

You are receiving this email because you are a member of the League of Women Voters of Elmhurst.

Editor: Katie Marsico - [thevoter@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:thevoter@lwvelmhurst.org)

[View this email in your browser](#)

**THE VOTER: JULY 2018**

**VOLUME 69, #5**



**THE VOTER**

**JULY 2018**

---

## CONTENTS

- **President's Post**
- **New CEO to Start This Month**
- **The **LWVUS** 53rd National Convention**
- **Transformation Road Map**
- **Calendar-Planning Meeting**
- **Voter-Registration Events Coming This Fall!**
- **Dues**
- **Reminders**

---

## PRESIDENT'S POST

*President: Sue Whitworth*

The 53rd National Convention of the **League of Women Voters (LWV)** brought a record number of delegates to Chicago to celebrate 98 years and strong focus to

the future. More than 1,000 members also brought their passion for issues involving voting rights, the environment, healthcare, statehood for the District of Columbia (DC), redistricting, and a push to abolish the Electoral College process. We were reminded that 37 states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA); one more is needed for it to be added to the U.S. Constitution. The fight continues. **LWV** members also attended the rally on immigration issues at Daley Plaza on **Saturday, June 30, 2018**, and marched to the Immigration Office.

Embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) is a core mission to empower voters and defend democracy. Consultants used the Cook Ross Program for our training. It provided tools to raise awareness and offered skills to reach out and share the vision of the **LWV**. Training will continue via a webinar in October.

All Leagues are looking forward to the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment on **August 26, 2020**. This date marks a century since women won the right to vote, as well as the 100-year anniversary of the **LWV**. We learned from former U.S. treasurer Rosie Rios that Topps Trading Cards (which manufactures baseball cards) is working on a series of “women in history” cards for distribution in 2020. Each state will also design a quarter to celebrate women in history for release in 2020. Ms. Rios has launched EMPOWERMENT 2020 at Harvard and is developing a database, Teachers Writing History.

### **How will we celebrate in Elmhurst?**

If you have not yet paid your membership dues this year, you are late. Go to our website, [www.lwvelmhurst.org](http://www.lwvelmhurst.org), and use PayPal or mail a check to the **LWV–Elmhurst**, PO Box 12, Elmhurst, IL 60126.

Finally, visit and like our Facebook page. You’ll find Observer Reports, Time for Action alerts, and meeting information there.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Whitworth

---

## **NEW CEO TO START THIS MONTH**

At the National Convention, attendees had the opportunity to meet Virginia Kase, the next Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the **LWV**. Ms. Kase brings with her more than 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector. This includes her most recent position as Chief Operating Officer of CASA, which has played a pivotal role in issues involving immigrants' rights. Ms. Kase officially begins as CEO of the **LWV** on **July 25, 2018**.

---

## **THE LWVUS 53RD NATIONAL CONVENTION "CREATING A MORE PERFECT DEMOCRACY"**

### ***Second Vice President: Jan Dorner***

Sue Whitworth, as president of the **LWV-Elmhurst**, was a delegate to this convention. I attended as a delegate of the state board of the **LWVIL**. The plenary sessions started on the morning of **Friday, June 29, 2018**. A total of 867 delegates from 49 states (minus North Dakota, which was missing) and the District of Columbia participated, as well as 130 non-delegates and 170 volunteers. Girls Scouts and Brownies presented the colors, and a young woman sang "The Star-Spangled Banner." Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle welcomed us to Cook County and specifically Chicago. She said that, "Democracy is both the best and most fragile form of government because it requires an active, informed, and engaged citizenry."

---

We watched a new video called *Creating a More Perfect Democracy*, which has been shared on our Facebook page and can be seen at

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/creating-more-perfect-democracy-video>.

During the three days of convention, there were several panel discussions and individuals presenting information. These included:

- Ashley Allison, the Leadership Conference Executive Vice President for Campaigns and Programs, presenting “Fighting for Democracy in Uncertain Times”
- A panel called “Election Day: Are We Ready?” (Maybe not.)
- A panel called “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Toward a More Inclusive League”
- Rosie Rios, the 43rd U.S. Treasurer, presenting “The State of Women: Inspiring Future Leaders”
- Elaine Weiss, who spoke during the banquet, presenting on her latest book, *The Woman’s Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*
- Carrie Davis, the Democracy Program Director of the Joyce Foundation, presenting “Showcasing Our Strength: Telling Our Collective Story”

The National Program of the Campaign for Making Democracy Work® was approved with some amendments added—to work on the National Popular Vote (which would be included in the “Making Democracy Work” category anyway) and to push for the addition of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution. All current **LWV** positions were also accepted.

Two bylaws that were deemed “housekeeping” were passed. (One stated that Leagues, not individual members, could join an InterLeague Organization [ILO], and another added “or the law” to the article discussing the usage of *Robert’s*

*Rules of Order Newly Revised* in governing the organization.).

Three other bylaws were debated. The only one of these that carried involved allowing the national board to work with a League, rather than withdrawing recognition. The other two, which failed, involved allowing the national board to amend bylaws (if so required by law) and the process by which a dissolved League's assets should be distributed.

The budget was passed without much fanfare. The finances of the **LWV** are much better this year than in previous years. Two years ago, the combined **LWVUS** and **LWVEF** net assets were \$5,825,000. Year-to-date for 2018 is \$10,940,000! There is more than \$5 million in reserves. Approximately \$3 million (\$2.6 million from **LWVEF** and the rest from **LWVUS**) will be used for the Transformational Journey. (See separate article.) The per-member-payments (dues) remain the same for the next biennium—\$32—as they were the last two years.

All those nominated for the national board were elected by acclamation.

There were seven resolutions passed:

- Supporting the ERA
- Clarifying carbon emissions
- Developing criteria for climate assessment
- Supporting the National Popular Vote Compact
- Reaffirming the abolition of the Electoral College
- Reaffirming the **LWV**'s commitment to the constitutional right of privacy as an individual to make reproductive choices
- Making gun control, gun safety, and gun ownership limitations a priority in

lobbying efforts

The next **LWVUS** Convention is **June 25–28, 2020**, at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill and Liaison Hotel in Washington, DC. Really think about attending as a delegate. It is an energizing opportunity to meet hundreds of other people that are as intelligent as you are!

---

## TRANSFORMATION ROAD MAP

*Jan Dorner*

The **LWVUS** has written and published a “Transformation Roadmap” that recognizes the changing external environment, as far as volunteerism and the growing number of organizations in the democracy space. Download the full report ([https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/lwv\\_transformation\\_roadmap.pdf](https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/lwv_transformation_roadmap.pdf)) or check out a more condensed version via the Executive Summary ([https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/transformation\\_roadmap\\_exec\\_summary\\_april\\_2018.pdf](https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/transformation_roadmap_exec_summary_april_2018.pdf)). Alternately, read my report below! There are great opportunities for impact, given a more energized public, so the **LWV** looked both inwardly and outwardly. First here are some things that will NOT change:

- The League will continue to focus on our mission impact work.
- The League will remain nonpartisan.
- The League will remain a membership organization.

The four critical priorities are:

1. Advancing a clear strategic focus—As part of this process, the national board adopted the following mission, vision, and value statements:

- Mission Statement: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.
-

- Vision Statement: We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.
- Value Statement: We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

The mission, vision, and value statements guide the League in our core mission work of what we do and why we do it. (Although the value statement was VERY controversial among delegates because of usage of the term “women,” rather than “people”; the president and the national board avoided discussion of this.) Under this heading, we must all commit to keeping track of what we do. (How many potential voters did we register to vote? How many candidate forums did we hold? How many attendees were there?)

2. Building a more inclusive culture—We need to embrace diverse populations. See the article referencing diversity, equity, and inclusion training elsewhere in this newsletter. Maybe we do not need to have all who volunteer join the organization.

3. Building a healthier League network—It was determined that the three levels of the League (local, state, and national) are cumbersome. Looking ahead, the national organization wants to explore “Join at All Levels.” Many had questions about this concept, but it is currently just an idea, and no specifics have been offered.

4. Increasing capacity at all levels—It was decided that there should be more training for state and local leaders, as well as a baseline assessment to determine collective capacity.

This road map is serving as a guide. There must be buy-in, collaboration, and

resources for the League to evolve into a stronger organization with even greater impact.

---

## CALENDAR-PLANNING MEETING

Don't forget about the calendar-planning meeting on **Thursday, July 12**, at Jan Dornier's house (585 S. Prospect Avenue in Elmhurst) at **7:00 PM**. Bring your ideas for next year's **LWV-Elmhurst** meetings!

---

## VOTER-REGISTRATION EVENTS COMING THIS FALL!

### *Voter Registration: Kathleen Quinn*

If you are a voter registrar, please keep **September 26, 2018**, open! We will be hosting a voter-registration event at the Elmhurst Public Library and need volunteers. Contact me, Kathleen Quinn, to learn more and/or to sign up to help. I can be reached at [kathleen.quinn@net.elmhurst.edu](mailto:kathleen.quinn@net.elmhurst.edu) or 872/222-3550. There may be additional September dates, so be on the lookout for details about those, as well.

Finally, I will update everyone with more information as I continue to dialogue with Fenton administrators regarding a possible voter event at the high school.

---

## DUES

### *Membership: Carol Landou*

**LWV-Elmhurst** membership dues were required by **June 30**, before the end of our fiscal year. If you missed the deadline, please get your checks in! You can make them payable to the **LWV-Elmhurst**.

---



- Basic Membership: \$70.00 per person
- Two-Member Household: \$100.00
- Student Membership: \$35.00 per person

Dues are not tax-deductible. For a tax-deductible donation, a separate check made out to the **LWVIL** Education Fund would be appreciated (with a note in the memo line to Elmhurst).

Our mailing address is: The **LWV-Elmhurst**, PO Box 12 Elmhurst, IL 60126.

---

## REMINDERS

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **July 12, 2018:** *Calendar-Planning Meeting at 7:00 PM at Jan Dorner's House (585 S. Prospect in Elmhurst); call 630/832-8089 or email [jdorner1@comcast.net](mailto:jdorner1@comcast.net) with questions or to suggest programming ideas if you can't attend.*
- **September 26, 2018:** *Voter-Registration Event at the Elmhurst Public Library (125 S. Prospect in Elmhurst); **details about specific times and other voter-registration events this fall to come**; call 872/222-3550 or email [kathleen.quinn@net.elmhurst.edu](mailto:kathleen.quinn@net.elmhurst.edu) with questions or to volunteer to help as a voter registrar.*
- **November 6, 2018:** *Midterm Elections; don't forget to vote!*

***Please like us on Facebook:***

**<https://www.facebook.com/LeagueOfWomenVotersElmhurstII/>**

**Visit our website:**

<http://www.lwvelmhurst.org/>



[Visit our Website.](#)



[Visit our Facebook page.](#)

*Copyright © 2018 League of Women Voters of Elmhurst, IL. All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you are a member of the League of Women Voters of Elmhurst.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

MailChimp