



Area

VOTER

May/June 2011

President's Corner

Sigi Psimenos

Dear Friends,

What a busy month we've had! While we got off to a bumpy start with the **carnival** arrangements, it turned into a truly successful community building event. We were delighted with the turnout of league volunteers both weekends, even though we were washed out the second one. You really stepped up to the plate and helped bring much needed funding to our league. We were also able to bring extra funding to the Elgin Public Museum and the YWCA. Special kudo's to members **Anthony Pedote** for overseeing this event, and **Dennis Schwank** for handling the financing plus lots of volunteer hours-outstanding job! The funds from the events we do will be used for our studies, guest speakers, films, and the events we'd like to host without raising our annual dues.

While I'm on the subject of raising funds, we're looking forward to possibly hosting **another event in October** with an Oktoberfest,

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Don't miss our calendar of "Upcoming Events" on page 2

Online readers try this:

Download the file to your computer and open the document using Adobe's free Acrobat pdf viewer.

This gives you the flexibility to zoom in to a size that's comfortable for you to read ("Actual Size" is my fave for Voter).

Plus you'll be able to navigate by clicking the bookmarks & hyperlinks, for instance the Table of Contents, any of the contact emails, or "see Page ___"

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Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Place	Description
Friday, June 10, 2011 - Sunday, June 12, 2011	8:00AM	Holiday Inn North Shore Skokie, Illinois	LWVIL State Convention. Annual State Convention of the LWVIL
Wednesday, June 15, 2011	7:00pm	Tyler Towers Clubhouse 1450 Plymouth Ln, Elgin, IL 60123	Board Meeting. Attend this action-oriented meeting to bring our local programs alive. Key community issues are always discussed in a non-partisan manner.
Saturday, September 17, 2011-Saturday, October 15, 2011	9:00am-12:00pm	Elgin YWCA, 220 East Chicago Street, Elgin, IL 60120	How to Run for Public Office: A Woman's Focus.
		<p>Are you interested in becoming a civic leader? Let us help you.</p> <p>The YWCA Elgin and the League of Women Voters of Elgin/Carpentersville are offering a four week workshop that will help participants understand the process of becoming a civic leader and how to achieve this goal.</p> <p>The program is scheduled to occur over the course of four (4) weekends, from 9:00am - 12:00pm each day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday, September 17th - Saturday, September 24th - Saturday, October 1st - Saturday, October 15th <p>- Early Bird Registration: \$90.00 (deadline: July 1, 2011) - Registration Fee: \$120.00 after July 1, 2011</p> <p>For more information, or to register, visit www.ywcaelgin.org or call the YWCA Elgin at 847.742.7930</p>	
Wednesday, December 14, 2011	TBD	The Anvil Club, 309 Meier Ave, East Dundee, IL 60118	LWV Annual Holiday Dinner. Join us for the League's annual holiday dinner on Wednesday, December 14th, 2011 at the Anvil Club. Additional details to be provided.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Would you like to serve on the **Community Garden Network Committee?** If so, please contact Donna Askins at donna.askins@gmail.com or 815.751.2799.

League Committee Members are needed for the **Elgin City Council Study.** Contact Wendy Covich at w.covich@dla-ltd.com



2011 YWCA Leader Luncheon Award Winners (from left to right):

Corporate Award – First Community Bank, Arts – Mary Hatch, Business and Professions – Carole Medal, Communications/Technology – Tonya Hudson, Education – Rise Dawn Jones, PhD, Public Service – Janet Poyner, Social Service – Siobhan Carney Cottone, Volunteer/Community Service – Sigi Psimenos, Racial Justice Award – Helen Lopez Strom.

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and/or Carnivale, theme and once again partnering with another local not for profit. We'd like to host these in conjunction with a voter registration drive, and educational portion explaining what we as a league do.

This weekend is the LWVIL State Convention in Skokie, June 17,18 & 19. Wendy Covich, Fran Cella, Anthony Pedote & I will be attending. Janet Poyner was scheduled to also come with us but just underwent another chemo session so while she's feeling great today, she said she'll be zapped by the weekend. Our best wishes go to Janet and a big 'thank you' for hand making our silent auction gift basket holding our contribution. With Janet not attending, this leaves a spot open and we'd like to have one of you join us if you can-the reservation, classes & meals have already been paid for by us. We'll be carpooling up daily, so please let me know asap. Check out this site for additional info <http://www.lwvil.org/convention2011.asp>

On another note, the YWCA held their annual Leader Luncheon a few weeks ago. Janet Poyner & I both won highly prized awards in our respective categories (check out the pictures). I'd like to personally 'thank you', my league friends, for nominating me. I was, and am, very touched by this great honor.

In League,

Sigi

PS Please take a look at our updated "2011-2012 Board of Directors, Committees & Programs" on page 4 in the following pages. If there's a particular topic that you are passionate about, simply contact the chair and let them know you have some interest. Believe me, there's something for everyone and they'd love to hear from you. Also, don't forget to pay your league dues- Dennis will be contacting you with a reminder.

2011-2012

Board of Directors, Committees & Programs

Board of Directors

Name	Office	Term
Sigi Psimenos	President	2010-2012
Wendy Covich	1st Vice President	2011-2013
Loni Mecum	2nd Vice President	2010-2012
John Bordsen	Secretary	2011-2013
Dennis Schwank	Treasurer	2010-2012
Janet Poyner	Board Member	2011-2013
Kaye Gamble	Board Member	2011-2013
Myra Becker	Board Member	2010-2012
Diane Robertson	Board Member	2011-2013
Bonnie Kalaway	Board Member	2010-2012
Carol Grom	Board Member	2011-2013
Shirley May Byrnes	Appointed	2011-2012
Francine Cella	Appointed	2011-2012
Debbie Miller	Appointed	2011-2012

Committees

Nominating Committee for 2012

Roberta Nauman (Chair), Donna Askins & Board Appointed TBD

Standing Committees

Bonnie Kalaway	Dundee Rutland Township	847-426-0326
Sigi Psimenos	Action	312-953-8216
Sandy Kaptain	Climate Change	847-741-7375
Laurel Bault	Education	847-666-7664
Debbie Miller	Healthcare	847-888-8186
Janet Poyner	International Relations	847-695-7122
Myra Becker	Mental Healthcare	847-741-2780
Anne Schneck	Parks & Open Spaces	847-741-5088
Fran Cella	Redistricting	847-571-5271

Continued on page 5

2011 YWCA Leader Luncheon Award Winner for *Volunteer/Community Service: Sigi Psimenos (center)*

Also pictured: YWCA Elgin CEO - Julia A. McClendon and Board of Directors Chair Loni Mecum



Continued from page 4

Member Services

Dennis Schwank	Finance/Fundraising	847-697-5507
Membership	Janet Poyner	847-695-7122
Laurel Bault	Observer Corp	847-666-7664
Mark McGinnis	Precinct Coordinator	847-697-1512
Sigi Psimenos	Public Relations	312-953-8216
Dodie Williams	Special Events	847-515-3925
Phyllis Gryzinski	Member Communications	630-289-5996
Wendy Covich	Voter	847-741-7429
Betsy Thrasher/Kaye Gamble	Voter Services & Voter Guide	847-836-0822
Bonnie Schwank	Voter Registration	847-697-5507
John Bordsen	Webmaster	630-817-5646

Program Chairs 2011-2012

Myra Becker	Local, State & National Program Chairperson	847-741-2780
Wendy Covich	Study-Electing Elgin's City Council Members	847-741-7429
Loni Mecum	How to Run for Public Office	847-888-1041
Myra Becker	Monitor Mental Health Issues	847-741-2780
Carol Grom	Gravel Mining - Brunner Property	847-428-4064
Donna Askins	Community Garden Project	847-695-7072
Laurel Bault	Study-Role of Federal Government in Public Education	847-666-7664
John Bordsen & Sigi Psimenos, Elgin SMP-Outreach; Janet Poyner- SMP-Recycling; Wendy Covich, SMP-Alternative Energy (City of Elgin's Sustainable Master Planning Committees)		

Registrar Renewal Info

Bonnie Schwank

On May 18, Bonnie and Dennis conducted a **Voter Registration** at the Heritage Woods Assisted Living facility in South Elgin. To participate in these great events, you simply need register as a Deputy Registrar.

Cook County Residents: call the Cook County Clerk's office at (312) 603-0987 for specific instructions. You can learn more at this section of their website: www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections/register tovote/Pages/DeputyRegistrar.aspx

If you reside in Kane County, you should first contact our President, **Sigi Psimenos**. She will provide you with a letter stating that you are a bona fide member in good standing of the LWVEA. If you missed renewing or this is your first time, you will be required to take the one hour training. There is some additional info at www.kanecountyelections.org.

If you have reapplied as a registrar recently, please let Bonnie know, so that you can be added to our list of duly sworn deputy registrars. You know you are 'legal' if you received a certificate in the mail in the past few weeks.

Any questions, contact **Bonnie** at (847) 697-5507.

Reminder: Membership Dues

Dennis Schwank

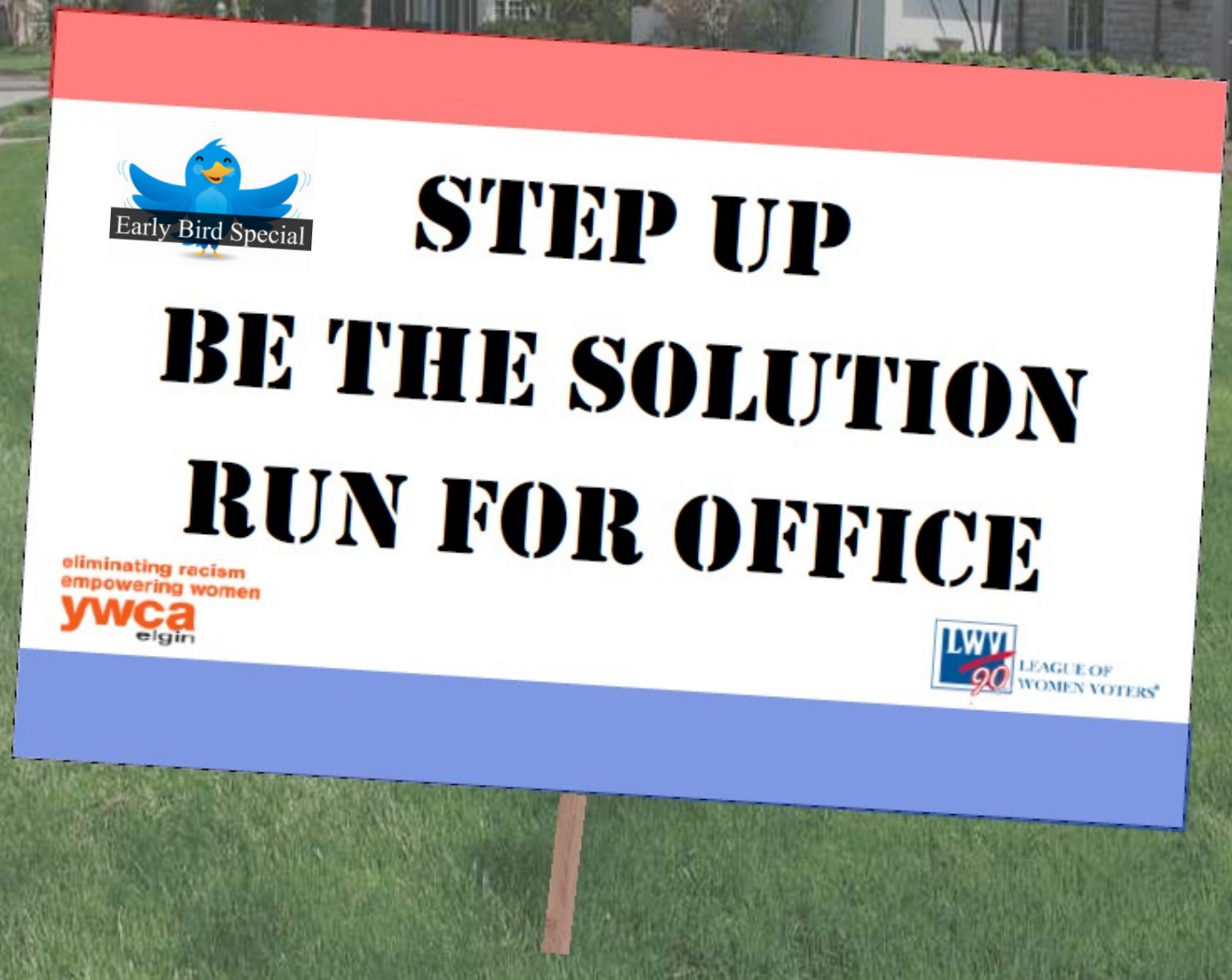
If you haven't yet renewed your membership, please take a minute to write a check to LWVEA for \$60, if an individual member, or \$90, if a household. Of course, you may want to add a little, as some of us do, as a contribution to our worthy cause.

Please remit to: D SCHWANK
 1034 RIVIERA DR
 ELGIN IL 60124-3120

Questions or comments? Please contact **Dennis Schwank**, Treasurer, LWVEA at (847) 697-5507.

2011 YWCA Leader Luncheon Award Winner for Public Service – Janet Poyner.





How to Run for Office: a Woman's Focus

Are you interested in becoming a civic leader? Let us help you.

The YWCA Elgin and the League of Women Voters of Elgin/Carpentersville are offering a four week workshop that will help participants understand the process of becoming a civic leader and how to achieve this goal.

September 17, 2011 • September 24, 2011 • October 1, 2011 • October 15, 2011

Nuts and Bolts of Running for Public Office • Building Your Leadership Team • Fundraising Activities • Mobilize to Win Election Day

9:00am - 12:00pm

YWCA Elgin, 220 E. Chicago St., Elgin, IL 60120

Registration Fee: \$120.00 after July 1, 2011



Act Now! - Early Bird Registration: \$90.00 (deadline: July 1, 2011)



For more information or to register visit ywcaelgin.org or call the YWCA Elgin at 847.742.7930



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Owner-Stephen Ambrose
Manager-George A. Lerret

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Garden Center Location
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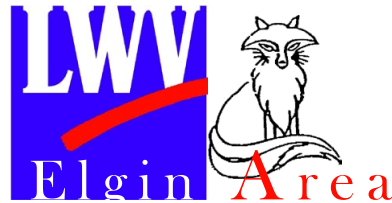
2nd Location
1700 W. Main St.
Sleepy Hollow, Illinois
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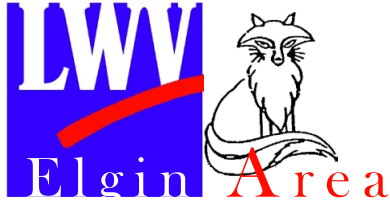
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Jack Shales
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The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase the understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through citizen education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters of the Elgin Area invites you to become a member of this active, grass-roots oriented organization. Membership costs: \$60 Individual; \$90 Household; \$30 Student.

To join, please send this form and your payment payable to: League of Women Voters of the Elgin Area, 569 Franklin Blvd., Elgin, IL 60120

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

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Email: _____

www.kctcu.org

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The Elgin Area League thanks our 2011 - 2012 Patrons for their support.



League of Women Voters of the Elgin Area
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