



BULLETIN

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WILMETTE

lwwilmette.org

Contact us: LWV-Wilmette, P. O. Box 432, Wilmette, IL 60091
847-604-1207

Vol. 60, No. 4

April 2009

DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WILMETTE

Annual Meeting

7:00 pm

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Home of Susan Morrison

822 Forest Avenue

*SEE PAGES 7-14 FOR AGENDA, 2008 MINUTES AND BUDGETS
BRING THIS BULLETIN WITH YOU TO THE MEETING*

The National Popular Vote Compact Consensus ALL MEMBER Meeting

7:00 – 9:30 pm

Thursday, April 30

Room C234

New Trier High School – Northfield Campus

7 Happ Road

Northfield, IL 60093

For additional information turn to page 3

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As my term as President of our League comes to a close, I leave the office filled with an immense sense of pride in the League of Women Voters. I am proud to be an active member of an organization that has taken strong positions on important policy issues and then advocates in service of these positions.

While we are all aware that the LWV advocates for the **protection of the right of all citizens to vote** and encourages all citizens to vote, are we also aware that:

- The LWV has taken a strong stand for the protection of the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make **reproductive choices**?
- The LWV supports legislative controls to stop the proliferation of private ownership of handguns and their irresponsible use and also advocates **restricting access to semi-automatic assault type weapons**?
- The LWV considers **global climate change** to be one of the most serious threats to the environment, health and economy of our nation and urges federal action that reduces global warming pollutants on a national and global scale?
- The LWV is actively advocating that **quality, affordable health care** be made available to all U.S. residents?
- The LWV opposes the **death penalty** and advocates for its abolition?
- The LWV is an official partner in the **2010 U.S. Census** and will be directing considerable energy and effort toward the goal of building awareness of the 2010 Census?

These are just a sampling of how the LWV embraces real action to build a better nation and a better world together. However, all of this doesn't just happen. We are the inheritors of a proud and strong tradition of important policy advocacy and much work remains to be done. And so, while I depart as President of our League, I will continue to work on behalf of the LWV and its important and laudable goals. Please join me!

I hope to see each of you at our National Popular Vote Consensus Meeting on April 30th and at our Annual All-Member Meeting on May 7th. As I said, much work remains to be done!

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

Libby Bankoff

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE LWV of WILMETTE website lately?

Lvwilmette.org

It's filled with all the information you need to know about our League.

Try it! You'll like it!

**ATTENTION!! ALERT!! ATTENTION!!
ATTENTION!! ALERT!!**

Question: Should the League of Women Voters support the National Popular Vote Compact to ensure direct election of the President and Vice President of the U.S.?

**The National Popular Vote Compact Consensus ALL
MEMBER Meeting**

**7:00 – 9:30 pm
Thursday, April 30
Room C234
New Trier High School – Northfield Campus
7 Happ Road
Northfield, IL 60093**

Purpose of meeting: To explore the pros and cons of this alternative direct approach to electing the President and Vice President of the United States and determine whether or not there is a consensus on the questions presented.

There will be a great deal of information presented at the Consensus Meeting, so PLAN TO ATTEND, even if time constraints prevent you from doing any preliminary reading.

For further information and preparation for this meeting, members can access materials on the LWVUS website: www.lwv.org/NPV. In addition, check the Wilmette website, www.lwvwilmette.org, for information updates as they become available.

New members, this is a great opportunity to see how the League works through an issue and develops a policy position.

Questions? Call Georgia Gebhardt (847)853-8225 or email at ggebhardt@sbcglobal.net.

Policy Forum on Education Co-Sponsored by the LWV of Wilmette

United We Learn, a grassroots group of three dozen parents and community leaders in New Trier Township, is sponsoring a policy forum on **Thursday, May 14th at 7 p.m.** on ***“The Future of Illinois Education and What We Can Do About It.”*** The meeting will be held at **New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, 7 Happ Road, Northfield, IL, Board Room: Room 234, Building C.** The League of Women Voters of Wilmette is co-sponsoring this forum.

Max McGee, President of the Illinois Math & Science Academy and former superintendent of Wilmette District 39, will be joined by **Gov. Pat Quinn’s Deputy Chief of Staff Julie Smith**, to discuss the status quo in public school education in Illinois and why it has become a problem for all students and communities in the state.

United We Learn also hopes to use this forum as a first step toward a North Shore community consensus on ways to ensure the best possible public education for all Illinois school students.

United We Learn coalesced in August 2008 with the immediate aim of creating an atmosphere of welcome for the State Sen. Rev. Meeks-sponsored boycott and rally at New Trier High School last September 2nd. UWL supports the aims of Chicago Public School and Suburban Public School communities to secure a higher quality public school education – and brighter future – for all our children.

For more information on the forum, please contact gail@interfaithhousingcenter.org or visit www.interfaithhousingcenter.org for a link to join UWL’s Google Group.

Family Awareness Network of New Trier Township (FAN) Debate

Re-Thinking the Drinking Age: A Debate of Ideas. Is 21 Working? Is 18 the Answer?

Thursday, April 23
7:30 – 9:00 pm
Room C234,
New Trier High School, Northfield Campus,
7 Happ Road, Northfield, IL, 60093

A debate of ideas regarding the legal drinking age will be moderated by Mary Lou Aagaard of the League of Women Voters of Glenview, and is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Glencoe, Glenview, Winnetka-Northfield-Kenilworth, and Wilmette.

Representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the National Youth Rights Association square off in a debate of ideas format to cover the studies, the facts and the logical reasons pro and con for keeping the legal minimum drinking age at 21-years of age. The debate was inspired by the Amethyst Initiative - a call by 134 university presidents and chancellors to "weigh all the consequences of current alcohol policies and to invite new ideas on how best to prepare young adults to make responsible decisions about alcohol use."

Parents, students and all members of the community are encouraged to attend to gain insight into all aspects of this important public policy issue. For more information and links to the position papers of the participants, visit www.fan-ntts.org.

The LWVUS Becomes an Official Partner in the 2010 U.S. Census: LWVIL Embarks on a Major 2010 Census Project

The LWV of Illinois, with the support of a grant from the Joyce Foundation, has embarked on a two-year Census project – **True Count: A Program to Redistrict and Reform**. The purpose of the project is to ensure that Illinois achieves a complete count of its residents of all ages, races, ethnic groups for the 2010 Census.

The U.S. Constitution mandates a decennial count of every person living in the United States. The first census was undertaken in 1790 when 4 million people were counted. The data collected during the census is a snapshot of our nation's rich diversity. Moreover, census data informs decisions about how the more than \$300 billion in annual federal dollars is allocated and spent on important services and programs as well as how to allocate the number of representatives each state elects to the U.S. House of Representatives.

An accurate and complete 2010 census is critical. It is in all our interests to make sure Illinois is fully counted. A report detailing the outcome of the 1990 census found that Cook County was undercounted by at least 81,000 people; the result “was a loss of as much as \$80 million per year in federal and state funding for schools, day care, job training and other critical programs and services.”

While the Census counting is primarily a government function, the task, its overall effectiveness and success, cannot be accomplished without support from communities and individuals. This is where local Leagues and individual League members come in. LWVIL will need local Leagues throughout Illinois to help accomplish the project goals; to work together with elected officials, representatives of the Census Bureau and other non-profit statewide and community organizations to ensure that Illinois is fully counted.

League members are encouraged to join the **True Census Count Committee** which will oversee and manage the project. The project has two parts: the 2010 Census component and the second to work on the redistricting Illinois will undertake after the final apportionment in December 2010.

If you are interested in working on this important project, please contact Mary Schaafsma, True Census Count Project Manager, LWVIL, at 312.939.5935, x-39.

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 members deserve SPECIAL THANKS FOR ‘STEPPING UP’ this past month.

Marylin Weber and Donna Doberstein – for hosting BUNCO Night!

Georgia Gebhardt – for all of her hard and energetic work as the Wilmette League’s point person on the National Popular Vote Compact Study including planning and organizing the Consensus Meeting (April 30th)

Lali Watt, Judy Mandel and Trudy Gibbs – for volunteering to ‘usher’ at the (April 23rd) Family Awareness Network program co-sponsored by our League: RETHINKING THE DRINKING AGE: A DEBATE.

Beth Nyhan, Susan Morrison, Georgia Gebhardt, Jan Peterson and Therese Steinken – for working so diligently (and successfully) as the Budget Committee for the 2009-2010 LWV Wilmette Budget.



League of Women Voters of Cook County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INVITES ALL COOK COUNTY LEAGUE MEMBERS AND GUESTS to the

2009 LWVCC ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009

9am-2pm

IN THE DISCOVERY CENTER AT THE BROOKFIELD ZOO

Admittance and adjacent parking are free Enter South Entrance and follow signs

**Featured Speaker:
Anita Alvarez
Cook County State's Attorney**

9-9:30am Registration, Continental Breakfast, Silent Auction

9:30-11am Annual Business Meeting

11-12noon Speaker – Ms. Anita Alvarez – and Q&A

12-1:30pm Buffet Luncheon and Interest Group Sessions

Cost: \$35 per person

RSVP by May 11

LWVCC Annual Meeting – May 18, 2009

Name(s) _____ League _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ I will be serving as a Delegate for my League

PLEASE INCLUDE NAMES OF ALL ATTENDEES.

Make check payable to LWVCC Ed Fund and send to LWVCC Annual Meeting,
332 South Michigan Ave., Suite 1150, Chicago, IL 60604

Enclosed is a check for:

\$ _____ for _____ reservations at \$35 each.

I cannot attend but my contribution of \$ _____ is enclosed.

BRING THIS PACKET WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING!

**The League of Women Voters of Wilmette
Annual Meeting**

**7:00 pm
Thursday, May 7, 2009
Home of Susan Morrison
822 Forest Avenue
Wilmette**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. Call to Order
- II. Secretary's Report
 - A. Annual Meeting Minutes 2008
 - B. Annual Meeting Minutes 2009 – appointment of reading committee
- III. Report of the League Year
- IV. Treasurer's Report
- V. Budget Committee Presentation
- VI. Report of Nominating Committee
- VII. Elections
- VIII. Special Program –
Sharon & Chuck Weingarten will share their experiences in American Samoa. Chuck did volunteer surgery at LBJ Hospital in Pago Pago and Sharon was invited by WorldTeach to do a creative writing project with students in one of their schools.
- IX. Announcements
- X. Adjournment

BRING THIS PACKET WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING!

League of Women Voters of Wilmette Annual Meeting

May12, 2008

I. Call to order: Vice President Heidi Voorhees called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

Remarks from Mimi Ryan in memory of Marvin Miller, an active member who died recently.

II. Order of Business: Mimi Ryan moved to adopt the order of business. Judy Mandel seconded and the motion carried.

III. Adoption of Rules: It was agreed that the meeting would be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order. Holly Berman agreed to serve as parliamentarian.

IV. Acceptance of 2007 Annual Meeting Minutes: Judy Mandel moved and Muriel Cohen seconded that the 2007 Annual Meeting Minutes be approved. The motion carried.

V. Appt of Committee to Approve Minutes of 2008 Annual Meeting: Lali Watt moved and Susan Morrison seconded that the Committee to approve the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting be comprised of Mimi Ryan, Marylin Weber, and Dorothy Speidel. The motion carried.

VI. President's Remarks: Vice President Heidi Voorhees reported the highlights of the past year as follows:

- A strategic meeting of the membership was held on February 27, 2008. Twenty-six members attended and they represented a wide range of length of membership: two months to forty years. A report was made on a survey that had been mailed to the membership. The results included the fact that LWV-Wilmette does perform an important function in the community, especially voter services and community education. Also, the survey showed that members would like a variety of program, some social (which might include a brown-bag lunch to discuss a current topic) and some to heighten the organization's visibility such as a presence at the summer Sidewalk Sale and the French Market.
- *Our Climate Matters- a Global Warming Project* was held Oct 18-21, 2007 at the Glen.
- Libby Bankoff was named Environmentalist of the Year by the Illinois League of Conservation Voters. The presentation will be on May 29.
- North Shore Leagues together presented a debate on January 10, 2008 for the 10th Congressional District candidates Dan Seals and Jay Footlik. There will be another debate on October 19 between incumbent Mark Kirk and Dan Seals.
- On January 15, 2008 the Wilmette League participated, along with the other north shore leagues, in an LWV US Immigration Study Consensus Meeting in Glencoe. (In 2006-07, the Wilmette League held an LWV IL Immigration Consensus meeting at the home of a member.)
The Wilmette League held a "Con-Con" consensus meeting April 5, 2008 (the question of whether or not to hold an Illinois Constitutional Convention will be on the ballot in November).
- Tammy Duckworth was the featured speaker at the Women's History Luncheon on March 8 in Highland Park. The luncheon was organized by the Leagues of the north shore with the lead taken by the Highland Park League.
- Mimi Ryan suggested partnering with the Village for a program about a local concern.

VII. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Marylin Weber reported that LWV-Wilmette has had a very successful year. Both the Operating Fund and the Education Fund balances are higher than at this time last year. This was due, in part, to the following: lower postage because the Bulletin is now emailed, lower Yearbook costs, and dues are stable. We have 91 members.

The Operating Fund balance is \$6,394.33. The Education Fund balance is \$7,502.77. We also have a CD for \$5,512.61.

The symposium, *Our Climate Matters*, brought in gifts from individuals and companies totaling \$9,450 which exceeded the expenses. Also the *State of the Village* program made a little money.

VIII. Budget Presentation: Marylin Weber then presented the budgets for 2008-09. Mimi Ryan moved, and Deena Mitchell seconded, that the budgets be accepted. The motion carried.

IX. Nominating Committee Report: Heidi Voorhees announced the report of the Nominating Committee. She then asked if there were any nominations from the floor and there were none. Lali Watt moved and Mimi Ryan seconded that the nominations be closed. The motion carried. Deena Mitchell moved and Judy Mandel seconded that the slate be accepted as presented. The motion carried. The Slate:

President:	Libby Bankoff
Secretary:	Sue Berghoef
Treasurer:	Susan Morrison
Membership/Recruitment:	Ellen Falkof, Therese Steinken
Student Government:	Deena Mitchell, Bobbie Friedman
Programs:	Georgia Gebhardt, Dorothy Speidel
Voter Services:	Heidi Voorhees, Donna Doberstein
Web Master:	Beth Nyhan
Publicity, Public Relations:	Judy Mandel
<i>Bulletin</i> Editor:	Dale Cohodes

2009-10 Nominating Committee: Judy Mandel, Mari Terman, Dorothy Speidel

X. Program Report:

Our Climate Matters, October 18-21, 2007: Libby Bankoff gave the following report. At a Wilmette League meeting in July of 2006, topics for a special project were discussed including health care and global warming/energy independence. Marvin Miller strongly endorsed global warming/energy independence and those present decided that would be the topic. The result was a program in October, 2007 that included 35 hours of program with speakers, films, panels and forums. Also, town hall meetings were scheduled to discuss the state of each village's efforts. Over 2,000 people attended. The Wilmette League organized the events with the support of nine other leagues. In addition, One Book was chosen for all to read and discuss: *Field Notes from a Catastrophe* by Elizabeth Kolbert.

The Wilmette League initially pledged \$1,500 to support the programs but that was raised to \$4,000 at a later board meeting. More money was raised, however, than needed for expenses! Dale Cohodes added that Libby drew in everyone she knew from family, friends and other organizations and that she got The Glen to donate the space. Food was also donated and speakers donated their time.

X. Program Report: (continued)

Student Government Program: Deena Mitchell gave the following report. The program was moved from the spring to the fall at the request of the Wilmette Junior High School. Deena would like to revisit this decision for the future. There was no breakfast last fall but Deena would like to revisit that decision as well. The schools said the breakfast was not worth losing one-half of a school day. The Junior High needed more student participants; the other two schools had as many as usual. Lali Watt volunteered to be on the Student Government Committee.

Voter Services: Dorothy Speidel gave the report in the absence of Donna Doberstein, Voter Services Chair. On December 6 and 7, 2007, the Wilmette League headed up the effort to register students in their advisories. Other Leagues of the North Shore helped as well and a total of 208 students were registered.

On January 7 and 8, 2008, the Wilmette League registered twenty-one additional voters at the Wilmette Library. On May 27, 2008, the Wilmette League will register students at Trevian Day at New Trier. In the fall, the league will again register students at New Trier, Loyola Academy, Regina, North Shore Country Day, and at the Wilmette Library. We will encourage people to become deputy registrars by sending notices about classes offered by the County Registrar's Office. The North Shore Leagues sent a grant proposal to the County Office asking for a demonstration at New Trier of an actual voting machine. Also, the Wilmette League will co-sponsor a candidate forum for the 10th Congressional District on October 19, 2008.

XI. New Business

There was no new business.

XII. Adjournment

Judy Mandel moved and Mimi Ryan seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy J. Speidel

LWV-Wilmette Operating Budget
July 1, 2009—June 31, 2010
 Page Two

	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 YTD 7/1/08-3/31/09	2008-09 Estimate 4/1/09-6/30/09	2008-09 Total (Est.)	2009-2010 Budget
<i>Voter Information</i>	549.25	0.00	22.20	64.00	86.20	0.00
<i>Conventions</i>						
National	1609.31	0.00	2321.05	0.00	2321.05	0.00
State	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00	0.00	1000.00
Cook County	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Legislative Day/Briefing	138.76	133.93	0.00	130.00	130.00	200.00
<i>Donations</i>	50.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	\$9,390.63	\$4,455.67	\$7,087.80	\$2,525.42	\$8,613.22	\$5,933.60
Revenue-Expense	(\$1,845.63)	\$1,287.33	(\$1,502.80)	(\$2,445.42)	(\$2,948.22)	\$66.40

CALENDAR

RETHINKING THE DRINKING AGE — APRIL 23

NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE CONSENSUS — APRIL 30

LWV—WILMETTE ANNUAL MEETING — MAY 7

COOK COUNTY LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING — MAY 18

FORUM ON ILLINOIS EDUCATION —MAY 14

LWV-Wilmette Education Fund Budget July 2009-2010

	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 YTD 7/1/08-3/31/09	2008-09 Estimate 4/1/09-6/30/09	2008-09 Total (Est.)	2009-2010 Budget
Revenue:						
Member Contributions	\$1,580.00	\$1,700.00	\$595.00		\$595.00	\$1,500.00
Phonathon	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Interest	27.49	0.00	76.80		76.80	25.00
Programs:						
Student Government						
Revenue	1900.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	500.00
Expense	3053.61	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	200.00
<i>Net Cost</i>	(1153.61)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Women's History Lunch						
Revenue	50.15	225.62	0.00		0.00	
Expense	40.95	0.00	0.00		0.00	
<i>Net Cost</i>	9.20	225.62	0.00		0.00	0.00
Voter's Services:						
State of the Village						
Revenue	0.00	630.00	0.00		0.00	
Expense	0.00	491.55	0.00		0.00	
<i>Net Cost</i>	0.00	138.45	0.00		0.00	0.00
Voter's Guide						
Revenue	1100.00	0.00	0.00	1060.00	1,060.00	
Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1060.00)	(1,060.00)	
<i>Net Cost</i>	1100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communication/Fundraising						
Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	500.00
Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	50.00
<i>Net Cost</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	450.00
Other Voter's Services						
Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Expense	52.50	75.00	245.95		245.95	300.00
<i>Net Cost</i>	(52.50)	(75.00)	(245.95)		(245.95)	(300.00)

LWV-Wilmette Education Fund Budget
July 2009-2010
 Page Two

	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 YTD	2008-09 Estimate	2008-09 Total	2009-2010 Budget
			7/1/08-3/31/09	4/1/09-6/30/09	(Est.)	
Our Climate Matters						
Revenue	0.00	9490.00	0.00		0.00	
Expense	0.00	8599.28	0.00		0.00	
<i>Net Cost</i>	0.00	890.72	0.00		0.00	0.00
Consensus Meetings						
Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Expense	0.00	94.50	0.00		0.00	50.00
<i>Net Cost</i>	0.00	(94.50)	0.00		0.00	(50.00)
PMP:						
LWV-US	0.00	(1222.12)	(972.00)		(972.00)	(1255.60)
LWV-IL	0.00	(564.00)	(611.00)		(611.00)	(559.00)
Total	0.00	(1786.12)	(1583.00)	0.00	(1583.00)	(1814.60)
Net	1,510.58	1,093.67	(1,157.15)	0.00	(1,157.15)	160.40