

Welcome to your August VOTER from the League of Women Voters of Wheaton, <<First Name>>. Take time to read the latest news about you League!

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# LWW VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF WHEATON

Serving the people of Wheaton, Winfield, West Chicago, Warrenville, and Carol Stream

**August 2016**

**Thank you**

## Agatha Christie in September



We will be kicking-off the League year on Thursday, September 22, with a presentation from WomanLore -- bringing to life powerful women of bygone eras.

Our program will be "Agatha Christie: The Mystery of Living"

adapted and performed by Betsey Means.

Agatha Christie (1890-1976) was a prolific English "Queen of Crime" author of world renown. She created such famous detectives as Hercule Poirot, the eccentric Belgian and English spinster Miss Jane Marple. Christie enjoyed a career that spanned over 50 years and her works have now sold into the billions. They have been translated into dozens of languages, inspired numerous other

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authors' works and have been adapted to radio, the stage and film. In 1971, Christie received England's highest honor, the Order of the British Empire, Dame Commander.

Our program will be held at Prairie Path Books, 302 W. Wesley, Wheaton at 7:00 p.m.

(Networking at 6:30 p.m.) While space is limited, we encourage you to invite prospective League members as your guests.

## From League Leadership

Here is a little bit on how your League leaders spent their summer vacation:

- After the May annual meeting, we jumped right into the task of filling leadership positions on our committees. (We hope you will help by filling committee membership slots.)
- In June League shared space with SCARCE at the Taste of Wheaton.
- Also in June, retiring and new board members met jointly to insure continuity for the organization. The good news is some of those "retiring" members are taking on continuing active off-board tasks!
- Dues letters were prepared and mailed.
- At the end of June the executive committee met to discuss their expectations for the year to come and begin acting on them.
- The Members Handbook was reviewed and updated for online release in September.
- Early in July the League Book Club met and discussed "My Life on the Road" by Gloria Steinem.
- Late in July, Jane Hodgkinson and I attended

David Diersen  
GOP USA Illinois

Alan Murphy  
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Frank Saverino,  
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Carol Stream

Erik Spande,  
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Village of Winfield

and all our League  
members who  
made donations this  
past year!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### **September 8 LWV BOARD MEETING**

7:00 p.m.  
Gary United  
Methodist Church  
Wheaton

### **September 13 BOOK CLUB**

7:00 p.m.  
Home of Mary  
Tupper  
Wheaton

the LWVIL Membership & Leadership Development (MLD) Program Training & Workshop and brought back several ideas we hope to implement.

- The Audit Committee met and reviewed the League's books for the fiscal year.
- The League board met in August and reviewed the programs and opportunities before it including Mock Elections in the schools this fall and the formation of a coalition of local Leagues to monitor the COD board meetings.

Patricia Schwarze, President  
League of Women Voters of Wheaton



Jane, left, and Pat, right, discuss ideas with MLD Coach Pat Landes

**September 21  
LWVIL STATE OF  
THE STATE  
LUNCHEON**

11:30 a.m.

Union League Club

Chicago

[More information](#)

**September 22  
SEPTEMBER  
PROGRAM**

from WomanLore

7:00 p.m.

(6:30 p.m. Social)

Prairie Path Books

Wheaton

## Volunteer

These committees are looking for members:

- Communications
- Environmental
- Membership
- Voter Service

*also* Mock Elections.

## News you need to know

### ***State-of-theState***

The 2016 LWVIL Annual State of the State Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, September 21, at the Union League Club of Chicago, This year's theme is Democracy Goes Back to School: Celebrating Civic Education

in Illinois. Cheryl Corley of NPR will be the keynote speaker. An award will be given to the McCormick Foundation and Shawn Healy for their devotion to the principles of civic education and the passage and implementation of HB4025, the Illinois Civics Bill.

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### ***Drinks & Discussion***

Mark your calendar now for Drinks & Discussion on Tuesday, October 11 when we will talk about “The Future of Municipalities” with Don Rose, newly retired Wheaton City Manager, and Greg Bielawski, former Carol Stream Village Manager. They will discuss and lead a discussion of the municipality and its future, noting the trends: financial, legal, labor issues consolidation and national models. How will consolidation play out as government seeks to streamline, yet provide resident desired services at an acceptable cost? How will cost/income trends change?

We will meet at Coopers Corner, 27W150 Roosevelt Road, Winfield. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., presentation at 6:00 p.m. This program is free for League members; \$10 for nonmembers and guests (can be credited toward membership dues if joining). Cash bar.

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### ***Book Club schedule***

The next Book Club meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on September 13, at Mary Tupper's house.. The book we will be discussing is "Angle of Repose" by Wallace Stegner. Diane Niesman will be our discussion leader. Please call (630-690-8239) or [e-mail](#) Mary if you plan on attending.

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### ***City of Wheaton Waste Contract***

On August 1, the Wheaton City staff recommended approval of a new waste hauling contract with Lakeshore Recycling beginning on October 1, 2016. All of the council members approved. Councilman John Prendiville was absent.

There will be a letter going out to all Wheaton residents with an explanation of the contract and how to sign-up for the particular carts each homeowner would like. They come in 20, 35, 65 and 95 gallon sizes for refuse and 35, 65 and 95 gallon sizes for recycling. Also offered will be a 35, 65, or 95 gallon cart for

subscription-based organic collection, which according to literature put out by the city at the previous meeting and which was a factor in one of its three primary goals, there is a very low participation rate. Staff mentioned that only 2.5% of Glen Ellyn's households currently participate in the food-scrap collection program in that community.

Councilwoman-at-large Suzanne Fitch, asked Asst. City Manager John Dugay if they had contacted any of Lakeshore's references in regard to other communities that already are using this RFID technology. He said yes they had, but just Highland Park. Note: Highland Park has only been using this system since this past April and has not gone through a winter yet to test what impact the weather will have on the RFID technology.

At the last city council meeting the accuracy of this system was brought up and Lakeshores representative stated that there is a 95% accuracy of reads, but one of the homeowners in the audience pointed out that this means once in twenty or twice a year you could get an inaccurate reading.

The new rates are less expensive. Residents who would like more information can view the city council meeting on the City of Wheaton [website](#).

## Advocacy Update from LWVUS

### **League Files Amicus Brief in *A. Phillip Randolph Inst. v. Husted***

The League joined Project Vote and Common Cause on [a brief in the case of \*A. Phillip Randolph Inst. v. Husted\*](#) in 6th Circuit Appeals Court. The brief argues that methods used by the state of Ohio to remove voters based on their voting status from the voting rolls should be prohibited. Purging voters from the rolls because they didn't vote in previous elections creates confusion for voters and is in direct violation of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) and the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

### **Tell Congress: Repair The Voting Rights Act**

June 25 marked the third anniversary of the decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, the Supreme Court decision that gutted the Voting Rights Act (VRA). [Join the League and tell your Senators and Representatives that it is time to modernize and repair the VRA!](#) As a preconvention activity, [League members](#)

from around the country [lobbied their members of Congress](#) on legislation that would repair the VRA to its full powers. This legislation, [the Voting Rights Advancement Act](#), will level the playing field and ensure that all Americans have fair and equal access to the voting booth.

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