak at the day's agenda:

- 8:30 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome
- 9:15 a.m. Plenary: Hydraulic Fracturing (Fracking) in Illinois
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Plenary: Redistricting: What's been happening since 2011
- Noon Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Workshop I
- 1:45 p.m. Break
- 2:00 p.m. Workshop II

**Workshop topics include:**

- 12:45 p.m. Graduated Rate Income Tax: strategic tools for tax fairness
- Sustainable Food & Water: Plowing through the LWVUS agriculture update
- Healthcare: Where ACA Stands
- Charter Schools: Are they reaching their goals?
- 2:00 p.m. Gun Violence Prevention: Concealed Carry and Other News
- Storm Water Project: When it pours, it floods

[Click here for the registration form](#), or [register online here](#). Please note that the registration fee deadline is **January 20th**. For those registering after January 21st, please add \$5.00 to your registration fee.

[http://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/ib2013\\_registration\\_form\\_december\\_2013.pdf](http://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/ib2013_registration_form_december_2013.pdf)

REGISTRATION: Issues Briefing February 1, 2014: 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
League of Women Voters of Illinois

Name \_\_\_\_\_ League \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FULL DAY - \$50 per person  
(includes continental breakfast, boxed lunch, briefing packet, workshops & materials)

\_\_\_\_\_ MORNING PLENARIES ONLY - \$30 per person  
(includes continental breakfast and briefing packet)

\_\_\_\_\_ AFTERNOON PROGRAM ONLY - \$35 per person  
(includes boxed lunch, workshops & materials)

\_\_\_\_\_ WORKSHOPS ONLY - \$25 per person  
(includes workshops & materials, briefing packet)

Afternoon workshops:

Session 1 (12:45 - 1:45 p.m.) - Choose one

- \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated Rate Income Tax: strategic tools for tax fairness
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sustainable Food & Water: Plowing through the LWVUS agriculture update
- \_\_\_\_\_ Healthcare: Where ACA Stands

Session 2 (2:00 - 3:00 p.m.) - Choose one

- \_\_\_\_\_ Charter Schools: Are they reaching their goals?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gun Violence Prevention: Concealed Carry and Other News
- \_\_\_\_\_ Storm Water Project: When it pours, it floods

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
**JANUARY 20, 2014**  
Those registering after 1/21/2014,  
please add \$5.00 to your  
registration fee

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to order a vegetarian lunch.

For your convenience, the League accepts Visa and MasterCard:

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed registration form to:  
League of Women Voters of Illinois  
332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 525  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
312.939.5935



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# Splash! Action Alert!

The Newsletter of the  
League of Women Voters  
Lake Michigan Region Special Edition

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## **Special Message from Your President! Time to Advocate to LWWUS!**

Hi Friends,

Did you know that LWWUS is currently accepting suggestions for advocacy priorities for the coming year?

Deadline is January 11, 2014 and email is welcome from *local leagues or from individual members*.

Your thoughts should be sent directly to LWWUS Advocacy Chair Toni Larson at:

[Toni.Larson@gmail.com](mailto:Toni.Larson@gmail.com)

What are the water issues that matter to you? These have all come up at LMLWV meetings:

- USEPA Regs: Reducing emissions from coal plants that dump mercury into our Lake.
- Being a watchdog over companies that apply for permits to dump extra pollutants into the Lake.
- Saying no to dirty energy, tar sands, pet coke and pipelines in general.
- Defending the water table and aquifers in the areas of fracking.
- Advocating for the need for clean energy projects in place of dirty energy in general.
- Supporting climate change adaptation strategies, especially green infrastructure.
- Stormwater and flooding mitigation. Reducing polluting runoff.



- Reducing agricultural runoff and the resultant dead zones in lakes, rivers and the Gulf of Mexico.
- Improving water infrastructures to reduce Combined Sewage Overflows.
- Taking steps to monitor and reduce beach closings.
- Taking action to reduce the impact and possible future impacts of invasive species plant and animal, aquatic and shoreline.
- Monitoring permits for drinking water and corporate usage of Lake Michigan waters.

Please take a moment to write to Toni Larson ([toni.larson@gmail.com](mailto:toni.larson@gmail.com)) and let the LWVUS know which one(s) of these matter to you and your neighbors. Ask your local league and state league to write as well. Help us spread the word! There is no form on the LWVUS website for raising legislative priorities at the national level. Writing to Toni is the official way to try to get issues onto the agenda at the LWVUS Board meeting to be held in early February. Take a few moments, either on your own or with your LWV, and write to: [Toni.Larson@gmail.com](mailto:Toni.Larson@gmail.com)

Thanks  
Henrietta Saunders, President  
League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Region

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## *Meetings and Highlights*

### Dec. 2, 2013 City Council Meeting Highlights

#### Board/Commission Members Reappointed

The City Council approved the reappointment of Tracy Jones to the Downtown Design Review Board for three years and the reappointment of Stephanie McGrath to the Historic Commission for three years.

#### Council Discusses Re-subdivision of Properties

The Council received a report from the Planning & Zoning Board regarding a request for re-subdivision of the properties at 102, 106 and 108 E. Farnham Lane into seven single-family lots serviced by a private road. The City also received an Abutter's Petition signed by more than 50% of the property owners across the street from and adjacent to the proposed development. City staff recommended denying the planned unit development due to its

incompatibility with the character of the existing estate lots adjacent to the subject property and concerns about the private road. The City Council directed the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for their formal consideration denying the zoning application.

## Proposed Tax Levies Outlined

The City Council reviewed proposed tax levy ordinances relating to the City's General property tax levy and Special Service Area levies. The proposed General levy is approximately \$100,000 less than the previous year. The Council will formally consider these ordinances at the Dec. 16 meeting.

## Finance Department Honored for 11th Consecutive Year

Mayor Gresk presented Finance Director Bob Lehnhardt with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2013. The Government Finance Officers Association gives this award as the highest form of recognition in government budgeting. This is the 11th consecutive year the City has received this award.

For additional meeting information, please see:

- <http://www.csparks.org/about-us/board-of-commissioners/> for Carol Stream Park District Board agendas and minutes
- [http://www.carolstream.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=404&Itemid=80](http://www.carolstream.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=404&Itemid=80) for Carol Stream Village Board agendas and minutes
- <http://www.warrenville.il.us/agendacenter> for Warrenville agendas and minutes
- <http://warrenvilleparks.org/board/minutes.asp> for Warrenville Park district minutes
- [http://www.westchicago.org/government/MeetingsMinutesAndAgendas/MA\\_CityCouncil\\_2013.html](http://www.westchicago.org/government/MeetingsMinutesAndAgendas/MA_CityCouncil_2013.html) for West Chicago City Council Meeting minutes
- <http://www.we-goparks.org/board-minutes.asp> for West Chicago Park District meeting agendas and minutes
- [http://www.wego33.org/cms/page\\_view?d=x&piid=&vpid=1276352580306](http://www.wego33.org/cms/page_view?d=x&piid=&vpid=1276352580306) for District 33 information
- [http://www.d94.org/boe/previous\\_agenda.htm](http://www.d94.org/boe/previous_agenda.htm) for District 94 minutes and schedules
- <http://www.wheaton.il.us/Government/councilhighlights/2013/default.aspx?id=7532> for Wheaton City Council highlights or <http://www.wheaton.il.us/government/detail.aspx?id=330> for minutes of Wheaton City Council meetings or videos.
- <http://www.cusd200.org/235310123124748440/site/default.asp> for podcasts of District 200 school board meetings.
- <http://www.wheatonparkdistrict.com/pgs/about/bmeetings.html> for agendas, minutes and videos of Wheaton Park District meetings
- <http://www.villageofwinfield.com/index.aspx?nid=128> for Winfield Village Board agendas and minutes
- [http://www.cod.edu/about/board\\_of\\_trustees/minutes.aspx](http://www.cod.edu/about/board_of_trustees/minutes.aspx) for the minutes of the COD Board of Trustee meetings.

## We Thank Our Local Supporters

Every fall the Wheaton LWV asks businesses and professional people in the community to help support our work. The names on these pages are those who responded to our 2013-2014 Finance Drive. When you patronize them, thank them in person for supporting the Wheaton League of Women Voters.

TIM BENSHOOF	<b>BENSHOOF &amp; CO.</b>	PO BOX 355, WHEATON 60187	630-462-6780	<a href="mailto:BENSHOOF-COMPANY@SBCGLOBAL.NET">BENSHOOF-COMPANY@SBCGLOBAL.NET</a>
HENRY BERTALMIO	<b>BEST-WAY RUG &amp; FURNITURE CLEANERS</b>	319 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-7940	<a href="http://BESTWAYRUG.COM">BESTWAYRUG.COM</a>
DR. BRUCE WISNER & DR. LAURENCE GOLDEN	<b>CENTRAL DUPAGE ORTHODONTICS LTD</b>	300 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-3317	<a href="http://CENTRALDUPAGEORTHO.COM">CENTRALDUPAGEORTHO.COM</a>
J R MCBRIDE	<b>DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD, DISTRICT 4</b>	489 TAFT AVE., GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-790-1140	<a href="http://VOTEMCBRIDE.COM">VOTEMCBRIDE.COM</a>
DAVE DIERSEN	<b>GOP USA ILLINOIS</b>	915 COVE CT, WHEATON 60189	630-653-0462	<a href="http://GOPILLINOIS.COM">GOPILLINOIS.COM</a>
BOB F HAEGER	<b>LANGAN HAEGER VINCENT &amp; BORN INSURANCE</b>	290 S COUNTY FARM RD, STE T, WHEATON 60187	630-668-6644	<a href="http://LANGANINS.COM">LANGANINS.COM</a>
ROY PEREGRINE	<b>PEREGRINE, STIME, NEWMAN, RITZMAN &amp; BRUCKNER, LTD</b>	221 E ILLINOIS ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-1900	<a href="http://PSNRB.COM">PSNRB.COM</a>
SUSAN C ROLEWICK,	<b>ROLEWICK &amp; GUTZKE PC</b>	1776 S NAPERVILLE RD, #104A, WHEATON 60189	630-653-1577	<a href="http://RGLAWFIRM.COM">RGLAWFIRM.COM</a>
JAMES BRAMSEN	<b>SPRAYING SYSTEMS CO</b>	PO BOX 7900, WHEATON IL 60187	630-665-5000	
RUTH CARLSON	<b>WHEATON BANK AND TRUST</b>	211 S. WHEATON, WHEATON 60187	630-588-4069	<a href="mailto:RCARLSON@WHEATONBANK.COM">RCARLSON@WHEATONBANK.COM</a>
THOMAS J WILLIAMS	<b>WILLIAMS-KAMPP FUNERAL HOME INC</b>	430 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0016	<a href="mailto:TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM">TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM</a>
DOUGLAS SAMUELS	<b>YOUNG'S APPLIANCES</b>	500 CRESCENT BLVD, GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-469-2288	<a href="http://YOUNGSAPPLIANCES.COM">YOUNGSAPPLIANCES.COM</a>