



BULLETIN

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WILMETTE

www.lwvwilmette.org

Contact us: LWV-Wilmette, P. O. Box 432, Wilmette, IL 60091

847-604-1207

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DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT

Voter Services Activities

The Voter Services arm of the Wilmette League of Women Voters has an ambitious schedule for Voter Registration and election activities. The following is a list of our activities so far:

Saturday, September 13 Voter Registration at the Wilmette Public Library 1:30—4:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 20 Voter Registration at the Wilmette Public Library 1:30—4:30p.m.

Saturday, September 27 Voter Registration at the Wilmette Public Library 1:30—4:30 p.m.

Friday, September 26 Voter Registration at New Trier

Monday, September 29 Voter Registration at New Trier

Also, mark your calendar for **Sunday, October 19**—the date for the Tenth District Congressional Candidates debate at Stevenson High School! Wilmette League members will be assisting as ushers.

Voter registration opportunities are also being pursued with North Shore Country Day, Regina Dominican High School, and Loyola Academy.

Candidate forums for contested races in the Ninth Legislative State Senate Race and the 17th State Representative race are **tentatively** scheduled for **Sunday, October 5** at the Wilmette Village Hall. The forums will be televised live on cable television and replayed for voter education opportunities.

The Wilmette League will also participate in the County wide poll reporting project, verifying that polling places meet legal requirements with respect to opening on time, appropriate number of elections judges, functioning equipment, etc.

Watch for upcoming information on Voter Service Committee meetings and requests for assistance to help with voter registration. If you would like to assist in any of these efforts, contact Voter Services Chair Heidi Voorhees at HeidiVoorhees@aol.com or by telephone at 847-256-7299.

President's Message

As we all enjoy the last few weeks of 'those lazy, hazy crazy days of summer', I hope every League member is preparing to gear up for Election 2008.

Each year, voters depend on the League's nonpartisan, trusted voter education and information resources. 2008 is no different. There is no more important work that we do as an organization than our voter services activities.

As you will recall, the overwhelming consensus from our all-member meeting held this past February was that our League performs important functions in our community, with **our most important function being voter and community education**. In this critically important and exciting presidential election year, League members will play a pivotal role helping voters gain the information they need when they go to the polls.

What can YOU do this fall to empower the Election 2008 voter? Here are some of the possibilities to contemplate:

- If you are not a Voter Registrar, become one
- Help to register our newest voters at our local high schools
- Assist with the League's Candidate Forums
- Be a part of the Con-Con Advocacy team
- Become an Election Judge

So, again, enjoy what remains of summer. Fall will be here soon enough!

As always, I welcome YOUR feedback, ideas and/or suggestions.

Libby Bankoff

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

With area schools opening at the end of the month, the Student Government Program is gearing up. Our program kick-off event will take place early in October. State Representative Julie Hamos will speak to the participating students and their parents about the importance of local government. Each of the four participating school groups will then have a series of workshops and attend their respective board meeting. Mock board meetings, which are the culmination of the program, will take place before the end of November.

If you are interested in contributing to the success of this exciting program, please contact Deena Mitchell (847-853-0316 or DeenaMitchell@hotmail.com) or Bobbie Friedman (847-256-1432 or BobbieJoy@att.net). We would love to have you help in any way you might have time!

Do you know incoming 8th graders or their parents? Please let them know about this wonderful program.

QUALITY ELECTION JUDGES = FAIR ELECTIONS

Will YOU be a Judge of Elections?

Yes, serving as Judge of Election means a LONG day. But, it's just ONE day! One day to serve your country and the democratic process. Please consider being a Judge of Election. To volunteer for this important role, call 312-269-7900; or visit www.voterinfonet.com website and click on 'Programs' (near the top of the page), then on 'Election Judges'.

PROGRAM NOTES

The Wilmette League's midsummer has been anything but lazy! We followed our successful Summer Book Event by a "Dialogue & Dessert" on July 31.

Representative Julie Hamos gave a fascinating lesson in how to make the wheels of government turn, using the recently passed mass transit bill as an example. Thirty-eight guests were treated to sweets plus the best kind of civics lesson—fascinating, informative and NO TEST!

August 5 found music-loving League members at **Ravinia** for an evening of fun, food, and good conversation. Look for other get-togethers like this throughout the year when our only agenda will be socializing with friends, old and new.

Our last event of the summer was **Brunch & the Block** this past August 10. Our very own Dorothy Speidel first hosted a delicious brunch at her home, then put on her docent hat and gave a special tour of the Block's exhibit, "Design in the Age of Darwin." Whew! What a woman! By the way, the exhibit has less than two weeks to run, but it's definitely worth the trip.

And now looking forward into fall, we are gearing up for a program to inform the community of the League's position on the upcoming ballot question, "Should there be a Constitutional Convention?" This event will be co-sponsored by many of the leagues on the North Shore. Watch for particulars of time and place!

And on the subject of **Con-Con**, if you are interested in being trained to take our message out to small groups in the community during the month of October, please contact Georgia Gebhardt at ggebhardt@sbcglobal.net or phone at 847-853-8225.

One more thing! If you have a program idea that you'd like to see developed, don't keep it to yourself. Pass it on to one of the two program Board members listed below.

Georgia Gebhardt or Dorothy Speidel
d-speidel@northwestern.edu; 847-989-4716.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new League members Keith Dronan, Beth Drucker, Lynn Kelso, Lisa Nagel, Janice Peterson, Toni Saunders, and Karen Spillers! We hope our current members will mail in their 2008-2009 membership dues so we can complete this year's membership directory. We are happy to send information about the League to your friends who would enjoy our programs or who want to support our activities.

IT'S IN THE MAIL! IT'S ON THE WEB!

At the last Board meeting it was decided that postcards will be mailed to members announcing up coming events.

Publicity will provide links to various web sites to announce events and programs.

APPLAUSE!! THANKS FOR STEPPING UP!! APPLAUSE!!

Many thanks should be extended to so many people who, on an ongoing basis, help to make our League strong and vibrant. However, the following folk deserve special thanks for 'stepping up' this past month.

Dale Cohodes – for designing and then producing our League's very own Vote 2008 Cards that fold to business card size yet are replete with key Election 2008 information.

Georgia Gebhardt & Dorothy Speidel – for filling our summer calendar with so many excellent programs beginning with the Summer Potluck Luncheon featuring Roberta Rubin of the Bookstall, followed by the summer Dessert and Dialogue featuring Representative Julie Hamos, followed by An Evening at Ravinia and concluding with the Brunch and Block Museum program.

Julie Hamos – for her outstanding public policy presentation at our summer 'Dessert and Dialogue' program in which she succinctly described the 'ins and outs' of the (ultimately) successful campaign that led to the passage of the Transportation Bill by the Illinois Legislature.

Dorothy Speidel – for not only opening her home and providing a delicious brunch but also for following up this treat with another treat -- leading a edifying tour of 'Design in the Age of Darwin' at the Block Museum.

2008-2009 League of Women Voters of Wilmette Board Members

President	Libby Bankoff	Programs	Georgia Gebhardt	Voter Services	Heidi Voorhees
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