



League of Women Voters of Illinois

ENews: October, 2011

Website: www.lwvil.org

Meet LWVIL VP Communications



Hollis Burgess
LWV of Glencoe

A League member since the '80's, Hollis has served as board member, treasurer and president of the Glencoe League. In addition to being a LWVIL Board member for the last two years she has been the editor of *The Voter*. She was involved with the PTA and local soccer leagues when her children were young. She and her husband own a business and have recently relocated to downtown Chicago.

You will be introduced to all of the 2011-13 LWVIL Board Members in the next year.

WEBINARS for League Leaders

Did you know that LWV has a webinar library available to all Leaguers? There are many topics that will

In this Issue: Signing candidates' petitions...Update your email address...Education Study Deadline...Issues Briefing Save the Date...Leadership Rap Report...Lawsuit update ...Upcoming activities

Local Leagues can help educate voters for the 2012 political season.

The 2012 political season began in September with candidates circulating petitions to be on the ballot. LWVIL reminds members that signing a petition form allows you to participate in our government; it does not obligate you to vote for that candidate; and will not place your name on commercial mailing lists. The signature process is hard work, so if you are home when a candidate knocks on your door, please take a minute to answer the door and sign for them. It's the easiest, fastest and cheapest thing you can do to participate in our government! Encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same.

Not Getting Your ENews or TFAs? Maybe you need to update your Email address with the League.

Members are urged to make sure their local Leagues have their current email addresses so the membership chair can keep the LWVUS membership lists up to date. LWVIL uses the LWVUS database to update our ENews and TFA mailing lists.

LWVUS Education Study Consensus Deadline November 30, 2011

Local Leagues must enter their consensus data [online](#) on the LWVUS website by November 30, 2011.

SAVE THE DATE

LWVIL's Issues Briefing will be held
Saturday, January 28, 2012.

Information on workshops and sign-up will be in the upcoming LWVIL Voter coming out in mid-December.

Leadership Rap Overview (More details coming in the Voter)

A consistent theme among participants was the need for LWVIL and local Leagues to encourage new member; ideas were passed around. LWVIL has applied for a grant which would help us find strategies to reach younger members

be helpful to you whether you are a new leader or an experienced one.

Visit the Webinar Library [HERE](#).

through the internet and social media.

Laura Kratz, VP Issues, reminded attendees that local Leagues do not always have to do a full scale study, that positions can be taken using the LWVUS and LWVIL positions. Please contact [Laura](#) before advocating using a state or national position. She also encouraged getting people involved through grass roots advocacy and advised that a new form for volunteering is on the LWVIL [website](#).

Missey Wilhelm, VP Voter Service, talked about Illinois Student Vote and upcoming potential Congressional debates, reminding all that when co-sponsoring debates with other organizations League should be the lead organization since we have experience with controlling the program and dealing with potential problems. To assist local Leagues, she provided links to webinars giving ground rules for [candidate forums](#), and a guide to stress free moderating, as well as helpful tips and guidance for getting the [membership message](#) across at debates. Missey presented the congressional district maps, one for [Chicago](#) and collar counties and one for [Illinois](#).

Redistricting Lawsuit

The defendant's motion to dismiss our lawsuit was granted last week. We are currently researching next steps.

Local League Happenings

Saturday, Nov. 5: [Elgin Area LWV](#), [How to Run for Office: Mobilize to Win Election Day](#). Panel Discussion, 9am- pm.

Wednesday, Nov. 16: [Downers Grove/Woodridge/Lisle LWV](#), [Empowered Citizens: Antidote to the Culture of Corruption](#), Speaker: Patrick Collins, former U.S. Attorney, 7 pm.

Wednesday, Nov. 16: [Chicago LWV](#), [Chicago Government in Focus](#). Speaker: Joseph Ferguson, Inspector General, City of Chicago, 5-6: 30 pm.