



**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS**

League of Women Voters of Greater Rockford

Rockford VOTER

November 2014

Holiday Party



Check us out on
Facebook!

[Holiday Party Information](#)

**League of Women Voters of Greater Rockford
Holiday Party
Come Shop, eat, drink and be merry with fellow League
members.**

**Where: JustGoods Fair Trade Marketplace
201 7th Street**

2027th Street
Rockford, IL 61104
815-965-8903
<http://justgoods.info/>

When: December 14, 2014
2pm - 5pm

Cost: \$15.00
Bring a friend!

We have reserved the Listening Room at JustGoods for an afternoon of shopping, dining and wonderful company. 10% of the sales from our event will be donated to our League.

Wine and other beverages will be provided, you are welcome to bring a hors d'oeuvre or sweet treat to share, but not required.

RSVP's appreciated by December 10th to lvvgr22@gmail.com

JustGoods is a not-for-profit fair trade store located in the Midtown District of Rockford Illinois. A project started by [Rockford Urban Ministries](#) in 2006, JustGoods is dedicated to promoting ecologically and socially responsible purchasing to better our community. Their fair trade products come from approximately 25 different countries representing almost all the continents in the world.

LEAGUE NEWS

MEETINGS:

VOTER SERVICE
COMMITTEE: first
Thursday, 8am,
Stockholm Inn

LWVGR BOARD
MEETING: Second
Monday, @ 5:30pm all
are welcome.

HEALTH CARE
COMMITTEE: Second
Thursday @ 5:30 pm.

Letter from our President

Dear League Members,

It has been a privilege to serve as President for the past year and a half. I have especially enjoyed working with the Board, committee chairs and members to move the League forward. Because of your efforts, there are hundreds of new voters registered in our community and people are more informed from the events and forums that have been presented. Thanks to all of you who have made such a positive difference for the League and our community.

Unfortunately, I am not able to complete my term in this office. I look forward to continuing to serve the League in other ways.

Best regards to all,

Ann

LWVGR and the RRStar

[Faye Marcus](#)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:
2nd Wednesday, at noon,
Katie's Cup or Sockholm
Inn @ 5:30.

EDUCATION:
3rd Tuesday @
Stockholm Inn @ 9am

ENVIRONMENTAL
ISSUES:
4th Tuesday@ 11:30am
at Katie's Cup

COMMUNICATIONS:
2nd Tuesday @ Katie's
Cup

MEMBER SERVICES:
1st Friday @ Ojedas @
11:30 am

CAMPAIGN FINANCE
REFORM:
3rd Tuesday @ 6 @
Meg's.

Check out this great article from the RRStar!

Website / Paypal:

Have you checked out our website? You can now join/renew the League of Women Voter's of Greater Rockford on our website, including using Paypal! You can also make donations using Paypal.

STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Jeanne Claeys, Voter Service Chair

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 4, 2014, 8:00 a.m., Stockholm Inn

Activities Through December: In October Susan Janson mailed 240 postcards to 17-year old students we had registered to vote in February reminding them to vote November 4. Susan had received a National League grant to convince 17 year olds to register and vote. On November 4 the Rockford Register Star included a photo and article re Allison Tennant, a Hononegah High School senior who turned eighteen on Election Day.

In December we plan to concentrate on updating our Deputy Registrar list.

We were concerned but relieved to learn that Voter Service members Jane McAfee and Jane Kelley were on the mend. Jane McAfee, who now lives in Ft. Collins, Colorado, is recovering from a heart attack and is now recuperating at her apartment. She loves to receive cards or hear from League members. Jane Kelley is home recovering from hip replacement and is doing fine.

Remember to sign up for the League's holiday party Sunday, December 14, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at The Just Goods Store - a chance to shop, to eat, drink, and be merry, and to help the League with its scholarship fund.

Members: Jeanne Claeys, Diane Cushing, Wanda Hoover, Elsie Janson , Susan Janson, Jane Kelley, Dyanna Walker, Janie Wilson-Cook

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Diane Cushing, chair

No report.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Communications: The League now has 118 followers on our Facebook page. Please visit it and if you haven't already, 'like' it. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/LeagueOfWomenVotersOfGreaterRockford>

Janie Wilson-Cook continues to update our website, www.lwvgr.org, listing the week's and other upcoming events. Teresa Hill welcomes interesting articles for the Voter on League matters. We are also making an effort to get out 'This Week in the League'. Please let us know if you're not receiving it or other updates via the list server.

Extremely important!!! If your committee meeting information has changed or you have something of interest to add, please let Claire McIntyre know at lwvgr22@gmail.com.

RRStar articles- Our next article will appear on Dec. 7th and will focus on SB 16 and its impact. SB 16 is the School Funding Reform Act of 2014. We now have six League members who are willing to help research and/or write articles. We welcome other League members who may have an interest in doing so. Please contact lwvgr22@gmail.com to let us know.

ISSUES AND ACTIONS COMMITTEES

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

Elaine Pfluger, Chair

No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Diane Cushing, Chair

No report.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Claire McIntyre, Chair

The education committee met to work on the questions raised at the charter school study meeting. The next study meeting will be Nov. 17th.

charter school accountability meeting. The next study meeting will be held on
5:30 PM, at the Stockholm Inn. Joel Cowen will lead the discussion on
charter school accountability. All League members are encouraged to
attend as we need a good turn out for the consensus meeting on Dec.
15th. The study groups will help us in making an informed decision as
we answer the consensus questions.

There will be no December committee meeting and will meet again on
January 20, 2015 at 9 am at the Stockholm Inn.

Submitted by Claire McIntyre, Chair

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Paula Lind, chair

No report.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Elizabeth Lindquist, chair

On October 22, the committee hosted a very informative and well
attended forum on whether a national Article V Convention to amend
the US Constitution is needed. Dr. Scott LaDeur from the Political Science
Department of NIU gave a brief overview of the history of the Article V
Convention and argued the con side of whether one is needed or wise.
In his opinion, one of the greatest dangers was a 'runaway' convention
with other amendment proposals being tacked on to the original intent
of the convention.

Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia (Aurora), the IL House sponsor of SJR 42, argued
in favor of the need to hold such a convention. She cited the
overwhelming impact of money in politics since the US Supreme Court's
Citizen United decision.

League member and moderator Marilyn Hite-Ross brought her own
background in Constitutional Law to fully explain the scope of Citizens
United, helping to better frame the discussion. One thing all participants
agreed on was that without an amendment overturning Citizens United
or any Supreme Court ruling would be unlikely.

The League would like to thank Dr. LaDeur, Rep. Chapa LaVia, and
Attorney Hite-Ross for contributing to this successful evening.

The next committee meeting is Dec. 16th, at 6 PM at Meg's Daily Grind
at 3885 N. Perryville Rd. All League members are welcome.

New Voter Deadline: 2nd Wednesday of the month.

LWVGR CONTACTS

President: Ann Dempsey - adempsey@oliverclose.com

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The purpose of the LWVGR shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.