



League of Women Voters of Greater Rockford

**AFFORDABLE
CARE ACT
EXPLAINED**

Joel Cowen unlocked the mysteries of the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) to an audience of over 80 people.

Meetings on specific issues, free and open to the public, continue to be a priority for citizen education for the League.

Rockford VOTER

November 2012

COUNT DOWN TO NOVEMBER 6th

The Good News: November 6th is just around the corner

The Better News: informed citizens participate in the democratic process

The Best News: All political ads will cease and desist

LWVIL Opposes the Constitutional Referendum

The amendment would require a three-fifths majority vote of each chamber of the General Assembly to increase a benefit under any public pension or retirement system. The League supports measures to increase representative democracy, not restrict it. A simple majority vote should suffice in constitutional matters.

The Constitution is not the place for a provision that is this specific to a single issue. This can be done by the legislature and then could be easily modified.

Nothing in this amendment would address the pension reform issue.

MEETINGS:

VOTER SERVICE
COMMITTEE:

LWVGR BOARD
MEETING: the
second Monday,
North Suburban
Library, 5:00.

HEALTH CARE
COMMITTEE: third
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.
P.A.Peterson

IR COMMITTEE:

LOCAL
GOVERNMENT:

EDUCATION:

ENVIRONMENTAL
ISSUES:

Pension Consensus

November 7th at 6:30 PM

Leigh Lakey's home
324 Dawson Avenue
(between E. State and Rural)

This consensus will be the basis for the League of Women Voters of Illinois' position on the state pension system and pension reform. This will allow League to advocate on this issue.

Your voice is important. Study materials on the pension may be found at www.lwvil.org.

Please RSVP by calling 815-623-9004 or by emailing lwvgr@yahoo.org.

Thanks to all who attended the pension consensus study group. It was a stimulating discussion and LWVIL Pension Study Committee member, Sandra Bartholomey, was very helpful in clarifying the questions we will need to answer on November 7th to complete the consensus.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

The EIC will meet Tues., Nov. 27 at 11:30 a.m. at Katie's Cup. We will be discussing genetically modified foods. We will look at California's Proposition 37 (to be voted on on Nov. 6), "The Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act". Come one come ALL for good discussion. Diane Cushing - chair - 815-877-2386 or dc@juno.com.

VOTER SERVICE UPDATE

580 new voter registrations during our September-October voter registration drive, thanks to League Deputy Registrars, many of whom did double duty service. Special thanks to Elsie Janson, who coordinated the supermarket weekends.

Our biggest successes were the weekends at the Hilander and Logli supermarkets -- 285 total. Schools also played a big part -- 194 total (120 at Rock Valley and Rockford College, 74 at high schools), 56 at Naturalization, and 46 miscellaneous.

The next Voter Service meeting is Thursday, November 1, 8:00 a.m. at the Stockholm Inn.

Jeanne Claeys, Voter Service Chair

SAVE THE DATE --

**90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION,
DECEMBER 8, 2012, 9:00 A.M.,**

GIOVANNI'S RESTAURANT

To celebrate our 90th anniversary, we have planned a morning of entertainment and reminiscences. State and local dignitaries have been invited, and our State League President will be present.

Our very own Doug Scott is our featured speaker. Our principal entertainment consists of brief skits from nine decades, starting with the 1920's and ending with 2012. Our very own Jane McAfee will represent the 1920's. Our very own husband-wife team Tom McNamara and Sarah

Reed-McNamara will represent the 2000-2012 decades.

We have yet to finalize the other seven decades but have already received some commitments. Rest assured we will emphasize the major accomplishments of our Local League, for we have had many outstanding members and many outstanding accomplishments.

Reservation fee is \$20. Send your money to our treasurer Ann Powell, 4040 Pepper Drive, Rockford, IL 61114 by no later than November 28 to confirm your reservation. Bring guests -- the more, the merrier.

Questions or Suggestions -- contact the planning committee, Diane Cushing, Susan Janson, Claire McIntyre, Jeanne Claeys
Jeanne Claeys
jclaeys@oglecom.com

REMEMBER THESE DATES:

**ISSUES BRIEFING
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2013**

**LWVIL CONVENTION
JUNE 7-9, 2013**

LWVGR CONTACTS

President: Karen Fysh - pfeffer43@charter.net
Vice President: Sue Janson - sjjanson@comcast.net
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VOTER Editor: Leigh Lakey - chunkybutfunky44@gmail.com

The purpose of the LWVGR shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

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