



MARCH PROGRAM:

OBSERVER REPORTS

**THURSDAY, March 20th at 12p.m.
Clark Lindsey Village – Activities
Room**

At our next two general meetings you can get the scoop on what's been going on for the last year at many of the civic boards and commissions in Champaign County. There will be only one meeting each month, with half the observer reports given each month. These are meetings that some of us rank with the Best of the League Year.

Please note that although there is not a lot of publicity up at Clark Lindsey because of their internal rules, they do welcome public meetings and the public attending. Parking is very good and no meters!

The second half of the observer reports will be given on Tuesday April 15th at 7PM, also at Clark Lindsey. These dates and times are a little *different* from the other scheduled League meetings this 2013-2014 year, but the board thought that given the popularity of these meetings with our League members that this schedule might be best.

Of course our wonderful UPTV will be taping so they will be available for other viewing including on our website!

CANDIDATE FORUM

Kudos and thank you to everyone who helped make our three nights of Candidates' Forums a huge success!

While the list of volunteers is long, there are still many whose contributions are note-worthy and deserve a special shout-out: **Carole Rebeiz, Carolyn and Ralph Trimble**, and the many LWVCC members who served as ushers, moderators, question sorters, and audience; **Tom Kacich** and the News-Gazette for their thorough and next-day coverage, the volunteers from **Delta Sorority**, and the great partnership between League, the **NAACP**, and the **News-Gazette**.

Thanks too to all the local candidates for their thoughtful responses to the great questions offered by the public and their supporters. A special thanks to the **City of Champaign** for the use of their facilities.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

OBSERVER REPORTS

Daytime ONLY:
WHEN: THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH, 2014
TIME: 12NOON
LOCATION: CLARK LINDSEY VILLAGE – ACTIVITIES ROOM

APRIL OBSERVER MEETING
EVENING ONLY:
WHEN: TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH
TIME: 7PM
LOCATION: CLARK LINDSEY VILLAGE – ACTIVITIES ROOM

LWVCC Board - 2013-2014

President:	Barbara Wysocki 217-367-5014 bwysocki16@gmail.com
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2 nd VP (Program):	Theresa Michelson 217-344-4078 thmichelson@gmail.com
Secretary:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Sandy Volk 217-367-7664 sandyvolk803@gmail.com
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Voter Service Chair:	Carole Rebeiz 217-377-9148 caroler57@comcast.net
Webmaster:	Corrie Proksa 217-359-4959 corrieproksa@hotmail.com
Nominating Committee:	Chair: Lois Gullerud Jan Anderson, Gerri Kirchner

Do you have friends or acquaintances who might be interested in the League? Email Sue Phillips at suephillips1018@att.net or phone her at 359-8818 with names and addresses and we will send them *the Voter* for the next three months.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

APRIL 15TH IS THE DEADLINE TO
SUBMIT REDISTRICTING PETITIONS!

What can you do?

- Stop in at the Chamber Office (303 W. Kirby) to sign or return petitions.
- Check out the Yes for Independent Maps website:
www.independentmaps.org
- Stop by Beckett & Webber (508 S. Broadway) on Saturday, April 5th at 10AM to sign AND return petitions.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

League of Women Voters of Champaign County

Dear Members,

Recently, I had the opportunity to represent League and the community at Parkland's 8th Futures Conference -- a review and update of their current strategic plan. Focusing our attention and providing food for thought was Dr. Karen Hunter-Anderson (II. Community College Brd.) and Dr. James Applegate (II. Board of Higher Education). Both speakers emphasized the importance of advanced degrees, a proficiency with technology, along with communication skills as keys to personal economic survival in the 21st century.

Reality, however, points out the enormity of the challenge facing community college administrators and staff. In Illinois, the underserved are considered the future of our state and a growing majority of community college students. Among the 50 states, we have the 4th largest Latino population. Yet, state support for Parkland has dropped to 10% of their budget. 75% of Parkland students juggle work, family, and school; 25% of the current C-U workforce start, but don't complete, college. These statistics have prompted an initiative called "60% by 2025" to increase the graduation rate in light of the new economy. In blunt terms, Dr. Applegate challenged the assembly to design programs, incentives, and procedures that would stop "reproducing privilege" and open opportunities that would reward minorities with skills and ultimately jobs that would benefit them personally and the economic climate of Illinois.

LWVCC ought to be as attentive to the fate and fortunes of Parkland as it is to those of the UI or K-12. Our county can only be as strong as the vitality of its total education program.

Sincerely,
Barbara Wysocki
LWVCC President

Don't forget to check out our website for up to date info, past meeting materials, news from the national League and much more!

www.lwvchampaigncounty.org

Membership Form – League of Women Voters of Champaign County

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Preferred Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Include this email address in the League Membership Directory? YES NO (please circle one)

Please circle the type of membership: Individual Dues* \$65.00 #New Individual Dues \$32.50
Student Dues* \$5.00 Household Dues* \$97.50 #New Household Dues \$48.75

Dues for new members, for one year, are half the amount paid by continuing members.

* Dues and donations are not tax deductible as charitable contributions from your federal income tax return. You may, however, make a tax deductible contribution to the Education Fund (of LWVCC) by writing a separate check made payable to "LWVIL Education Fund". Please include "Champaign County" on the memo line of your check to the Education Fund.

Please make checks payable to LWVCC, and mail to: Sue Phillips, 1018 W William, Champaign, IL 61821

NATIONAL LEAGUE ACTION ALERT

By Elisabeth MacNamara

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has proposed very significant changes in the regulations that govern what kind of political activity and how much of that activity a Section 501(c)(4) organization can carry out. This step 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, the current 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 we need your help!

Please contact the IRS and urge them to keep pushing to stop the dark money unleashed by Citizens United and to make sure that Leagues can continue our truly nonpartisan voter service work.

Reforming IRS regulations is our single best opportunity to respond to Citizens United, which allowed 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.

For 94 years the League has played a unique role in our elections by providing truly nonpartisan voter services and information to voters across the country. 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 is a terrible mistake, both for voters and for our democracy.

Protect the League's voter service work and stop dark money from polluting our elections. For more info on how you can help please visit: <http://www.lwv.org/blog/take-action-stop-dark-money-and-protect-league>

**Tuesday, March 18th is the General Primary Election.
Don't forget to vote and vote to the bottom of the ballot –
every position is important!**

LWVCC 2013-2014 Programs

September: The Affordable Care Act: Its Impact on Local Health Care Providers

October: Illinois: Time to Pay off the Credit Card

November: Champaign County Criminal Justice Review

December: Social and Final Celebration of our 100th Anniversary

January: Yes for Independent Maps

February: Pre-trial Services in the Champaign County Criminal Justice System

March: Observer Reports

April: Observer Reports

May: Annual Meeting

June: LWVUS Convention Report

League of Women VotersP
of Champaign County
P.O. Box 201
Urbana, IL 61803-0201

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY!

TUESDAY, MARCH 18TH

EARLY VOTING HAS ALREADY STARTED.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH, 2014

TIME: 12NOON

LOCATION: CLARK LINDSEY VILLAGE, ACTIVITIES ROOM

TOPIC: OBSERVER REPORTS, 1ST OF 2 IN THE SERIES

BOARD MEETING

WHEN: TUESDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2014

TIME: 9AM

LOCATION: CHAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY

GENERAL MEETING – APRIL

WHEN: TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH, 2014

TIME: 7:00PM

LOCATION: CLARK-LINDSEY ACTIVITY ROOM

TOPIC: OBSERVER REPORTS, 2ND OF 2 IN THE SERIES

OBSERVER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Observer Corp is one of our most important programs and currently we are in need of volunteers for multiple boards and commissions. An immediate need is for Champaign City Council meetings, 4x per month but can be viewed in person or on television. This duty could also be divided between two people.

Contact Betty Segal for more information or if you are interested in volunteering, 217-893-3080 and bssegal@mindspring.com



Find us on Facebook!

League of Women Voters of Champaign County

Check our website for updates:

www.lwvchampaigncounty.org

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