



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF EVANSTON

THE INTERCOM

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2010

Common Ground Leader Assesses Election Results



– by Elizabeth Kinney

Jim Kenney, Executive Director of Common Ground, gave a post-election wrapup at the LWV's November 15 luncheon meeting.

He began by pointing out that we are in a time of changing attitudes and values. Thus, patriarchal attitudes and values are declining, while gender equity attitudes and values are rising. Likewise, more people today are inclined to be concerned about the fragility of the

planet than they were in our grandparents' time. However, he noted that plenty of people are still in full blown denial, such as Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe, who will likely chair the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in the next Congress. He noted that with regard to many social and economic issues today, the political parties primarily differ over whether the public or the private sector should shoulder the load.

As of November 30, the Republicans had taken 243 House seats, the Democrats 191, with one race still undecided. In the Senate, there will be 53 Democrats (including Senators Sanders and Lieberman, who are independent, but caucus with the Democrats) and 47 Republicans. As to state governors, which are important due to redistricting, there will be 30 Republicans and 20 Democrats.

Kenney said he expects that Republicans will not be able to repeal the Affordable Care Act, but that they will try to cut funding for certain of its programs. He pointed out that most progressives do not think that health care reform went far enough – they wanted the public option. He found it unfortunate that a large number of people who stand to benefit from the legislation believe that it will lead to "death panels." Another untruth, widely circulated, is that the money to fund health care reform will come out of Medicare. He noted that the next House Majority Leader, Eric Cantor, is absolutely committed to deficit reduction, no new taxes and repeal of health care reform.

Kenney pointed out that Robert Reich, Labor Secretary under President Bill Clinton, observed in the 1980s that the failure of liberals

is that they are so interested in programs that they fail to develop a sharable, consistent philosophy of government. On the other hand, Republicans like to talk about political philosophy. While Republicans talk about cutting government, neither President Reagan nor President Bush cut government spending.

Kenney noted a number of significant programs that President Obama and the Democratic Congress accomplished during his first two years; for example, he prevented a depression, saved many jobs in the auto industry and launched many green initiatives, in addition to health care reform. Nevertheless, these successes are not well known. In his view, the Obama White House "lost its tongue," and has not yet been able to clearly articulate its vision of government.

Kenney shared his views on Glenn Beck, who he said is an entertainer who wants to repeal the 16th Amendment (graduated income tax), the 17th Amendment (direct election of senators), part of the 14th Amendment (automatic citizenship for children born in this country whose parents are not legally in the country) and part of the 15th Amendment (voting rights) and abolish the Federal Reserve.

Kenney views Nancy Pelosi as one of the most effective Speakers of the House in history. Under her leadership, the House passed 420 pieces of legislation. In his opinion, the Senate is a broken institution, noting that one Senator can block any Presidential appointee anonymously. As to the filibuster, all the Republican Majority Leader has to say is "I have 40 votes" and nothing happens. The Republicans have not been forced to actually filibuster.

With regard to the Tea Party, he views it as more like a political storm or tempest than a movement. Movements include, for example, women's suffrage, civil rights and the environment. They have a clear focus, a clear point of view, and clear principles. The Tea Party is not focused. In fact, it has Democratic as well as Republican members. It is trying to return to an imaginary past.

Kenney believes that there are four patterns of backlash: fundamentalism, fascism, greed and global hegemony (pursuit of global power).

Does FDR's experience provide any lessons for Obama? Kenney argues that Obama needs to back down on deficit reduction and work vigorously on job creation. He also hopes that he will not back down on the repeal of tax cuts for the wealthy. The character of his administration will be shown by how it handles these two issues.

President's Letter

Elections are times of renewal and planning for the future. Along with these positive aspects, the election season we just completed was cruel and devastating in some ways. We saw things we couldn't believe. Actions were taken that left many of us wondering what has happened to our society. As we are moving into our Constitution Contest season, I am wondering what those who wrote our Constitution would think of the behavior we witnessed. This has been a time when civility should have been the utmost priority but on some occasions was replaced by bullying and negativity.

One of our League members, Kathy Tate-Bradish, took on the vital task of moderating three candidate forums in Lake County on Wednesday, October 20. Civility was missing from the discourse. The League's reputation was assaulted. Kathy was shaken by the negative response, but it will not prevent her from continuing the outstanding work she has always done. We salute the bravery and composure exhibited by Kathy. She is the consummate role model of strength of character in the face of unexpected circumstances.

Transforming this shameful event into an opportunity to make a positive impact is what we need to do now. Our ongoing commitment is to work to make government more effective, and there is much to be done locally to work on the problems faced by the City of Evanston. Last spring we chose two local program issues: 1) the challenges of the Evanston city budget and 2) foreclosures in Evanston. Over the summer, Betty Hayford, Vice President-Local Programs, issued a call for volunteers. The landscape has changed dramatically in recent months as the City has undertaken an expanded public process to develop a budget in fiscally challenging times, and also has obtained a major federal grant and established programs to respond to a growing number of foreclosures. Again we seek League members to increase awareness of these issues and consider recommendations for our city officials. Betty and I met with Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl in late September to offer the League's support to the City. In the months ahead we will be offering programs that address these issues. We encourage you to get involved. We are a strong and vibrant League and we will not be distracted from our efforts to transform our community.

In August I appointed Elizabeth Kinney to the board of directors and she has volunteered to work on coordinating the planning of monthly events. In September, Pat Aaron was asked to serve on the LWVUS national panel to study education policy. We are honored to have her represent our League on the panel and share the wealth of her experience as an educator.

You may recall that I was looking for a League member to participate in the Lake Michigan League annual meeting. I was fortunate to find a Northwestern University research associate in the School of Education and Social Policy, Colleen Buzby, who was fascinated by the topic of the damage caused by the Asian carp in Lake Michigan. She attended the meeting and prepared a summary of the meeting presentations, and her own research, which you'll find in the on-line version of this issue. (www.lwve.org)

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone the very best for the holiday season and thank those of you who have been so supportive of me during the beginning of my presidency of the League.

Warmest regards, Susan



League of Women Voters of Evanston

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THE INTERCOM

November – December 2010

THE INTERCOM is the newsletter of the
League of Women Voters® of Evanston.

Special Recognition It takes many individuals to make an election season successful. An astonishing amount of hours went into planning and executing the candidate forums and assuring that Evanston area residents would be registered to vote. I would like to thank the following Evanston League members who graciously offered their time and effort to accomplish our goals:

Nancy Allred
Nan Anderson
Barb Eckel
Judy Elsass
Jessie Feldman

Karen Hunt
Michelle Jordan
Elizabeth Kinney
Janet Kittlaus
Dorrie Lloyd-Still

Carol Mullins
Marlene Robin
(former LWVE
member)
Cheryl Wollin

Recall Forum

— by Gloria Callaci

On October 21 the LWVE sponsored a non-partisan discussion on the proposed Illinois Constitutional Amendment providing for the recall of the Governor. Illinois State Senator Susan Garrett (right) spoke in favor of the amendment, while House Democratic Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie (left) spoke in opposition.



Photo courtesy of Evanston Roundtable

“The reason I am for recall is because I look at it as insurance. It’s important to have the ability to recall a governor in case of extreme situations,” said Senator Garrett. She also pointed out that one of the major strengths of the amendment is that several conditions must be met in order to recall a governor.

An affidavit declaring intent must be filed with the State Board of Elections no sooner than 6 months after the beginning of a governor’s term. That affidavit must have the signature of 20 members of the Illinois House of Representative and 10 members of the Senate.

No more than 50% of the signatures can be from members of the same party. Further, the number of petition signatures required is 15% of the total votes cast for governor in the preceding election, and all signatures must be collected within 150 days. In addition, 100 of those signatures must come from each of at least 25 of Illinois’ 102 counties.

In contrast, Rep. Currie saw these same difficult hurdles as reasons to defeat the amendment. She said the

process is so lengthy that it would almost be time for the next election, when citizens could vote the governor out of office. Moreover, the process of recalling a governor, temporarily installing the lieutenant governor and then holding a special election within 60 days would cost at least \$80 million. Rep. Currie pointed out that the impeachment process is more efficient and far less costly.

On Election Day, Illinois voters approved the amendment by a margin of 65.7% to 34.3%.

Cook County Public Defenders: “Guardians of Our Most Cherished Democratic Ideals”

— by Karen Hunt

This is how Cook County Public Defender Abishi C. Cunningham, Jr. (who is also a retired Judge) described the people who work in the Public Defender’s Office at the November 15 **Lunch & Learn** with the League sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Cook County. But far too often, public defenders face questions such as “Why would you want to be part of that group?” and “How can you sleep at night?”

Judge Cunningham told the Lunch & Learn audience that, fortunately for the people of Cook County, the people who work in the Public Defender’s Office are dedicated to the cause of making sure the legal system works, and they truly feel they have a calling. As a result, there is an amazingly low rate of turnover in the slightly over 700-person office that, besides attorneys, includes other professional and support staff, such as investigators. (Note that this number is dramatically down from the 840 FTE positions in the years 2000-2004.) Many have been employed in the office for 30 or more years.

The mission of the Office is to protect the rights and dignity of each person accused of a crime. Public Defenders are appointed by judges to represent those accused of a crime who cannot afford a private attorney. The staff works out of the Criminal Courts building at 26th and California, the five suburban Cook County court houses, and Juvenile Court. There is also a 37-member Elite Homicide Unit that defends indigent people accused of capital crimes, along with an Appellate Unit and a Forensic Science Division. Audience members were surprised to learn that the Public Defender’s Office has to pay for its own evidence tests, as well as ballistics and other experts. Where does the money come from? Mainly from Cook County government, although the State of Illinois also is supposed to supply the money for the Capital Litigation Trust to cover the costs

of murder cases. However, as further evidence of the problems with State finances, the State is in arrears from 2009 and has paid nothing toward the amount owed for fiscal year 2010. (The County is covering the shortfall in the meantime.)

Judge Cunningham applauded the League for its efforts to repeal the death penalty. Aside from the moral issues, he stressed that millions of dollars are being spent on cases involving the death penalty that could be saved or spent more wisely to improve the justice system. Further, it costs the State of Illinois (and therefore the taxpayers) far more to pursue the death penalty than to house convicted murderers for life without parole.

Judge Cunningham, son of the first African American lawyer in West Virginia, was appointed by the President of the Cook County Board to serve a 6-year term as the Public Defender in 2009. From 1986 until that time, he served as a judge in the Cook County Circuit Court, handling both criminal and civil cases. He has also had two separate stints in the State’s Attorney’s Office, as well as working in private practice and as an adjunct professor at both the DePaul and John Marshall Schools of Law. Judge Cunningham proudly told the audience that his sister is the presiding judge in the 6th district at Markham.

Lunch & Learn with the League is a series of fundraisers featuring speakers talking about different aspects of Cook County government. Proceeds are used to help pay for the operations of the League of Women Voters of Cook County, to which you, as a member of a local League within Cook County, automatically belong. Look for e-mail announcements for the spring Lunch & Learn early in 2011. And remember, you don’t need to be a League member to attend.

Like to learn more about the Cook County Public Defender’s Office? LWVCC member Pris Mims recommends “*Defending the Damned*” by journalist Kevin Davis from 2007.



Constitution Contest

Since 2008 LWVE has hosted the annual **Your Rights, Your Reasons Constitution Contest**. Every 7th Grade student is invited to submit a written word project, a visual art project or a performance to exhibit. The League provides every 7th grader a personal pocket constitution book and League members and leaders in the community spend hours judging amazing works of sculpture, essays and poetry, watching interpretive dance and rap groups expound on the importance of the U.S. Constitution. The awards ceremony takes place **Saturday Jan 8** at the **Joseph Hill Education Center**.

Local Program Update – by Elizabeth Hayford

At last spring's annual meeting, LWVE identified two important local issues to investigate: Housing Foreclosures and the City Budget. As LWV committees organized to determine how to inform our members about these issues and how the League or individual members might get involved, the nature of each has evolved.

Housing foreclosures continue to take place all over Evanston. Predatory lending, loss of housing values, and rising unemployment have all played a part. A major federal grant has given the City new tools, and larger responsibilities, to address foreclosures and the larger issue of affordable housing in Evanston.

Through the fall City Council reviewed **budget proposals** and public hearings provided a forum for citizen input. Calls to support libraries, trees, human services and budgetary transparency have echoed through numerous meetings. Issues of budgetary priorities and budgetary process will soon be settled for this year, but will continue to be an important element of Evanston governance.

LWVE members who would like to help us sift through the many dimensions of these ongoing concerns and develop informative program to help understand the questions and consider opportunities for engagement are encouraged to contact us: Betty Hayford (ehayford@gmail.com) for the budget discussion and Melissa Leasia (melissa@melissaleasia.com) for foreclosures & affordable housing. You may also leave a voice mail at the LWVE office: 847-866-7844.

LWVE Holiday Gathering – by Karen Hunt

The LWVE will host a holiday membership gathering at the Evanston History Center The Women's History Project Exhibit is still available for viewing. If you have not yet seen this wonderful exhibit, try to attend. Kris Hartzell from the History Center will speak about the exhibit and also about the League's rich history. It will be a perfect opportunity to catch up, learn about the League, its history and spend time with friends. Guests are welcome.

LWVE Calendar of Events

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.
For more information, 847-866-7844 or visit
Calendar updates at: www.lwve.org

LWVE Holiday Gathering at Dawes Mansion Evanston History Center

Tuesday, December 14 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 pm
225 Greenwood Street in Evanston
(more details below)

Annual Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble in Evanston

Tuesday, December 21 & Thursday, December 23 ~ 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Contact Karen Hunt at khunt@firstbt.com to volunteer.

2010 LWVE/District 65 U.S. Constitution Contest Awards Ceremony

Saturday, January 8 ~ Exposition: 2 to 4 pm
Awards Ceremony: 3:00 pm
District 65 Joseph E. Hill Education Center
1500 McDaniel Avenue in Evanston
(more details to the left)

LWVIL Issues Briefing Saturday, February 5 (Details to follow)

LWVIL Issues Briefing
Monday, March 14 ~ 12 Noon
Professor Elizabeth Kelly – DePaul University
Presentation on Eleanor Roosevelt. Location TBD.

Save the date! Sunday, April 2 LWVE Community Dinner to benefit the League's Education Fund

Details about our speaker and enticing auction items will be provided in the next *Intercom*.

RSVP's help us plan. Please call 847.866.7844
to reserve your spot for these great events.

Tuesday, December 14 - 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Evanston History Center
Charles Gates Dawes House
225 Greenwood Street in Evanston
Light refreshments will be served
RSVP: 847-866-7844 or lwvevanston@att.net

League Members Earn Accolades

The League is proud to salute two members who recently earned top honors from their peers and the community:

Lisa Bernstein was recognized with the Excellence in Elementary Mathematics Teaching Award from the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Lisa teaches at Bessie Rhodes Magnet School.

Helen Heyrman was the honoree at SASI's Ruby Slipper event for her advocacy for clients and caregivers as a long-time member of SASI's (Services for Adults Staying in Their Homes) board. The award—given on Helen's 90th birthday—also cited Helen's leadership in the field of aging services: a two-time recipient of the Governor's Award for Excellence, a past delegate to the White House Conference on Aging, and past president of the Illinois Gerontology Consortium.



Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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This Is Evanston Revision Underway

LWVE has been providing Evanston with the facts about our history, government and community resources for decades with periodic editions of *This is Evanston*. In recent months, a group headed by Gloria Callaci and Betty Hayford has been working to revise the last edition, published in 2000. Recognizing that much information is now available on the Internet, particularly the City of Evanston website, a revised format is being developed along with extensive updates. The 2000 bound copy of more than 100 pages will be replaced by a shorter spiral-bound volume that can be updated more easily.

The revision will focus on Evanston history and government, the sections that are not well covered on the city website or the community guides produced by the Chamber of Commerce, *Pioneer Press* or the *Evanston Roundtable*. The new edition will be of interest to organizations that have used *This is Evanston* in the past, including the Evanston Community Foundation and groups working with new residents.

As we complete a draft, we would appreciate advice and assistance from others interested in maintaining this League tradition. We would welcome fresh eyes to review the first draft. After deciding on our content, we will need assistance in layout and format, as well as photo selection and cover design.

Editors, proofreaders, designers and careful readers are needed!

Please contact Gloria Callaci at gcallaci@aol.com or Betty Hayford at ehayford@gmail.com if you want to help with this important project. You may also leave a voice mail at the LWVE office: 847-866-7844.



Meet Our Volunteers

Our volunteers respond to phone messages, e-mails and snail mail sent to the LWVE office. They also assist in processing checks and recording reservations for League events. They staff the LWVE office in the Morton Civic Center on Wednesday mornings and check in from cyberspace on other days. They are a most efficient, dedicated team and we deeply appreciate their efforts.

Seated: (L-R) Katy Pendleton (*coordinator*), Karen Vroegh
 Standing: (L-R) Virginia Rosenberg, Marge Wold, Anna Anrod, Sandy Gross, Judy Elsass

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Observer Summary

— by Jan Otwell

League observers are our “eyes and ears” at City Council and its major committees, which set policy and direction for the City. If you’d like to learn more about the nitty gritty of local government, being a League Observer is a great way to start. **If you have an interest in becoming a League observer, contact Jessica Feldman: 847-864-2199.**

Budget The City Manager and staff scheduled several sessions this year for goal setting, budget presentation, discussion and citizen input. The official budget discussion began with a City Council meeting on Sept. 20, at which Joellen Earl, Director of Administrative Services, led the Council in some goal setting, then gave a mid-year report on the 2010 budget. A week or so later, on Sept. 29 at the Levy Center, a session was held for citizen input into goal setting. At the meeting of the City Council on Oct. 23 the proposed budget was presented by Ms. Earl. It contained a \$3 million shortfall in the General Fund with possible revenue enhancements that could be considered to cover it. Aldermen asked questions and requested memos on certain issues. A subsequent Nov. 6 City Council meeting was devoted entirely to citizen comment. Nearly three dozen citizens came to express their views: 23 on library funding, six on mental health funding, and the remainder on a variety of other issues. The final vote on the budget was scheduled for Nov. 22.

Township Trustee Meeting The aldermen sat as Township Trustees on July 26 for the purpose of passing the township budget. The only nay vote was that of Trustee Rainey.

Pensions Council approved the actuarial recommendations for funding employee pensions. Staff had compared Evanston to 11 other communities and they all make different assumptions. It seems that Evanston in the past has been more optimistic on wage rates, investment income and life span but in the new report we tend to be more realistically conservative. The goal is to convince Springfield to take some action this fall. Despite the fact that we have been paying more into the funds than our neighbors, we still are falling further behind

Library Funding Mayor Tisdahl had invited the Board of Trustees of the Library to a special meeting for an hour during the Sept. 13 City Council meeting. As an agenda for this hour, the Mayor had prepared some ordinance changes that the staff felt would move the discussion along. However, this did not happen, the discussion took off on its own, and the aldermen were left wondering what could be an expected outcome. At the Oct. 23 City Council, Mayor Tisdahl offered what she described as a way to alleviate the divisions which had occurred in the community over the funding of the branch libraries. Her proposal created more division among the aldermen who said this was only a microcosm of what would happen if submitted to the voters, and the Mayor dropped her proposal.

Taxicabs & Hens One meeting which lasted until after midnight contained much to and fro about the Chicago taxicabs which now cruise in Evanston without a license, looking for passengers. The fine currently can range from \$25 to \$500. Aldermen raised the top limit for this penalty to \$750. After months of discussion the Hen Ordinance was passed to issue 22 licenses for raising hens in Evanston.

Times of Meetings Since the new system of setting beginning times went into effect, there were many complaints about the confusion for citizens who wished to attend the A&PW, P&D or City Council meetings. The Observer Corps chairman, after carefully tabulating the beginning and ending times for these meetings over six and a half months, prepared a chart of her findings. The chart was presented to the Rules Committee when they met on October 4. After discussion among the Committee and the League Observer present, the Rules Committee referred its recommendations to the Law Department to prepare a resolution setting out the adjusted the times committees would begin going forward. A&PW will start at 5:45; P&D at 7:15, and the Council 15 minutes after P&D finishes.

Minutes of Board & Commissions One of the recommendations of the City/League study on Boards and Commissions was to have a standard format for minutes. Continuing the steps to implementing recommendations in the Review Committee’s recommendations in its Report on Boards, Commissions, & Committees, the City Manager presented the Rules Committee three possibilities, Minute takers will be asked about which they prefer. More work will be done on this issue.

Special Events/Youth Programs One special City Council meeting was devoted to a review of two programs of the Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Community Services: Special Events and Youth Programs. A variety of additional events were suggested by the aldermen, some downtown and some in the parks. The idea would be to attract new folks to Evanston at the same time as entertaining current residents

League Hosts Candidate Forums

— by Nancy Bashook

On October 3, Beth Emet The Free Synagogue was the venue for two League-sponsored candidate forums. Featured were the 13th District Cook County Board of Commissioners race and the 18th Illinois Legislative District race. Rosemary Heilemann, LWW-Deerfield member, served as moderator of both forums. Larry Suffredin and Linda Thompson LaFianza participated in the Cook County forum, as did Robyn Gabel and Steve Funk for the 18th Legislative District.

Over 400 people attended the 9th Congressional forum held at Niles North High School on October 10. Participating in this forum were Jan Schakowsky and Joel Pollack. The moderator was Paula Lawson, member of the LWW-Glencoe and past president of LWWIL.

Videotaping of the 13th and 18th District forums was provided by the Evanston Community Media Center, and we are grateful to Niles North High School for providing the taping for the 9th Congressional forum. In addition to cable broadcast, for the first time the forums were available in their entirety on the internet. This additional coverage expanded our efforts to inform voters on the candidates and the issues.

The Evanston League partnered with leagues from Glencoe, Glenview, Wilmette and Winnetka/Northfield/Kenilworth, Chicago and Park Ridge to present these events. As always, the League of Women Voters continues its tradition of offering our communities a fair and informative opportunity to hear candidates for local offices.

Lake Michigan LWV: Invasive Species

— by Colleen Buzby

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Lake Michigan League of Women Voters summit on invasive species where I learned about the work women around the Great Lakes are doing to preserve these resources.

My work is in science education, developing curriculum for high school environmental science projects. One of my projects is the EcoCasting project, through which I work with a group of scientists who are investigating the effects of invasive species on PCB bioaccumulation patterns in food webs in Lake Michigan. I take their work and translate it into student activities to be used in high schools. Together with a software developer, Colin Sheaff, we've created NetLogo models of food webs, bioaccumulation, and invasive species to help students understand the complex relationships that cause ecosystem variability.

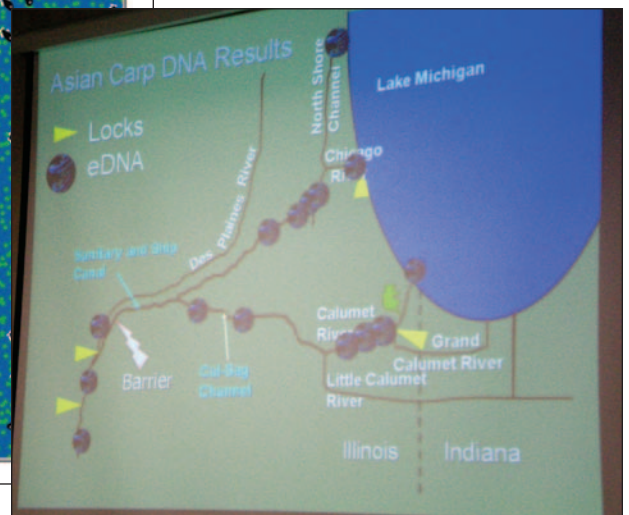
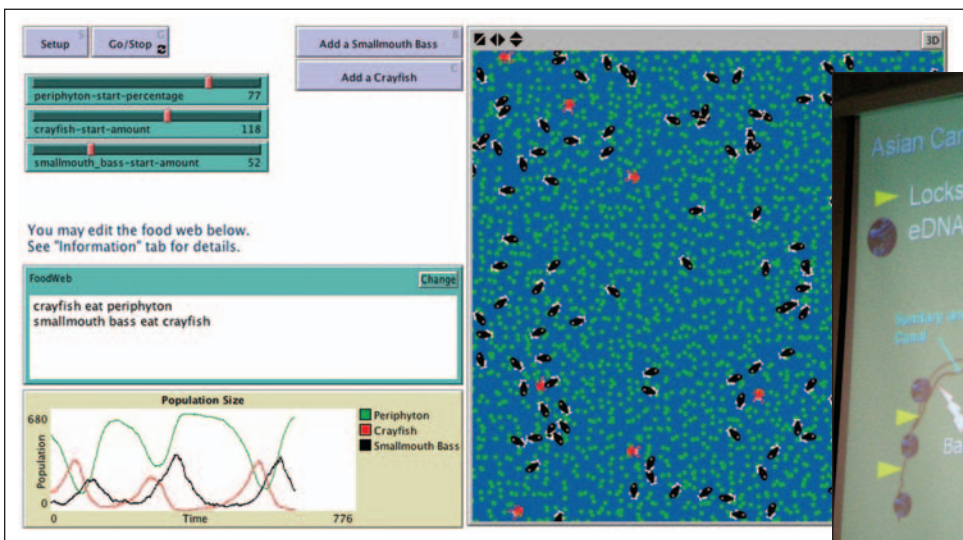
Science is exciting when your findings contradict what you expected to see, when your data falls outside the predicted range. This has happened in the EcoCasting project, when scientists observed a strange pattern in polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) toxins in different species of Great Lakes fish. They looked at characteristics of these fish, figured out feeding habits, breeding patterns, and lifestyle. What they uncovered was that the smallmouth bass (a predator fish) was spawning in the spring, which lowers their toxin concentrations. The round gobies meanwhile, being clever bottom feeders, would swim in and feed upon the smallmouth bass eggs, providing them

with a food source that was concentrated with PCB toxin. The round goby, like the sea lamprey, has had a very successful entry into the Great Lakes and is causing intriguing changes to the ecosystem. Working with education, I get to take this story to high school students, introduce them to computational models and data, and support them in a similar process of scientific discovery. You can see an example of one of the models at:

<http://EcoCasting.Northwestern.edu/NetLogo/Invasive%20Species.html>

Now the Asian Carp are “the invasive species du jour,” in the words of scientist and recent LMLWV presenter Philip Moy. They were intentionally introduced in the US to improve water quality in catfish ponds and have been swimming up the rivers around Lake Michigan, jumping at fisherman and tormenting aquatic tourists in recent years. These fish can grow to enormous sizes and will also have an impact on food webs, because they are bottom feeders who compete with much smaller fish for prey. They are fecund and grow quickly, making them too large for potential predators within their first year. All these characteristics make it sound like Asian Carp will completely overthrow the Lake Michigan food web. But we learned some other interesting facts from Dr. Moy. For one, these fish need a long stretch of flowing river water (about 63 miles) in which to spawn, which makes them better suited for river life than lake life. Additionally, the lake is colder than their native habitat, which could mean that they need even more flowing water for successful spawning. The scientists are trying to identify the potential impact, but also hoping to avoid that result altogether.

The Asian Carp phenomenon is compelling and will make for interesting case study. One of the next steps we want to take with our educational tools is a way to get students to make policy statements about how to mitigate invasive species. Dr. Moy's presentation on the potential of electronic barriers, measurement techniques using eDNA, and the study of Asian Carp all make for excellent extensions that students will enjoy.





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