



Volume 69, Issue 12

February 2015

SPRING CANDIDATE FORUMS

Carole Rebeiz and Carolyn Trimble will need volunteers to help at these candidates forums so that they work successfully. Ushers, greeters, candidate escorts, question sorters, and moderators are all necessary to guarantee a smooth event, especially since they are taped and replayed several times before Election Day.

Contact Carole (carolerebeiz@att.net) or Carolyn (carolyntrimble1@gmail.com) to offer your services.

... and some good news!

For some time, candidate forums have been co-sponsored by LWVCC, the NAACP, and the News-Gazette. This year, two new groups have asked to be added as sponsors – C-U AAUW and the Sierra Club. The Board has determined that they conform with guidelines established by LWVIL and approved their requests. Welcome!

WITH SYMPATHY

On January 20th, League member Don Mullally died at age 77.

Don was the head, heart, and soul of public radio (WILL) in East Central Illinois. We seldom heard him on the medium he so loved, but we knew his presence and felt his influence. LWVCC extends its condolences to Carolyn and their two daughters.

MOVING FORWARD ON OUR PAST ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Deb Rugg has agreed to serve as our Oral History Liaison!

Very soon, Deb and Barb Wysocki will meet with Anke Voss, Director of the Champaign County Historical Archives, to plan a process for capturing our League history through the experiences, memories, and memorabilia of some of our members. We will be sharing the procedure in a future newsletter and be seeking volunteers to help make this endeavor successful.

Please consider being a part of this exciting adventure.

JANUARY MEETING

WHAT'S NEW IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION?

Our February meeting will focus on this question with our invited guests Steve Carter and Karl Gnad. Carter is chair of the Willard Airport study that ultimately will recommend the future of the airport and define its relationship to the broader community of Champaign County. Gnad, although not new to MTD, is its new director. He will talk about projects already underway and projects still on the drawing board. Both will take questions following their presentations.

Hop a bus or book a flight and come hear what's new in public transportation!

WHEN: Tuesday, February 17th, 2015

TIME: 7:00PM

LOCATION: Champaign Public Library

LWVCC Board - 2014-2015

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UI Student Intern: Kari Gibson

Student Mentor/Liaison: Barb Wysocki

Membership Manager: Kat Bork

Charter School Review Leaders:

Theresa Michelson

Sue Phillips

Nominating Committee:

Sue Phillips (Chair)

Jan Anderson

Kat Bork

Meeting Coordinator: Trisha Crowley

Newsletter Editor: Michelle Jett

Historian/Archivist: Margaret Olson

Oral History Liaison: Deb Rugg

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*League of Women Voters of
Champaign County*

Dear Members,

February is an important month for women's and LWV history. It marks the 195th birthday of Susan B. Anthony who, with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, founded the National American Women Suffrage Assoc. – the forerunner of the LWV. We also celebrate the 156th birthday of Carrie Chapman Catt. A generation younger but nonetheless our founding mother, Carrie, at age 27, joined the Iowa Women Suffrage Association. The rest is history!

In 1900 Carrie succeeded Ms. Anthony as president of NAWSA. With the passage of the 19th Amendment, Carrie recognized the need for an organization such as the League of Women Voters, seeing it as "a mighty experiment to foster education in citizenship and to support improved legislation." To her, the object of League was not to seek power in organization but power to secure legislation. She left the fledgling League to younger women and went on to campaign tirelessly for peace and universal suffrage even though she witnessed two world wars. Carrie died in 1947.

These founders left an incredible legacy not only to women but to all Americans who realize that freedom demands responsible citizenship and an honest and open governmental structure in which to work.

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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

Membership Form – League of Women Voters of Champaign County

****RENEW ONLINE! www.lwvchampaigncounty.org****

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 1 year membership: Individual Dues* \$65.00#New Individual Dues \$32.50

Student Dues* \$5.00Household 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: Kat Bork 1508 Greenridge Drive, Urbana, Illinois 61802

BUSY, BUSY MARCH! SPRING VOTING INFORMATION

March used to be the season for spring cleaning. These days it's the season for spring elections, and there are some very important ones this year especially in the city of Champaign.

Here is the schedule of public forums in advance of the April Election Day:

Champaign School Referendum
Wednesday, March 11 @ 6:30

Champaign School Board Elections
Wednesday, March 11 @ 7:30

Champaign and Urbana Park Boards &
Parkland College Board
Thursday, March 12 @ 7:00

Champaign Mayoral Race
Wednesday, March 18 @ 7:00

All forums are at the Champaign City Building.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED

In addition to the three pioneers saluted in the President's letter, Champaign County has, in its midst, a fourth founding mother whose League career and civic activity is as inspirational as Anthony's, Stanton's and Catt's. Helen Levin, who celebrated her 102nd birthday last month, has been a League member for more than fifty years. She was elected local president, then state League president, and later a member of LWV national board, serving as treasurer. In Illinois, Helen opposed the practice of "red-lining", championed the ERA and a revision of the Illinois Constitution. Perhaps most notable was her daring to correct Mayor Richard Daley about League's position on gun control at the opening of a state convention!

Locally, Helen also served as a co-president of the C-U United Way. She was instrumental in securing Zelema Harris as Parkland College President. Helen served on the Blackburn College Board and that of the North Central Association. Those who know Helen have many anecdotes and stories to share; all of them underscore her dedication to League and her singular commitment to our community. Hence, Helen has secured her legacy in Champaign County and in Illinois. We are so fortunate to have Helen in our midst to draw on her example of a League member envisioned by Carrie Chapman Catt.

Sincerely,
Barbara Wysocki
LWVCC President

With help from Louise Allen



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LEAGUE MEETING

WHEN: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 2015

TIME: 7PM

LOCATION: CHAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY

TOPIC: ARE WE THERE YET? PUBLIC

TRANSPORTATION IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

SPEAKERS: STEVE CARTER AND KARL GNADT

BOARD MEETING

WHEN: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2015

TIME: 9AM

LOCATION: BARB'S HOUSE,

108W HOLMES, URBANA

CANDIDATE FORUMS

LOCATION: ALL AT CHAMPAIGN CITY BUILDING

Wednesday, March 11th, 2015

6:30PM

Champaign Unit 4 School Board Referendum

7:30PM

Champaign Unit 4 School Board

Thursday, March 12th, 2015, 7PM

Champaign & Urbana Park Boards

Wednesday, March 18th, 2015, 7PM

Champaign Mayoral Race

OBSERVER REPORTS - PART 1

WHEN: TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH, 2015

TIME: 12NOON

LOCATION: CLARK-LINDSEY VILLAGE

BOARD MEETING

WHEN: TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH, 2015

TIME: 9AM

LOCATION: BARB'S HOUSE

League of Women Voters
of Champaign County
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Check it out at www.lwv.org

Same for the state League!
Subscribe to the Illinois League of Women Voters e-newsletter here:

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

Find us on Facebook!

League of Women Voters of Champaign County

Check our website for updates:

www.lwvchampaigncounty.org

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