

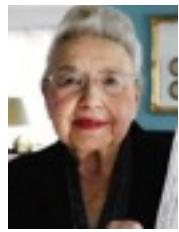
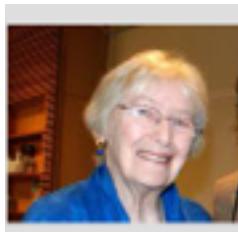
## Annual Meeting

League of Women Voters  
Oak Park & River Forest  
May 22, 2018  
Oak Park Township Senior Room  
130 S. Oak Park Ave.  
5:30 PM Business Meeting

# 2018

**League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest**  
**94th Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 22, 2018**

*Following the business agenda of our Annual Meeting,  
we will supply a light supper. This will be followed by a panel  
discussion with 50+ years lifetime members Barbara Ballinger, Gin-  
ny Cassin, Harriet Hausman, Bobbie Raymond, and Sherlyn Reid.*



# Agenda

Call to Order	Mary Haley
Disposition of the Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting	Mary Haley
President's Report	Kathy Balk
Treasurer's Report	Sarah Shirk
Budget Proposal 2018-2019	Sarah Shirk
Bylaws Committee Report	Kathy Balk
Committee Reports	Kathy Balk
Local Program Report Presentation of Proposed Local Programs 2018-2019 Presentation of Program Efforts 2017-2018	Mary Haley
Nominations and Elections Presentations and Proposed Nominations Nominations from the floor Elections of Officers and Directors	Kathy Balk
Recognition of Past Presidents, Lifetime Members and Past Hazel Hanson Award Recipients	Mary Haley
Presentation of Hazel Hanson Award	Kathy Balk
Meeting Adjournment and Photo Opportunity	Kathy Balk

## **Proposed Rules of 2018 Annual Meeting**

1. Only members of the League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest may vote.
2. Only voting members may address the meeting. A member wishing to speak must rise, be recognized by the chair, and give her or his name and League position, if held.
3. During debate on a motion, no person may speak more than once until all others who wish to speak have been heard. After the original presentation, debate shall be limited to one minute for each speaker.
4. No announcements shall be made which do not relate to the business of the meeting or the welfare of the members.
5. Procedure for adoption of local program shall be:
  - a. Recommended items shall be moved for adoption by the Vice President or the Co-President.
  - b. Motion for consideration of any non-recommended items shall be made (majority vote).
  - c. Debate on recommended and non-recommended items shall then be held (items may be amended at this time).
  - d. Recommended items shall be voted upon in their entirety (majority vote).
  - e. Non-recommended items shall be voted on individually (two-thirds vote required).
6. Business of the Annual Meeting shall be further governed by those procedures outlined in *Simplified Parliamentary Procedure* based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.
7. These rules may be amended, rescinded, or suspended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting.

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## **Treasurer's Report as of May 1, 2018**

### **Operating Accounts**

Community Bank Checking	\$ 2,255
Community Bank CD (1)	\$ 16,554
Education Fund	\$ 21, 140
Total Funds	\$ 39,949

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Shirk, Treasurer

## LWVOPRF Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and Balance Sheet as of May 1, 2018

<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	
Annual Dues (\$70 X 200) Note: increase of \$10	14,000
Member Contributions	2,000
Great Decisions Book Sales	800
Garden Sale	500
Interest from CD's	100
State of the Villages Fundraiser	10,000
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>27,400</b>

<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	
Annual Meeting	500
Communications-League Matters/Week-in-Preview	500
Communications-Website/Facebook	500
Delegate Fees- Cook County	210
Delegate Fees- State Issues Briefing	750
Delegate Fees- Inter League Organizations	200
Delegate Fees- State Convention June 2019	1,000
Committee Projects- Advocacy	200
Committee Projects- Children & Youth	300
Committee Projects- Environment	300
Committee Projects- Great Decisions	200
Committee Projects- Observers	50
Committee Projects- Second Tuesday	300
Committee Projects- Speakers	250
Committee Projects- Studies	100
Member Services-Directory	400
Events- Fall Kick-Off	100
Events- Holiday Social	1,000
Events- New Member Breakfast & Outreach	600
Events- Hazel Hanson Award	100
Events- Drinks & Dialogue	500
Board Training	500
Computer Expenses	100
Treasurer Expenses	100
Dues Subsidy- Scholarship/Sliding scale	70
Insurance	110
Meeting Room Rental & Refreshments	200
PayPal or Square Transaction Fees	100
Miscellaneous	200
Office Work	500
Phone-Voicemail	100
Printing + Photocopies	200
Postage + Post Office Box	400
Supplies-letterhead/envelopes	400
Inter-League Organization (ILO) Memberships	50
PMP LWV Cook County	800
PMP LWVIL 3/4	4,500
PMP LWVUS 1/2	3,200
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>19,590</b>

<b>EDUCATION FUND INCOME</b>	
Member Contributions	2,000
<b>Total Education Fund Income</b>	<b>2,000</b>

<b>EDUCATION FUND EXPENSES</b>	
Citizen Education	125
Committee Projects- Great Decisions	820
Insurance	40
Speakers	100
Video Recording	500
Voter Service	400
Events- Fall Kick-Off	100
Events- Drinks & Dialogue	500
Fundraising Expense-SOV	500
PMP-LWVIL 1/4	1,500
PMP-LWVUS 1/2	3,200
Early Childhood Resource Directory (printed in odd years)	0
<b>Total Ed Fund Expenses</b>	<b>7,785</b>

<b>Balance Sheet as of May 1, 2018</b>	
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Community Bank CD	16,554
Community Bank NOW Account - Checking	2,255
LWVIL Ed Fund for LWV-OPRF	21,140
<b>Total ASSETS</b>	<b>39,949</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Opening Balance Equity + Net Assets	47,069
Net Income	-7,120
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>39,949</b>

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## **By-Laws Committee Report**

**There are no recommended Bylaws changes for this Annual Meeting.**

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## **Committee Reports**

Once again, the League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest had a year full of accomplishments due to the leadership of our Board and Committee chairs. Members contributed their time, wisdom, and passion to ensure the League's mission of encouraging citizens to be informed and active participants in local, state and national government was accomplished. Below are committee reports that summarize the many accomplishments of the 2017-18 program year. Each and every committee played a part in helping our membership to grow into one of the largest Leagues in Illinois. These voices combined will help increase understanding of public policy issues and hopefully make an impact in our local community, our state, and our nation.

### **Committee Report Highlights for 2017-18**

#### **Advocacy - Chairperson Diane Moses**

The Advocacy Committee has:

- . Visited Sen. Harmon on April 9, 2018
- . Have plans to meet with Sen. Lightford and Rep. Ford.
- . Met with Rep. Lilly on April 30, 2018 at 5 p.m.
- . Joined with the LaGrange League for an interview with Rep. Welch on May 2nd.

#### **Archives – Chairperson Johan Walsh**

Two catch-up filing sessions were conducted in August at the OP/RF Historical Society's new headquarters at 129 Lake Street. The Archives Inventory, prepared in 2011 by the Archives Committee, was updated to reflect the August additions.

In September, the Archives Inventory was updated again to reflect various materials that are on file at the University of Illinois at Chicago. These files were archived at UIC in 1976 and represent the 1920's and 1930's, the earliest years of LWV-OP/RF operations. After checking with the Historical Society, it was determined that adequate space now exists at 129 Lake Street for the UIC files to be relocated to Oak Park and centralized with the main archives.

In addition to adding to the archives, a reduction was also made. A bin of files from the 1970's and 1980's pertaining to LWV-IL was uncovered by Historical Society staff. At their request, these materials were removed from 129 Lake Street in January. These LWV-IL materials did not originate with the LWV-OP/RF board or its committees, and as such, were not part of the Archives Inventory of 2011. For that reason, the files were transferred in March to the LWV-IL for their perusal and possible use in 2020 centennial observations.

## **Communications- Sarah Shirk, Marissa Garza, Alyssa Ralston, Peggy Kell, Leigh Eicher**

Communications Committee has made an intentional effort to engage our community (both current members and the general public) with social media tools. Our website gets consistent visitor traffic of 800-900 views per month. Our Week-in-Preview goes to all members each Monday and has a 48-53% open rate. All monthly League Matters Newsletters and Week in Previews are also posted on our website for quick reference. Facebook traffic records indicate an increase of activity from non-members, especially during the election season. Total "Likes" on FaceBook are currently 516 with 536 users following our page, indicating that this outreach tool is reaching well beyond the membership base.

## **Drinks & Dialogue - Chairpersons Susan Stall, Heather Cunningham**

Drinks & Dialog is a monthly evening social event to learn about a current local, state or national issue in the news. We invite a speaker knowledgeable about the central theme who leads the lively discussion and offers relevant advocacy. Topic, speaker and date are listed on the LWVOPRF website and in the weekly email blast.

We had a variety of speakers in 2017-2018 and averaged 10--14 attendees per month. In September we worked with a LWVOPRF team to create the successful panel on immigration, "Home is a Human Right." In October, Ben Aldred, a document librarian at UIC, spoke about "Facts and Questions about the US Census." November's program featured Carrie Chapman, Legal Council, DePaul University, presenting on "Recent Challenges to the Affordable Care Act." January's program entailed a poster-making party to prepare for the "Women's March to the Polls" on 1/20. The focus in February was "Program Planning for the LWVOPRF's Issues for 2018/2019." Dan Coy from American Promise shared his facts on "Getting the Money Out of Politics in March. In April we watched the film "Equal Means Equal" and followed with a discussion on the Equal Rights Amendment.

## **Environment – Chairperson Marsha Borders, Beverly Graham**

Committee Members: Kathy Balk, Leigh Eicher, Marilyn Cantisano, Tara Joyce, Victoria Rivera, Sally Stoval, Sarah Shirk

Our committee focused on working toward the elimination of single use plastic straws as part of an effort to raise awareness about the enormous amount of plastic in the ocean. Committee members visited 25 restaurants in the area and asked them to work toward getting rid of straws by first supplying them only upon request. Some thought their customers would want them because they didn't trust their glasses to be sanitary enough to drink out of. (This is not a rational argument as they don't drink coffee through a straw.) Nonetheless, they agreed to try by putting up handouts that we gave them from the Shedd Aquarium to "Shedd the Straw" which contained facts about plastic in the ocean. Restaurants where customers serve their own drinks from a machine put the flyer on the wall next to the straws, discouraging customers from using them. One restaurant owner who we followed up with said he had reduced the number of straws by 20%. As we continue to talk to them, we update them on the movement to eliminate straws across Europe, in Belize and Mexico.

Our League supported the One Earth Film Festival with a donation, and our members viewed several of the movies on different ecological issues.

The co-chairs went on a tour of The Shedd where we saw sculptures made entirely of plastic items that had washed up on the shore. They're beautiful at first glance, but upon closer inspection, people are horrified to see what they are made of. Point well made.

The committee represented the League at the OP Earth Day Event where 76 attendees took a survey about straws. We spoke to lots of people who are in agreement with our goal. We had a raffle where the prize was paper, metal and bamboo reusable straws. The results of the survey are still being compiled.

## **Fundraising – Chairperson Beverly Graham**

Shop N Share days were held at the Good Earth Greenhouse in May. We thank them for helping provide an enjoyable time for shopping while raising money for our League.

## **State of the Villages Event – Coming in 2019!**

## **International Relations –Chairpersons Jean Peterman, Carolyn DeCoursey**

The International Relations Committee sponsored the Great Decisions program again this year. The discussions were held at three locations: Maze Library, Brookdale Senior Living and the River Forest Library. Between 35 and 40 people have been regular attendees at the discussions. About 10 people chose to view the DVD version of the program. The topics being discussed this year include democracy in South Africa, media and foreign policy, global health, and the geopolitical influence of China and the U.S.

The committee thanks Ann Marohn (Brookdale,) the River Forest Library staff and the rotating leaders at Maze Library for facilitating the discussions.

## **League Matters – Editor Peggy Kell**

The League Matters newsletter continues to be sent out the first Monday of the month via email. We mail out copies to about 9 members. The newsletter is also posted on our website. Constant Contact allows us to gauge our members readership and also permits us to send out surveys and invites. Are you getting the newsletter on the first Monday of the month? Are you getting the Week in Preview emails the other Mondays? If you can't find your copy, go to our website to check out archived copies.

## **Membership Development - Chairpersons Marilyn Cantisano, Linda Bauer**

The Membership Committee has been committed to its goals that continue to be: to increase the numbers and diversity of our membership; and to contact all members, but especially new members to be sure they feel welcome, included and to encourage involvement in our organization.

Our Committee goals that are in alliance with the goals and priorities of the League

### **#4-Expand Membership and encourage participation in League activities though social media and informal social gatherings.**

The League has welcomed 18 new members since August 2017. This is a little disappointing after the surge of interest following the Nov. 2016 election. How do we keep the momentum and interest strong through Social Media? Facebook is used to announce events, but we still need to get the word out through other sites such as Mom Mail, etc. At a suggestion of a new member we began to have smaller informal wine and cheese gatherings for new and prospective members. We had one in July 2017 hosted by new member Jeanne Nohalty--17 people attended. And a second in November 2017 hosted by Marilyn Cantisano-- 19 people attended, 7 new members, 8 current members and 4 prospective members (3 of whom joined) At both events current board members attended and answered questions of new members, found out their interests and encouraged involvement.

In January a Members Coffee was a larger gathering for new, prospective and current members. 37 people attended, 32 current members and 6 prospective members (5 of whom joined) At this event we offered childcare so that young mothers would be able to attend. Featured were short summaries by committee chairs and our speaker Heather Cunningham who presented *"How the League Chooses and Advocates for Issues"*.

### **# 5 Encourage participation and engage all members in League advocacy and priorities.**

We continue to contact each new member to personally welcome them to our organization. We also continue to offer a mentoring program whereby current members phoned or emailed new members to act as their resource person and to help them become involved in our local League. Every new member receives a personal email welcoming them to the League. They also receive a Welcome Packet, which includes the membership directory. In the email they are asked their interests and if they would like a current member to contact them and if so, a resource person or committee chair is given their name.

On Sunday June 6, 2017 the Membership Committee had a booth for The League of Women Voters at Day in Our Village in Oak Park. Although this only brought in a couple of new members, it did increase our visibility in the community. We will secure a booth for 2018 as well.

We would like to thank all who have given time and input to the Membership Committee: Kathy Balk, Heather Cunningham, Joan Fiscella, Jeanne Nohalty, Beverly Graham, Peggy Kell, Mary Cay Murray, Joan Petertil, Sandra Sokol, Marsha Borders, Leigh Eicher, Donald Ellek, Victoria Isaza-Rivera, Alyssa Ralston and Marge Massarello.

## **Observers – Chairperson Mary Haley**

The LWVOPRF provided observers at school board meetings in District 90, District 97, District 200 and Triton Community College. Observers also reported on board meetings of the Oak Park Park District. The committee was not able to send observers to meetings of the Oak Park Public Library, the Village of Oak Park Trustees, the River Forest Village Board, the River Forest Library or the River Forest Park District that had been covered in previous years.

This year the committee agreed to change the format of its reports. The goal was to make them more focused on a few major issues before each board rather than a summary of the entire meeting.

Thanks are due to Joan Fiscella, Suzanne Issacson, Ameri Klafeta, Kathleen Perry and Diana Shea for their work.

## **Second Tuesday –Chairpersons Glynne Gervais, Stephen Jordan, Judith McDevitt**

It's been a busy year with ten presentations! Our biggest event was our 2017-18 program kickoff September 19 at the Oak Park Library in partnership with Drinks & Dialogue. We continued with eight more monthly events on topics of local and regional interest, most related to League program positions. We will conclude the program year with a Think Tank on June 12. What are YOUR ideas and suggestions for topics, speakers, and publicity venues for next year? Topics in 2017-18 were:

- Home is a Human Right – An Immigration Update (film and panel discussion)
- Ensuring Civics Education in Our Public Schools (State Representative Camille Lilly)
- And How Are the Children? Improving Outcomes for Children and Youth (Linda Francis, Success of All Youth, OPRF Community Foundation)
- Growing Arbor West Neighbors (Barbara Bodner and Susan Stall, AWN Board)
- Affordable Housing in Our Communities: How Are We Doing? (Rob Breymaier, Oak Park Regional Housing Center)
- Township Senior Services in Our Villages: Scope, Gaps, Trends, and Challenges (Pamela Mahn, Oak Park and River Forest Townships)
- Sarah's Inn: Ending Domestic Violence (Colleen Sutkus, Sarah's Inn)
- What's Doing This Summer for D97 Kids? Tracy Dell'Angela Barber, Oak Park Education Foundation)
- What Does Your Township Do for You? (Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township)
- Dive Into Our Think Tank: Your Ideas for Topics, Issues, and Speakers for 2018-19

We thank the Nineteenth Century Charitable Association and the Oak Park Library for providing meeting space in support of our programs.

## **Voter Service – Chairperson Peggy Kell**

In October, we had a presentation by representatives of ISBE and the Cook County Clerk's Office on voting security, the Automatic Voter Registration Law, and interstate voter checking systems. Voter Registration was done in January at Oak Park-River Forest H.S., February at Fenwick, and April at Trinity High School. Overall we registered over 210 students at the area high schools. We partnered with other organizations to allow our members to participate in Deputy Registrar training. Many thanks to our dedicated group of Deputy Registrars!

**League of Women Voters of Oak Park & River Forest**  
**Program Positions are listed in our directory**

**Oak Park River Forest League of Women Voters  
Proposed Program 2017-2018**

Focus/Priority

- *Improve local League website, electronic, and media communications to serve as a resource to foster transparency and participation in government.*
  - Recorded all membership information in local and US databases.
  - Continued publication of weekly email and monthly newsletters to members.
  - Continued weekly updates to website with calendar, observer reports, upcoming events and photos
- *Develop programs/speakers on timely issues as suggested by the Board of Directors or other members.*
  - Discussions of foreign policy issues through Great Discussions.
  - Organized speakers on topics such as the census and electoral college.
  - Held sign making event for the Women's March.
  - Held ten Second Tuesday free public forums on topics related to LWVOPRF's 2017-2018 Program and Program Positions.
- *Continue our voter service efforts to register and provide information to voters.*
  - Organized program on voting rights with taping for online viewing.
  - Partnered with other organizations to promote Deputy Registrar training.
  - Organized high school voter registration drives at OPRF and Fenwick.
- *Expand membership and encourage participation in League activities through social media and informal social gatherings.*
  - Welcomed 18 new members since August 2017.
  - Recruited new members through Drinks and Dialogues and Second Tuesday public forums.
  - Held small wine and cheese gatherings for new and prospective members
  - Members Coffee held in January 2018; provided childcare for attendees.
  - Had booth at Day in Our Village (June 6, 2017) to increase visibility in the community and to recruit new members.
- *Encourage participation and engage all members in League advocacy and priorities.*
  - Met with Rep. Lilly, Rep. Ford, Rep. Welch, Sen. Lightford and Sen. Harmon
  - Speaker Heather Cunningham gave presentation, "How the League Chooses and Advocates for Issues."
  - Offered a mentoring program to all new members.
  - Sent a Welcome Packet to all new members that included membership directory and an opportunity to indicate their interests. This had been followed up by contact by the appropriate resource person and/or committee chair.

- *Partner with other community organizations to accomplish shared goals and to increase League visibility.*
  - Participated with Shedd Aquarium in the *Shedd the Straw* program.

Continuous/ Revised

- *Promote LWVIL tax and school finance positions within our communities and convene studies and discussions of local economic issues as needed.*
- *Provide support for the environment including sustainability and attention to water as a precious resource.*
  - Contacted over a dozen OP/RF restaurants to participate in the *Shedd the Straw* program.
  - Cosponsored *One Earth Film Festival*.
- *Continue to be the eyes and ears of our communities by strengthening our Observers Corps.*
  - Revised format for observer reports to make them more readable.
- *Maintain our involvement in coalitions to improve well-being of youth.*
  - Second Tuesday forums presented three programs on education and youth during the 2017-18 year.
- *Support archival development and oral history.*
  - Archive inventory updated in August 2017 to include new material added to holdings at OP/RF Historical Society
  - Archive inventory updated in September 2017 to include materials held at UIC covering the League in the 1920s and 30s.
  - Plans have been made to relocate UIC archives to the OP/RF Historical Society site.
  - LWV-IL material held in Oak Park was transferred to the LWV-IL.
- *Encourage and educate women on how to run for elected office.*

# League of Women Voters of Oak Park and River Forest

## Proposed Nominations for 2018-19

### President

Marge Massarello 2017-2019

### Vice Presidents

Kathy Balk 2018-2020

Mary Haley 2018-2020

Joan Petertil 2018-2019

### Secretary

Johan Walsh 2018-2019

### Treasurer

Sarah Shirk 2018-2020

### Directors

Leigh Eicher 2018-2020

Joan Fiscella 2018-2020

Michelle Fitz-Henry 2017-2019

Suzanne Isaacson 2017-2019

Fran Sampson 2018-2020

Judith McDevitt 2017-2019

### **Committee Chairs: For 2018-2019 to be appointed by the Board for one year terms. Chairs may be appointed multiple times.**

Administration

Peggy Kell

Advocacy

Diane Moses

Archives

Johan Walsh

Children and Youth

Sharon Stolz

Communication

Peggy Kell, Sarah Shirk

Drinks and Dialogue

Leslie Lauderdale, Maureen McLachlan

Environment

Marsha Border, Beverly Graham

Fundraising

Beverly Graham

Fundraising 2019 SOV

Vice Presidents

International Relations

Alex Matthews, Marie Jepson

League Matters

Peggy Kell

LWV-Cook Liaison

Beverly Graham

LWV-Lake Michigan Liaison

Sarah Shirk

Membership Development

Marissa Garza

Membership Recording

Leigh Eicher

Nominating Committee

Mary Haley

Observers

Glynne Gervais, Judith McDevitt, Stephen Jordan

Second Tuesday

Peggy Kell

Voter Services

Standing Committees to be appointed by the Board of Directors:

By-Laws, Financial Review, Political Activity Policy



## **Mary Rose Lambke 2018 Hazel Hanson Award Winner**

After obtaining a BSN in 1960, I stayed home to raise four children with my husband. After he died, I returned to nursing, doing public health nursing for 3 years, then graduate school UIC-CON to earn a Master of Science focusing on maternal child health. I went on as clinical instructor at West Suburban College of Nursing/Concordia University for 5 years, and formed my own work for 4 years facilitating childbirth preparation classes, doula services, and breastfeeding support. I was energized to participate nursing research at UIC-CON three years, while I taught knitting at NIna's in Chicago.

After retiring, nudged by a new friend, Bev Graham, I joined LWV OPRF to find a welcoming community of brilliant women dedicated to public education about our work as citizens. What took me so long? Excellent rewarding volunteer work in a host of roles: co-lead first with Bonnie Jordan, and then Dale and Marilyn Fitschen, the 2nd Tuesday roundtable discussions. I worked with Lois Love on Advocacy in visiting legislators, recruiting new members, and supported candidate forums. I enjoyed immensely being the league observer for the Oak Park Public Library Trustee Board Meetings for several years. Starting Mothers and Others For Peace, an education initiative about Julia Ward Howe's proclamation for Peace, with several friends and with gracious League support, has been a dream come true. A real bonus has been participation in my first book club; what fascinating books this group chooses to read! As I find myself doing a bit less, LWV is still an excellent connection to read all the LWV updates, locally and nationally, a supreme benefit of LWV membership.

I humbly accept this honor to be included with other Hanzel Hansen awardees from my beloved respected Leaguers. Thank you very much.

### **LWV MISSION STATEMENT**

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.