



The Voter

Wheaton LWV April 2010

President's Letter

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Important Dates!

- 4/1 Board Meeting
- 4/1 CENSUS DAY
- 4/13 Milton Township Annual Meeting

4/22 COD – NEW DATE



Greetings! It's so nice to enjoy the blue sky and sunshine and watch the spring flowers nudge through the debris of winter. It seems that everyone is cleaning out the garden beds, getting out the patio furniture and thinking about what annuals to freshen up the beds with. So much work with such great results to enjoy and take pride in.

You might say the same about the recent the Health Care legislation - so much work, but with such great results. We did it and can be proud of the league role in support of the legislation!

What's going on in the league right now?

I received my 2010 Census form last week, filled it out in less than 10 minutes and mailed it back. Be sure you complete the form and mail it back as soon as you get it.

Illinois Fair Map Amendment initiative– the LWV of Illinois leads the way with a petition drive to secure the signatures required to put the amendment on the November ballot. The petition drive ended 4/1 and I want to thank everyone who got out there to get petitions signed! Good work!

March 18th - Hubble School update meeting with Andrew Johnson, President CUSD 200, John Prendiville, Councilman, Wheaton City Council, Ray Morrill, Vice President, Wheaton Park District, provided the update. There were questions from the audience of about 60 and good coverage from the press. The biggest challenge remains the flood plain leaving only the section of land where the school is located available for development. While there is a revenue generating option of a possible “big box store” there are other development concepts under consideration, such as mixed use of residential and retail, as well as high density residential. We appreciate the work of the steering committee and will ask for future updates when appropriate.

What's coming up?

In **April** we will host an update on the **College of DuPage**. This "State of College of DuPage" meeting will feature the college president, Dr. Robert L. Breuder, who will talk usual about what's current with the college, challenges the college faces and changes to expect in the future. There will be an opportunity to ask questions, so plan on joining us on **Thursday, April 22nd**. Please note this **date change** from our meeting night. Also, we plan to invite the other leagues in DuPage County to join us for the meeting.

Is it **May** already? Look in the Voter for your invitation to join us for the annual meeting at The Bank Restaurant in downtown Wheaton. It looks like a good menu and we look forward to seeing everyone!

Missey Wilhelm

April 2010

Pictures from the Hubble Update Meeting



★★★★★★★★★★

April Meeting Announcement

Please make a note that our April meeting **date is changed to Thursday - April 22**, which is a week later than usual. We changed our date to accommodate the schedule of the president of COD, Dr. Robert Breuder. The meeting will be in the Atten - Central room, at the Wheaton Community Center. It will be a great opportunity for us to learn from Dr. Breuder, and for COD to share information and continue to build avenues for communication with the public.

★★★★★★★★★★

Watch your EMAIL for materials for the Annual Meeting, including:

- Next year's proposed budget
- Nominating Committee Report
- By Laws Committee Report

Note to myself -
Send a reservation and a check for the annual dinner to Joan.



*The League of Woman Voters of Wheaton invites members and guests to
its Annual Meeting and Dinner Thursday, May 20, 2010*

at



*The Bank Restaurant
121 W. Front Street, Wheaton
Fireside Banquet Hall*

6:30 Social Time with Cash Bar

7:15 Dinner –

Caesar Salad plus your choice of entrees

- Penne Bolognese, aged parmesan, fresh herbs, garlic toast*
- Pan Roasted French Chicken Breast, whipped potatoes & broccoli rabe in a sherry pan sauce*
- Grilled Hangar Steak, roasted red potato salad, wilted greens, mustard sherry dressing*

Dessert - choice of

- “The Bank” brownie*
- Rustic Apple Tart*

Coffee, Tea or Soda will be served with dinner

Come and enjoy the evening!

RESERVE YOUR PLACE BY MONDAY, MAY 10

Send your check of \$30.00 per dinner to:

Joan Fefferman

Make the check out to LWV of Wheaton

The League of Women Voters Through the Decades!

Compiled by Kay J. Maxwell

The 1940s:

Organization:

The 1944 convention made major changes in the basic structure of the League, proclaiming it an association of members, rather than a federation of state leagues, and abolishing the department system of managing the various facets of the League program. At the 1946 convention, the name was changed to the League of Women Voters of the United States, and the national program was considerably shortened.

This action was based on the League's conviction that if the League was to help democracy succeed by increasing intelligent citizen participation in government, it must choose a restricted program which was suitable to widespread member participation and leave enough time and energy to take such a program to greater numbers. (25 Years of a Great Idea, 1950.)

Members joined the League of Women Voters of the United States by enrolling in local Leagues in their communities. The local League became the basis of organization and representation in the League, while power was vested in the members. It is in and through the local League that members determine, directly and indirectly, what the League does and how it does it. Members influence League decisions either personally or through representatives at state and national levels by electing leaders, determining how money will be spent through adoption of budgets, choosing program, participating in the member agreement process and by deciding the bylaws.

At the same time, a continuing strong role for state Leagues was delineated. They were given responsibility for organizing and developing local Leagues and for promoting finance programs in the local Leagues to further the work of the Leagues as a whole, including transmission of funds adequate to support the national budget.

Later structural changes included the establishment of several Leagues at colleges, between 1948 and 1956, and of the unit system in 1948, which encouraged the development of small neighborhood-based discussion groups to further the opportunity for member input and participation.

Issues:

During the post World War II period, the League helped lead the effort to establish the United Nations and to ensure U.S. participation. The League was one of the first organizations in the country officially recognized by the United Nations as a non-governmental organization (NGO); it still maintains official observer status today and has special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The League also supported the creation of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as NATO, economic aid to less developed countries and the Marshall Plan.

The Overseas Education Fund was established in 1947. (For more detail, see the section titled League of Women Voters Education Fund and Overseas Education Fund.)

Workgroup Synopsis

Education, State Fiscal Policy & School Funding Joan Fefferman

The committee has been working to understand the District 200 Board of Education's proposed budget cuts for the next school year, so that we can advocate for League positions.

The CUSD 200 Board met on 2/10, 2/24, 3/3 (a forum for airing public opinion), 3/10, and 3/24. We attended all of these meetings, to learn what the public sentiment is. At the early meetings Acting Superintendent Charles Baker presented the Administration's proposed budget cuts. Subsequent meetings presented the Finance Committee's suggested budget reduction plan. This committee includes citizens, teachers, administrators and parents who help the Board of Education in their planning and execution of budget issues. Recently, Dr. Baker presented a revision of the Administration's budget cuts, taking into account the public comment of March 3.

One major issue for the board are the problems in Springfield, which have made planning and budget projections difficult. Although Article 10 of the State Constitution states that the State should be the primary source of funds for schools, CUSD 200 receives just 15% of its \$150,000,000 budget from the State. Illinois has only made the first quarter payment for this school year, and we are entering the 4th quarter. Much will depend on the State's actions on funding. Concurrent with the Voter's release, we should know the Board's decision on which cuts will be included in the 2010-2011 Budget which will be approved in the summer or early fall.

Another issue for the Board is the contract negotiation with the teachers, which should be completed this spring. According to Mr. Bill Farley, the District's financial manager, the teacher's union is very much aware of the financial difficulties faced by the District and has come to the table with compromise and understanding.

Our committee met with Mr. Farley in his office on March 16 as part of our effort to understand the District's situation and their projected plans. We offered support if needed and if proposed solutions aligned with our positions, in the way of advocacy, education and work in Springfield. Mr. Farley was very knowledgeable and ably communicated the District's financial situation and the projected plans for the future.

Look at the proposed budget reduction plans and the results of the March 24 School Board meeting on District 200's website <http://www.cusd200.org/> . The first few items on the home page give the proposed plans for budget reduction as well as a list of frequently asked questions.

We recently wrote a letter to the Board of Education advocating for early intervention in the education of our children and for increased revenues coming from the State.

We invite you to join Jan Kay, Roberta Jacobson, Missey Wilhelm, Carol Elias, Louise Florian and Helen White at our meetings. Contact Joan Fefferman for details.

Environment

Diane Niesman

Funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (economic stimulus) will be helping Wheaton turn green this year.

A \$47,837 grant will be used to retrofit 13 aged diesel trucks with systems that will reduce particulate emissions from exhaust and improve Wheaton's air quality.

A grant of more than \$500,000 will be used in part

- to reduce the energy usage in city facilities;
- to improve mileage of the city's vehicles;
- to provide grants to businesses to make energy efficiency upgrades;
- to educate residents about energy efficiency and offer home energy audits.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 17, 9 AM Saturday	<u>Go Fly a Kite</u> , at Graf Park on Manchester (near Monroe Middle School)
April 17, 9 AM - 1 PM Saturday	<u>Recycling Extravaganza</u> , in the parking lot at Liberty Dr. & Carleton Ave. Books, scrap metal, eye glasses, keys, hearing aids, worn American flags, cell phones and bicycles will be accepted. Electronics have just been added to acceptable items, but NO batteries or hazardous waste will be accepted
April 24, 9 AM – 12 PM Saturday	<u>Prairie Path Cleanup</u> , Bring work gloves and meet at Stevens Park at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and the Prairie Path.
April 30, 9:30 AM Friday	<u>Arbor Day Celebration</u> at Hawthorne Elementary School, 334 Wakeman Ave. A tree will be planted to honor Wheaton citizen Bernie Hurley.
May 1, 8:30 AM – 12 PM Saturday	<u>Native Plant Sale</u> , at Public Works Building, 821 Liberty Drive.

Healthcare Gwen Wharton

On March 11, Di Niesman and Gwen Wharton attended the Glen Ellyn LWV meeting on mental health. The program was planned by NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness. Presenters included Anthony Zipple, the CEO of Threshold, Chicago, and Dr. Joyce Butler from the DuPage County Health Department's Mental Health Division. Both spoke of the importance of using "evidence based practice" through which doctors use current research to give the best care. Patients then benefit by receiving the best care that is currently known. Doctors then use the best research, not opinion, in the care given. They follow and understand the worldwide research, adjusting their practice as new knowledge becomes available. "Evidence based practice" strives for the individual to live, work, learn and participate in the community. There is hope for recovery for everyone with a mental illness. Hope is the key component of recovery.

More information can be obtained through NAMI-DuPage-630-752-0066 and Threshold-Chicago-773-572-5500.

Housing Jan Kay

As members of DuPage Housing Action Coalition, the Wheaton league has taken part in legislative visits with representatives and senators in the County to ask for support for 5 bills before them as well as two budget items regarding restoration of monies taken away from last year's budget when the legislature substituted stimulus monies for the previous state funds.

One bill does not have a bill number as it is being worked on by Rep. Madigan's office. HB 5163 is now dead; it was a fair housing bill for seniors.

For the other 3, go to <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/default.asp> to review these bills.

1. HB 5125 Rep. Sandra Pihos which passed the House and is now on its way to the Senate.
2. HB 5735 which passed out of Judiciary I
3. HB 5523 which came from a case in DuPage County regarding eviction of survivors of sexual violence.

The two budget initiatives are:

1. Restore State Funding for the Homelessness Prevention Program
2. Emergency Food and Shelter Funding

There are 4 remaining legislative visits which will take place between now and mid-April, including a visit with Congressman Bill Foster. There has been a visit with Rep. Judy Biggert as well.

The Housing Workgroup is keeping up with the planning for redevelopment of the Hubble properties, always watching for part of the plan to include affordable housing options for the community.

League of Voters at Wheaton North

Rachel Mc Givern

The Wheaton North League of Voters has finished its year now prior to District 200 Spring break. The school sponsor and leaders met together and we decided that given the tremendously heavy post break schedules with sports etc., to end the year now and once again begin in the Fall.

Thanks to the leaders who put forth much effort to keep this Wheaton League of Women Voters affiliate on schedule this year.

Report submitted by Jan Kay. Liaison

Wheaton City Council Highlights
Meeting: March 15, 2010

Council Votes 4-3 in Favor of Utility and Gas Use Tax Increases

The Wheaton City Council voted 4-3 in favor of ordinances that increase the utility tax level from 4 percent to 5 percent and increase the municipal gas use tax from 2 cents per therm to 3 cents per therm. The average increase for a Wheaton resident will be approximately \$24.72 per year for the electric tax and approximately \$12 per year for the natural gas tax. The tax increases apply to all entities within the City, including nonprofit organizations and other land owners who do not pay property tax.

New Firm Chosen for City Audit

At the Council's request, City staff sought proposals from firms different from the one the City has used for the past 15 years in order to secure auditing services from a firm with fresh oversight. The Council awarded the bid to Baker, Tilly, Virchow, Krause, LLP for a five-year contract with the option to reconsider the contract each year.

Ordinance Establishes Downtown Parking Overlay District and Amends Off-Street Parking Standards

The Council approved an ordinance that creates a downtown parking overlay district that changes the parking requirements for properties redeveloped within the City's downtown area and makes a number of changes to off-street parking and loading. The changes set the minimum number of parking spaces for a property based on different types of uses and the square feet of floor area of a business or other structure.

- Please see <http://www.wheaton.il.us/government/councilhighlights/2010/> for additional highlights or <https://dm1.wheaton.il.us/meetingview/> for minutes of the meetings or videos.
- Please see http://www.cusd200.org/board_of_education/highlights.htm for District 200 school board meeting highlights.
- Please see <http://www.cod.edu/adminstr/boardmin.htm> for the minutes of the COD Board of Trustee meetings.
- Please see <http://www.wheatonparkdistrict.com/pgs/about/bmeetings.html> for minutes of Wheaton Park District 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 2009 Finance Drive. When you patronize them, thank them in person for supporting the Wheaton League of Women Voters.

ALBERT ROSE	A A ROSE CONSTRUCTION CO	P O BOX 802, WHEATON 60187	630-653-4400	
ROCKNEY J HOWARD	AMERICAN ENTERPRISE BANK	25W411 GENEVA RD, WHEATON 60187		RJHOWARD@AEBANK.NET
HENRY BERTALMIO	BEST-WAY RUG & FURNITURE CLEANERS	319 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-7940	BESTWAYRUG@YAHOO.COM
KELLIE C BORTER	BORTER HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING CO, INC	0N441 PLEASANT HILL RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-5885, 630-668-6198 FAX	BORTERHVACKCB@AOL.COM
ERIC D BRUSS APLD	BRUSS LANDSCAPING INC	1607 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-665-1600	TLUSSOW@BRUSSLANDSCAPING.COM
BRUCE W WISNER DDS MS	CENTRAL DUPAGE ORTHODONTICS LTD	300 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-3317	
LORI J MILLER CFP	CHICAGO NORTH FINANCIAL GROUP, FINANCIAL ADVISOR/WEALTH MANAGER	500 PARK BLVD, STE 400, ITASCA 60143	630-333-5873, 630-875-1649	LJMILLER@SBCGLOBAL.NET , LJMILLER@METLIFE.COM
CHRISTOPHER BARTON, EXECUTIVE V.P.	COMMUNITY BANK	100 N WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-933-0900	CBARTON@COMMBANK-WGE.COM
JOHN T BOMHER, MEMBER	CUSD 200 BOARD OF EDUCATION	130 W PARK AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-690-4631	JBOMHER@CUSD200.ORG
J R MCBRIDE, MEMBER, DISTRICT 4	DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD	421 N COUNTY FARM RD, WHEATON 60187	630-407-6000	JRMCBRIDE5@MSN.COM
DEBRA OLSON, MEMBER, DISTRICT 4	DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD	421 N COUNTY FARM RD, WHEATON 60187	630-407-6000	DEBRA@DEBRAOLSON.COM , DOLSON@DUPAGECO.ORG
THOMAS BOZONELOS	EGG'LECTIC CAFÉ	145 N HALE ST, WHEATON 60187	630-690-9001	EGGLECTICCAFE@AOL.COM
MICHAEL J GRESK	FIRST CHOICE BANK	330 S NAPERVILLE RD, WHEATON 60189	630-260-2000 city hall	MGRESK@FIRSTCHOICEBANKS.COM
DAVE DIERSEN	GOP USA	915 COVE CT, WHEATON 60189	630-653-0462	DIERSEN@AOL.COM
JAMES P HOFNER, CPA	HOFNER & HOFNER LLC	855 W PRAIRIE AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-462-9777	JIMH@HOFNERHOFNER.COM
TIM S HULTGREN	HULTGREN FUNERAL HOME	304 N MAIN ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0027	TIM@HULTGRENFH.COM , WWW.HULTGRENFH.COM

JOHN MILLNER	ILLINOIS SENATOR 28TH DISTRICT	290 SPRINGFIELD DR, STE 225, BLOOMINGDALE 60108	630-351-9340	JOHNJMILLNER@AOL.COM
FRANCO COLADIPIETRO	ILLINOIS REPRESENTATIVE 45TH DISTRICT	123 N ROSEDALE, STE 100, BLOOMINGDALE 60108	630-272-4545	FRANCO@COLADIPIETRO.COM
CAROL & PAUL MORGAN	INKWELL	119 E ROOSEVELT RD, LOMBARD 60148	(630) 268-0050	INKWELL1@FLASH.NET
JILL CARD	JEANS AND A CUTE TOP SHOP	204 W WESLEY ST, WHEATON 60187	630-690-5287	CARDRJ@COMCAST.NET
BOB F HAEGER	LANGAN HAEGER VINCENT & BORN INSURANCE	290 S COUNTY FARM RD, STE T, WHEATON 60187	630-668-6644	HAEGERB@LANGANINS.COM
JOHN B KINCAID	MIRABELLA, KINCAID, FREDERICK & MIRABELLA, P.C.	1737 S NAPERVILLE RD, STE 100, WHEATON 60189	630-665-7300	
DR CONRAD W STOLL & DR CYNTHIA LOGAN	OPTOMETRISTS	214 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-4144	STOLLPATROL@AOL.COM
PATRICIA A PAPE	PAPE & ASSOCIATES	618 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-8710	PAPPAPEL@SBCGLOBAL.NET , OFFICE@PAPEANDASSOCIATES.COM
ROY PEREGRINE	PEREGRINE, STIME, NEWMAN, RITZMAN & BRUCKNER, LTD	221 E ILLINOIS ST, WHEATON 60189	630-665-1900	RPEREGRINE@PSNRB.COMMURPHY
KENNETH F POLACH, MAI, SRA	POLACH APPRAISAL GROUP, INC	1761 S NAPERVILLE, WHEATON 60189	630-682-4650, 630-682-4814 FAX	KEN@POLACHAPPRAISAL.COM
W THOMAS POWELL	POWELL & BOYER	124c S COUNTY FARM RD, WHEATON 60187	630-588-1996	TOM@POWELLANDBOYER.COM
SUSAN C ROLEWICK, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	ROLEWICK & GUTZKE PC	1776 S NAPERVILLE RD, #104A, WHEATON 60189	630-653-1577	SUSANR@RGLAWFIRM.COM
DALE R SHOWALTER	SHOWALTER ROOFING SERVICE, INC	25W048 RAMM DR, STE 1, NAPERVILLE60564	630-499-7700	DALE@SHOWALTERROOFING.COM
VALERIE KOEHLER	TASTING DEVINE	127 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-752 9463	TASTINGDEVINE@HOTMAIL.COM
MICHAEL C PHILLIPS	THE BANK RESTAURANT & BAR	121 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-2265	INFO@THEBANKWHEATON.COM , WWW.THEBANKWHEATON.COM
ARTHUR E PAPE, ESQ	THE PAPE LAW FIRM	100 W ROOSEVELT RD, BLDG A-3, STE 102, WHEATON 60187	630-933-9300	APAPE@PAPELAW.COM

DAVID BLAND	THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA	1926 N MAIN ST, WHEATON 60187	630- 665-0130 X354	DHBCONSULT9@YAHOO.COM
DOUGLAS P CARLSON, DVM	VILLAGE ANIMAL CLINIC	25W510 GENEVA RD, CAROL STREAM 60188	630-690-9191	DCARLSON@VILLAGEANIMAL.COM
EDWARD J WALSH JR	WALSH, KNIPPEN, KNIGHT & POLLOCK	2150 MANCHESTER RD, WHEATON 60187	630-462-1980, 630-462-1984 FAX	ED@WKKPLAW.COM , WWW.WKKPLAW.COM
RUTH D CARLSON	WHEATON BANK & TRUST	211 S WHEATON AV, WHEATON 60189	630-690-1800	RCARLSON@WHEATONBANK.COM
THOMAS J WILLIAMS	WILLIAMS-KAMPP FUNERAL HOME INC	430 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0016	TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM