



* **CALENDAR OF FALL EVENTS**

- * **November 19th Human Trafficking, VIP Room, Wang Gang Restaurant, 5:30 to 7 p.m.** The speaker will be Joy Powell of Covering House, a shelter for 13+ girls who are in need of protection.
- * **December 1st, 7-9p.m Holiday Party at the home of Jeanne Brunworth, 50 Rushmore, Glen Carbon.** Rushmore is located on the right driving south on Meridian. Yvonne Jordan is collecting mittens hats and coats for children in need, K-8. Please bring items you wish to donate to the party.
- * **December 7th,Plowsharing Fund Raiser, 5:30 to 8.** Visit the shop and do some great Christmas shopping for those you love. Our League receives a percentage of your purchases.
- * **February 20th League Trivia Night at St. Cecilia's Church, Main St., Glen Carbon.** Reserve a table for 8, \$80. Call 618-288-2681 to reserve a table.



In This Issue

- Letter from the President
- Report on Tenant/Landlord presentation
- Report on Voter Registration Activities
- Report on meeting on Madison County Elections

LEAGUE SURVEY RESULTS

Forty-two League members shared their interests and ideas in the survey. The program planning process began in the spring with two membership meetings at Edwardsville Library. The ideas and concerns expressed there, along with a few that were added later, were included in the survey. Some are appropriate for study/action; others would provide information on current laws and practices. Survey results follow with some like items grouped together.

Racial bias in public institutions	14
in banking and mortgage loans	3
In housing	4
Access to medical care	5
Dealing with bias/changing attitudes	8
City green space policies, building codes, and land use	18
Green space policies in cities and subdivisions	11
Building codes & variances	4
Land use update	3
State funding for education	12
County Board powers and issues	8
Related write-in concern: funding priorities in city/county; closing of shelter care, half-way house, hospice, etc.	
Community rights vs corporate power in local govt.	7
Study and action	9
Learning to identify and engage the power structure involved in an issue	6
Learning to lead a study and formulate a plan of action	3

Plastics in the environment/recycling	11
Gun control	9
Concealed carry laws	6
Gun control/ gun control action	3
Police training	5
Elder Abuse	5
Cyber-bullying	5
Identity Theft	5

Thank you for participating in the survey. The board and program committee will try to incorporate many of these in the next year or two. A study committee can be formed at any time on a particular topic of interest. If you are passionate about an issue, ask the LWVEA board for approval to start a study group.

Where and When Shall We Meet?

Answers to that question on the survey were as follows:

Brown Bag lunch with speaker in downtown location	15
Drinks and Dialogue at restaurant 5-7 p.m.	14
Evening Meeting as the Library	20
Day Meeting	15

Some people cannot come at night; some cannot come in the day.

Submitted by Sylvia Frank, League Secretary and Program Planning Chair

VOTER REGISTRATION:

Voter Registration is an important part of the League's activities. LWV members Yvonne Jordan and John Cunningham held 2 sessions of voter education at SIUE on October 8th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. LWVEA partnered with the NAACP to register voters on the campus for two days, Monday, October 12th and Wednesday October 15th, 2015. They registered 155 students during those days. Lorraine and Chris Krusa registered 21 students at Edwardsville High School on September 25th. Students who are 17 years of age and will turn 18 before the November 2016 elections may register to vote. If students are 17 at the time of the Primaries in March, they will be eligible to vote in the Primaries.



Treasurer Cinda Schmidt wishes to thank all those members who paid their dues and also those who donated money beyond their dues. This allows us to pay our state and national dues and have something left over to provide for supplies needed for sponsorship of forums and debates.

TENANT/LANDLORD PRESENTATION AT TRES AMIGOS RESTAURANT October 22, 2015

The October "Drinks and Dialogue" found 12 League members and friends gathered to hear William (Will) Asa speak on Tenant and Landlord Rights and Responsibilities. He is an attorney at Taliana, Buckley and Asa Law Firm in Edwardsville, where he has worked on behalf of both tenants and landlords.

Tres Amigos provided an intimate atmosphere where people could enjoy refreshments while Will spoke. He covered the things people should look for in a contract before signing a lease. He answered questions and shared situations that he had dealt with over the years. There was also a discussion about the impact of college students seeking to rent in Edwardsville and Glen Carbon. Will said he would be willing to return again to talk to students and other members about some of the issues involved in rental contracts.



Carol Juen, 1st Vice President, & member of Program Planning Committee

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE EDWARDSVILLE AREA

Dear League Members,

Fall has arrived and our League has been busy! Besides watching the Presidential Debates, our members have been planning meetings, registering voters and working on gaining new members.

A big thank you to the following Leaguers for registering new voters. Lorraine and Chris Krusa and Yvonne Jordan and John Cunningham. (See article on Voter Registration).

Our September meeting on Elections in Madison County presented by Debbie Ming-Mendoza, Madison County Clerk, gave an outstanding talk to a small group of our members. Highlights of her presentation are listed in an article under **GENERAL MEETINGS**

Please plan on attending meetings in the future. Your Board knows that you are busy people, but speakers are too, and we want them to know that we appreciate them coming to share their knowledge after working all day. I hope to see all of our 70 members at one of our upcoming events in November and December.

Sincerely, Evie Gorski, President LWVEA

Independent Redistricting Amendment

The purpose of the 2016 Illinois Independent Redistricting Amendment is to change the current system of redistricting, where legislators draw the maps of General Assembly districts after each decennial census, and provide for a restructured independent redistricting commission to draw the maps.

The petitions are very easy to have citizens sign. This time there is information that has to be on the back of petitions that are turned in, or they will not be accepted. By April 20, 2016, the groups collecting signatures hope to have 600,000.

If you are interested in helping, call Evie Gorski at [618-407-3279](tel:618-407-3279), or email her at egorski5@gmail.com.

You will also be able to pick up petitions at the upcoming League events. The first one will be at Wang Gang on November 19th at 5:30 p.m.

LWVEA NEW & CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS

President Evie Gorski
1st Vice President Carol Juen
2nd Vice President Lorraine Krusa
Treasurer Cinda Schmidt
Secretary Sylvia Frank

Director Carol Meek
Director Carol Gerdt
Director Yvonne Jordan
Director Carol Meek
Director Alison Reeves
Director Susan Young

Director Alison Lamothe

Contact us at www.edwardsvillearealeague.org

We welcome volunteers. If you would like to work with other members to plan for Spring 2016, please email Evie Gorski at

egorski5@gmail.com

If you are interested in working on Trivia Night, email Lorraine Krusa at:

lorrainekrusa@gmail.com

League of Women Voters of the
Edwardsville Area
P.O. Box 841
Edwardsville, IL 62025

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

GENERAL MEETINGS

September 17, 2015 **Meeting on Madison County Elections**

Presenter: Debbie Ming-Mendoza, County clerk

Duties of County Clerk: Manage vital records; Calculate tax rates; Manage elections fairly

Ms. Mendoza's office has purged the county's rolls, removing 10,000 voters in the last two years! Elections cost \$1,000,000, and only 21% of the electorate voted in the spring 2014 election!

- * Elections judges cost \$400,000 per election.
- * 500 different ballots in Madison County. (225 precinct committeemen X 2 and other elections)
- * 6 weeks to prepare proof ballots
- * Law passed in March 2014 in which a citizen can register to vote on election day
- * March 2014, 286 people in Madison County registered to vote on election day.
- * As of July 2015, there were 172,472 registered voters in Madison County.
- * Many citizens register to vote at the DMV (Dept. of Motor Vehicles), Dept. of Public Aid, through the mail or on-line.
- * July 2014, a law was passed to allow 17 year olds to register to vote one way or another.
- * John Burns, the first 17 year old to register, was from Madison County.