



League of Women Voters Highland Park/Highwood

BULLETIN

April/May 2015

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ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD

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Saturday, May 14, 2016

10:00 a.m Annual Business Meeting

12:00 noon Luncheon and Program

Luncheon Speaker:

The Honorable Susan Garrett

Former Illinois 29th District State Senator

Chair of the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform

"The Influence of Super PACs and Outside Money in our Democracy"

[See Invitation on Page 2](#)

LEADERSHIP MEMO FROM: Barbara Lippai, Co-President



ANNUAL MEETING WORKING PAPERS FOR 2016—2017

- [Report on New Leadership Model](#)
- [Report of the Nominating Committee](#)
- [LWVHP/HWD Board Recommended Local Program](#)
- [Budget](#)

OTHER LOCAL ARTICLES

- [Candidates Forum](#)
- [Illinois Budget Is Hurting Our Kids ...](#)
- [Legislative Interview with State Senator, Julie Morrison](#)
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[CALENDAR](#) *CLICK TO GET TO FULL CALENDAR / GREEN NOTES*



Please join us for

The 88th Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the League of Women Voters of Highland Park/Highwood

Saturday, May 14, 2014

Birchwood Club
 1174 Park Avenue West
 Highland Park

<p>10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Annual Business Meeting</p>	<p>12:00 noon</p> <p>Luncheon and Program</p>
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Nora Licata Award Recipient Faye Grossman

Luncheon Speaker:
 The Honorable Susan Garrett

Chair Illinois Campaign for Political Reform

Former Illinois State Senator, 29th District

"The Influence of Super PACs and Outside Money in our Democracy"

Susan Garrett is a former Illinois State Senator who represented the 29th District from 2003 to 2013. She previously represented the 59th District for four years in the Illinois House of Representatives. She became the Board Chair of the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform (ICPR) in 2013. ICPR is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization advocating government reform through educational events, legislative initiatives, and technology tools for voter engagement. Senator Garrett **earned her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Lake Forest College, and resides in Lake Forest with her family.**

Name(s) _____

Business Meeting # attending _____ (no charge)

Luncheon: Voter # attending _____ \$45

Supporter # attending _____ \$60

Sponsor # attending _____ \$100

Deadline is Friday, May 6th

Or register on-line at
<http://www.lwvhp.org> by clicking on the
 Donate button and filling in registration
 info in the comments box.

Checks payable to LWVHP/HW and send to LWVHP/HW, PO Box 396, Highland Park, IL 60035

Questions? Please contact Ruth Buhai at (847) 432-8777 or rb6059@att.net

LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In 1928 our League was founded. That year, Ford rolled out its improved Model A to replace its famous Model T, which had been in production for nearly a generation. Ford made a change then to move its company forward; can we make a change now to move our League forward?

That is the question before us today: are we ready as a League to embrace and adapt to the rapid changes around us, including the need to change our leadership structure? Many Leagues today are becoming more focused, flexible, and designing streamlined organizational structure to accommodate changing lifestyles and busy schedules.

Is it time for us to do the same?

Like all League matters, this issue has been well studied at the national level and can, if properly implemented, work equally well while demanding less of League leaders. The Nominating Committee carefully considered this possibility and has received the endorsement of the Board for implementing a one-year trial period for a streamlined organizational structure called the Leadership Team.

At our annual meeting on May 14th, we will be seeking concurrence from our membership on adopting the Leadership Team approach for a trial period.

How would this work?

A streamlined Leadership Team will replace the existing Board structure. The Leadership Team will operate as a committee of the whole. There will be four basic Leadership Team positions whose assignment the Leadership Team shall determine as part of the Leadership Team's basic *orientation* session:

- Spokesperson
- Member Coordinator
- Money Person
- Webmaster

As detailed in the ABCs for a Streamlined League (see: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/book/abcs-streamlined-league>), the Leadership Team will not and cannot undertake all the expectations of a traditional Board. For example, quarterly Leadership Team meetings are envisioned and a goal of six (6) membership/public annual meetings should be set.

Moving to this leadership approach requires something from YOU. Each of us needs to think back on our experiences in League - how it shaped us, what it means to us, how League has made a difference to our community with our help. Mull this over and ask yourself what can you do to help the TEAM? What size commitment can you make today to keep us relevant: not necessarily a big job, but a job you can reasonably do? Will you be responsible for one postcard mailing; working on one of the programs; making membership calls to 4 people? There are a myriad of opportunities both big and small.

This year's Nominating Committee Report reflects this streamlined Leadership Team. With this model in mind please find the recommendations submitted by the Nominating Committee on page 4 of this bulletin.

LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD ANNUAL MEETING WORKING PAPERS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2016—2017

May 14, 2016

Below is the recommended Leadership Team for 2016-2017, as well as the 2017 Contingency Nominating Committee. Please refer to the background information about a streamlined leadership model on the previous page (3).

LWVHP Leadership Team 2016-2017

- Elaine Adler
- Rose Feder
- Peg Malecki
- Judy Miller
- Ginger Seff
- Marlene Senescu

The Leadership Team model may not require a future Nominating Committee based on how this model is implemented for our League.

Therefore, the recommended 2017 Contingency Nominating Committee slate is:

- Barbara Kronish
- Barbara Lippai
- Ginny Schulte

Respectfully submitted by:

Charla Reinganum **(Chair)** and Elaine Adler, Judy Miller, Barb O'Connell, and Joyce O'Keefe (Members).

*LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD
ANNUAL MEETING WORKING PAPERS*

LWVHP/HWD BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

2016—2017

LOCAL PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Retain all current local positions with review, and, potential updates or action to the following:

- I. Recommended review with possible update:
 - a. **The City Planning Position** addressing the “suburban character” of Highland Park
 - b. The Beaches and Ravines Section of the Environmental Preservation Position

- II. Recommended Study / Action Items:
 - a. **The City of Highland Park’s contract renewal with the Ravinia Festival**
 - b. Action regarding the Acquisition, Development and Divestiture of Public Property by local governments

- III. Recommended Watch List:
 - a. Monitoring the next steps of the North Shore School District 112 plans.

There are no Bylaw changes for 2016—2017

LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD ANNUAL MEETING WORKING PAPERS

BUDGET 2016—2017

LWV-HP BUDGET

		Fiscal Year 7/1/2015-6/30/2016		Fiscal Year 7/1/2016-6/30/2017	
		Budget	YTD	Budget	
INCOME ACCOUNTS					
300	Dues	5,960	5,064	5,850	
310	Business Campaign	0		0	
311	General Fund Contrbs	500		0	
312	Ed Fund	597		608	
330	Ways and Means	0		0	
331	Doldrums Dinner	0		0	
340	Interest	0		0	
350	Annual Meeting	1,300		1,300	
390	From (To) Reserves	(696)		339	
TOTAL INCOME		7,661		8,097	
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS					
General Administration					
410	Board Tools and Expenses	200	150	200	
430	Finance Drive	0		0	
431	Membership	200		200	
432	Member Book	0		0	
Bulletin Expense					
440	Bulletin Supplies	0		0	
442	Bulletin Printing	0		0	
449	Phone	132	0	0	
450	Stationary	100		0	
451	Postage			275	
452	Web Hosting Fee	200	200	200	
453	Insurance	85	85	85	
454	PO Box Rental	124		124	

LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD ANNUAL MEETING WORKING PAPERS

BUDGET 2016—2017 CONTINUED

LWV-HP BUDGET

		Fiscal Year 7/1/2015-6/30/2016		Fiscal Year 7/1/2016-6/30/2017	
		Budget	YTD	Budget	
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS <i>continued</i>					
Programs and Activities					
510	Meeting Expenses	375	633	450	
511	Annual Meeting	1,300		1,300	
512	Doldrums Dinner	0		0	
520	Study Committees	150	174	50	
540	Voter Service	150	250	600	
550	Action - General			0	
Conventions and Outside Meetings					
610	National Convention	0		0	
620	State Convention	0		0	
630	State/Regional Meetings	0		0	
Per Member Payments					
710	National PMP	2,387	1,860	2,496	
720	State PMP	2,079	1,569	2,340	
730	Lake County (etc) PMP	154	169	152	
740	Lake Michigan LWV	25	25	25	
Income Tax					
800	Income Tax Expenses	0			
TOTAL EXPENSE		7,661		8,497	

Notes:

Budget is based on 51 individuals and 18 households reported to LWVUS on 1/31/16
 Board recommendation for 2016— 2017 dues: Individual \$70, (a \$5 increase); Household dues remain \$100.

PMPs: National \$32; State \$30; Lake County \$2

We pay 1/4th of LWVUS PMPs from our Education Fund

Voter Service activities partially split with 10th District Leagues

Postage for all activities is included in line item 451. Per meeting costs: \$75 for Recreation Center; \$50 for invitations; \$75 for misc expenses

HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD LEAGUE

LEADERSHIP MEMO APRIL 2016

It is the end of the League year and I would very much like to take this opportunity to tell you all how much being an active League leader has meant to me. I have been our local program chair, the state League program VP, the state president and the Highland Park president more years than any one should be! I could **just never let go....but, now I am.**

I hope I have matured to be a good leader, a strong cheer leader and a vocal proponent of the best of League. I have helped educate voters, promoted voting and stood up for democracy in a variety of proactive ways, including my favorite, delving into issues that lead to action on behalf of a better society.

Throughout my thirty years in the League of Women Voters, I have been so proud to be part of this organization. We have been able to stand tall and continue to do what we do best, despite diminished resources. Think of what we did this year with a membership of under 100: two candidates forums; voter registration campaigns; an opening meeting on mental health and the criminal justice system; a Holiday Party with local City Managers; three consensus meetings; an action campaign for the referendum; a **somewhat late Women's History Month program, and finally Susan Garrett's Money and Politics presentation** at the annual meeting. It is tiring to realize that so few did so much.

And too few, did too much. Our Board of 9 did everything we have always done. And now most of us are going to stand back a couple of paces and applaud the new Leadership Team and support the concept that **we don't have to do everything, as we have done for years... that less may actually be best.** Less does not mean we are giving up – it means we will carefully husband our resources and use them where they will best help us grow. Perhaps the focus of the coming year will be mainly on growing our membership. *To achieve this goal, we are planning a new leadership approach for 2016–2017. Please review page 3 for information about the [new Leadership Team](#).*

Moving to this leadership approach does require something from YOU.

Each of us needs to think back on our experiences in League: - how it shaped us; what it means to us; how League has made a difference to our community with our help. Mull this over and ask yourself what can you do to help the TEAM? **What size commitment can you make today to keep us relevant? It isn't necessarily a big job, but a job you can reasonably do.** Examples might be saying you'll be responsible for one postcard mailing; working on one of the programs; or making membership calls to 4 people. A myriad of opportunities both big and small are available for you to help the Team.

I look forward to working on one small project, and I hope that you will too!

Barbara Lippai



LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD

Another Successful Candidates Forum: February 28, 2016

This is an election year, in case you have been in a cave on a deserted island somewhere off the coast of Mars. The Tenth Congressional District had a choice of candidates for Congressional Representative and **State's Attorney**. On Sunday, February 28, Nancy Rotering and Brad Schneider gave us their vision of what constitutes an effective Congressional Representative, and Michael Perillo and Matt Stanton described their ideas for a transformation of **the office of Lake County State's Attorney**. The election was held March 15th.



The forum was hosted by the Leagues of Lake Forest/Lake Bluff, Highland Park/Highwood, Deerfield and Glenview/Glencoe, and was moderated by Sue Calder of the Evanston League. After the introduction by Elaine Adler and the rules review by Sue, there was a minute and a half for each candidate to introduce themselves, and then a question and answer format, with questions taken from index cards submitted by the very large audience. **Amongst many others, the questions covered each candidate's views on the problem of illegal immigration, Apple vs. the government, the care of veterans, and the support of Israel in the Middle East.** Each candidate was given one and one half minutes to give us his/her answers, and the answers were thoughtful and relevant.

After a fifteen minute break, Mr. Stanton and Mr. Perillo introduced themselves and presented their information. **The State's Attorney race was held to the same rules, and the questions ranged from how the candidates would change the conduct of the office to their ideas on the incarceration of people with minor drug offenses.**



The turnout for the debate was excellent, with an estimate of 350 attendees, and, the information from all parties was enlightening and important.

Many thanks to our loyal volunteers: Co-Chairman Faye Grossman, Rose Feder, Barbara Kronish and Peggy Laemle.



HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD LEAGUE

League of Women Voters of Highland Park / Highwood

How Illinois' Budget Crisis is Hurting OUR Kids

Wednesday, April 13 from **4:00-5:30** pm at Tomo Sushi
675 Central Avenue, Highland Park

Join us for a discussion with speakers:

Jane Talesnick, Highland Park/Highwood Home Child Care Association
Pam Feinberg, Tri-Con Child Care Center

Light appetizers and wine will be served.



LWV HIGHLAND PARK/HIGHWOOD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Co-President:	Elaine Adler
Co-President:	Barbara Kronish
Co-President:	Barbara Lippai
Secretary:	Rose Feder
Treasurer:	Ginger Seff
	Ruth Buhai
	Ginny Schulte
	Sue Wieseneck
	Judy Miller

Nominating Committee:	Charla Reinganum
	Barbara O'Connell
	Joyce O'Keefe



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AREA LEAGUES

LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEWS

Liz Bradner of the Lake Forest League met with State Senator Julie Morrison, 29th District on March 23, 2016

Fiscal Policy:

Sen. Morrison will and has put pressure on the governor to pass a budget. In fact she met with him individually. She told him she would support him on fair legislative maps, term limits, workers' comp and the minimum wage but not on giving him the ability to move funds around (reprogramming). She predicts there will be no budget until after the fall election because Rauner wants to see how many Republican seats he can pick up. Regarding Madigan, she pointed out that as not only Speaker but Democratic party chairman, he has great control over representatives. She thinks unreported campaign donations (through Super Pacs) have a big affect on legislators.

Sen. Morrison is not enthusiastic about the graduated income tax unless the rates were set to increase revenue over-all -otherwise it is just shifting tax burden from lower to higher income taxpayers like her constituents.

Gun Violence Prevention:

Sen. Morrison has introduced a handful of bills to prevent gun violence, none of which have been passed. She thinks a bill requiring licensing of all gun dealers is the most likely to succeed. There is also a bill to tighten enforcement of a law that restricts purchase of guns by people who are mentally unable to stand trial. Right now, it is loosely enforced.

Voting:

Sen. Morrison supports automatic voter registration. She thinks also that early voting should be made easier, e.g. closer to home. She noticed lines at polling places were long.

Education Funding:

Sen. Morrison is sympathetic to downstate school districts that don't have the EAV to support good schools. However she might not support SB1 because it would take state funding from her district's schools. Property taxes would then have to rise to keep the same level of service. Having to absorb part of N. Chicago however would be more expensive and raise property taxes more.

Criminal Justice:

Sen. Morrison agrees with the goal of reducing the prison population. Twenty-five percent would be great, especially of juveniles. She agreed with our Leaguer that they should be released with a state i.d., to make it possible for them to get jobs. On decriminalizing marijuana, she thinks the bill reducing penalty for possession of less than 10 grams to a \$50 ticket and expungement of the record is too liberal. There should be a limit on how many times such offenses within a year can be expunged before the offenders have to appear before a judge.

Sen. Morrison will check on Redeploy Illinois to see if Lake County is participating. She supports the mental health court and the drug court.

Health Court:

Sen. Morrison supports requiring providers with religious objections having to fully inform their patients about alternative treatments that the provider himself might be religiously opposed to performing.

AREA LEAGUES

LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEWS



Judy Miller and Elaine Adler met on April 1, 2016 with Illinois General Assembly Representative, Scott Drury (58th District)

Fiscal Policy

We first discussed fiscal policy and the budget impasse. Rep. Drury believes that he, more than any other legislator, has pressured the leaders and the governor to pass a budget. He emphasizes that there are not enough cuts to get to a balanced budget (at least \$4 billion short) and that the entire budget, not line by line piecemeal needs to be passed. **The public needs to see this so that there's support for tax increases and new sources of funding. (This won't happen until after the election.)** He would support all suggested sources of additional income, including graduated rate income tax. **However, he felt that the Fair Tax Coalition's arguments were misleading and dishonest and that the proposal would actually decrease revenue.**

Gun Violence Prevention

Rep. Drury supports mandatory licensing of gun deals, preferably at the federal level. Guns used to commit violence in Chicago usually come in from Indiana or Mississippi.

Voting:

Rep. Drury is a co-sponsor of automatic voter registration.

Education Funding:

A mix of funding methods, including allowing property taxes to increase as well as more money from the state, is needed to equalize educational opportunities throughout the state. We must educate our communities about the huge disparities in education spending throughout the state. Locally, Highland Park spends \$19,000 per student whereas North Chicago spends \$3,920. Rep. Drury does not support sending our property taxes to Springfield to be redistributed throughout the state.

Criminal Justice:

Rep. Drury is very involved and sits on this committee. He wants to treat mental health and drug issues; it would be less expensive to treat prisoners than to keep them incarcerated. Also, upon release, inmates need IDs and other help in order to stay out of prison. Much of the difficulty in reducing the prison population and closing prisons stems from the fact that local economies depend on prisons.

Environment:

He is co-sponsor of Clean Power Plan and the Coal Tar legislation last year. He believes the energy companies are marketing the green argument but are not taking action to reduce environmental damage. Because Illinois is gas and coal producing state, it's difficult to make significant headway. **The toxic effects of coal production can be seen around Waukegan because of coal plant there.**

Healthcare:

Rep. Drury is a co-sponsor of the Illinois Health Care Right of Conscience Act, which is one vote short of passage.



LEAGUE CALENDAR

APRIL	13	4:00 pm to 5:30 pm	How Illinois Budget Crisis is hurting our Kids Tomo Sushi (Details p. 10)
MAY	14	Morning & Lunch	Annual Meeting Birchwood Club (see page 2). Invitation will be sent in US Mail)

Non-board members are always welcome to attend board meetings. Check website, www.lwvhp.org, or call 847-432-4732 for locations.

It is with great sorrow that we note the passing of Betsy Lassar's Mother.

Editor's note: Thanks to Elaine Adler, Andy Amend, Rose Feder, Barb Kronish, Barb Lippai, Charla Reinganum, and Ginger Seff for contributions to this bulletin.

GREEN NOTES:

REMEMBER EARTH DAY! *Authored by Andy Amend and Reprinted from 2015*



Once a year we have a stand out day to hopefully prod us into more conscious behavior regarding our impact on the planet. *One* day to remind us how to act *more* respectfully the whole year. And *one* day to notice the environmental degradation occurring around the globe, that in fact threatens the way of life we know. So, on April 22, when spring is in bloom, awaken to positive change that makes less of a footprint on Mother Earth.

1. Walk or bike *more* ... **drive less.**
2. Reuse *more* ... **throw away less.**
3. Buy locally *more* ... **pay attention to product origin more.**
4. Look for high recycled content in paper products *more* ... **buy virgin content less.**
5. Turn off water *more* ... **let it run less.**
6. Purchase cleaning supplies, garden products and fruits and vegetables without toxins *more* ... **make your personal consumption of chemicals less.**
7. Pick up pieces of litter *more* ... **if there was someone to drop it, be the someone to pick it up.**
8. Enjoy watching the birds and smelling the flowers *more* ... **go shopping less.**



Take care of our beautiful, life-giving home *more*, and disregard her less.