

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR THE 2021-2023 BIENNIUM

ROSEMARY HEILEMANN (LWV DEERFIELD/LINCOLNSHIRE) VICE PRESIDENT, ISSUES AND ADVOCACY

Currently on the LWVIL board, Rosemary worked as a teacher for 30 years, and while her children were young, she worked 10 years as the night clerk in an Emergency Room. She has been a League member for 40 years, the first 20 in Glenview and the last 20 in Lake County, where she serves on the executive committee of the LWV Deerfield/Lincolnshire. She also serves on the board of the LWV Lake County ILO. She has also served in numerous off-board capacities, and as interim Vice President, for the LWV Lake Michigan Region ILO; she is on the nominating committee of the LWV Upper Mississippi Region ILO. Rosemary as been a moderator for many candidate forums over the years. For LWVIL she served as Issue Specialist for the Abolition of the Electoral College by Constitutional Amendment, then later became co-chair of the Issues and Advocacy committee. Outside of the League, Rosemary is active in water issues for the Woods & Wetlands Group of the Sierra Club, a helper for the Adlai Stevenson Center on Democracy, a member of the Rotary Club of Buffalo Grove, and the outgoing Member Relations chair for the Alliance Française du North Shore.

WHY I WANT TO SERVE ON THE LWVIL BOARD

I have always felt there are two broad types of roles in organizations like the League. There is the "activities" role, where we register voters, put on candidate forums, contact legislators, give presentations, and generally do our work for the community. Then, there is the "support" role, which is where we take minutes, keep the books, put out a newsletter, send out membership reminders, monitor social media, upload recordings online, and fulfill all the administrative tasks that keep an organization functioning. Many of us serve in both roles in our local League because we know the administrative tasks are essential in order to support the activities that we enjoy so much and that are so appreciated by the public. This duality exists at all levels of the League, or any organization that includes statewide or national levels. We know that someone has to be fulfilling the administrative and organizational roles that are needed for us to be able to continue with the activities that are so important. I am honored to have been asked to serve in the important role of LWVIL officer in order to do my share in those roles and bring whatever experience I can offer to assist the organization.

MY GOALS FOR THE 2021-2023 BIENNIUM

The League of Women Voters is known and respected for its non-partisan approach to civic engagement and for its well-researched and thoughtfully-considered positions on issues of public concern. Local Leagues have impact and influence in their communities because of this reputation just as LWVIL has in the state. My goal would be to maintain these expectations for LWVIL and offer support to local Leagues for the same reason. Another of my goals is to continue to develop the cooperation and communications between local Leagues that has been begun with the current Board. Many Leagues worked together on US Congressional candidate forums that had not all done so before, thanks to the outreach of the Voter Service chairs. Many Leagues attended or watched each others' criminal justice informational programs, or co-sponsored programs, thanks to the Criminal Justice Study committee's outreach. Thanks to online software and the LWVIL calendar, Leaguers can attend each others' programs of public interest, no matter where they live - and they do. This enhanced inter-League cooperation helps us all as we learn from each other and develop a sense of community across the state. I would like to be part of maintaining and enhancing these ties.