

# The Bulletin

**Vol. 54 No. 3 October/November 2007**

Please visit our NEW website at [www.edwardsvillearealeague.org](http://www.edwardsvillearealeague.org)

Let us know what you think.

Email us at [info@edwardsvillearealeague.org](mailto:info@edwardsvillearealeague.org) or  
[webmaster@edwardsvillearealeague.org](mailto:webmaster@edwardsvillearealeague.org)

Do you know anyone who might be interested?

We're always eager to welcome new members to our League. If you have a neighbor, friend, or co-worker you think might be interested in learning more about the League of Women Voters, please give their name and address to Judy Thompson (656-6534 or [illinoislibrarian@yahoo.com](mailto:illinoislibrarian@yahoo.com)). We'll send out a membership brochure with information about LWVEA and a note that will include information about any upcoming events that might be of interest. Think about the League when you talk or meet with people, and thanks for your assistance with our recruitment efforts.

IMPORTANT:  
LOOK INSIDE THIS ISSUE !!!

\*\*Information and RSVP for our Annual Christmas Party\*\*  
and  
\*\*New copy of our revised Phone Tree \*\*



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE EDWARDSVILLE AREA CHRISTMAS PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007

6:00 TO ??

HOME OF LINDA LYNCH, 165 HOLLYHOCK, EDWARDSVILLE

IF YOU WISH TO CAR POOL, MEET AT THE EDWARDSVILLE LIBRARY PARKING LOT AT

5:50 pm AND WE WILL RIDE TOGETHER TO LINDA'S HOME

HOLIDAY DRESS ENCOURAGED

HEAVY HORS'DOERVES, BEER AND WINE WILL BE SERVED

COST IS A MERE \$5.00 PER PERSON SO BRING A FRIEND

PLEASE BRING A SMALL ITEM TO DONATE TO THE MADISON COUNTY SHELTERED

CARE HOME. THINK SHAMPOO, SOAP, LOTION, TOILETRIES



RSVP TO: LINDA LYNCH  
165 HOLLYHOCK  
EDWARDSVILLE, IL 62025  
692-4786

Dear Linda,

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) will look forward to joining  
you in your lovely home for the LWVEA Christmas party and enclosed is my check for  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s).

(You may also pay at the door, but please RSVP so we have an accurate count for the  
food and drink)

## Brennan's Blog

Thanks to all members who have been prompt in sending Treasurer Ruth Ellis membership renewals and payments. Ruth reported many of you also make a donation beyond the membership dues. We certainly have a generous membership.

Thanks to Linda Lynch who ran an audit of Ruth's work as treasurer. Linda reported our books look good. Linda has also been gracious enough to invite all members to her home for the annual Holiday Party (see flyer in this issue of the Bulletin). Thank you, Linda.

Board members Ellen Nordhauser and Kathy Jones organized the first clean-up of the Adopt-a-Road Program with which the Edwardsville Area League has become involved. We are cleaning up litter from a section of road which is often traveled by school children and bicyclists accessing the Watershed trail. We had a beautiful fall morning with a good turn out of members, families, and even family dogs to help with the clean up. The section of Dunn Road between Grand Avenue and the Watershed Nature Center will soon be marked with an Adopt-a-Road sign indicating our sponsorship. Next clean-up will be in February.

LWVIL President Paula Lawson and Board Member Edith Auchter joined us at the Glen Carbon Library a few weeks ago. The two made their way down from Chicago stopping in Springfield to attend a press conference regarding the League's support of the Show Us Amendment. Then they headed down to our area to meet with us and with local members of the press. After a reception, Paula and Edith led us in a workshop for candidate debates and forums. They were most helpful and kind.

Speaking of the Show Us Amendment, the Collinsville League has organized a program about the amendment scheduled for Thursday, November 15 at the City Hall in Collinsville. This is an exciting proposal to our state constitution so any amendments must be made in writing and given 21 days for public review before a vote is passed. Currently, amendments can be passed with little or no public review.

Remember I said we were an active League? Well, besides what I've just listed, you may know we have had our website updated and it is beautiful! Thank you to Mary Pearson and Carol Gerdt for making it happen. Members, save a tree and mark this site as a favorite so we don't have to mail out so many hard copies of Bulletins, invitations, etc.  
[www.edwardsvillearealeague.org](http://www.edwardsvillearealeague.org)

Oh, and one last report. Carol Gipe and I spent a very comfortable morning at the Goshen Market giving out information about our League. We had several inquiries and registered one voter. The Goshen Market will re-open in May and the League will be there on the 2nd Saturday of each month (except July) through October. We would love to have you join us to meet and greet some of Edwardsville's citizens.

Welcome to our newest member Katherine Rose. It seems since our night of Women in Politics at Sam's Winery, there has been a renewed interest in joining the League. That's a good sign of a healthy League. Please be aware many Leagues in the state report a significant decline in membership. We should be very proud of the strength of the Edwardsville area.

See you all at the Holiday Party!

Lisa C. Brennan

See you all at the Holiday Party!

City council 10/16/07  
Sue Webb, observer

All present.

Council approved the appointment of Jeffrey Berkbigler as city attorney to replace David Gerber who resigned to spend full time at his private practice. The city attorney will now be a full time position.

Passed a resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with the League of Women Voters of the Edwardsville Area for the League to adopt a highway which will be on Terry Ave, near N.O. Nelson School.

Approved an agreement to partially recover street improvement costs to the Piedmont Development in the amount of #31,550.

Passed an ordinance vacating an additional portion of East Park St.

**Any person wishing to make a tax deductible contribution to the Edwardsville Area League can send a check to the Treasurer. Make sure to write it for the LWVEA Education Fund.**

## DISTRICT 7 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Observed by Meg Oberlag

**Nov. 12, 2007** - Dr. Hightower explained the new communications system which begins immediately. Parents can expect a phone call about school cancellation (5:15-5:30 a.m.), early dismissal (11:00 a.m.) or late start. If during the day, a call will go to home, work or cell. Also, parents can always check the website at [www.ecud7.org](http://www.ecud7.org) or call 655-6090 for a recording.

Parent/teacher conferences will be on Nov. 19-21. The last full day of school for students will be Monday, Nov. 19 and they will return on Monday, Nov. 26.

The board approved an extended 3-year contract with the Federation of School Secretarial Employees. Starting this fall, there will be a 40-cent increase, which brings their starting salary to \$11.10 per hour. This will increase by 45 cents in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and 50 cents in 2010-11.

Mr. Courtney presented the figures for the tax levy needed for next year. The assessed valuation in the district has raised an average of 10.54% each year during the past ten years, but rose 13.22% in the current year. There is an expected growth rate of 10% for 2007-08, but the district will levy for 13% in order to capture extra dollars if assessed valuation is higher than expected. This does **not** raise the tax rate which should remain at \$3.91 per hundred. (To clarify this: If we levied for 10% AVA growth and it is higher, we lose a lot of money.) Public hearings will be held on Nov. 26; it will be voted on at the Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and filed with county on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>.

EHS graduation will be held on June 7, 2008 at the Lucco-Jackson Gymnasium that is air-conditioned and seats 3,000. Each senior will receive 5 tickets. Extra people may sit in the 625-seat auditorium to view and hear the ceremony with no ticket needed. ECTV cable will broadcast live and tapes will be available at a later time. A reception will follow in Gym B.

Police Sgt. Charles Kohlberg gave an excellent presentation on school security initiatives. He explained about video surveillance in all schools (including the EHS underpass), emergency contact, etc. The School Resource Officer program began in 1995 with one officer and has grown to 5 currently. In January of this year, a School Safety Officer was placed in every school at the main entrance. All other doors are kept locked. These people also check the grounds, exterior doors, playgrounds and parking lots. They are equipped with portable radios and a laptop computer on which they can observe all the surveillance cameras. Monica Laurent asked about funding for this program and was told that there is no state or federal money available. It all comes out of our local school district funds.

## LWV Edwardsville Area Phone Tree

<b>Level 1</b>	Lisa Brennan 655-0146 [Call Ruth Ellis & Carol Gerdt]				Kim Kirm 288-0109 [Call Virginia McDole & Carol Gipe]			
<b>Level 2</b>	Ruth Ellis (and Caitlin Ellis) 656-8801 [Call the four Level 3 members below]				Virginia McDole 656-5356 [Call the four Level 3 members below]			
<b>Level 3</b>	Carol Reinking 656-9352	Ellen Nore 656-5790	Kathy Jones 288-6833	Meg Oberlag 656-4508	Janet Burnett 656-6597	Ann Stolte 656-6351	Judy Rake 288-0678	Joyce Nyerges 692-4794
<b>[Each Level 3 member calls all Level 4 members below]</b>								
<b>Level 4</b>	Barbara Adelman 377-3838	Caroline Anderson 656-7775	Nina Baird 656-2652	Wilma Jene Bond 656-8085	Evelyn Bowles 656-4871	Bernice Brown 288-2526	Jeanne Brunworth 288-7641	Karen Buescher 659-9250
	Elaine Burris 656-9579	Joanne Collins 692-6946	Allison Lamothe 656-2758	Suzanne Eder 656-6169	Becky Ellis 288-1846	Evelyn Gorski 692-6288	Edna Grench 655-0872	Nancy Hoffman 656-4740
	Karen Johnson 659-3788	Dolores Kaufmann 656-2012	Carol A. Keene 656-5583	Mary Ruth Kettenbach 656-5206	Jane Klopfenstein 659-3582	Kathleen Krieg 692-6410	Kathleen Krishnam 656-8375	Glendora Lanning 692-4785
<b>Level 2A</b>	Carol Gerdt (and John Harvey) 656-5327 [Call the four Level 3A members below]				M. Carol Gipe 656-7425 [Call the four Level 3A members below]			
<b>Level 3A</b>	Marcia Custer 656-8179	Angela Ferrell 656-3559	Jody Keating 656-3647	Judy Thompson 656-6534	Sue Webb 656-2115	JoAnnn Nabe 656-7229	Ginger McCall 656-8122	Linda Lynch 692-4786
<b>[Each Level 3A member calls all Level 4A members below]</b>								
<b>Level 4A</b>	Elizabeth Link 656-5646	Susan Lucco 656-4884	Grace Madison 656-3262	Sara Twombly 692-1463	Sondra Naegler 656-0093	Mary Pearson 692-0178	Miriam Burns 656-1071	Julie Reiner 656-6456
	Cinda Schmidt 659-9720	Ann Spenser 288-7030	Carol Juen 288-3660	Eric & Jeanne Sturley 656-3478	Lynn Thiel 288-3345	Helen Stumpe 931-2098	Sharon Whittaker 656-0841	Gertraude Wittig 656-9309
	Monica Laurent 692-0689	Faye Zezoff 288-7137	Dottie Buescher 288-1473	Dorothy Hummel 659-0579	June Tupper 656-5418	Sarah Turner 656-7327	Jeanette Mallon 656-1977	Pat Hulme 656-2741
	Katherine Rose 659-3757							

Revised November 2007

Minutes from Lwvea Board Meeting on 11-6-2007  
5pm at home of Lisa Brennan

Present were Kathy, Ellen, Carol, Carol, Mary, Ruth, and Kim  
Absent were Judy and Joanne

The minutes and treasurer report from the Oct. meeting were approved by consensus. However, two corrections were noted. One, the trash pick-up was on November 3, 2007. Secondly, Meg Oberlag and Judy Thompson are investigating the options for the coming year's meeting at the suggestion of one of the members. Carol Reinking was not the person who suggested the different location. Sorry Carol R.

Linda Lynch performed an audit of our books and everything is in order. A big Thank You to Linda for helping us out with this requirement.

The LWVEA Adopt a Street Program is off to a great start thanks to the work of Ellen and Kathy. A sign will be put up in our designated area on Terry Ave. between Grand and the Watershed Nature Center. Many members showed up to help on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9am. Gloves, vests and trash bags were provided. The next pickup is scheduled for 1pm on February 23, 2008, pending appropriate weather. We will keep you posted.

Linda Lynch will host the Annual Christmas Party on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 6pm. The cost will be \$5 per person. Please see the details on the following pages. Please RSVP by December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Carol Gipe and Lisa Brennan had a table at the last market day this year. The LWVEA has elected to participate with a table at the Market next season. We will have the second Saturday of every month except July. The volunteers will arrive around 7:30am. We need to bring our own table and chairs. More will follow on this for those who wish to volunteer. We will do voter registration and hand out information and generally make our presence known to the community.

FYI: ALL PRIMARIES WILL BE MOVED UP TO February 5, 2008. Check out to State of Illinois website and the Madison County website for more information. We are working on getting these links on to our site.

Kim Kirn moved to make a \$50.00 donation to the LWVIL to offset the travel costs of Paula and Edith who came to do the moderator training. Carol Gipe seconded and the motion was carried.

A revised phone tree will be printed in the next bulletin.

Jody Keating will be a board member at large.

The final word from the state is that we can use 25% of education fund monies for website development.

2<sup>nd</sup> membership notices will go out to those who have not yet sent theirs into Ruth.

We welcome the newest member Katherine Rose of Edwardsville.

Bulletin deadline is November 13<sup>th</sup>. Next board meeting is scheduled for 5pm on January 10<sup>th</sup> at Lisa's home.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Gerdt

League of Women Voters  
Edwardsville Area  
BOX 841  
Edwardsville, IL 62025-0841



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The goal of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. Membership is open to any U.S. Citizen who is at least 18 years of age. Dues of \$45.00 include membership in our local, state and national organization. Send your check to Treasurer, LWVEA, P.O. Box 841, Edwardsville, IL 62025-0841