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published by the

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Independent Precinct Organization  
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# Action Bulletin

## Meet the Candidates Fundraiser

by Lee Snyder

The IVI-IPO will be hosting a Meet the Candidates Get-Together Thursday, January 8, 2004, from 6 to 8 p.m. This event is always a smash, mixing IVI-IPO members with candidates for public office. David Igasaki, IVI-IPO's state chair, noted that the "Meet the Candidates event is one of the best opportunities to meet the various candidates on an informal basis and to find out who's running! At Thursday's event, you'll be meeting and mingling with the candidates, both incumbents and non-incumbents. So many political events these days are staged events with canned speeches and press releases. This is not that event! IVI-IPO has thrown wonderful Meet the Candidates events in the past, and these get-togethers are tailored to create a relaxed environment, with hors d'oeuvres and drinks as you schmooze!" Come meet and greet our state and local candidates! This event is FREE for IVI-IPO members (except those who are candidates in the 2004 election).

## IVI-IPO's Acclaimed A-Z Workshop

### CAMPAIGNS . . . FROM A - Z

Saturday, January 3, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Grace Place, 637 S Dearborn

\$50 (pre-paid) includes box lunch and one copy of the A-Z manual

Call IVI-IPO at 312-939-5105 to register

Learn the basics of creating a field operation and effective strategies for voter registration. Renowned professional consultants will explain how to develop a realistic budget and fundraising plan and successful use of the press to get out your campaign message. Administrative details are also covered from creating a master file to completing campaign finance disclosure reports.

### Invited Faculty:

Setting Up Your Campaign – Deborah McCoy

Financing Your Campaign – Mia Phifer

Campaign Finance Reporting – Aviva Patt

Getting Out Your Message – Kitty Kurth

Campaign Clinic – Hon. Dick Simpson

How to Be a Candidate – Hon. Leon Despres

The Door to Door Campaign – Lois Dobry

Voter Registration – Betty Magness & Alice Tregay

How to Win on Election Day – Hilda Frontany

**IVI-IPO MOURNS THE LOSS of  
SENATOR PAUL SIMON**

# From the State Chair

by David K. Igasaki, IVI-IPO State Chair

I would like to thank the membership for re-electing me as State Chair of IVI-IPO. This has always been my political home and I was actively involved in this organization and both predecessor organizations since I was a teenager.

This promises to be an exciting and important year for our organization. We will be helping to elect a new United States Senator and quite possibly a new President of the United States. We will be working against militarism and for the preservation of American civil liberties. On the state level, we are hoping to help carry the gay rights bill and we will continue our presence on open government issues, opposition to capital punishment, and support for affordable housing and the interests of working people.

Please make it a point to renew your membership when the time comes (or, if the renewal is already past, please take the time to renew now). We need your support and also your participation. Please try to attend the endorsement sessions for the upcoming primary elections. The more members who attend, the more informed the decision and the more representative of the membership on the interviewing committee. Please get involved in our spring primary campaign. We need to return our presence in the neighborhoods and precincts. Volunteer to distribute our endorsement recommendations in your precinct or at your bus or train stop.

Please volunteer for a committee that interests you and get involved in your chapter. Please make it a point to participate in our fundraisers. We are trying to re-energize our organization and you need to be part of it. Thank you for your past participation and I hope that you can continue and increase your participation.

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## Wanna Talk Politics?

by Aviva Patt, Political Resources Chair

IVI-IPO has a Yahoo discussion group for members to share opinions and debate hot topics of the day. Recent issues include the war in Iraq, the Presidential race, electronic voting, health care, and many more.

To join the group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/iviipo> and click on the "Join This Group" button. You'll be prompted to enter your Yahoo ID (if you don't have one, you can get one for free). An e-mail will be sent to the group moderator, who will approve your membership within 24-48 hours.

## What We've Been Working On

In recent months, IVI-IPO has been organizing against the Patriot Act, through constituent lobbying of Congress and testimony before the Chicago City Council in support of the successful resolution condemning the Act. In the spring legislative session, we testified in Springfield in favor of abolition of the death penalty; although the bill was not called during the veto session, the sponsor promises to try again in the next session. Affordable housing has been high on our agenda as we work to amend the Illinois Human Rights Act and the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance to ban discrimination based on source of income. We also are part of a broad-based coalition seeking to include low-income set-asides for new housing developments in Chicago.

Want to be part of the action? Join one of our issues committees. Contact:

- Charles Paidock, National Affairs Chair, 312-842-5036
- Roger Harper, Legislative Action Chair, 773-327-0465
- Herb Ziegeldorf, Community Action Chair, 773-338-7122

# Illinois ERA Ratification

*Target – Spring 2004*

*by Karen Boehning, Vice Chair, Mid North Chapter IVI-IPO*

During the jam-packed fall veto session, our Equal Rights Amendment ratification resolution, HJRCAI, moved closer to securing the 36 super majority Senate votes required for final Illinois approval of the proposed 28<sup>th</sup> amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Kirsten Curley, citizen lobbyist for ERA Illinois (which organized the coalition drive for the successful bipartisan Spring 2003 House vote), knows the Democrat and Republican state party and Senate leadership can get this done if they need to! In January, let's all help them decide it's time to complete ERA ratification in Illinois.

You and all your contacts should go to the website—[www.ERAIllinois.org](http://www.ERAIllinois.org)—for updates on how and when to contact key senators and the party leaders.

- Mike Madigan – Illinois Democratic Party, Chairman
- Judy Baar Topinka – Illinois Republican Party, Chair
- Emil Jones – Illinois Senate, President
- Frank Watson – Illinois Senate, Minority Leader

## IVI-IPO's Upcoming Election Endorsements

IVI-IPO will be holding endorsement sessions for the March primary throughout January, starting with the Presidential and US Senate interviews on Saturday, January 10. Additional meetings will be held for members to evaluate candidates for local offices. The south chapter will convene on Sunday, January 18 and the north side chapters will meet on Saturday, January 24. Additional interviews will be scheduled on Saturday January 17 for districts that are not within an IVI-IPO chapter. Candidates for Cook County office and the Water Reclamation District will be invited to meet with us on Wednesday, January 21.

Interviews consist of a short presentation by each candidate, followed by questions from our members. Candidates will have completed lengthy questionnaires covering a wide range of issues, which will be available for the members to read. After the interviews, members debate and vote on an endorsement in each contest. If there is a quorum and 3/5 of those voting support a motion, the endorsement is final. If either of those conditions are not met, the motion is a recommendation to the Board of Directors which will take final action at its meeting on Wednesday, January 28.

Only those who have been members for 60 days prior to the interview session, and whose dues are current, may vote. Notices for the endorsement sessions, including location and time, will be mailed to the members the last week of December.

## Recent Board Actions

The IVI-IPO State Board recently:

- voted to oppose pension increases for CTA Board and upper management and called for City Council hearings.
- endorsed HB 3067 Tenants' Rights Bill with recommendations for amendments which we will forward to the sponsors. (This bill is likely to be called in the spring session.)
- voted to oppose demolition of Cook County Hospital without the county first seeking proposals for redevelopment.

# National Affairs Committee

by Charles Paidock, Chair  
cpaidock@hotmail.com  
(312) 842-5036

## *An Exciting Year to Get Involved!*

The committee has been occupied with sundry activities, particularly in light of the furious legislative activity in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, and the fact that during the coming year there will be a primary (March 16th) and general election (November 2nd) for the offices of President, a vacant Illinois US Senate seat, and all 19 Illinois members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Current activities include:

## *Website Established*

A basic website was established for the National Affairs Committee at [www.iviiipoNA.org](http://www.iviiipoNA.org) which consists essentially of a notice of the next meeting, as well as membership information and a link to the main IVI-IPO site. The page can be easily printed and serve as a hard copy flyer for distribution in that fashion. Also included are links to the websites of all candidates for President, the Illinois US Senate, and the House of Representatives (added as they are established). For members of IVI-IPO who want to get involved in a campaign, this will quickly furnish you with information concerning each candidate's campaign office. All candidates were notified of links to their respective sites.

## *USA PATRIOT Act*

Representatives have attended meetings of the local organization entitled the Chicagoland Committee for Civil Liberties and Rights, CCCLR ([www.chicagorights.org](http://www.chicagorights.org)), which succeeded in passing a resolution on October 1st by the Chicago City Council (37 to 7) in opposition to the provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act [Patriot Act]. Over 200 other municipalities have passed such resolutions.

The original Patriot Act was passed in October, 2001, just six weeks after the events of 9/11. Earlier this year the Administration had introduced a supplement nicknamed "Patriot Act II," which was met with significant opposition. A website was established by the Department of Justice to dispel "myths and misconceptions." The website was later taken off the Internet due to conflicting interpretations. Provisions of the act are instead being offered piecemeal as amendments to the appropriations for various agencies in Congress.

## *Congressional Candidates Questionnaire*

The NA Committee submitted recommended revisions and/or updates for inclusion in the questionnaire submitted to candidates for the US Congress, which included inquiries concerning unilateral actions vs. a collective, multinational approach to national security, detention of suspects on Guantanamo and conduct of the "war on terrorism," WTO and FTAA, the Kyoto Treaty, UN Convention on Landmines, operations of the CIA, FBI and Homeland Security.

## *Congressional Contacts*

Activities of the committee were governed largely by significant legislation which the Administration attempted to get quickly adopted. Members of Congress were personally contacted, as well as by fax and hard copy, regarding their relative positions on the following four important pieces of legislation which generated considerable debate in the closing days of this session:

- TEA 3 – Transportation Equity Act (i.e. public transit)
- Medicare (provisions for prescription drugs/passed)
- Amtrak/High Speed Rail (continuance of long distance routes)
- Patriot Act II and Operations of Department of Homeland Security
- Energy Act (withdrawn)

As for **TEA 3** concerning public transit, the legislation passed designated considerable funding locally for projects. Securing the necessary appropriation may pose a problem. **Medicare** passed despite the fact that it may result in the elimination of coverage of prescription drugs plans offered by employers, and appeared to be financially beneficial to both pharmaceutical and insurance companies. Members of AARP were critical of their organization's support for the measure. **Amtrak** had sought a minimum of \$1.8 billion to maintain operations and upgrade equipment, yet only \$1.22 billion was allocated. The Administration had sought to have the system dismantled and funded by "state compacts" which do not currently exist anywhere. An overview of Amtrak is available from the NA Committee. **Patriot Act II**, as discussed above, was withdrawn as an entity and elements of it may have filtered into various appropriation measures for government agencies. The **Energy Act**, the first in ten years, although it precluded the drilling for oil in the Alaskan arctic wilderness, was withdrawn due to opposition for allowances in known pollutants in gasoline.

#### *Position Papers*

Members of the NA Committee have undertaken to prepare brief, one-page position papers in consonance with adopted IVI-IPO policy on various matters such as trade with China, the International Criminal Court, support for the United Nations, various treaties, the military budget, etc. Any member interested in contributing a position paper on an area of concern to the National Affairs Committee is encouraged to contact the Chair.

#### *Compilation of Voting Records of US Congressmen*

The committee in undertaking a project to assemble and collect ratings of various members of the US House of Representatives compiled and issued by advocacy organizations with positions that parallel the IVI-IPO, such as the ADA, AFL-CIO, ACLU, etc. Hopefully this will reflect accurately their positions of concern to our members, and serve as an accurate check on the accuracy of questionnaires submitted by incumbents.

#### *Next Meeting*

The next meeting of the NA Committee will be on Monday, December 15, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (third Monday of each month). Representatives of all segments of IVI-IPO are invited to attend and participate in its various projects.

***Interested in volunteering in the IVI-IPO office?***

***Please call Frances at 312-939-5105 or  
e-mail her at [info@iviipo.org](mailto:info@iviipo.org).***

***The office is in need of people to help with an  
array of tasks during this political season.***

***Our new office is at 1325 S. Wabash, Suite 105, Chicago.***

## IVI-IPO Welcomes New & Returning Members

David Adams	Susan Feibus	Frank Kotles	Judith Placzek & William Placzek
Joy Adelizzi	Dave Feller	Jack Kramer	Deborah Pope
Indira Adusumilli	Samantha Fiaoni	Mary Kunst	Mike & Barb Quigley
Frances Alequin	Eric Filson	Kathryne Kurth & Kevin Lampe	Sher Rajput
Kevin Anderson	Michael Finley & Shaindel Beers-	Joseph Lake	Jonathan Rivera
Clem Balanoff & Virginia Rodriquez	Finley	Kevin Lamm	Barry Rogers
Balanoff	Shannon Fisk	Lou Lang	Alex Rorke & Liz Sturgeon
Raj Balasubramanian	Martha Fourt	Norman Lasko	Ryan Rosenfeld
Marcellus Barnes	Inez Frazier	Marvin Leavitt	Tom & Denise Rosenfeld
Lamont Barnes	Carol Friedman	Manwah Lee	Patricia Rosenthal
Pura Bascos	John Fritchey	Michael Lefkow	Peggy Roth
Charles Bernardini	Hilda Frontany	Debbie Lekousis	Jason Rothstein
Craig Berryhill	Bill Fuhry	Roberta Levinson	Jay Rowell & Matt Uhde
Steven Birenberg	Audrey Gayles	Carl Lewis	Steve Sadin
Andrew Boron	Peter Giangreco	Jason Liechty	Joe Sanders & Melaine Schiff
Pearleen Rusty Branch	Sister Regina Gniot	Margaret Littman	Jeffrey Scadron &
H. Kurt Brandenburg	Jennifer Goodlove	Ray Lodato & Bronwyn Nichols	Aurea Grace Abad Scadron
Glen Brown & Carol Butler	Reginald Griffin	Agostino Lorenzini	Rachel Scheu
Jamaal Buchanan	Kent Griffiths	Michelle Love	Cindy Seitz
Nikki Budzinski	Steve Hackney	Frank & Beatrice Lumpkin	James Senyszyn
Barbara Burchjolla	James Harney	Daniel Lurie	Barbarba Sepanik
Kathleen Burke	James Hawking	David Lynam	Hari Sevugan
Michael Burnett	Katheryn Hayes	Robert Mahoney	Brenda Sexton
Carmen Caldero	Ellyn & William Hayes	Barbara Maloof	Michael & Melissa Shakman
Carol & Stephen Cann	John Hedges	Nicole Manderfeld	Debra Shore
David Canter	Sergio Hernandez	Camille Manderfeld	Dastagir & Seema Siddiqui
Monica Carranza	Edwin Homeier	Ken Manderfeld	Clara Sims-Johnson
Gloria Carrig & Dick Reichard	Senator Mattie Hunter	Martie Marro	Barb Smith
Kimberly Christian	Dan & Christina Hynes	Dr Maria Martinez	Lute Smith
Paul Clark	Matthew Hynes	Fran Martone	Tiffany Smith
Nancy Clawson	Katherine Jacobson & Lisa	Chris Mather	William Smith
Beryl Clemens	Hernandez	Gigi McCabe-Miele	Kelly Smith-Haley
Kevin Coakley & Kellyn Doyle	Sebastian James	William McLain	Jan Spitzer
Delmarie Cobb	Rhoda Ronnie Jarett	Kiran Mehta	Citseko Staples
Elizabeth Cortell	Frances Johns	Julia Mellow	Howard Stein
Timothy Cullerton & Nancy Cullerton	Loren Johnson	Mary Mikva & Steven Cohen	Lauren Stern
Daniel Cummings	Brandon Johnson	Kathleen Moody	Marshall Stern
Ronald Davis	Dan Johnson-Weinberger	Joe Moore	Steve Strickler
Eric Davis	Carol Jones & Tom Hynes	Mohammed Mortoja	Gregory & Carol Sweigert
Joe DeCock	Stephen Jones	Laura Nelson	Tim Tacker
Margaret Dee & David Glover	Charese Jordan	Dawn Clark Netsch	Michelle Taufmann
Pedro DeJesus	Jarrett Joyce	Meighan Nigolian	Gina Trippi
Leon & Marian Despres	John Kamis	Christopher Niro	Tom Tunney
Jeffrey Dodge	Karen Kane	Maureen Nolan	Marco Villagrana
Mr. & Mrs. John Donovan	Mary Kane	Juleigh Nowinski	Kevin Waco
Patricia R Dowell	David Karcher	Barack & Michelle Obama	Wes Wagar
Kathleen Doyle	Charles Katzenmeyer	Alicia Obando	Elizabeth Walker
William Doyle	Christopher Kennedy	Brendan O'Connor	Daniel Washco
Elizabeth Drew	Curtis Keyes	Tom Osran & Cheryl Reiman	Lali & Iam Watt
Michael Dwyer	Mr. & Mrs. Aldophus Kindle	Kaleshia Page	Richard Whorton
Heather Eagan	James King	Carole Parks	Scott Wilkerson
Margaret Egan	Adam Kingsley	Schcondala Parsons	Betty Willhoite
John Ehrlich	John Kirkpatrick	Al Paterson	Donald Young
Henry Ellis	Mike Kisler	Barrett Pedersen	John Zaharakis
Bruce Embrey & Barbara Becker	Jen Koehler	Ray Pempek	Mark & Marie Zivin
Joseph Enright	Kathy Konieczny	Rita & Kitty Picken	Gregory Zyvert
Kimberly Feeney		Aimee Pine	

**Not a member yet? Just fill-out and mail-in the form on page 7. ➔**

# Independent Voters of Illinois Independent Precinct Organization

1325 S. Wabash, Suite 105, Chicago, IL 60605 312-939-5105 Fax: 312-939-3315  
visit our website at [www.iviipo.org](http://www.iviipo.org)

*YES! I want to join Illinois' oldest multi-issue progressive  
good government organization.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Dues:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Single                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 Contributor (single or joint)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Joint                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Benefactor (single or joint)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$81.58 Share the Cost<br>(single or joint) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Life Member (single or joint) |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15 Limited Income (single)         |

Please make checks payable to **IVI-IPO**. You may also charge your membership to your Visa or Master Card. Contributions to IVI-IPO are not tax-deductible.

Name as it appears on your card  
\_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the following boxes to receive meeting notices to the following committees.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Action (state)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Website Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Affairs                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Action (local/city council) | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Caucus                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gay and Lesbian Caucus                | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Volunteer             |

## Calendar

12/17/2003 6:45 p.m.	State Board Meeting
01/03/2004 8:30 a.m.	A-Z Workshop [see p. 1 for more information]
01/08/2004 6:00 p.m.	Meet The Candidates Event [see p. 1 for more information]
01/10/2004 All Day	US Senate & Presidential Endorsement
01/12/2004 6:45 p.m.	Community Action/Municipal Affairs Committee [not the 13th] Larry Suffredin invited
01/13/2004 6:00 p.m.	Judicial Review Committee
01/17/2004 All Day	Local Endorsement Sessions
01/18/2004 All Day	South Chapter Endorsements
01/19/2004 7:00 p.m.	National Affairs Committee
01/21/2004 6:00 p.m.	Cook County Endorsement Session
01/24/2004 All Day	North Side Chapter Endorsements
01/27/2004 6:00 p.m.	Judicial Review Committee
01/28/2004 6:45 p.m.	State Board Meeting
01/31/2004 TBA	State Board Meeting: Special Judiciary Endorsement Session
02/10/2004 6:45 p.m.	Community Action/Municipal Affairs Committee
02/16/2004 7:00 p.m.	National Affairs Committee
02/17/2004 All Day	LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE
02/25/2004 6:45 p.m.	State Board Meeting
03/16/2004 All Day	ELECTION DAY

***Get involved! To renew your membership or join today: call the office at 312-939-5105 or print out the membership form on our website at [www.iviipo.org](http://www.iviipo.org).***

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED