



The League of Women Voters of Elmhurst

Over 75 Years of Public Policy Debate and Voter Education in our Community

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Shop Talk

Elmhurst Intergovernmental Cooperation

Tuesday January 27, 2009 at 7:00 pm, Elmhurst Library

Intergovernmental Cooperation within the Elmhurst community is one of our action priorities. What does this mean in a practical sense? How do our various governmental agencies work together for the benefit of our citizens? What pitfalls and limitations do they encounter? Are there other bodies with which they work communally? Please bring your questions for our invited panelists:

Tom Borchert, Elmhurst City Manager

Dr. Lynn Krzic, School District 205 Superintendent

Rich Grodsky, Elmhurst Park District Executive Director

Marilyn Boria, Elmhurst Public Library Director

Attention All Voter Registrars ...and potential new Voter Registrars

Recertification will take place on Tuesday, January 27th at 6:00 pm, prior to our League meeting

Our appointments to register voters have expired, and we need to be recertified. We have arranged for a representative from the DuPage County Election Commission to retrain and recertify us before our League meeting on **Tuesday, January 27th at 6:00 pm at the Elmhurst Public Library**. Please be sure to attend; otherwise you will need to make separate arrangements with the Commission to be recertified.

For all those who would like to become registrars, please contact Myrrha Guzman at voterregistration@lwvelmhurst.org. We will need to submit your contact information to the Commission before our meeting on the 27th.

We anticipate scheduling a “mini registration drive” before the April elections, so we will be looking for volunteer registrars in the upcoming months.

*Myrrha Guzman
Voter Registration Chair*

President's Corner

Happy New Year to all of you. 2009 will be off to a busy start for your League with upcoming local and state events. As featured in this issue, the annual LWVIL Issues Briefing is scheduled on January 31 and the State of the State Luncheon on February 26. Both are informative and enjoyable events; I urge you to attend.

Our Voter Services Director, **Cheri Niewiara** and **Gail Anderson** have begun working on a Candidates Forum for the upcoming election for city offices (Mayor, City Clerk, aldermen), School Board, Park Board, and College of DuPage Trustees. Questions for the candidates are being developed. If you have questions for these candidates, please send them to Cheri.

The Forum is scheduled for Sunday, February 22 in Elmhurst City Hall.

In closing, I would like to thank **Sally Hoffman** for again hosting our annual League holiday party in her home and **Jeanne Davik** for preparing a timely and amusing trivia game for our party. It was an enjoyable evening of socializing and good food contributed by attendees.

I would also like to welcome our new members: **Tonja Pastorelle** and **Carol Snyder**.

Donna

Great Decisions Barbara Swords

February 5th at 9:15 am

Great Decisions will have its first meeting of 2009 on the first Thursday in **February** —at the home of Barbara Swords. We will discuss issues presented in Chapter 1 of our new book for 2009: *The US and rising powers*.

The new books are available from Barbara. If you have not picked yours up, please call her.

Program Planning Meeting LWV Elmhurst

Wednesday, February 11th, 7:00 pm

“**Program**”, in League usage, refers to the issues and advocacy items the League is working on during a given time period. Please mark your calendars and join us for one of the most interesting discussions of the year as we spend

an evening talking about state and local issues we want to work on next year. More information and background material will be in the February issue of *Shop Talk* and online.

Illinois Issues Briefing Register by January 16th

**Saturday, January 31st
525 South State Street, Chicago**

In 1998 a young state senator briefed the League on a bill that rewrote the delinquency article of the Illinois Juvenile Court Act of 1987. The Senator's name? **Barack Obama**. In 2009 you'll have a chance to hear more stars on the Illinois political scene. The annual Issues Briefing is one of the highlights of the year as Leaguers from across the state get together for a

very stimulating and informative day. Please register online at www.lwvil.org or use the form in your *Illinois Voter*.

Registrations are due by January 16th. Please contact our President, Donna Blue, if you are interested in a traveling together via mass transit or carpool.

Annual State of the State Luncheon LWVIL

Thursday, February 26th
The Union League Club, Chicago

Given the recent political news here in Illinois, we are looking forward to hearing television reporter and *Sun Times* columnist **Carol Marin** when she speaks at our upcoming state luncheon. Once again, our local League will receive a rebate on our ticket sales so a good showing by

the Elmhurst League helps our coffers as well as the State League. If you would like to be part of a carpool, please contact Donna Blue. Ticket information will be sent from the state League or you may purchase them online at www.lwvil.org.

Candidate Meeting for Consolidated Elections Cheri Niewiara Voter Service

Sunday Afternoon, February 22nd
Elmhurst City Hall

We will try something new with our municipal candidate meeting this spring. For starters, we're moving to a Sunday afternoon timeslot. Please save the **22nd of February** for this event. Also, we're moving to the Council Chambers at the Elmhurst City Hall. We're looking forward to our first event in this attractive center of town location. We're also planning to expand our meeting to include candidates for College of DuPage Trustees, in addition to candidates for

Elmhurst Mayor, City Clerk, Treasurer, Aldermen, District 205 School Board, and Elmhurst Park Board. Watch for further details next month.

We need many volunteers to provide this service to the voters. If you would like to be part of the planning process or if you can help out on the day of the event, please contact Cheri.

Legislative Interviews

This January we planned to meet with our area representatives who are serving in the Illinois General Assembly to discuss issues that are part of the League's **action program** and to find out what issues our elected officials are working on. The Illinois League provides interview questions for us and we always come away with a better understanding of how our representatives see things.

With impeachment on the horizon in Springfield, however, scheduling the interviews in January is proving difficult. Therefore, we are holding off for the moment but we will let you know if and when we are ready to proceed and how you can participate.

Cool Cities Coalition

At the end of 2008, we looked back on a very successful year. Our Green Fest was a huge success last August and triggered great interest in our coalition and our work to reduce carbon emissions in the community. Along with our Cool Cities partners, **Jan Vanek** has been reaching out to the local business community with success. The same can be said for **Danee**

Polomsky who has been identifying local battery and light bulb recycling locations. Along with **Sue Williams**, **Danee** has been approaching the schools, most notably the PTAs -- to bring them on board. **Jan** and **Laura Kratz** reviewed and helped edit the Elmhurst Sustainability Policy that is working its way through City Council committees and is expected to be voted on by the

full City Council in January. **Jan, Laura, and Donna Blue** are also attending the DuPage County Environmental Summit in January where transportation issues and green roadways will be the focus for discussion.

As we continue with our work we do need your help. What ideas or innovations would you like to see in our community? The coalition will be compiling a Top Ten List of ideas we'd like the community to work on during 2009. For

example, we could encourage the city to use some of money planned for yard drains toward rain barrels instead. Perhaps the city could reduce building permit fees for homes and businesses that install alternative energy systems such as wind, solar, or geothermal.

To participate in the discussion, plan to attend the Cool Cities meeting on Thursday, January 15th at the Library at 7:00 pm or contact Jan Vanek

Local Recycling Opportunities **Dannee Polomsky**

As highlighted last month, Elmhurst Camera on Spring Road will take your used household batteries, including those used for cameras. Ace Hardware on First Street in Elmhurst will recycle your CFLs (compact fluorescent lights)

including the high efficiency bulbs. Both services are free and you do not have to purchase anything to use them. The Cool Cities Coalition will post some information cards on batteries and bulbs at both locations soon.

League Calendar:

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| Thursday, January 15 th | Cool Cities Coalition, 7:00 pm, Elmhurst Public Library |
| Tuesday, January 20 th | Presidential Inauguration Day |
| Tuesday, January 27 th | LWV Elmhurst Panel Discussion on Intergovernmental Cooperation
7:00 pm, Elmhurst Public Library |
| Saturday, January 31 st | LWVIL Annual Issues Briefing and Workshops |
| Thursday, February 5 th | Great Decisions 9:14 am
At the home of Barbara Swords, 203 Fairfield |
| Wednesday, February 11 th | State and local League Program Planning Meeting, 7:00 pm
At the home of Laura Kratz, 292 Forest |
| Sunday, February 15 th | <i>Presidential Courage</i> a Lecture by Michael Beschloss
7:00 pm at Hammerschmidt Chapel, 190 Prospect, at Elmhurst College |
| Sunday, February 22 nd | Elmhurst LWV Municipal Elections Candidate Meeting
Elmhurst City Hall; Times to be announced |
| Thursday, February 26 th | LWVIL Luncheon with Keynote Speaker Carol Marin
Union League Club of Chicago |