



November Unit Meetings
Planning for the Future of Edina's Parks

Speaker: Ann Kattreh
Director Edina Parks and Recreation

Thursday Nov. 12, Edina Senior Center
Saturday Nov. 14, Edina City Hall
Refreshments 9:45; program 10:00 - 11:30

Edina is developing a comprehensive Park, Recreation and Trail Strategic Master Plan to guide development and redevelopment over the next 10 to 15 years.



Ann Kattreh

Ann Kattreh is a Wisconsin native and a member of both the Wisconsin Basketball Hall of Fame and Track and Field Hall of Fame.

hiking, downhill and cross country skiing boating, geocaching, camping, swimming and kayaking.

Come hear about the Parks Master Plan and what we can do to shape the future of Edina's parks. Invite your neighbors too! Also, you can post your opinions online about Edina's parks. Go to www.SpeakUpEdina.org anytime until November 1 to record your ideas and read other people's opinions.

Special November Program: Is the Sky the Limit? Money in Minnesota Elections

Thursday Nov. 12
Bloomington City Council Chambers
6:30 reception; 7:00 program

Money is a huge factor in Minnesota elections. It influences the information that voters receive. LWVs Edina, Bloomington, and MEPH jointly present this forum to discuss: Where does the money come from? Are there any limits on political donations? When are donors required to disclose their names to the public? We'll see actual TV and print ads from recent MN campaigns, and hear arguments both for and against the current contribution and disclosure rules. Join us! Invite your family and friends. Moderator is StarTribune columnist Lori Sturdevant.

- Panelists are:
Jeremy Schroeder, Executive Director, Common Cause MN
Anthony Sanders, JD, Institute for Justice MN
Peggy Leppik, member, MN Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (CFPD)
Jeff Sigurdson, Ass't Executive Director, CFPD
Lonni Skrentner, LWUS Study Committee on Money in Politics

Inside This Leaguer page
December Unit Meetings.....2
Display VOTE TODAY sign Nov. 3rd.....2
Book Club Meets Nov. 21.....2
New Member Directories are Here.....2
January Unit Meetings.....3
Bouquets.....3

December Unit Meetings

**Thursday Dec. 10: LWVUS Proposed New Positions on Money in Politics
Edina Senior Center**

**Saturday Dec. 12: Lively Issues
Edina City Hall
Refreshments 9:45; programs 10:00 – 11:30**

The LWVUS Study Committee on Money In Politics will be seeking local league consensus on whether to modify the League's positions on money in political campaigns. LWVEdina President, Lonni Skrentner is a member of that LWVUS study committee. At the December 10 unit meeting we will discuss and try to reach consensus on the national study committee's recommendations. If you want more information before the meeting, Lonni recommends this link: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/lwvus-money-politics-mip-review-meetings-box-education-resources-and-sugges>, and this Google discussion group: <https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/lwv-money-in-politics>.

Our December 12 meeting will be Lively Issues, where we review LWVEdina's positions and decide whether to recommend any local updates or studies for the next year. Come to both meetings and participate in League process in action!

Book Club To Meet November 21

For its November selection, the LWVEdina book club is reading How to be Both by Ali Smith. The discussion will be led by Carol Frisch.

The book club welcomes new members on a drop-in basis. Come and join in the conversation on Saturday November 21 at 10:00 AM, at the Barnes & Noble Galleria lower-level coffee shop.

This is the book club's last selection for 2015. The 2016 selections will be announced in December on our website, lwvedina.org.

Display your VOTE TODAY sign on November 3 !

As you know, Tuesday November 3 is Election Day in Edina. Voters will elect three members of the Edina School Board.

Remind the public to vote by displaying your VOTE TODAY sign on Election Day!



If you don't have a sign, or you have an older version, it's easy to get the brand new one shown above. Just contact our voter service chair, Susan Clark.

Did you miss the live School Board Candidate Forum?

You can view it anytime online at lwvedina.org.

New Member Directories Are Here!

The LWVEdina 2015-2016 Member Directory is back from the printer, and your copy is waiting for you! Come to the November 12 or 14 unit meeting to pick up your directory .

Many thanks to Ann Keenan and Joni Bennett for editing the directory, and to Ann for having it printed.

January Unit Meetings

Community Solar Gardens: How They Work and Help Subscribers Reduce Their Energy Bills

Speakers: Julie Risser, Ph. D.

Development Team Member and Land Acquisition Associate at SunShare

Jenny Monson-Miller

Legal & Regulatory Associate at SunShare

Saturday Jan. 9, Edina City Hall
Thursday Jan. 14, Edina Senior Center
Refreshments 9:45; Programs 10:00 - 11:30

At the January unit meetings we'll find out about the exciting topic of community solar gardens – what they are, how they work, and the challenges they face in light of new regulations imposed by the MN Public Utility Commission.

Did you know that the city of Edina is considering a community solar garden? In September 2015, Edina issued an RFP for design, installation, subscription, operation and maintenance of a community solar garden to be located on the rooftop of the City's public works building. If the project moves forward, Edina residents may have an opportunity to subscribe to the solar garden.



Julie Risser

Julie Risser researches and identifies 5-30 acre sites suitable for community solar gardens for SunShare. Founded in 2011, SunShare builds community solar farms in Minnesota and Colorado.

Julie co-authored the 2005 LWVEdina study on Renewable Energy.

(<https://sites.google.com/site/lwvedina/local-studies>). A long time Edina resident, she is active in the community and has served on the Edina Planning Commission and the Energy and Environment Commission.

This program forecasts our environmental future. Join us and bring your friends too!

(January unit meetings, continued right column)

(January unit meetings, continued)

Here is some background on solar gardens:

“A solar garden is a facility that generates electricity by means of a ground-mounted or roof-mounted solar photovoltaic device whereby subscribers receive a bill credit for the electricity generated in proportion to the size of their subscription”. The 2013 Minnesota Community Solar Garden legislation (216B.1641 COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN, <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=216B.1641>) was created to help Xcel energy reach its renewable energy targets as well as reduce Minnesota dependence on fossil and nuclear fuels. As of June 2015, Xcel Energy has received more than 1,000 applications for community solar projects.

Bouquets To:

Lonni Skrentner, for presenting the October 10 unit meeting on Money and Corruption in Politics.

Karen Knudsen, for bringing refreshments to the Thursday October unit meeting.

Carol Frisch, for bringing refreshments to the Saturday October unit meeting.



Suzanne

Kerwin and

Lonni

Skrentner, for helping to organize the November 12 forum on Is the Sky the Limit? Money in Minnesota Elections.

LWVEdina Calendar

NOVEMBER 2015		
Tuesday November 3	Election Day – Remember to display your VOTE TODAY sign	
Thursday November 12 <u>and</u> Saturday November 14 9:45 – 11:30 AM	Unit Meetings: Ann Kattreh Planning for the Future of Edina’s Parks	Thursday at Edina Senior Center Saturday at Edina City Hall
Thursday November 12 6:30 reception / 7:00 program	Is the Sky the Limit? Money in Minnesota Elections	Bloomington City Council Chambers, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington
Saturday November 21 10:00 AM	Book Club: <u>How to Be Both</u> By Ali Smith	Barnes & Noble Galleria lower level coffee shop
DECEMBER 2015		
Thursday December 10 9:45 – 11:30 AM	Unit Meeting: Consensus Discussion on LWVUS Money in Politics Study	Edina Senior Center
Saturday December 12 9:45 – 11:30 AM	Unit Meeting: Lively Issues	Edina City Hall
JANUARY 2016		
Saturday January 9 9:45 – 11:30 AM	Unit Meeting: Julie Risser/ Jenny Monson-Miller - Community Solar Gardens: How They Work and Help Subscribers Reduce Their Energy Bills	Edina City Hall
Thursday January 14 9:45 – 11:30 AM	Unit Meeting: Julie Risser/ Jenny Monson-Miller - Community Solar Gardens: How They Work and Help Subscribers Reduce Their Energy Bills	Edina Senior Center



The Edina Leaguer

www.LWVEdina.org • LWVEdina@gmail.com

The League of Women Voters of Edina is a non-partisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, please visit www.lwvedina.org.

