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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
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CLEMSON SC 29633-0802
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Volume 38, Number 4
April 2010

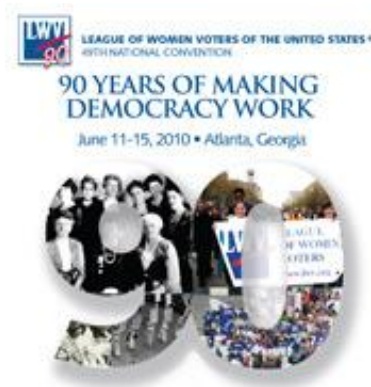
LWVCA President: Della Baker
The Voter Editor: Catherine Mobley

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tues., April 20	LWVCA General Membership Meeting on Child Welfare, 7:00 social time; 7:30 meeting time, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Pendleton Road.
Sat., April 24	LWVSC State Council Meeting, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1715 Bull St., Columbia, Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.; \$25 registration fee. See page 2.
Mon., May 10	LWVCA Annual Meeting, Collins Ole Town, outside Central. Cost \$21 per person. See pages 2 & 3 for more details.
* * SAVE THE DATE * *	
Wed., June 23	LWVCA Wine Tasting, at the Tiki Hut in Seneca, 5:00-7:00 p.m. More details to follow (see page 5 for more details).

Clemson City Council	1 st and 3 rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Seneca City Council	2 nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Pickens County Council	1 st and 3 rd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Oconee County Council	1 st and 3 rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Anderson County Council	1 st and 3 rd Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.
Pickens County School Board	4 th Monday, 7:30 p.m. (except July and December)
Oconee County School Board	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Anderson County School Board	3 rd Monday, 6:00 p.m.
LWV National Office	202-429-1965 (800-424-2937 for state/ local board members)
LWVCA website	http://clemsonarea.sc.lwvnet.org/

President's Message



A Call to the LWV National Convention

The board would like to extend an opportunity to you to attend the national meeting in Atlanta, GA. Several of the board members are interested in attending for at least one day and want to know if you are interested in carpooling. If funds allow, we want to assist with a small stipend to help with gas or other expenses. The official start of the conference is Saturday, June 12 at 1 pm. The Convention adjourns Tuesday, June 15 around Noon.

LWVCA will have one official voting delegate, however, non-voting members can be part of the excitement as the Convention delegates debate and adopt the 2010-2012 National Program, the LWVUS Budget for the next fiscal year, and amendments to the LWVUS Bylaws. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at dellabaker@yahoo.com or 650-1955.

Hotel Information: Use Group Code: lwvhwva

Marriott Atlanta Marquis, 265 Peachtree Center Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia
PH: 1-866-469-5475

Room Rates:

Single or double room per night: \$179 plus 15% tax @205.85
Triple (three persons in room) \$189 plus 15% tax
Quad (4 persons in room) (request additional beds) \$199 plus 15% tax
Concierge Level: \$199 and up
Suites: \$350 and up.

You may download registration forms in pdf format or you may register on-line after log in. Click on the following link:

<http://www.lwv.org/Content/NavigationMenu/ForMembers/Council/Registration/Registrat.htm>

On another note, the Voter Services Teams are gearing up for town and county candidate forums and **Voter Education and Registration** activities for schools in the three counties of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens in April. May 8th is the last day to register to vote in the June 8th primary election. If you can assist with any of these efforts, please contact me or the persons listed in the article pertaining to these events in this newsletter.

Please visit our Facebook page at: League of Women Voters - Clemson Area

~Della Baker, LWVCA President

LWVSC State Council 2010 Highlights

State Council is when the League plans initiatives for next year. Please contact Della Baker (dellabaker@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend the meeting on April 24 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, (corner of Bull and Blanding Streets) in Columbia at 9 a.m.. Here are some session highlights:

Hot Water Issues in SC: Where does SC's water come from and where does it go?

Go Green, Go Transit: Can traveling by public transportation use significantly less energy and produce less pollution than traveling by private vehicles?

Getting to Great Together: Opportunities to grow the League and League leaders. Janie Shipley, LWVSC MRI Coordinator, and others will lead this discussion.

We Elect School Boards...Don't We?: Holley Ulbrich and others will bring us up to date on recent developments on local legislation affecting school districts and boards.

Counting Every Vote – How can Leagues undertake voter registration and education initiatives through their local public schools.

Plus: League Action Priorities, and other Business

Submitted by Della Baker

LWVCA Voter Service

The Voter Service Team is asking members to participate in voter registration at three high schools in our tri-county service area and three candidate forums. Oconee County will have a voter registration at Walhalla High School on April 15th. Please call Reggie Turetzky at 944-7171 to volunteer. Pickens County will have a voter registration at Daniel High School in April. Please call Bill Hare 654-4417 if you wish to volunteer. Anderson County plans a voter registration for school district #5 during the last week in April. If you wish to volunteer please call Elaine Epstein at 224-5126.

There will be two candidate forums before the June 8th Primary Election. One in Oconee County for the County Council Candidates – Please call Reggie Turetzky 944-7171 to volunteer; and one for the Congressional District 3 at the Strom Thurmond Institute –Please call Reggie Turetzky 944-7171 to volunteer.

Nominating Committee Slate of Candidates

The Nominating Committee reports the following slate for your consideration at the annual meeting:

President – Michelle Chin (2010-2011)
President-elect -Linda Gahan (2010-2011)
Secretary – Ada Lou Steirer (2010-2012)

Director
Carol Kozma –to serve the last year of Bea Bailey's term, which ends in 2011

Directors – (2010-2012)
Sandra Gray
Reggie Turetzky
June Hay

Nominating Committee (2010-2011)
Elinor Baron, Chairman
Ansley Fraser
Elaine Epstein

Continuing Board members will be:
Treasurer - Alice Flower (2009-2011)
2nd Vice President, Program and Action - Holley Ulbrich (2009-2011)

Directors – (2009-2011)
Paula Appling
Donna London
Past President- Della A. Baker (2010-2011)

LWVCA Annual Meeting

Monday, May 10 at Collins Ole Towne
228 Lawton Road, Central, SC

Social time will begin at 6 p.m. with wine provided by League volunteers. (Please volunteer!) A buffet dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. We are invited to look around the 1930s "rural community" that Pat and Roy Collins have constructed. They have a barber shop, school house and general store. There is a working sorghum mill, a Model A Ford pickup and assorted farm equipment. They are currently constructing a chapel and have a wedding scheduled there this spring.

Our speaker will be Dr. Esin Gulari, Dean of the College of Engineering and Science at Clemson University, who will speak about her trip to Antarctica and the South Pole.

We need your reservations no later than May 1. Dinner is \$21/person. Please email your reservation to Alice Flower at:

alflower@bellsouth.net or phone her at 646-2603. Checks should be made out to LWVCA and mailed to PO Box 802, Clemson SC 29633.

Directions from Clemson: Take Hwy 93 North to Central. Approximately 0.1 mile past the stoplight in Central, turn left under the railroad track and immediately turn right on Gaines Street. Continue on Gaines Street beside the railroad for about one mile. When Gaines Street turns left, continue straight ahead into Collins Ole Town. The sign says “*Collins Ole Towne, A 1930s Rural Community.*”

Pickens County Comprehensive Plan

The group working of the draft of the Pickens County CoOmprehensive Plan is sponsoring two “open house” events in April to showcase the comprehensive plan to the general public and solicit more comments from citizens of Pickens County.

* April 20th 4pm – 6pm, Pickens County Administration Building Auditorium

* April 29th 4pm – 6pm, Kimberly Hampton Memorial Library in Easley, main meeting room

In addition a Public Reference Room is now open to the public, next to the Department of Community Development in the County Administration Building. This room contains maps and information about Pickens County, up-to-date drafts of the comprehensive plan, and writing/drawing tools for visitors to use so that we can collect as much public comments as possible. The room is open between 9am and 4pm M-F, and staff is available (next door) for support. Also, the public is urged to take a look and participate in the new survey questionnaire on the website: www.2030pickenscounty.com.

League of Women Voters members should take this opportunity to have input in the following areas of the Comprehensive Plan which will affect the future of Pickens County:

- Population
- Economic Development,
- Natural Resources,
- Cultural Resources,
- Community Facilities,
- Housing, and
- Land Use

~ Submitted by Reggie Turetzky

Food for Thought at Prospective Member Luncheon

The Membership team held a Prospective Member Luncheon on March 26 at noon at Friends Cafe in Clemson. Team members called names of people that Barbara Hamberg had collected at the Benefits Fair last year. Unfortunately, we were unable to draw a good attendance from the people we contacted.

Janie Shipley presented a brief update on legislative issues that the League has been following closely.

She explained the Voter Photo ID bill that is being seriously considered by the state legislature. It would require 178,000 legally registered SC voters to obtain a government-issued photo ID; implementation of this proposal is estimated to cost over one million dollars. There has been no recent action on this bill (H. 3418) to which the League is opposed.

Janie also discussed raising the cigarette tax in SC and encouraged members to contact their Senator over the weekend, and encourage him to support the increase. The League supports using cigarette tax money to help pay for Medicaid costs along with providing non-smoking education.

Janie reported on the status of H.3245 that would require a woman seeking an abortion to make two trips to the abortion provider. Amendments passed by the Senate this week have eliminated the two-trip requirement. The luncheon guests were fascinated by this conversation and the significance of the issues discussed by our group and our legislature.

The Membership team is reconsidering the use of the luncheons since we are having some trouble getting participation. We will try other possible times for our meetings and talks. As Michelle Chin had suggested, the programs are one good way to energize people and educate them with an eye to action.

~ Submitted by Carol Ward
Membership Chair

LWVCA Local Program

The Board recommends re adoption of our existing education positions.

- The LWVCA believes our schools should be adequately financed. Therefore, we support increased taxes, if necessary, for Pickens, Oconee and Anderson County schools.
- The LWVCA supports greater fiscal autonomy for the School Boards of Trustees in Pickens, Oconee and Anderson Counties.
- We support returning to the current structure of the Pickens County School Board with six area seats and three at-large seats.

The Board recommends that we adopt the following local growth management policy position, replacing the more detailed one adopted in 2004:

We support intentional and collaborative growth management in the three county (Anderson, Oconee, Pickens) area of South Carolina. We encourage regular consultations among public agencies related to growth and development and local elected public bodies--city councils, county councils, and school boards. We also encourage an open and frequent dialogue between those agencies and the general public on growth management. We support the concept of managing growth to preserve and enhance quality of life for all residents, old and new, through the effective and coordinated use of such land use management tools as conservation easements, purchase of development rights, development impact fees, and zoning where appropriate.

The Board recommends that we make recycling in the Tri-County area an action priority for 2010-2011.

~Submitted by *Holley Ulbrich*

LWVCA Budget Committee

The Budget Committee has submitted a budget after examination of the current budget, expected expenditures, and the amount of revenue necessary to support and execute the LWVCA mission. At its meeting, March 25th, the Board voted to submit this budget to the membership for consideration at the Annual Meeting. The reality of scarce funds (the local portion of dues amounts to \$6.80/member with a membership of 59 full members) and dwindling gifts was an issue that required our thoughtful deliberation

of where we could become more efficient without compromising the integrity of our organization. As a committee, we sought a recommendation that provides a long-term solution to the League's reoccurring financial deficit.

Last year, \$1,800 was budgeted for printing and mailing *The Voter*, a cost of \$28/member with a membership of 67. *The Voter* is our largest expenditure with flexibility and opportunity to be more financially efficient. Ultimately, there were two options for us to consider: electronic distribution of *The Voter* or increasing membership dues by approximately \$15.00.

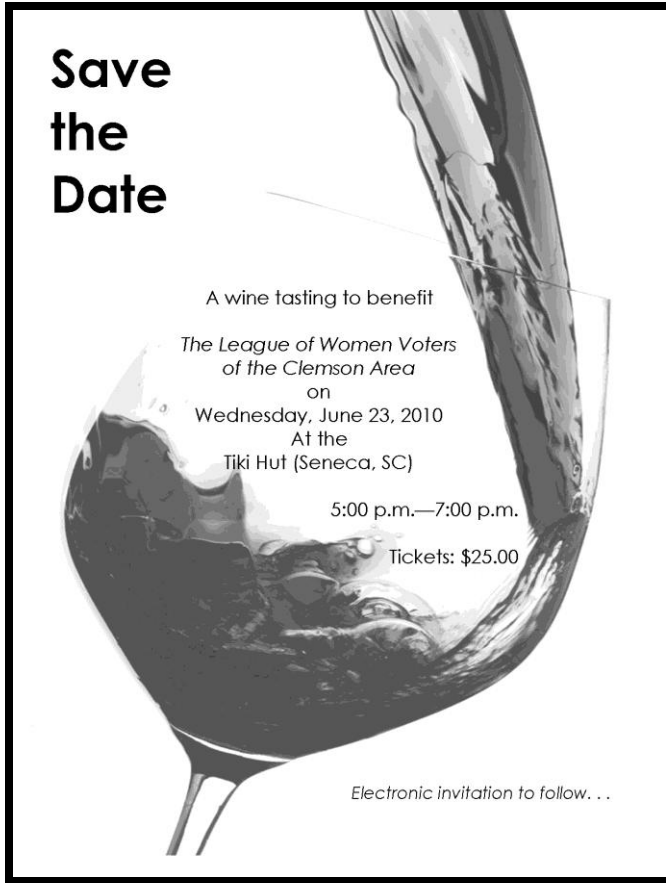
In the proposed budget, we recommend decreasing the number of printed and mailed copies of *The Voter* while increasing its effective electronic distribution by e-mail. This proposal allows us to effectively utilize our website, which is accessible to the public as a reliable resource, as well as continue funding programs and services that support the core of the LWVCA mission. Our budget reflects figures assuming that approximately 50 hard copies of *The Voter* will be produced and approximately 25-30 copies mailed to the community including but not limited to schools, libraries, non-member donors, and prospective members.

At the end of this newsletter you will find a questionnaire evaluating *The Voter* and the preferences of our membership. We hope you will submit your feedback .

*Submitted by the Budget Committee:
Alice Flower, Ada Lou Steier, Kathy Woodard
Michelle Chin, Chair*

Oconee County Hot Topics Luncheon

Join us for a Dutch treat Hot Topics luncheon, April 6, 11:45 to 1:15, at the Copper River Grill on Rt 123 in Seneca for a discussion on Growth Management in Oconee County. Art Holbrooks, Oconee County planning director, and Jim Gadd, director of the Oconee Alliance, will make brief presentations to be followed by a question and answer session. The LWVCA position on growth management includes an emphasis on regional cooperation so all members and their friends, not just residents of Oconee County, will find the discussion enlightening.



LWVCA Budget

The following budget is presented to be considered at the Annual Meeting in May. The LWVCA budget depends heavily on fundraising as only \$6.80 of our dues stays in Clemson. We greatly appreciate all contributions including tax deductible contributions to the LWV Education Fund. Up to 50% of our PMP can be paid with Education Fund contributions.

Income	
Dues	3150 ¹
Member Contributions	500
Education Fund Contributions	500 ²
Fundraising	1197
Total	5347

Expenses	
PMPUS	1840 ³
PMPSC	882 ⁴
Voter	
Printing	400 ⁵
Mailing	100 ⁶
Website	200
Convention	1000
Board Tools	
President	200
Membership	200
Voter Education	200
Publications – DPO	0 ⁷
Fundraising	100
Misc	200
Citizenship Award	25
Total	5347

¹ 59 full members, 8 half members

² Used to pay PMP to LWVUS.

³ National PMP \$29.20 full, \$14.60 half

⁴ State PMP \$14 full, \$7 half

⁵ Assumes we print 50 copies at ~\$50 per printing, 8 issues.

⁶ Assumes first class postage, mailing to schools and libraries.

⁷ DPO has standalone funding when it is published.

Dear LWVCA Members and Friends:

The League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area has thrived as a result of extraordinary leadership and volunteer commitment over the past 42 years. Earlier this year, a special fund was established to specifically support leadership development for LWVCA members in order to sustain that work in the future. Trained leaders increase the effectiveness of LWVCA. The past presidents of the LWVCA know firsthand the importance of strong leadership skills to an organization and have already responded by contributing nearly \$1,000!

Now it's your chance to make a difference. With an upcoming election season, the LWVCA is already planning to provide the programs and services that you and the community have come to expect. Please consider giving a gift to help us reach our goal of \$2,000 before June 2010. Your contribution of any size will have a great impact as it supports the LWVCA in:

- Using Technology to Advance LWVCA's Mission of Informed Citizen Participation in Government
- Voter Education and Service
- Membership Recruitment and Retention
- The VOTER newsletter and other Publications
- Recognition of Students that Participate in Community Service

The LWVCA is committed to keeping you involved and abreast of political issues that affect you as an individual and all of us in the state and in the three county region that we serve. To show your support, return the enclosed form with your donation. If you have any questions or would like to know more about how you can support the LWVCA, please contact me at 864-650-1955 or [<dellabaker@yahoo.com>](mailto:dellabaker@yahoo.com). Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Della A. Baker
LWVCA President

LWVCA Donor Form

Yes, I want to help LWVCA reach its goal of \$2,000 this year with a gift of \$_____!

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____ payable to the LWVCA.

All donors will be recognized in our year-end issue of the newsletter.

Contributor Information:

Name: (As to Appear on Recognition): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Additional Giving Option:

My gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Send Acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Send this form along with contribution to LWVCA, PO Box 802, Clemson, SC 29633

NEWSLETTER RESPONSE FORM

Substantial time, effort and expense are expended in preparing the VOTER newsletter. Please assist LWVCA in evaluating the VOTER newsletter. Please check the box that best represents your answer to the following questions.

1. How important is the information in the VOTER to you?

- Not important Somewhat important Important Very Important

2. To what extent do you read the newsletter?

- I don't usually read it. I scan it I read some of it I usually read all of it

3. The VOTER is easy to understand Yes No

4. Which format would be most helpful?

- Printed Electronic

(If you want the electronic format, please include your e-mail address)_____

5. What other topics would you like to see covered in the newsletter?

- More detailed information about what our members are doing with the State League
- More introduction of new members and local leaders (bio, picture, etc.)
- More information about successful alert campaigns and how to answer an alert.

6. Other suggestions:

Please return your responses to: LWVCA, PO Box 802, Clemson, SC 29633 **OR** visit our website to respond to this survey: <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22AEYPEXSJS> by April 25th. Thank you.

Enclosed in this newsletter is a self-addressed envelope that you may use to return your newsletter response form and or contribution to LWVCA. We thank you in advance for your support.