



# The Voter

A Publication by the League of Women Voters  
of Ames, IA  
May 2007



Joyce Hertz shown with presenters  
Judy Clem and Ann Campbell

## Hertz Honored with Catt Award

(Continued on page 2)

## From the President

Spring Greetings! Or should I say summer....we've had some pretty warm days lately. I hope you are feeling energized by the lush green grass, flowering trees and bright sunshine.

The 2007-08 year for the Ames League is off to an energized start with the annual meeting held on April 28. The turnout was excellent with 44 members in attendance. A huge thank you to everyone who combined efforts to make the event a success. In addition to the necessary business items, the Carrie Chapman Catt Award was presented to the very deserving Joyce Hertz; we enjoyed an excellent recap of the 2006 Ukraine Civic Hosting Program (thanks to Selva Lehman and Nancy Brown); and were surprised with a skit about the Ready to Run Conference (thanks to Martha Isaacson, Julie Snyder-Yuly, Tom Jackson and Sharon Wirth).

With the annual meeting and election of new board members completed, we are moving quickly into the participation in the LWVUS Immigration Study. The 13 participating members will begin meeting during the week of May 7<sup>th</sup> and continue through the summer. Consensus is Feb., 2008. May 17 is our salad supper and general meeting focusing on the year at the Legislature.

June promises to be busy with the Ready to Run Conference (June 1<sup>st</sup>), State Convention on June 2 and the June 14<sup>th</sup> Tune Into Main Street event. It is my hope that each of you will participate in one or more of these activities.

## Mark Your Calendar

### General Meeting

**May 17 (Thursday) 6:00 MP Salad Supper,  
7 PM Program**

### General Meeting and Salad Supper:

**This Year at the Legislature** by Todd Dorman  
Northminster Presbyterian Church Fireplace Room -  
1416 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Ames

**PLEASE READ DETAILS ON PAGE 4**

### Book Club

**May 23 at 1:30 PM**

*The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*  
by Anne Fadiman  
led by Barbara Gwiasda at Joyce Hertz,  
2803 Torrie Pines Circle.

### Board Meeting/Retreat

**June 5, 2007**

*Place to be announced later*

### 2007 Convention of The League of Women Voters of Iowa

**June 2, 2007**

*at the Holiday Inn in Cedar Falls, Iowa.*

### Other Dates of Interest

**READY TO RUN™:**

**CAMPAIGN TRAINING FOR WOMEN**

**Friday, June 1, 2007 8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.**

*Scheman Center, Iowa State University*

### Inside this issue:

Catt Award	2
Elected Board 2007-2008	2
Volunteer opportunity	2
Splash, Splash . .	3
Iowa Convention 2007	3
Ready to Run Conference	3
May 17 Salad Supper	4
Immigration Study Report	4
A Thank you from Joyce	4
New Board Member	5

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1) **HERTZ**

For fifteen years the League of Women Voters of Ames has been recognizing outstanding League members with the Carrie Chapman Catt Award. Service in the League as well as the community are the selection criteria.

At the April 28 annual meeting of the League of Women Voters, Joyce Hertz was selected as this year's award winner.

Joyce is unique in League history because she has served as its president for two different terms, She was president in 1988-89 and now is just completing the 2006-07 term as co-president. Additionally she has chaired a number of League study committees.

During the interval between her service as League president she served one term on the Ames City Council and has been instrumental in a number of housing projects on the local and national level. A founding member and the first president of the Story County Community Land Trust led her to become the regional representative to the National Institute for Community Economics.

Additionally she has played leadership roles in the United Church of Christ-Congregational and is currently actively involved in AMOS, an ecumenical community action group for justice.

(Continued from page 1) **From the President**

The Ready to Run Conference is for anyone who is considering seeking public office or working on a campaign. What a great opportunity to learn about fundraising, how to run a campaign, and more. The State Convention will be held in Cedar Falls on June 3. This is an opportunity to spend some time with League members from around the State, hear about their activities, make new friends and hear from Marsha Ternus, Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court. On June 14 your League will be hosting the Water Balloon Splash Attack activity at the Tune Into Main Street event at Tom Evans Park. This is a new outreach activity for the League.

Opportunities exist for active involvement with the Ready to Run Conference and the Tune Into Main Street event. We need volunteers to assemble notebooks, staff tables, hand out brochures, sell tickets, and chase balls. Give me a call or send an email if you can help with these June events. Both of these events are good ways to get to know your fellow League members, have some fun together and further the League goals. What a deal!

*Sharon Wirth*

## 2007-2008 Board Elected at Annual Meeting

<b>President</b>	Sharon Wirth
<b>President Elect</b>	Lauris Olson
<b>Secretary</b>	Barbara Munson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jackie Manatt
<b>Co-Meeting Planners</b>	Barbara Gwiasda Jeannette Bohnenkamp
<b>Voter Ed. \ Webmaster</b>	Selva R. Lehman
<b>Membership</b>	Judy Dolphin
<b>Publicity</b>	Jim Popken
<b>Co-Observer Corps</b>	Sandra McJimsey Meg Tait



*Seated l. to r.: Jim Popken, Karen Bolluyt, Lauris Olson  
Back: Judy Dolphin, Selva Lehman, Jackie Manatt, Barbara Gwiasda, Barbara Manson, Sharon Wirth, Jeannette Bohnenkamp*

<b>Finance</b>	Karen Bolluyt Alissa Stoehr
<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Betty Baird Joyce Hertz

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED . . .

... to help us get ready for the **JUNE** events. If you can help with these June events by assembling notebooks, staffing tables, handing out brochures, selling tickets, or chasing balls, please give Sharon Wirth a call at 233-2415 or send an email to [sharonwirth@yahoo.com](mailto:sharonwirth@yahoo.com) .

## Splish, Splash, Boogie and Chat... Turn out at Tune Into Main Street and help us promote Ames LWV

Plan on attending the Tune In to Main Street party from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 14, in Tom Evans Park in the 400 block of Main Street. The featured non-profit groups for the evening are your own Ames League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women.

We will be passing out information, recruiting members and increasing awareness using a combination of traditional and alternative methods. Some of us will be staffing an information table and chatting up members of the crowd. Others will be operating the Water Balloon Splash Attack, where people can try to break water balloons over the heads of some of our members and willing elected officials.

BeJae Fleming and her band will be playing jazz that night, a food vendor or two will be on hand to serve those who don't want to pack a picnic for the evening, and the Main Street Cultural District will have an interactive activity for the kids.

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF IOWA

### Convention 2007

**June 2, 2007 at  
the Holiday Inn in Cedar Falls, Iowa.  
9 AM to 3:30 PM**

**Workshops, a business session and a speech  
by Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court  
Marsha Ternus will be part of the convention  
agenda.**

The day's agenda will include our usual business of adopting program, a budget, a couple of proposed bylaws amendments, and electing officers and directors. There will also be reports on the 2007 session of the Iowa Legislature and the "State of the State League".

They have planned two workshops as part of the convention proceedings. The workshops will cover the United Nations and the League's role, and the caucus process.

The keynote address will be given by Marsha Ternus, Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court and there will be a short presentation depicting Lou Henry Hoover.

Please contact Sharon Wirth if you would like to attend Convention.

## Ready to Run Conference is Taking Shape

Ready to Run, Campaign training for women will take place on June 1 from 8-5:30 at the Scheman Center at Iowa State University. This event is sponsored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics and the LWV of Ames. Details are quickly falling into place. To date, confirmed speakers are Mary Ann Spicer, Polk County Republicans; State Representative Carmine Boal (R-Ankeny); Ann Campbell, Mayor of Ames; Maggie Tinsman, former state senator from Davenport; Mary Kramer, former state senator, senate president and ambassador to Barbados; and Christine Hensley, Des Moines City Councilmember.

This one day non-partisan program is for anyone considering seeking elected or appointed office, working on a campaign or becoming more active in the political process. The cost is \$75 before May 21 and \$100 after May 21. Scholarships are available and application for scholarships is encouraged. The workshop provides a unique opportunity for potential candidates to hear directly from prominent elected and appointed women, campaign consultants and party officials.

We need more women in public office in Iowa. Iowa has never had a female governor and is one of only four states that have never sent a woman to the US Senate or House. It ranks below the national average at 22.7 % in terms of women in the State Legislature. Beyond achieving fundamental fairness and democratic ideas, having women in office makes a measurable difference. Research shows that the elected women bring to the table distinctive issues and perspectives.

Sign up today.

Visit the website to sign up or for more information, <http://www.las.iastate.edu/CattCenter/readytorun.shtml> or email to [cattcnr@iastate.edu](mailto:cattcnr@iastate.edu).

# Thank You

## for the Carrie Chapman Catt Award

**I want to say *thank you very much* to the League of Women Voters of Ames for giving me the Carrie Chapman Catt Award at the 2007 annual meeting. It has caused me to pause and reflect about a great many things, and frankly, it has made me feel very nostalgic.**

**When I served as president-elect in 1987 the LWV had a program on Carrie Chapman Catt and then we decided to become very active in trying to establish a building or center at ISU to honor Carrie Chapman Catt. My daughter, Jana, did a history project complete with costume and suffragette posters on CCC.**

**The award that was presented to me is a nameplate for a seat in the City Hall Auditorium. Once again, I can't tell you how many memories that triggers because I was an Ames High School student when that auditorium was still being used. We had school assemblies, drama productions, band, orchestra and choral concerts on that stage. I was thrilled to see the auditorium restored and dedicated when I served on the Ames City Council. And now...well, it just seems like the circle is complete.**

**Again, I am truly honored and most appreciative of this special award.**

Sincerely,  
*Joyce Hertz*

## IMMIGRATION STUDY

We are really excited that 13 members have expressed interest in participating in the LWVUS Immigration Study. They are Jan Beran, Jeannette Bohnenkamp, Barbara Gwiasda, Joyce Hertz, Martha Isaacson, Selva Lehman, Randi Peters, Jeri Prescott, Mary Richards, Jeanette Smithson, John Tait, Meg Tait, and Marlene Weisshaar.

It is still not too late to become involved. Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7:00p.m. May 9 at the home of Joyce Hertz, 2803 Torrey Pines Circle. We will continue meeting throughout the summer because consensus is scheduled for February 2008.

The committee would like to urge all members to read the eight background papers posted on the LWVUS website. For those of you who do not have access to the Internet or who prefer to read hard copies, we will make available 3 notebooks with all the downloaded background materials. Persons may "check them out for 3 weeks," just like the library, and then we will pass them around.

Our committee will be attempting to focus on immigration forums and programs for this fall. Undoubtedly we will have to break into smaller groups to focus on different aspects of this issue since it is huge, complex and emotionally charged. We will share additional sources of information with you, as we are able.

To obtain a notebook or for questions, please contact Joyce Hertz 292-7782 or email: [tjhertz@midiowa.net](mailto:tjhertz@midiowa.net)

## Todd Dorman to speak on "This Year at Legislature"

The Annual Salad Supper will be held at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1416 20th Street, Fireplace Room, at 6:00 PM.

**Please bring a salad to share. The board will provide beverages, table settings and service.**

At 7:00, the program will be presented by Todd Dorman, Statehouse Bureau Chief for Capitol News Service, and columnist for the Tribune. Mr. Dorman will share his insights on the Iowa Legislative session that ended on April 28. This is a time change for the program, from that published in the *Program and Directory*.

League members will have an opportunity to hear Judie Hoffman, LWVIA Lobbyist, give her impressions of the legislative session at the LWVIA Annual convention in Cedar Falls on June 2.

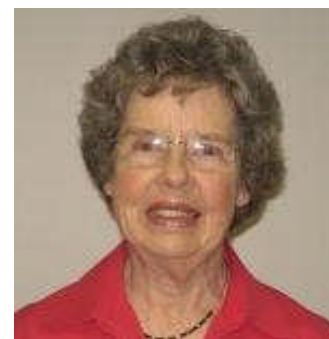
League of Women Voters of Ames  
4037 Fletcher Boulevard, Ames, IA 50014  
President: Sharon Wirth  
Voter Editor: Selva Lehman

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

## **Meet a New Board Member**

### **Meg Tait**

#### **Observer Corp Co-Chair**



Meg Tait is a retired faculty member who taught in the dietetics program at Iowa State University for eighteen years. She has also worked in the nutrition section of the State of Iowa Department of Health and prior to that held positions as a hospital dietitian in Virginia and North Carolina.

She arrived in Ames in 1960 to attend graduate school and met John a few years later. She joined the LWV when their two daughters were small and participated in "unit meetings" and several studies in the days when many members brought a child along or shared child care. Meg took a hiatus from League during the years she was at ISU but joined again when she retired in 1991 and participated in the Story County Hospital study. She subsequently ran for the position of trustee and is currently a member of the board of SCMC.

Meg is active in her church and has participated in other community groups. Since retirement she and John have worked on a number of political campaigns and have been able to travel to a number of interesting places around the world. Most recently it was a trip to China and the next excursion will be to Peru and then to Chile to visit their daughter who lives there.