



# Shop Talk

*A publication of  
the League of  
Women Voters of  
Elmhurst.*

Vol. 65 #7  
March 2014

Visit us at website [lwvelmhurst.org](http://lwvelmhurst.org)

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## Next Meeting: Thursday, March 20, 7 pm, Library

To celebrate **Women's History Month** we plan to show the film, *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter*, on March 20 at the Elmhurst Public Library. We have it on order through interlibrary loan. If we do not get the film, we will let you know, so watch your email before our March meeting.



-- Elaine Libovicz, Program Chair.

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## Prep for the Primary Election: March 18

**Early Voting** will take place at Elmhurst City Hall from Monday, March 3, through Saturday, March 15. Times are 8:30 am - 7:30 pm on Monday through Friday, and 9 am - 3 pm on Saturday. **Note:** In order to Early Vote you *must be a registered DuPage County voter and present a government issued photo identification*. An early voter is not required to state a reason for voting early. [Early Voting sites in DuPage County](#).



**Absentee Voting:** Anyone wishing to vote absentee can apply in person (at the Election Commission), by mail or by email. Go to <https://www.dupageco.org/Election/Voters/41942/> to fill out an application, or call 630-407-5600 to request an application. No reason is needed to vote absentee.

**Grace Period Registration** continues through March 15. It is available at the DuPage Election Commission in Wheaton. **Note:** Anyone taking advantage of the grace period should *be prepared to register and vote at the same time*.

Thank you to the Elmhurst League's Deputy Registrars who stepped up to help register over 150 potential voters! Those who helped with this season's Voter Registration drive were

**Jeanne Davik, Jan Dorner, Corinne Flemm, Myrrha Guzman, Maria Hirsch, Elaine Libovicz, Dorothy McGuire, Susan Rose, Noel Talluto, Martha Wegener, Sue Whitworth, Sue Williams, and Connie Zillig.** The Elmhurst League has also been asked to help out at the DuPage Election Commission during part of the Grace Registration period -- March 13, 14, and 15. Some of the registrars listed above have volunteered to do so. Thanks again!

-- Jan Dorner, Voter Registration Chair.

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## Observer Corp News

The Elmhurst League is excited to announce that we are now able to extend our Observer Corps coverage of local governing bodies. As of February, 2014, the Elmhurst League is providing regular coverage of all regular meetings of the City Council, School Board, and, newly added, the Park District. (City Hall photo credit: *Elmhurst Patch*)



**Coverage of the Park District** comes through a cooperative agreement with the Political Science Department at Elmhurst College. One student each semester will be assigned to the Park District observer role, providing the student with practical experience of local government while also providing a valuable service to the League's members and contributors. We are thrilled about the newly formed relationship with Elmhurst College. It's our expectation to turn this into a long-term and mutually beneficial arrangement for Elmhurst College, its high-caliber students, and the Elmhurst League," says Noel Talluto, the Observer Chair for LWV of Elmhurst.



**Important changes to *Observer Report* distribution and access:**

Beginning April 1, 2014, immediate access to *Observer Reports* will be provided to all members and contributors as an exclusive service for them, our loyal supporters. There will be a one-month delay for all others, and they will only be able to access the reports on the League's website. This change is an effort both to continue to grow our important membership base and to recognize the value that these reports provide to our readership.

Please consider becoming a member or contributor today to continue getting immediate access to the Observer Reports and to help the Elmhurst League continue its important mission of voter registration and education. Contact our Membership Chair Sue Williams by

emailing her at [membership@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:membership@lwvelmhurst.org) . You can also become a member by going to the **JOIN LWV** page of our website: <http://lwvelmhurst.org/joinLWV.asp> . To become a contributor, go to the **SUPPORT LWV** page: <http://lwvelmhurst.org/Support.asp> .

-- Noel Talluto, Observer Chair. (Pictured above.)

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## Phonathon: March 24 ~ Finance Drive: Ongoing

Our League will participate in the LWVIL Phonathon, a statewide effort to solicit donations to support LWVIL programs and activities. As part of the Support Sharing program, our League is eligible to receive a portion of the money we raise to support our own local programs. Join us on **Monday, March 24, 7 – 9 pm**, at the home of Susan Rose, 408 Berteau, Elmhurst. Please email Susan if you can attend: [1stvpresident@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:1stvpresident@lwvelmhurst.org) .



**Finance Drive:** In the past few weeks, you might have received a letter from League President Sue Whitworth, asking for contributions to either the Education Fund or general operating fund of the LWV Elmhurst. In that letter is also your membership renewal. Please consider digging deep and supporting the valuable activities of the League you rely on for voter education (candidate forums, candidate guides) and support to increase voter involvement (voter registration). We need your active support and hope you will consider giving a little more this year. Don't forget to renew your membership too, so you can continue to receive *Observer Reports* online and keep up-to-date on what is discussed at the Elmhurst City Council, District 205 School Board, and Park Board meetings. – Susan Rose, Fundraising Chair

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## President's Post: Sue Whitworth

League members met in February to prepare for the upcoming League of Women Voters' National Convention, June 6 – 10 in Dallas, TX. This Convention, like our State Convention,



happens every two years. I will be the delegate representing LWV-Elmhurst.

***Stop Dark Money and Protect the League*** is a new campaign that was initiated by our National President, Elizabeth McNamara. The IRS has proposed significant changes to the regulations that govern the kind of political activity -- and how much of that activity -- a Section 501(c)(4) organization can carry out. This is our best chance to rein in the secret "dark money" that has been polluting our

elections since the Supreme Court's terrible decision in *Citizens United*. At the same time, however, the proposal would undermine the League's ability to conduct truly nonpartisan voter service activities across the country.

LWVUS has submitted comments to the IRS on the proposal, but your help is needed! **Please contact the IRS and urge them to keep pushing to stop the dark money unleashed by *Citizens United*** but, at the same time, to make sure that Leagues can continue our truly nonpartisan voter service work.

*Citizens United* allows political operatives like Karl Rove on the right and Bill Burton on the left to raise and spend unlimited amounts of secret money in candidate elections. By stopping 501(c)(4) organizations from spending on "candidate-related political activity," the IRS can stop the abuse in its tracks.

Unfortunately, the IRS proposal as it stands would jeopardize our work because it does not provide any exception for truly nonpartisan voter service activities like those carried out by the League. This would be a terrible mistake, both for voters and for our democracy.

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## Committees in Action

### Membership

Please welcome our newest member, **Amy McClary**.

### Nominating

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates willing to serve on the LWV Elmhurst Board . Elections are held at our Annual Meeting in May.



### Cool Cities

The next Cool Cities meeting is Tuesday, March 4, 7 pm, at the Elmhurst Public Library. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) has become a popular way for consumers to buy local, seasonal food directly from a farmer. Elmhurst resident **Robert Vierow**, owner of Bob's Fresh & Local CSA, grows produce at farms in St. Charles and Sycamore, and sells directly to many local residents. Learn how a CSA works and how supporting local farmers can have a positive impact on our environment.

## Calendar



March 13: Board Meeting, Dorothy McGuire's home, 7 pm

March 18: Primary Election

March 20: LWV Elmhurst General Meeting, 7 pm, EPL.

Topic: Women's History Month.

March 24: LWVIL Phonathon, 7 pm, Susan Rose's home

April 10: Board Meeting, Jan Dorner's home, 7 pm

April 17: LWV Elmhurst General Meeting, 7 pm, EPL.

Topic: Fracking

May 8: Annual Meeting, Maria Hirsch's home

June 6 -10: LWV National Convention, Dallas, TX

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Visit our website – [www.lwvelmhurst.org](http://www.lwvelmhurst.org) – for the latest information on our issues and events, as well as past issues of **Observer Reports** and **Shop Talk**, which you can print.

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