



Pennsylvania VOTER

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania



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Winter 2019

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by Jill Greene, Exec. Dir.



It has been quite a year! Like most people, I like to take some time as the year wraps up to reflect on the unexpected challenges and victories and the exciting opportunities coming our way. Of course, the redistricting lawsuit victory cannot be applauded enough. We accomplished something that others have attempted for a long time, and we could not be prouder.

As the new session of the General Assembly is seated, we will be there to encourage them to pass common sense reforms to make our elections fairer and our democracy stronger. We will continue to work for a permanent solution to gerrymandering. We will push for open primaries, early voting, and no-excuse absentee ballots. We will continue to work with our coalition partners like Fair Districts PA to amplify our messages of accountable and responsive government, and we will continue to support our local Leagues in providing accurate, nonpartisan information to voters through legislative interviews, candidate debates and forums, and our online Voters Guide at Vote411.org. We will continue to be the most trusted resource for voters.

This summer, we have two very exciting events coming up. First, our 2019 biennial State Convention will be held June 21-23 in Reading, PA. More details are coming, so mark your calendars! Second, in preparation for our centennial celebration, we will be working with interns from West Chester University's history department to collect oral histories from our life members, and others who've served in the leadership positions in the League, to produce a documentary commemorating the 100th Anniversary of this incredible organization.

I look forward to visiting all corners of Pennsylvania, meet more of our dedicated members and talk to them about early voting and open primaries, redistricting reform, and election protection. Until then, I wish all of you a wonderful holiday if you're celebrating, and best wishes for the new year!

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

by Susan Carty, President LWVPA

GREETINGS!



Another Holiday Season has bestowed its celebrations, traditions and memories upon us!

It can be said with certainty that the past year has been “quite notable,” filled with new experiences, traditional experiences and new opportunities for the League to grow as well as be reaffirmed.

I sincerely am filled with gratitude and appreciation for all of you! Members, supporters, sponsors, board members, staff and yes, even challengers. Without the incredible mix of personalities, strengths, intellect and dedication within our League organization we would never be able to experience the impact that we experience today. You are all the gift that so generously serves Pennsylvania voters. As a respected friend of mine likes to say, “Be of Good Cheer!”

While we celebrate the New Year, let’s remember to give a cheer for our successes in the courts this year. We are deeply appreciative to those who fight with us for justice for the voters of Pennsylvania. We are pleased to be able to say that the voters will continue to be the “choosers” of who speaks for them.

The League of Women Voters continues to reaffirm its commitment to free and fair elections in Pennsylvania. It is the right to be guarded and to be protected. It is the right that Pennsylvania citizens need to see and to know their elected officials are protecting as well. It is the gift of a democratic process. It is the right thing to do!

Finally, of significant note, as we look towards the 2019 New Year, we look with anticipation to the celebratory plans and activities to come in preparation for the Celebration of our 100th Anniversary in 2020! Below is a link to a toolkit filled with suggestions to help you in development of any plans you may consider for your local leagues. https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/lwv-anniversary-toolkit-final_0.pdf

Best regards,

Susan

Susan Carty, President LWVPA, Board Member LWVUS

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOMINATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

by Eileen Olmsted

The LWVPA nominating committee is accepting nominations for state board positions, including president, treasurer, secretary, vice president of administration and development. The committee is also seeking an off-board volunteer to prepare and edit the quarterly Voter (this requires editing and computer skills). For more information, to share suggestions, or if interested contact or to share suggestions or interest contact Eileen Olmsted, chair of the 2019 nominating committee: eileeno31@gmail.com.

WELCOME NEW LWVPA BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

by Jamie R. Mogil, Esq.



I’m honored to be appointed to the League of Women Voters’ Pennsylvania Board. I look forward to continuing the League’s important work in fostering civic engagement and advocating for a fair democracy. The League’s nonpartisan, good government agenda is as necessary today as it was when the League began almost 100 years ago. I hope to sustain and build upon this powerful legacy with my experience as an attorney in private practice and more than a decade working in election reform and voting rights. Most recently, as Election Protection Director for Pennsylvania, and as Resolutions Coordinator for Fair Districts PA. I’m committed to diversifying and bolstering membership of the League. Please feel free to contact me to tell me about your chapter, your visions for LWV-PA or simply chat about current events at jamiemogil@gmail.com.

ALICE PAUL SOCIETY

by Eileen Olmsted

What would happen to good government in Pennsylvania if the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania were to close down? That's not idle speculation. The portion of member dues that local Leagues pay to the State League falls far short of covering the costs of the good work that the State League does. To continue that work, we need the generous support of our League's friends -- those inspired by the legacy of nearly 100 years of civic activism and willing to support activities that advance the principles of thoughtful and enlightened governance.

I hope you will join me as a member of the Alice Paul Society, whose members pledge to contribute \$500.00 or more per year to the Pennsylvania State League in order to build an endowment whose income will support its many worthy activities fostering better government.

Your contribution will support the very important ongoing work that the League does. We have been particularly active in the areas of gerrymandering, election reform, and voter empowerment. We also are calling attention to environmental issues, with an emphasis on the health implications of Marcellus Shale related activities. While continuing these efforts in the coming year, we hope also to work actively on criminal justice reform and fair funding for education.

You can help ensure that our League is able to maintain this level of activism by joining the Alice Paul Society. To do so, visit the Pennsylvania League's web site (<https://www.palwv.org/>) and click on the Donate button. Or you can mail your donation to LWVPA, 226 Forster St. Harrisburg, PA 17102.



SHALE AND PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

by Heather Harr

The annual Shale Conference, “**Shale & Public Health,**” addressed the health impacts of the various stages of shale gas development, from fracking at well pads, to distribution through pipelines, to ethane crackers and petrochemical processing into plastic products. Organized by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania and hosted by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, the conference took place at the University Club, 123 University Place, Pittsburgh, PA on November 14, 2018.

The conference featured research published in 2018 on a variety of health impacts. Nicole Deziel, PhD of Yale University presented a study of shale gas activity and increased rates of sexually transmitted infections in Ohio. Nathaniel Warner PhD of Penn State shared the “Environmental and Human Health Impacts of Spreading Oil and Gas Wastewater on Roads.” Elaine Hill, PhD of University of Rochester Medical Center presented research on pediatric health and shale gas development.

Giulia Carlini, LLM from the CIEL Environmental Health Program in Geneva, Switzerland previewed findings from the Center for International Environmental Law's forthcoming white paper on Human Health Impacts across the Plastics Life Cycle. These begin at the wellhead, continue through transformation into plastic polymers, then through the manufacturing and use of plastic products, and end with disposal and persistence in the environment. According to Carlini, “plastics fragment into micro plastics which act as

magnets, absorbing and concentrating pollutants...which are then released into our lungs when plastic particles are inhaled, into our gastro-intestinal tract when we eat food that is contaminated with plastic, or through our skin.”

The conference welcomed 160 participants and included citizen science tools for addressing health impacts and breakout sessions. Pittsburgh-area pediatrician Dr. Ned Ketyer led physicians and health professionals in a workshop on improving provider and health care system responsiveness to patient concerns regarding health impacts of shale gas development.

The “Shale & Public Health” conference was part of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania's educational programming and is supported by grants from the Colcom Foundation and The Heinz Endowments to the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania's Citizen Education Fund.



Giulia Carlini LLM from the Geneva Switzerland office of Center for International Environmental Law presented about “Public Health Impacts across the Plastics Lifecycle.”

RECLAIMING OUR DEMOCRACY TOWN HALL

by Carol Kuniholm

LWVPA cohosted a Reclaiming Our Democracy Town Hall with Fair Districts PA on December 1 in the State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg, attended by about 250 FDPA and League members as well as members of other FDPA coalition organizations, legislative policy staff and press. The event consisted of three panel sessions:

Session One: **Electoral Reform for Expanded Representation**, moderated by FDPA Chair Carol Kuniholm, explored “powerful and achievable” ways to expand involvement in elections and ensure stronger representation. Micah Sims, of **Common Cause PA** spoke about same-day voter registration and no-excuse absentee balloting, LWVPA Executive Director Jill Greene discussed early voting and alternatives to closed primaries, and Peter Ouillette, Chapter Chair of **Represent.US.Pennsylvania** spoke about money in elections and citizen-financed elections. Rabbi Michael Pollack of **March on Harrisburg** closed the session with discussion of the work on gift bans and the influence of money on legislative decision-making.

In Session Two: **State Wins and New Strategies in Redistricting Reform**, FDPA Legislative Director Pat Beaty discussed next steps in drafting redistricting reform legislation, then moderated discussion between Yuriy Rudensky of the Brennan Center for Justice and Sam Wang of the Princeton Gerrymandering Project.

Session Three: **Reforming the Rules to Ensure Representation** focused on procedural rules in the Pennsylvania legislature that make it possible for just a few powerful leaders to block reforms supported by a majority of legislators and citizens.

- State Representative Steve Samuelson began that session, describing his own experience with redistricting reform efforts.
- Former State Representative Ken Lee shared his concern, as a moderate Republican, for the way gerrymandering has fueled partisan extremes and undermined collaboration.
- **The Morning Call** columnist Bill White talked about his own coverage of redistricting efforts dating back to 1991.
- Former state representative and senator Allen Kukovich talked about power and encouraged the moral power of citizens determined to do what’s right.
- Former state representative Dave Steil described reform efforts in the PA House in 2007 that led to small but important changes in procedural rules.
- State Representative Pam DeLissio closed the session with her own stories of frustration at the ways rules are applied, often inconsistently, to shut down legislation rather than aide deliberation.

More detail is available in the FDPA web update [here](#).

(<https://www.fairdistrictspa.com/updates/200-activists-attend-reclaiming-our-democracy-town-hall>)

The event was livestreamed and video of all three sessions is available on the FDPA Youtube channel

(<https://tinyurl.com/FDPAYoutube>) or follow links on the session titles above to see each individual session.

FOCUS ON PROCEDURAL RULES IN THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE

by Carol Kuniholm

Since redistricting reform bills were blocked, gutted and buried in this past legislative session, Fair Districts PA and League members have been studying procedural rules and talking with past and present legislators about ways to change them.

Rules are voted into place on the first day of every session, January 1 for the 2019-2020 session. A campaign to promote changes was undertaken in December, launched at the Dec. 1 Town Hall, involving contact with legislators, letters to the editor and outreach to incoming representatives. The effort to see new rules in place will continue and will include informational meetings for local Leagues and Fair Districts PA local groups. You can find background information on this and links to proposed rule changes [here](#).

In 1995-96, LWVPA conducted a statewide study of our Pennsylvania General Assembly, resulting in a new position statement in 1997, part of our current **Impact on Issues**.

A section of that position focused on procedure and recommended specific changes:

- Limit the number of bills each legislator could introduce.
- Set a deadline after which only bills addressing an emergency could be introduced.
- Provide for an automatic calendar.
- Set a limit of 5 legislative days for the Appropriations Committee to release bills requiring fiscal notes.
- Provide for committee membership that more closely reflects the ratio of party members in the House and Senate.
- Require committee chairs to be elected by committee members.
- Be uniform for both House and Senate.
- Require a supermajority vote (2/3) to suspend the rules.
- Establish a training program on the rules for all legislators at the beginning of each session.

LWV OF GREATER PITTSBURGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE STUDIES EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

by Joan H. Franklin, Education Committee, co-chair

The Education Committee of the Pittsburgh League has embarked upon a study of Early Childhood Education in their area, especially since the amendment to the Allegheny County Home Rule Charter did not pass in the election on Nov. 6th. This initiative would have provided early childhood education, nutritious meals, and after-school programs for children up to Kindergarten, in Allegheny County. The LWV-GP chapter wants to continue to support Early Childhood Education, asking the questions:

where can families find information about how to access the programs which exist in Pittsburgh; where can parents find resources; what are the costs and fees, access to transportation, and ratings for quality programs.

They have invited speakers to their January and February meetings to be better informed about possible resources by the area leaders in early childhood learning and education. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 23rd, 2019, in the Squirrel Hill Library at 1:00pm.

REGISTERING VOTERS IN THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

by Peggy Dator, Co-Chair, LWV Bucks County

This fall, the LWV Bucks County registered voters within the criminal justice system for the first time.

The Bucks County Correctional Facility serves as the countywide central receiving location for all persons committed to the criminal justice system as either pre-trial detainees or convicted prisoners and annually receives over 7,500 prisoners. Medium and maximum-security classified inmates are housed at this facility which has ten modular living units. Construction of a new women's facility is underway due to extreme over-crowding. A separate facility, Community Corrections, includes separate men's and women's centers that are community-based, minimum security, work release facilities and serve over 300 inmates.

We first approached a County Commissioner who referred us to the Facility Warden and the Superintendent of Community Corrections. Due to security issues, we were not allowed into the jail to register inmates so we worked with the assistant warden to provide guidance for the caseworkers who would help the inmates. We supplied educational posters, voter registration and absentee ballot applications, and picked up completed documents and delivered them to the Board of Elections. Peggy Dator, LWVBC Co-President, provided a brief educational overview about voting to representatives of the modular units and key correctional officers.

We also worked with the Superintendent of Community Corrections to provide voter registration and absentee ballot applications assistance at both the men's and women's facilities. 35 League members were trained on how to accurately assist in completing voter registration and absentee ballot applications and 14 members volunteered to help register voters in Community Corrections.

While we did not assist a significant number of inmates, we were pleased to find inmates who were already registered and educate those who were unaware that they were eligible to vote while incarcerated. We were disappointed that few women inmates were interested in voting. Take-aways include:

- This was a first-step. Barriers were over-crowding and security issues. Our reputation for non-partisanship was critical to developing a trusting relationship with administration.
- Education about voting is extremely important for the inmate population. Many are unaware they can vote or why their vote counts.
- Inmates had more issues with reading, writing and understanding the voting process than our typical registrants. We encountered atypical circumstances, such as determining the correct address for the inmate. Since most inmates would be incarcerated on election day, they had to concurrently apply for an absentee ballot. Issues such as mailing to/from the facility in time to meet the deadlines were critical and required discussions with the Board of Elections.
- Most League members had a lot of questions as they helped the inmates. Training was important, as was having at least one very knowledgeable LWV member to provide guidance on the spot.

The staff, including correctional officers, were very helpful and supportive of our efforts and we felt completely safe. It was a great experience for our League volunteers and we encourage other Leagues to get involved in their own counties.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNOR’S REDISTRICTING REFORM COMMISSION

On November 29, Governor Tom Wolf signed an executive order establishing a redistricting reform commission to examine ways to improve the state’s redistricting process. David Thornburgh, Executive Director of the Committee of Seventy, was named chair of the commission, and Susan Carty, President of the League of Women Voters of PA, will serve on the commission. The commission will be comprised of members from diverse backgrounds, including current and former legislators, leaders from non-partisan civic organizations, and members of the administration.

“The League is proud to serve as a member of this commission and we thank Governor Wolf for the opportunity to lend our voice to this effort,” LWVPA

President Susan Carty said. “We are confident that this nonpartisan effort will work to adequately address Pennsylvania’s redistricting problem in a thoughtful, deliberative way and help make Pennsylvania’s elections fairer and more democratic.”

The League encourages our members to remain engaged in the fight against gerrymandering and support the aims of the commission by attending one or more of the six public hearings that will be held around the state and submitting online comments supporting redistricting reform. We thank the Governor for making redistricting reform a priority, and we thank our members for their tireless work toward this important goal.

BROWNIE SCOUTS LEARN ABOUT VOTING

by LWV of Radnor

Thanks to the outreach of Girl Scout leader Sarah Carroll (now a LWV member), veteran and student members of the League of Women Voters of Radnor involved nearly sixty Brownie scouts and their leaders in the election of their favorite “Candy Dates.” The girls, in second and fourth grades at Ithan Elementary School, began their experience by registering to vote with Nancy Lamason.

They formed random groups and campaigned for their favorite candy by creating ads, posters, and a “rap,” or song. Radnor High School student Morgan

Wisehart helped her group brainstorm words for use in their advertising efforts. Each group then had time to appear on stage, hoping to sway voters via their presentations. Before voting, each student also received a LWV fact sheet that included major ingredients, costs, and calories of each treat. “Informed” voters then went to the polling place to cast their ballots with Hershey Bars being the winner! Brownies then spread their enthusiasm by taking home LWV cards with voting information as well as a handout about the offices that were on the November ballot.



Nancy Lamason



Morgan Wisehart



AROUND THE LEAGUE



LWV OF ERIE COUNTY

by Lori Dolan, LWV Erie County Chapter

The League of Women Voters Erie County Chapter registered over 50 new voters on National Voter Registration Day, was awarded an LWV Fair Districts grant, and has initiated early childhood, middle school, high school and adult voter education programs in the last quarter. For Thanksgiving, we collected warm clothing and toiletries in an Erie County drive for several city warming shelters. Plans to commemorate and celebrate LWV 2020 are well under way with an RFP recently announced for a city art project and plans for a county wide annual calendar of events hosted by community partners to bring attention to the 2020 anniversary, women's issues and our country's changing women's culture.

Our Early Childhood/Elementary citizenship program involves public reading. We call it "**League Ladies Literature for Little Ones**". The program was recently highlighted in the **Erie Reader** in an article called *Democracy by the Books*. You can find it at: <https://www.eriereader.com/article/democracy-by-the-book>

"**League Ladies Literature for Little Ones**" is a pilot project. We are working with an independent bookstore, the Erie County Library and our local Neighborhood Art House (founded by the Sisters of Saint Josephs and now run through Erie Arts and Culture) to schedule our civic reading "gigs". We develop a very brief lesson plan to encourage interaction with the children based on the selected books. We maintain our own library of titles.



Lorraine Morse-Dolan, right, meets up with Colleen Holmes before a recent program at Gannon University about gerrymandering in Pennsylvania. Both women are active in Fair Districts PA and Morse-Dolan is spearheading a new voter education program for preschoolers, "League Ladies Literature for Little Ones."

LWV OF RADNOR TWP

Student Outreach - Responding to requests by Cabrini and Villanova Universities, President Roberta Winters provided support and materials to assist in registering student voters. Laura was instrumental in organizing the forum for the 165th PA House candidates that was regrettably cancelled due to the final legislative session in Harrisburg. Roberta conducted a training session for interested students and faculty at the request of Raymond Ward, Associate Director at Cabrini's Wolfington Center. LWV member and NextGen organizer Andaya Sugayan supported this luncheon event as well as outreach efforts by students throughout the area. National Voter Registration Day was highlighted with a lunchroom table at Radnor High School manned by students and retired teachers Gladys Corrodi and Fran Finkel. In addition to several on-line registrations, three students took time to complete registration forms that were then hand-delivered to the Board of Elections in Media by Sara Pilling. Sara and Katrina Olgilby also reached out to register voters at the Overbrook train station as part of this effort.



League Holds Candidate Forums - League members Rosemary Prostko waits for the next questions to deliver to the moderator from screeners Cris Beuger, Becky Kretchmann, and Linda Schneider at the Nov. 1 double forum for the 38th Senatorial District and 29th Legislative District.

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AROUND THE LEAGUE

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LWV OF GREATER PITTSBURGH

Remembering Phyllis Majesky, LMV of Greater Pittsburgh

Phyllis Majesky passed away November 3, 2018. Phyllis was the President of LWV of Upper St. Clair in the 80's. Phyllis worked with both the Township of Upper St. Clair and the cable company that eventually became Adelphia Cable to establish Community Access in the township. She learned and subsequently trained others in the use of the cameras and eventually editing equipment. For a while the League of Women Voters put on a live cable report on Township Commission meetings.

LEAGUE AT LATINA PAY EQUITY EVENT

by Martha Raak

On Nov. 1, LWVGP was happy to table with the Latino Community Center at an event highlighting ethnic and gender discrepancies in pay equity held at Schenley Plaza. Those assisting me were Angeles Stiteler, Renee Hill and Paul Outon. We had some Information translated into Spanish for first time voters, posters and more, and we were able to interact with others in the park setting. Several were interested in joining the LWV.

Speakers included County Commissioner, Rich Fitzgerald, Controller Chelsea Wagner, city councilwoman, Erika Strassberger and many in the Latino community including professionals and students. They stressed the fact that female Latinas make .54 for every \$1.00 that white males earn.

LWV OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

by Samantha Maloney

The League of Women Voters of Lackawanna County with cosponsor, The University of Scranton Political Science Department, sponsored debates between state General Assembly candidates. In an open race, the 112th House District candidates, Republican Ernest Lemoncelli and Democrat Kyle Mullins, debated October 23, 2018. The 22nd Senate District candidates, Senator John Blake, a Democrat, and former Old Forge School Director Frank Scavo, a Republican, debated October 24, 2018. League member, Professor Jean Harris of The University of Scranton, served as moderator for both debates. Questions delved into regional and state issues such as, property tax reform, natural gas tax extraction, limiting political contributions, reforming the state per-diem, the economy, and the expansion of Keystone Sanitary landfill. LWV of Lackawanna County gave each candidate the opportunity to shine a light on where he stands on these important topics. It was an extremely informative night for the voters.

LWV OF CENTRAL DELAWARE COUNTY

by Barbara Amstutz, President

OCTOBER 2018

League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County presented its first half-day **Civics Education Conference** featuring Delaware County Court of Common Pleas Judge Dominic Pileggi as keynote speaker. Judge Pileggi served as mayor of Chester and three terms as a PA state senator. Attendees could choose to attend two of three workshop sessions: (1) the functions of our judiciary system, led by Thomas Pietryla, program coordinator for PA for Modern Courts (2) how the state legislature works, led by Rosemarie Halt, senior policy director for the Maternity Care Coalition; and (3) legislative and congressional redistricting, led by Charles Day, a volunteer with Fair Districts PA.

Five Delaware County Candidate Forums for the PA House Districts 165, 166 and 168, the PA 6th Senate, and the 5th Congressional race were organized and presented jointly by Marita Green, CDC League vice-president and Roberta Winters, LWV of Radnor Twp.

NOVEMBER 2019

Hot Topics Luncheon on November 2, featured G. Terry Madonna, director of the Franklin & Marshall College Poll and director of the Center for Politics & Public Affairs. He discussed the results of the pre-election polls and provided updates on the state of voter engagement in the midterm elections.

The League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County sponsored **a tour of the Constitution Center and its special exhibit: Hamilton: The Constitutional Clashes that Shaped a Nation**. The Hamilton exhibit explored the constitutional debates that shaped early America and some of the personalities involved, including Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and Aaron Burr.

DECEMBER 2018

Former Pennsylvania State Senator Constance H. (Connie) Williams presented "One Woman's Leadership" at the LWV-CDC's annual holiday brunch at Springhaven Country Club. Williams was a state senator from 2001 to 2009 and a state representative from 1997 to 2001. She is a current member and former president of the Philadelphia Art Museum Board of Trustees.

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AROUND THE LEAGUE

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LWV OF CENTRE COUNTY

by Jan Koch

In September, the LWV of Centre County partnered with State College Mayor Don Hahn to host a breakfast forum on voter registration and safeguarding election integrity. Presentations by the College Democrats and College Republicans were well received and very informative. County Commissioner Michael Pipe briefed us on the plans for updating Pennsylvania election equipment.

This fall we continued our outreach to all the local high schools, offering them voter registration forms and information. This was the first year that we also partnered with Penn State University to increase voter awareness among students on campus providing them candidate information via our Vote411 Candidate Guide and instructions on polling places. We look forward to continuing this effort and expanding it as we approach the next two election cycles.

This fall we held our bi-annual Candidates Night which was well attended. We had a standing-room-only crowd for much of the event. Because of the non-participation by two candidates for Congressional seats we were not able to include those races in our event, however, we dovetailed our event with an event hosted by the Centre Daily Times (CDT) for the two candidates that did choose to participate. By sharing the venue and the date with the CDT Candidate forum, we maximized attendance at both events.

Jill Greene, Executive Director, LWVPA was the guest speaker at our December Holiday Luncheon and provided an update on the status of the effort to end gerrymandering.

LWV OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

By Diana Dakey

League of Women Voters of Lackawanna County to hold Campaign School 2019.

Planning to run for public office or to support a campaign? Hear practical information on how to commence your candidacy and run an effective campaign! Campaign School is a regional event cosponsored by the LWV of Lackawanna County, the Political Science Department of the University of Scranton, and WNEP TV 16 (media sponsor.) Scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2019, the program begins at 8am with a continental breakfast at the University of Scranton, Brennan Hall 5th Floor, and concludes at 1:30 pm.

The material presented will be applicable to anyone considering a run for public office in Pennsylvania, whether gearing up for a county/local race in 2019 or a PA House/Senate race in 2020. Men and women are encouraged to attend. The cost for the seminar includes continental breakfast, and a notebook of literature: \$40, \$25 for PA LWV members, and for students, \$15.

Speakers will cover the practicalities of completing a petition, organizing a campaign, raising money, and using various forms of media. A session will discuss how to become a delegate to the party convention in the presidential election year. The program will wrap up with a panel to share lessons learned from political life. Register at <http://www.lwvlackawanna.org/register.php>





53rd LWVPA State Convention

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania's 53rd Biennial State Convention will be held Friday, June 21 to Sunday June 23 at the Crowne Plaza, 1741 Papermill Road, Reading, PA.

Hotel reservations may be made online or by phone; more details can be found at www.palwv.org. Rates start at \$122 per night (subject to state and local taxes), and include the hotel's breakfast buffet. This rate is extended for Thursday and Sunday nights.

Details about the schedule and additional information will be made available! Look for workshops on election reform, environmental protect, fair funding for education, and more!

While any League member may attend, only delegates can vote. Official membership counts are determined by national office records of voting members as reported to the national office in January. More information about convention rules will be shared with League Leaders in the coming weeks.

We hope you will join us this summer in charming Berks County!



Save the Date!

53rd Biennial State Convention

June 21-23, 2019

Crowne Plaza, Reading PA

**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF PENNSYLVANIA**

226 Forster Street
Harrisburg, PA 17102-3220

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Winter 2019

Pennsylvania Voter

**SPRING 2019
PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS CALENDAR**

First day to circulate and file nomination petitions	February 19
Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions.	March 12
First day to circulate and file nomination papers	March 13
Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions	March 27
Last day to REGISTER before the primary	April 22
Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot	May 14
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots	May 17
MUNICIPAL PRIMARY	May 21
First day to REGISTER after primary.	May 22
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on May 20). . .	May 28
MUNICIPAL ELECTION	November 5

Note: All dates in this calendar are subject to change without notice.

LWVPA BOARD

Susan Carty	<i>President</i>
Vacant	<i>1st Vice President (Administration)</i>
Carol Kuniholm (LWV of Chester County)	<i>2nd VP/Gov't & Social Policy</i>
Don Naragon (LWV of Greater Pittsburgh)	<i>2nd VP/ Health & Environment</i>
Vacant	<i>3rd Vice President (Voter Services)</i>
Victoria Williams (LWV of Central Delaware County)	<i>Secretary</i>
Vacant	<i>Treasurer</i>

DIRECTORS

Eileen Olmsted	<i>Membership</i>
Vacant	<i>Election Reform</i>
Bonnie Fowler	<i>At-Large</i>
Liz Forrest	<i>MAL Liaison</i>
Toni Keg (LWV of Berks County)	<i>Education Advocacy Chair</i>
Jamie Mogil	<i>At-Large</i>

The Pennsylvania Voter

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Founded in 1920, 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.

The LWVPA welcomes tax-deductible contributions to the Citizen Education Fund and encourages interested persons to name LWVPA as a beneficiary in their wills.

For timely information on state government and legislation, call the LWVPA at 1-800-564-6598 or go to our website at www.palwv.org or send an e-mail to info@palwv.org.