



Intercom

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2010

President's Corner

Mary Truss

This is my favorite time of the year. Everyone is in a good mood and full of cheer. But this year I am not spending money I don't have, instead I am spending time that I don't have but I know that I will reap the better return. I believe that serving (giving of me and time) is the rent I pay for living.

And speaking of giving time, I am going to ask for some of yours. In the next few months the voter service team will need your help so please consider saying yes. Voter service and voter education is a big part of what we at league do. The voter service team will be busy conducting voter registration and planning candidate forums.

Our observer corps committee/team is growing thanks to Barbara Sturges and Suzie Brown. I attended the observer corps training that was conducted by Barbara Sturges, and I learned a lot.

Duty called and Velda Rose-Erie (new member) and I attended the Leadership Rap Training at the State League Office (332 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL) on December 4, 2010. All league presidents and the board members were invited to attend. We were given information and clarity on pass and future issues. I think Velda learned a lot and she got to meet leaders from other areas in Illinois.

I am going to reiterate this, we want you to keep up with all the league happenings so visit your website www.lwvpfa.org. The League of Women Voters Park Forest Area will have a Holiday Potluck December 20, at 22013 Governors Highway, Richton Park, IL, at 6:30PM. Please RSVP to Mary Truss, president@lwvpfa.org. The hospitality committee needs to know how many people to plan for. The hospitality committee invites you to bring a dish and a friend who might be interested in the league. The Cocktail Party/Silent Auction Fund Raiser will be January 6, 2011 at the Tall Grass Art Center 350 Artist Way, Park Forest, IL. Program Planning will be held on January 23, 2011, 3:00PM

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Leadership Rap

Mary Truss

President Nancy Marcus and the IWVIL Board invited all area presidents and the board of directors to a leadership training and sharing on December 4, 2010. We were given information on pass and future issues. The areas covered were Issues Update, Voter Service Challenges, Member Services & Ideas, Communication Update, Development Activities, and Sharing Your Successes/Solutions to Problems. After the presentations in these areas we broke for lunch.

The Sharing sessions started over lunch. We shared our problems solutions/successes. Some leagues have had success with partnering with other organizations such as the chamber of commerce.

Voter Services

Pat Cline

Members of the Voter Services' Committee have renewed their Deputy Registrar's cards and are ready to start registering new voters. The committee is also preparing for candidate forums for the local elections of 2011. We will be contacting the schools about mock elections. Our last meeting was on December 15, to discuss our plans. If you would like to help us, please let me know, You may email me or call-708-747-0381.



at 22013 Governors Highway, Richton Park, IL. Program Planning is the most important event of the year for league members. This is the time that we review and decide which programs we will study or review. We don't meet with our full membership often so program planning is a great opportunity to meet your fellow members and participate in setting the goals for the League of Women Voters Park Forest Area. New members will benefit greatly by attending these events.

By now you should know that the LWVPFA have started to send the Intercom news letter via email. **The Intercom news letter will be mailed to the members who do not have email. I will personally call any member who do not have email and advise them of any changes to programs, i, e (date, time or place).**

Tune into your website www.lwvpfa.org. In order for the lwvpfa to thrive, we need the participation of its members.
Happy Holiday ----Mary Truss

Upcoming Events

Pamela Wickliffe

Monday, December 20, 2010, 6:30 pm

Holiday Potluck

Rich Township 22013 Governors Highway Richton Park, IL 60471 Bring a friend who is interested in the League, and some holiday food to share!

Thursday, January 6, 2011, 7 pm

Cocktail Party

Tall Grass Art Center 367 Artists Walk Park Forest, IL 60466 Fun and fundraiser for LWVPFA. Let's kick the New Year off with good will and cheer.

In order to insure the continued success of previous years we need your assistance in obtaining items for the silent auction baskets.

If there are questions or clarifications needed please feel free to email Mary Dankowski at mdankowski@vopf.com, or the League president, Mary Truss, at

President@lwvpfa.org

President@lwvpfa.org.

Sunday, January 23, 2011, 3 pm

Program Planning

Rich Township 22013 Governors Highway Richton Park, IL 60471 The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Saturday, February 5, 2011, 8:30 am–3 pm

2011 Issues Briefing

University Center

525 South State Street

Chicago, IL 60605 Annual Issues Briefing presented by the League of Women Voters of Illinois. The morning session will begin with Registration at 8:30 am. The afternoon Workshops will end at 3 pm.

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 10:30 am

New Member Reception

Rich Township 22013 Governors Highway Richton Park, IL 60471 New and prospective members are invited to meet current members and learn about the League and about upcoming LWVPFA events. All members are encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there!

April 2011–May 2011, Noon

State of the State Luncheon

Location TBA

Friday, June 10, 2011–Sunday, June 12, 2011

55th State Convention

Holiday Inn North Shore 5300 West Touhy Avenue Skokie, IL 60077 "Mapping the Future" of our communities and League. Voice what issues are most important to you and your community. Network with Leaguers from all over the State. Learn from relevant and informative workshops. Have fun! You can do all this at the 2011 LWVIL Convention. Hope you can join us.

Saturday, June 25, 2011 12–2:30 pm

Annual Meeting

Location TBA. This is the annual business meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Park Forest Area.

Letters/Emails to the board

We want you to know that we appreciate hearing from you. Letters and email communications may be directed to the Board by sending them to League of Women Voters of the Park Forest Area, PO Box 782, Park Forest, IL 60466 or emailing president@lwvpfa.org. Just let us know if you specifically want this communication for the Board. You are always welcome to attend Board meetings and will find a Calendar of Board Meetings on the left-hand side of the LWVPFA website.

The Leagues gives you opportunities: learning about issues through programs and studies, participating in the effort to have good government, making an impact through lobbying efforts, getting to know public officials, being a member in the National, State, County and Local LWV, helping your community, and having the opportunity to make new friends.

MEMBERSHIP

MARY BROWN

We have some members who have not sent in their membership renewal forms and dues. Also, please remember to send in any changes so we have up-to-date contact information.

As mentioned in the last Intercom, Membership and Voter Services have briefly discussed teaming up and going to Prairie State and GSU to educate and recruit new members. This will be both a very important opportunity and an exciting way to introduce young people to the League and all we have to offer. In order to accomplish this, we need some additional people – please let us know if you can help us out.

Happy Holidays

Observer Training

Barbara Sturges

On Monday November 8, 2010, four LWVPFA members came to my home to learn more about being an observer for the League. League of Women Voter observers attend meetings of public bodies such as the boards of local villages, townships, counties, and school districts. This function is essential to the League's commitment to the "public's right to know."

Observers attend these meetings to observe, not participate, and it is important they retain an impartial presence. Observers report on the meeting to their League members and the public. (Reports from LWVPFA observers are available on our website, www.LWVPFA.org. They currently include reports on SD's 163 and 227

board meetings.) President Mary Truss joined members Vivian Covington, Sandra Warren, and Velda-Rose Erie for this informal training. Suggestions on observing school board meetings were provided by Suzie Brown who has been observing School District 163 board meetings for years. We also studied materials from the national league website which included traits of a good observer and points to look for and include in a report. We discussed the following benefits of LWV observers:

- 1- Observers are the "eyes and ears" of the League -- understanding how the local governmental body works and what are relevant issues for study and/or action.
- 2- Consistent League presence at meetings adds to League's visibility and credibility.
- 3- Observers can foster networking with other groups.
- 4- The reports point out what candidate forums are needed and questions to ask candidates.

Observer reports should contain information on the process and protocol of the meeting (like who attended; appropriateness of the venue; opportunity for public input, etc) as well as the content of the meeting.

President Truss would like LWVPFA to have observers at more of our local school board meetings. Plans were made to have observers at meetings of the boards of SD's 162 and 201-U in the future.

If you would like copies of the information provided at the November 8 meeting, contact me at bikebarbara@juno.com. Let Mary know if you want to volunteer -- she'll be happy to award you a pin to identify you as a League of Women Voters Observer!

All current observer notes of School Districts 227 and 163 can be found online.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Annual Meeting



CALENDAR OF EVENT



90th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PARK FOREST AREA welcomes all persons interested in promoting responsible government at any level. Good government does not happen without active citizen participation. The LWV studies issues, gets to know public officials, observes at public meetings, lobbies on issues, registers voters, and provides many educational services

LWVPFA
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