



November 25, 2013

Hello fellow League leaders,

It is Thanksgiving season, a good time to remember what adds meaning to our lives. I'm thankful I found the League of Women Voters (or it found me, my mom was a League leader, too) because I have learned so much being a member of this great group! And, there is such a variety of issues we are working on at any time, no matter what your interests are you can get involved and make an impact in your town or city, our state and country, maybe even the world. How could we not be thankful for an organization like that?

I'm also thankful for our great, hardworking staff, Mary, Rachel and Michal; all of the state board members, committee members, local League presidents, board members and membership, whose commitment makes us the strong League of Women Voters of Illinois that we are today.

Please look at the **Voter Service** materials attached. This information will be useful as you plan activities around next year's elections. Republican primary gubernatorial debates are being organized by the LWVIL Voter Service Committee. We are pleased we will be presenting them upstate and downstate.

If your League anticipates registering young people, consider applying for a grant from LWVUS. There is still time to apply for the LWVUS mini (deadline is December 2nd) if you are interested.

http://www.lwv.org/content/Leagues-invited-apply-youth-voter-registration-funding?utm_source=November+15%2C+2013&utm_campaign=2013+November+ENews&utm_medium=email

This State Board Report includes the **Local League Timeline**, which should help you in your planning. Sorry I didn't get it to you sooner; I will do better on that next year!

Please read Erin Roeper's **Membership News** report about the Membership Leadership Development (MLD) program.

If your League has not participated in a **Phonathon** before, consider giving it a try this year. It isn't too hard and it is a way to make some money for your League. If you want to learn more about it or you have done it before, [check out the details on how to participate this year in the attachment entitled "Local League Member Support Sharing Policy 2014" in this report.](#)

Plans are underway for the annual **Issues Briefing** scheduled for Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the University Center, 525 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois beginning at 8:30 a.m. Some of the issues which will be the focus of the day's events: Affordable Care Act, Charter Schools, Hydraulic Fracturing, Graduated Rate Income Tax, Gun Violence Prevention, Redistricting, Stormwater: From the Ground Up.

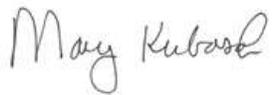
An **Issues Update** is enclosed for your information.

I also want to tell you about a useful new addition to the state office. We have purchased a state of the art **conference call phone for the conference room**. This nifty device is far superior to the regular phone we used to have in the room. You can really hear people well who are calling in from somewhere else (even more than one person!) and they can hear the entire group, no matter where those people are

sitting in the conference room. Very 21st century, and very helpful with so many members living far away from the League office, travelling or otherwise unable to get to downtown Chicago.

In order to use the telephone, you will need to reserve the conference room. The easiest way to reserve the conference room is to fill out the form on the LWVIL website at www.lwvil.org/conference-room-reservations.html. You can also contact Member Service Coordinator Rachel Lane at rlane@lwvil.org or 312-939-5935 x37 with any questions. There is no charge and as long as they are available, your League is welcome to use them.

Happy Thanksgiving!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Kubasak".

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