



League of Women Voters of Greater Rockford

DONNA BRAZILE

speaks in Rockford on
October 19.

There is still time to reserve
your place at the Taus fund
raiser. Ann Powell is
collecting the mone.

The dinner is at
Clifbreakers on Friday,
October 19. Tickets cost
\$75 each.

Ms. Brazile is an on air
contributor for CNN and
ABC, a columnist of O, The
Oprah Magazine, an
adjunct professor at
Gerogetown University and
a best-selling author of
"Cooking with Grease: A
Memoir"

Rockford VOTER

October 2012

SAVE THE DATE

HOLIDAY/90 YEARS PARTY
DECEMBER 8, 2012 - 9:00A.M.
BREAKFAST AT GIOVANNI'S RESTAURANT
610 N. BELL SCHOOL RD.

SPEAKER: Our very own DOUG SCOTT

We hope to make this a special event by inviting elected
officials and celebrating our 90 year anniversary

\$20 - check to Ann Powell confirms your reservation
(4040 Pepper, Rockford, 61114)

Rides will be available for those who need one - contact
Diane Cushing (815-877-2386)

We need your check by Dec. 5 to confirm #s with
Giovanni's.

Planning committee: Diane Cushing, Susan Janson, Claire
McIntyre, Jeanne Claeys

Education Committee

After a great deal of discussion, the committee voted to
recommend to the Board of Directors that a Letter to the

MEETINGS:

VOTER SERVICE
COMMITTEE:

LWVGR BOARD
MEETING: the
second Monday,
North Suburban
Library, 5:00.

HEALTH CARE
COMMITTEE: third
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.
P.A.Peterson

IR COMMITTEE:

LOCAL
GOVERNMENT:

EDUCATION:

ENVIRONMENTAL
ISSUES:

Editor be written that would:

Acknowledge and support bond referendum. The rationale for the letter is: The need for more money by the district to repair schools is great, especially as the state has no money for capital funding. However, we support close monitoring of the funds, particularly with potential changes in the make up of school board with the upcoming April elections.

The League co-sponsored a candidate forum focusing on education with the Booker T. Washington Center on Thursday, Sept. 20th. The invited candidates represented the 67th and 68th House districts and the 34th Senate district. League member Sue Stephens moderated questions from a panel that consisted of local education and community members representing District 205, Rock Valley College, the NAACP, and the Rockford Register Star. Jane McAfee and Teresa Hill timed. Approximately 50 people attended.

REMINDER!

On **OCT. 20th**, the League will meet to discuss the materials on the Pension Consensus. We will have Sandra Bartholomey, one of the LWVIL Pension Study committee members, with us to answer questions and guide the discussion. She has asked that all who attend please read the materials beforehand. Her purpose for being there is to clarify any questions that we may have on what we've already read. You may access the pension materials at www.lwvil.org. We will meet at the Stockholm Inn at 10 am. For more information, please contact Claire McIntyre at claire.f.mcintyre@gmail.com.

The actual pension consensus is scheduled for **Nov. 7th** at the North Suburban Library at 6:30 pm. League member Joan Morton will lead the consensus.

Membership:

Three members of the League attended the Membership and Leadership Training in Skokie on Sept. 8 and 9th. The

training was led by a team of national League members and focused on strategies to recruit new members and develop leadership skills among existing League members so that there is a chain of future leaders, thereby improving both the visibility and viability of the League. LWVGR was assigned a state contact, LWVIL board member Paula Ekstrom, who will call monthly for updates and to offer support and suggestions.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT EXPLAINED

Joel Cowen is presenting "Unlocking the Affordable Care Act" on **October 23** at the North Suburban Library at 6:30.

This power point presentation and 'q and a' is free and open to the public. Tell your friends who are interested in health insurance and health care.

FYI

A second candidate is running for the 16th District Congressional seat. Following is information available about that candidate.

Wanda Rohl, a Democrat running for Illinois Congressperson in the 16th District, depends on a wheelchair to get around. Because of a rollover accident in 2003 that left her a paraplegic, she lost her full-time employment along with her insurance, putting her and her family in dire straits.

During these rough times, Wanda became well acquainted with social service networks including Medicare, Social Security, the Department of Rehabilitation, Meals on Wheels, and free school lunch programs for her children. Through Pell Grants, she returned to school and earned degrees to become a counselor and social worker so that she could help others.

As stated in Wanda's website, "The National Bureau of Economics has found that one of every seven Americans would be poor without the safety net our nation has in place." She no longer needs help from these social service programs; but using the degrees she earned with the help of these programs, she works for their survival and maintenance so that they will continue to be available to everyone who needs them now or will need them in the future.

Contributed by Marj Trigg

LWVGR CONTACTS

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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.

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