

**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®**

Wheaton League of Women Voters
P.O. Box 1026
Wheaton, IL 60187

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- EMAIL ADDRESS
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- PHONE NUMBER

TO ROBERTA JACOBSON

We want to be sure that you continue to receive the Voter notification by
Email each month,
and we are also preparing an updated member directory for the Handbook in
September.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
	June 3 – 7		Taste of Wheaton**
Thursday	June 4	7:00	Board Meeting
	June 12 - 14		LWVIL Convention

*****Please contact Carol Honeywell if you can help with the Downtown Wheaton Survey***

In this month's issue:

President's Letter page 3
Workgroup Synopsispage 5
City Council Highlightspage 7
Our Supporterspage 9



Presidents' Message

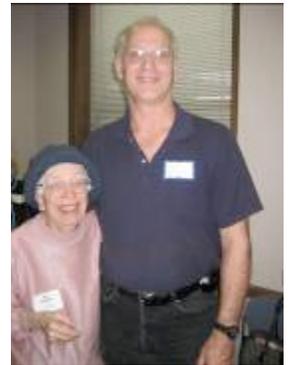
June 2009

Greetings!

Jan Kay left me some pretty big shoes to fill. I want to thank her for her encouragement and guidance and look forward to working with her in different capacities in the next two years. Along with the new and returning board of directors, I thank you, the members, for your support and the confidence you place in allowing us to lead this very active League Unit.

What's going on in the league right now?

- In 2008 we established the *Marget Hamilton Service to the Wheaton League Award*, to recognize a member with outstanding service to the league. We were honored to present the second award to **HELEN WHITE** at our annual meeting, May 21st. Helen has registered more voters, held more board positions, chaired more work groups, worked on more committees, and attended more meetings and conventions than one could count over her 46 years with the League. She is action personified. Congratulations, Helen!
- Also on the special awards front, Wheaton's Community Relations Commission presented 2009 Good Citizen Awards to 13 Wheaton residents in May. In the senior citizen category, **BETTY HAMILTON** was recognized for her lifelong commitment to nonprofit organizations, including the Hope Fair Housing Center, Teen Parent Connection, Parents' Pantry, and the People's Resource Center and the League of Women Voters. A well deserved honor for Betty.



What's coming up?

Two things that attracted me to the League of Women Voters is the idea of being an active citizen in the community and staying informed. We have two events coming up that allow those of us participating to do just that.

- On Saturday, May 30th the Diversity (for Recruitment) and Voter Service (for Voter Registration) committees will be participating at **Welcoming Day DuPage**. This is a historic event as DuPage County holds the second Illinois Welcoming Day for New Americans. Welcoming Day is to provide services in partnership with state agencies, local community organizations and educational entities that support self-sufficiency to our immigrant and refugee residents.
- The League of Women Voters of Illinois holds the bi-annual state convention in Peoria and Roberta Jacobson, Jan Kay and I will be attending as delegates. The theme is **EVERYONE COUNTS...ON LEAGUE AND IN LEAGUE**. Topics to be covered include the 2010 Census and redistricting, Campaign Finance Reform, as well as Tax and Ethics Reform. It should be a very interesting few days. We will share the outcome later in the year.

My plan is to continue Jan's good example with the board meetings, short but meaty. The real work is done in action committees but we count on your input. Share your thoughts and ideas with us; we may call on you for your specific input, like the Downtown Wheaton Survey. If you haven't done so already, take a minute to reply to Carol Honeywell.

Finally, I am honored to serve as President of the League of Women Voters of Wheaton for the next two years and am looking forward to what will come. It's usually very interesting.

Have a wonderful summer and we will see you in September.

Missey

OUR JAN

Noodle it around for a while, she says
Think about it and send me an email, she recommends
Wonderful! You really captured it, she compliments
Check the bylaws and see if it's legal, she cautions
Oh, boy, what do we do now, she worries
I'll be in the city tomorrow, she informs
Have some candy, she offers
You did the best you could, she consoles
Ay, yi, yi, she exclaims
I emailed them again, she moans
HmMMM, she writes
Why don't you and I meet, she suggests
High School Voters are awesome, she enthuses
Good night, Nurse, she groans
It's important to be on top of this, she advises
Thank you, thank you very much, she praises
I am so proud of our League, she proclaims
And she means every word
Our Jan



Workgroup Synopsis

Diversity

Frank Goetz

On Wednesday April 15, the Diversity Team participated in a workshop at the Glen Ellyn Public Library: A YWCA Outracious! Event – What Would You Do? During this event the workshop examined clips of ABC's award-winning show, *What would you do?*, and discussed the influence of race in everyday scenarios. Facilitated by Theodore Darden, Professor of Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences at the College of DuPage, we discussed racial inequality, the prevalence of racism in the Chicago area, and perspectives on how people from different races, ethnic groups or other cultures interact. Our team gained many valuable insights. We were honored to help the YWCA's mission of eliminating racism and empowering women, and became re-dedicated in our commitment to diversity.

The event was sponsored by the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, and is part of Outracious: A YWCA Series on race. The year-long campaign consists of a series of provocative online discussions and events designed to bring the often "unsaid" issues surrounding race to the forefront for greater understanding.

Education

Carol Elias

Present: Joan Fefferman, Helen White, Louise Florian and Carol Elias

The Education Committee met and discussed education issues focusing primarily on financial concerns of District 200 and what financial assistance may be available from the State and the Federal Government. We are interested in finding out if the District will gain any new monies from the Federal stimulus package and what is in the proposed State Budget for education as well as the Federal Budget that was just passed.

We propose to have a speaker at the LWV 's September meeting to address Education Funding and to give us an overview of current and proposed funding for education: local (District 200), state (IL) and Federal. We would like a financial picture of what can be expected in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and beyond. Louise and Joan are researching possible speakers and will report back to the committee.

Environment

Diane Niesman

At our regular meetings, we will continue to accept batteries to recycle. If you want to dispose of them on your own, the City of Wheaton started a program in March, which is proving to be very successful. Details of the program can be found at this link:

<http://www.wheaton.il.us/residents/garbage.aspx?id=4764>

Non-leaking batteries, separated by type (alkaline, lithium, etc.), can be placed in zippered plastic bags, and dropped off at any of these locations during business hours:

- City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St. (first floor, across from the Finance Department)
- Public Works Building, 821 W. Liberty Drive (administration building, first floor entryway)
- Wheaton Police Department, 900 W. Liberty Drive

- Wheaton Fire Station 1, 1 Fapp Circle (behind Target)
- Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St.

A disposal program for un-used medications/drugs has begun under the auspices of the DuPage County Sheriff's Department and the DuPage County Health Department. It is called The Rx Drop Box Program. It's aim is to keep pharmaceuticals out of the land fills, water system and hands of teenagers. All medicine will be incinerated by the EPA. The Rx Drop Box is located at the west entrance to the Sheriff's Office at 501 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton. It is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To protect personal information, the medications may be put in Ziploc bags before disposing.

The City of Wheaton offers electronic recycling from 9:00 AM to Noon on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Items such as computers, cell phones, TVs, etc. can be dropped off at the Public Works Storage Facility at 821 W. Liberty Drive, Wheaton. If you have questions about acceptable items, call SIMS Recycling Solutions at 630-231-6060. Young volunteers are needed for this program. If you know anyone looking for volunteer opportunities, have them call the Environmental Improvement Commission at 630-653-8776.

Finally, Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM on the 2nd floor of City Hall. The next meeting is May 26, 2009.

Viable Downtown Wheaton Carol Honeywell

The Viable Downtown Business group will be at "Taste of Wheaton" taking a survey of opinions about future hopes and needs for the downtown area.

League of Voters at Wheaton North Travis Steele, President

The Wheaton North League of Voters has accomplished a great deal this 2008-2009 school year. Our goal was to get more students to take an interest in politics and to generate discussion about the 2008 presidential election. To do this, we organized a mock presidential election, hosted a voter registration drive for students, and published newsletters about the various candidates, all of which culminated in our trip to the presidential inauguration in Washington, D.C.

We also focused on several other issues. We held monthly open forums, during which students could voice their opinions on a pre-determined issue. We hosted a speaker on the affordable housing problem in our area. We continued to publish newsletters with articles concerning recent political news. At the end of the school year, we held a forum on gun violence prevention that was co-sponsored by the League of Voters, the Illinois Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, LWVIL, LWV Wheaton, LWV Glen Ellyn and LWV Naperville. Overall, this has been a very eventful and successful year for the Wheaton North League of Voters.



Wheaton City Council Highlights

Please see <http://www.wheaton.il.us/government/councilhighlights> for additional highlights of Wheaton City Council meetings.

Meeting: May 4, 2009

Volunteers Needed for DuPage River Sweep

Mayor Gresk read a proclamation and encouraged residents to take part in DuPage River Sweep Day, an annual event in which volunteers help pick up debris in and along the DuPage River. This year, the event will take place on May 16. Anyone interested in helping can call the Conservation Foundation at 630-428-4500, Ext. 22.

School to Participate in Lamb Umbrellas for Peace Project



Principal John Patterson of Hawthorne Elementary School and Jenny Jeannette, niece of internationally recognized artist Matt Lamb, accepted a proclamation from Mayor Gresk making May 28-29 Lamb Umbrellas for Peace Project Days in Wheaton. Mr. Lamb will be visiting the school, and students will take part in a project in response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Children and adults will paint umbrellas with their ideas of what world peace looks like, and the project will culminate with a school and community-wide parade at 2:30 p.m. May 29 at Hawthorne Elementary School.

Residents Appointed/Reappointed to City Boards and Commissions

The Wheaton City Council appointed Robert Paolicchi and reappointed Anne Wanzenberg to three-year terms on the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners; reappointed Matthew Litfin to a two-year term on the Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees; and reappointed Robert Glonek to a three-year term on the Liquor Control Commission.

Meeting: May 18, 2009

Eagle Scout Honored



Mayor Michael Gresk recognized Michael Koehne for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout within the Boy Scouts organization. Koehne's Eagle Scout project consisted of constructing bookshelves for the Serenity House in Addison.

Commission Honors Good Citizen Award Winners

Wheaton's Community Relations Commission presented 2009 Good Citizen Awards to 13 Wheaton residents. The awards honor residents whose actions have benefitted the community through volunteering, accomplishing a good deed or performing a heroic act. Winners were selected in three categories.



Student Category Award Winners:

Alyssa Yasak, Glenbard South High School
Alexandra Cox and Maria Diamond, St. Francis High School
Kurt Klinger and Connor Ciesemier, Wheaton North High School

Adult Category Award Winners:



Ruth Carlson
Steve Friedle
Mary Plepel

Senior Citizen Category Award Winners:



S. Gordon Anderson
Winifred "Winnie" Blewitt
Betty Hamilton
Kenneth McNatt
Dr. John Oberhelman

Council Announces Time Capsule Opening Ceremony

Councilwoman Corry encouraged the community to attend a ceremony to reveal the contents of a time capsule buried in 1959 for Wheaton's centennial anniversary. The ceremony will be at 10 a.m. June 27 in Memorial Park. Also, the City is collecting submissions for a new time capsule to be opened on Wheaton's bicentennial anniversary in 2059.

Meeting Highlights

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 2008 Finance Drive. When you patronize them, thank them in person for supporting the Wheaton League of Women Voters



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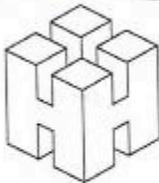


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