



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR AREA

Serving the people of Homewood, Flossmoor, Glenwood, Hazel Crest, Olympia Fields, Matteson, Chicago Heights, Lansing, Harvey, South Holland, Country Club Hills and Frankfort ILLINOIS

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www.lwvhfarea.com



Presidents' Message February / March 2019



Barbara and I hope you are managing to get through frigid, snowy and icy winter. Sorry to say that due to the extreme winter weather, we had to cancel the Program Planning Meeting in January. This meeting has always been an opportunity for our league members to get together in a relaxed setting to discuss league programming and catch up with fellow members.

Be sure to note our February and March General Meetings. Our February program meeting is being held at the Homewood Public Library on Wednesday, February 20th, at 7:00 p.m., and we are happy to welcome our guest speaker, Hazel Crest Police Chief Mitchell R. Davis III, who will speak on his involvement in the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). Due to some scheduling changes at the Homewood Public Library, our March General Meeting will be held at the **GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY at 3479 W. 183rd Street, Hazel Crest**. Invite a friend, too.

Come and join fellow Leaguers from around the state for the annual LWVIL Issues Briefing 2019: *Creating Quality of Life for ALL in Illinois*, on **Saturday, March 2, 2019 from 9:30 am - 4 pm at the University Center, 525 South State Street in Chicago**. This all-day program/workshop is sponsored by the Issues Committee of LWVIL. Many local league members ride the train together and walk the short distance to the University Center. Barbara and I encourage you to attend this valuable event because it's always an *exceptional day* of learning and meeting new people.

The CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY will take place on Tuesday, February 26, 2019. Our league is participating in many candidate forums in February. Forums will be posted on our website.

As members of LWV, you receive many emails and special announcements from your local, state and national leagues. We encourage you to take the time to read as many as possible because this is the primary form of communication with our membership. If you have not been receiving messages from us, please check to see if they may have been sent to your SPAM box on your computer. If not there, perhaps your email address has changed. If so, please email Joan Strohm at jdsjan@aol.com and provide her with your correct email so that our records can be corrected. We want everyone to receive the information.

Thank you all for your membership and participation in LWV H-F Area. The more you are involved, the more effective we are!

Barbara and Mary Emily—Co-Presidents'

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate.

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FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING
The History and Purpose of the National Organization of
Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Guest Speaker – Hazel Crest Police Chief Mitchell R. Davis III,
Homewood Library

In coordination with Black History Month, our February General Meeting will address the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). We are happy to welcome our guest speaker, Hazel Crest Police Chief Mitchell R. Davis III, who will speak on his involvement in and a brief history of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). The meeting is being held at the Homewood Public Library on Wednesday, February 20th, at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing everyone at this informative meeting. Bring a neighbor or friend.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING
Women in the Workplace
Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker from Women Employed (TBA)
Grande Prairie Library, Hazel Crest, IL



The March General Meeting will be a stimulating and informative meeting discussing the challenges and rewards that women in the workplace face. Our guest speaker for the evening will be from Women Employed. Over the past 40 years, Women Employed has made history as a voice for working women. From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, "Women Employed is a nonprofit advocacy organization based in Chicago, Illinois. Founded in 1973, Women Employed's mission is to improve women's economic status and remove barriers to economic equity. They promote fair workplace practices, increase access to training and education, and provide women with tools and information to move into careers paying family-supporting wages."

PLEASE NOTE: Due to some scheduling changes at the Homewood Public Library, our March General Meeting will be held at the **GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY at 3479 W. 183rd Street, Hazel Crest.**

Invite a friend!

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Program and Event Reminders

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Guest Speaker – Hazel Crest Police Chief Mitchell R. Davis III,
The History and Purpose of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
Homewood Library

Saturday, March 2, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. - LWVIL Issues Briefing
University Center, Chicago

Monday, March 4, 2019, 6:30 p.m. – H-F Area Board Meeting
Home of Joan Strohm

Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 7:00 p.m. – Women Employed
Grande Prairie Library, Hazel Crest, IL

Monday, April 1, 2018, 6:30 p.m. – H-F Area Board Meeting
Home of Glenda Townsend

Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 7:00 p.m. – Climate Change
Grande Prairie Library, Hazel Crest

Thursday, May 9, 2019, 6:00 p.m. – Annual Meeting
Idlewild Country Club, Flossmoor

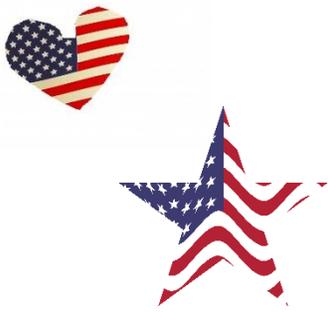
Monday morning, May 13, 2019, 9:30 a.m. - LWVCC 2019 Annual Meeting
Business segment begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by the guest speaker and a lunch
University Center, 525 S. State St., Chicago.

Friday-Sunday, June 7-9, 2019 -LWVIL Convention
Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham Champaign
101 Trade Center Dr, Champaign

South Suburban PADS, in which LWV played a large part to get it started back in 1990, continues to serve homeless persons in the south suburbs. And when the sub-zero temperatures caused many businesses and institutions to close for a day or two, PADS continued to serve the homeless population, and in fact, opened a daytime warming center for their guests on those 3 coldest days, in addition to the night-time shelters. PADS continues to use volunteers to staff the night-time shelters. If you could spare 4 hours once a month, call Liz Agbarah (332-7700, x131) at the PADS office, or for the Homewood site specifically, call Lucy Kokal (799-7953). St. Andrew Church on Riegel Rd. in Homewood is the Wednesday-night shelter site for women and children. Last Wednesday night that site fed and sheltered 38, of whom 18 were children.

S O U T H
S U B U R B A N
P A D S





Membership Committee

The HF Area League is vibrant and growing with a current total of 113 active members, up from last year's 108 members. This number includes 16 new members since this time last year. Eleven members have dropped off since last year for various reasons, including moves to warmer climates! The new members have been exceptionally involved this year, participating in area parades, volunteering at local candidate forums, attending monthly program meetings and representing the League at our Homewood Farmer's Market table.

Our geographic reach continues to grow as well. Besides Homewood and Flossmoor, new members come from Glenwood, Matteson and Tinley Park. Many thanks to our current members for their outreach, inviting friends and neighbors to our events. Welcome, new members! We hope that your involvement in the H-F Area League is fulfilling and meaningful to you.



Nominating Committee:

The committee is now seeking to find all members eligible and desirous of serving as officers and directors on the board. A letter has gone out to the entire membership to ask for their nominations and to declare their desire to be slated. This will be submitted for the election slate at the annual meeting in May. Watch for the letter with more information.

CANDIDATE FORUMS

The Candidate Forums are well underway. Sandra Slayton and Barbara Hayes have been facilitating the planning and organizing forums with school districts, cities/villages, and park districts. We held several meetings together, calling members and entities to coordinate and schedule seven (7) candidate forums. Park Forest and our League will be hosting two (2) candidate forums together. We hope that you will come out to support us. The publicity chair will post the forums on Facebook, and we will contact the newspaper(s) to include the forums in their newspapers. We would like to thank both Joan Strohm and Lillian Bacon for their support by sending me the names of League member interested in volunteering for the forums. We called them and thanked them for their support for this endeavor. We've contacted 32 members and at least 26 of them will participate. This is a great example of what we call "Team Spirit!!!"





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED CALL TO ALL MEMBERS

The Board is reaching out to all our members to ask for just a couple of hours of your time. What is your passion? What are your interests? Do you like to socialize? Do you enjoy just helping behind the scenes? Are you good at writing? Are you passionate about your community, schools, family, etc.? Learn about and discuss the positions of the LWVIL:

- Election Laws, including Voting Rights, Redistricting, and Campaign finance
- Environmental Issues
- Equal Rights Amendment
- Fiscal Policies, with a focus on Education and Human Services
- Gun Violence Prevention
- Healthcare and Reproductive Choice
- Immigration

If any of these program positions peak your interest, consider learning more about them and joining one of these groups. Your LWV H-F especially needs you to volunteer for:

- **Voter Services:** Voter Registrar, Candidate Forums
- **(Green) Environment Committee**
- **Legislative Issues:** Tracking Legislation, Advocate for Issues, Interview Legislators
- **Publicity:** Write Bulletin Articles (e.g., interview new members, summarize an event), Distribute Flyers, Proofreading (e.g., bulletin, member handbook, annual meeting booklet, etc.)
- **Hospitality Committee**
- **Program Planning Committee**
- **Observer Corps** (various community board meetings)
- **Membership Committee**
- **Special Topic Study Groups**
- **Finance Committee** (fundraising)

Whether you are a NEW member or a seasoned member, we look forward to seeing you on Saturday, January 19th. Come and share your comments, enjoy the comradery and refreshments. Can't make the meeting, contact a board member to volunteer.

UNLEASH YOUR PASSION!



There Is No Planet B.... Making Up For Lost Time

from The Sierra Club Magazine Jan/Feb 2019

The natural world is changing faster than ever before, spurred by human actions. The changes are occurring so rapidly that scientists have named this unprecedented epoch as: The Anthropocene, “the human age”. If we continue to burn ancient carbon, strip mine the soil, and raze forests, we could be headed for the 6th great mass extinction event in Earth’s history. If we ignore the consequences of manmade changes, then famine, war and pandemics could result from wrecking the earth’s life-support systems. OR The Anthropocene Age could be amazing IF we change our technologies and our economic system to better match the physical and biological realities of life on Earth. Time is the critical factor. We are running out of it to keep the planet’s heat and carbon count in balance.

The huge spread of possible futures from very bad to very good is one of the things about this moment in time that create such powerful feelings of urgency and disorientation. It is NOT science fiction to believe that farmers might be able to focus as much on the yields of carbon sequestration in the soil as they once did on crop yields. Similarly, timber companies could find revenues in replanting forests--not tree plantations for future harvest, but real biodiverse forests valued for how much carbon dioxide they inhaled and stored and for how transportation of all kinds can be propelled by clean energy, and light bulbs and internet downloads powered by the wind and sun. All these technologies are shovel-ready and off- the- shelf, but what we must now do is invent the economics to pay for them. One thing we cannot do is deny, avoid, or disregard the urgent challenge to become the Good Anthropocene Age and not one of devastation and loss.

Let’s get to work for the sake of our children and generations to come. Get involved. Find an organization that is working towards solutions large and small.

ICYMI: Growing Sustainable Communities Together

The South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium hosted an event February 8th at Prairie State College. The conference focused on the Greenest Region Compact and its impact on the South Suburbs. A panel of local mayoral signatories shared their community success stories. The breakout sessions focused on the compact framework, networking and socializing. At the end of the day Vice District Brewing Co. hosted craft beer hour.

For full agenda go to PSC website and download.

Some solutions large and small:

Facts: Bolivia: President Evo Morales opened a solar array that will be the largest in the Country. The 180 hectare (445-acre) array will generate 60 megawatts of electricity, or Enough to supply 880,000 people Officials say they plan to export energy other countries in the near future.

Norway: Norway recently launched a zero-emissions catamaran as part of its efforts to revolutionize the carbo-heavy seafaring industry. The zero-emissions vessels currently in production is aimed to spur change in that entire industry, so that Norway ruled by 2026 all ships that travel into World Heritage fjords must be Zero-emissions.

Gary Ind: In 1967 The Grand Calumet River that surrounds the Dune and Swale Nature Preserve was once the repository of raw sewage and industrial waste from Gary and Hammond Ind. The Nature Conservancy has worked to clean it, with the decades Collaboration of public and private interests, and 60% is now clean, hosting a Habitat so diverse that orchids (lady slippers) have proliferated with more Species here than in Hawaii, and bald eagles have returned to nest along the banks.



Issues Briefing 2019
Saturday, March 2, 2019
9:30 am – 4:00 pm
Conference Center at University Center
525 S. State Street, Chicago, IL

Join fellow Leaguers from around the state for our annual LWVIL Issues Briefing 2019, “Creating Quality of Life for ALL in Illinois.” Here are just a few of the many reasons to take part in this energizing day.

At Issues Briefing 2019 you will:

- Learn from issue experts, legislators and activists from throughout our state;
- Gain insight into what we can expect from Congress and from our leaders in Illinois;
- Connect with bright, informed, assertive advocates for change from highly respected organizations and your neighbor Leagues;
- Strengthen your skills and your local League’s reach, whether you are a lifelong advocate or new member;
- Return home inspired by our speakers and your colleagues, empowered by your new connections and invigorated by our League work.



The League of Women Voters of Cook County
2019 Annual Meeting
Monday, May 13, 2019
University Center, 525 S. State St., Chicago



The LWVCC 2019 Annual Meeting will be held on Monday morning, May 13, 2019, at the University Center, 525 S. State St., Chicago. The business segment begins at 9:30 am and will be followed by our speaker and a lunch that will conclude by 1:00 pm.

The entire LWVCC Board are excited to share with you that **the newly elected Cook County Assessor, Fritz Kaegi** will be the guest speaker. We look forward to hearing his ideas on ways to improve the Assessor’s office.

The business meeting will include all decisions that needs to come before the membership including election of officers and directors, program recommendations, and approval of the 2019-20 budget. All committee reports as well as action items for the Annual Meeting will be sent to the local Leagues four weeks prior to May 13th.

LWVCC bylaws require that in odd numbered years the annual meeting shall elect a President[s], Vice President, Treasurer, and three board Directors – all to serve 2-year terms. Local Leagues are encouraged to make suggestions for any of these positions to the current Nominating Committee. The Chairperson of the Committee is Sarah Shirk. Please submit recommendations and/or questions to her at sarahshirk@hotmail.com .

Members with any program changes and or suggestions should submit them to Nancy Marcus at ngmarcus614@gmail.com by February 28th.

Please put the LWVCC Annual Meeting date, Monday, May 13, 2019, on your calendars.

For more information and to register, visit www.lwvil.org



2019 LWVIL Convention

Convention: June 8-9, 2019

Pre-Convention Workshops: June 7, 2019

[Champaign Suites](#)

101 Trade Centre Drive

Champaign, IL 61820

The 59th Biennium LWVIL 2019 Convention is a great weekend long meeting of LWVIL members to congregate together to talk about key issues, participate in mission related programming and prioritize the work of the LWVIL. We hope that all members will attend to have an engaging and compelling conversations about all things League.

This is YOUR convention! Help us make it a great one!

Take some time to prepare for the 2019 LWVIL Convention by completing the **Convention DO IT NOW List**, a list of key steps that we would like every participating member to finalize before the convention.

Choose which workshop ideas fit your needs and interests.

Put your program evaluation caps on! Is there an issue you or others in your LWV think warrant a study or a position adjustment on the state level? Remember: Your local LWV responses are due by March 1. You can access the Program Planning Materials, by clicking [here](#).

Take a look at [LWVIL Bylaws](#) and reach out to make suggestions as ways to improve them. Contact Jan Dorner before February 26 by clicking [here](#).

Help the Nominating Committee know of those who have the time, talent, and skills to dedicate to the LWV at the State Board level. Contact Nominating Committee Chair, Michelle Peterson, by clicking [here](#).

Important Dates

Please keep in mind these Convention Deadlines:

March 1

Local League submission of program evaluation and suggestions

Local League submission of suggested by-law changes.

April 26

Local League proposals for adoption of or amendment to a LWVIL position to be made from the floor of the Convention must be sent to all local Leagues.

UPCOMING **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Guest Speaker – Hazel Crest Police Chief Mitchell R. Davis III,
The History and Purpose of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
Homewood Library

Thursday, May 9, 2019, 6:00 p.m. – Annual Meeting
Idlewild Country Club, Flossmoor
(GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY)

Bulletin

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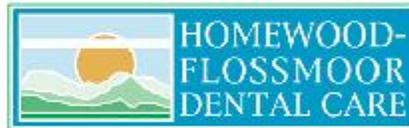
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