



# LEAGUE LINES

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[www.lwvcolumbiasc.org](http://www.lwvcolumbiasc.org) Editor: Suzanne Rhodes /Art & Production Editor: Pat Manley

Volume: 69 Issue: 4

November 2016



## Calendar



**VOTE ABSENTEE and shorten those lines!**

[http://scvotes.org/voter\\_information\\_brochures](http://scvotes.org/voter_information_brochures)

**TIP:** The Richland County Election Office has been having long lines at lunch time.

### ENTER YOUR ADDRESS AT

**VOTE411.ORG** to build your *personalized voting guide* that includes which offices you will see when you vote. For instance – how many Senate candidates are running this year?? Find More SC voting information:

<http://lwvsc.org/votesc.html>

### November

Thur	17	Public Policy Luncheon. See details →
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### December

Sat	3	Holiday Party to be held at Pat Forbis' home.
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### January

Thurs	19	Public Policy Luncheon: Legislative Goals and Issues dealing with the new legislature and DHEC.
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## NOVEMBER PUBLIC POLICY LUNCHEON WHAT THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION MEANS TO SOUTH CAROLINA



Thursday November 17, 2016 – 11:45 am



**Rep. BETH BERNSTEIN**, who successfully negotiated the Cervical Cancer Prevention Act to passage last session, will speak about the results of the election and what it means for the SC legislature and our future goals.

**All are welcome, but reservations for a catered lunch are required no later than Wednesday NOON, November 15.**

**Cost of lunch: \$10.00 (Attendees may bring their own lunch). Please RSVP to Susan James [sc.susanbjames@gmail.com](mailto:sc.susanbjames@gmail.com) or call 256-6822**

### What's inside?



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**THE PREZ SEZ***Julie Sellers*

**JULIE'S JEMS** – April may be the cruelest month, but October is the busiest – especially in an election year. The Voters Services committee members worked hard to make sure everyone was involved in events as much as possible. **Margaret Anne DuBose** was chosen by **Mel Jenkins** to head up the event planning. And what a job she did! I counted over fifteen separate venues where she helped organize the workers, the tables and chairs, and the brochures to be handed out. And all of this was performed with a smile.

Margaret Anne also applied for and our chapter was awarded a \$500 grant for **National Voter Registration Day**, September 27. On that day she and her committee welcomed students from USC to help with registration. The students were members of the **Black Law Students Association** and the **American Constitution Society**. League members **Janie** and **Robin White** worked above and beyond to make the day successful. Part of the grant was used to supply us with more banners. Mel and Margaret Anne have used our three new banners and our older one to let people know the location of our League events.

**Sharon Ayling** headed up the Naturalization ceremony in Greer. **Sally Huguley** organized the Richland District Two Board officers' forum. She was faced with making the evening as equal as possible with eleven candidates running. Sally had help from **Janie** and **Robin White, Pam Craig, and Lil Mood**. There was a problem coming up with the equipment to run the forum. No one seems to remember what happened to the paddles, signs, and watch after the City Council forum held last year. ***If you remember or have them, please let us know.***

Many of us also attended the twenty-fifth **Anita Hill lecture and Party** on October 15. This was the first year that the State League was asked to sponsor a table with information about voting registration and the voting process. State co-president **JoAnne Day** asked **Janelle Rivers** to organize our involvement. The attendees were already registered, but many had questions about absentee balloting. The procedures could be confusing with two kinds – absentee voting by mail and absentee voting in person. It was wonderful to see so many women, and a few men, in support of this brave woman. **THE BEST PART: Anita Hill was actually here.** She gave a wonderful speech, inspiring those who lived through the painful congressional hearing and those who only recently reached voting age.

Tuesday, November 8, is nearly here. All of us need to print out a sample ballot to be prepared for all the races we can vote in. Doing so will give us a chance to assess the candidates before we get to the voting booth. Please ask your friends to do the same. Vote ahead of time if possible, because I predict long lines for this historically important election.

Julie Sellers

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## OTHER NEWS



### LWV COLUMBIA AREA HAS BEEN EXCEPTIONALLY BUSY WITH VOTER REGISTRATION EVENTS

Through a wonderful team effort, our local league was awarded a \$500 pass-through grant from the LWV Education Fund to facilitate our participation in National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, September 27, 2016. The goals of the grant included reaching out to underserved populations and increasing awareness of the League. With funds in our annual budget and the grant money, we made a splash with a new LWV tablecloth, three LWV Register to Vote banners, and LWV pens and clipboards. **JoAnne Day** also lent us the LWVSC banner for our events. We promoted our events with flyers, emails to students, and in the local media. We also sent out follow-up "**Remember to Vote postcards**" to over 80 people.

We teamed up with the law students from the **Black Law Students Association** and the **American Constitution Society** for two Saturday events, and for a full day of National Voter Registration Day events. Volunteers registered and changed addresses for over 200 voters and gave out information about the voting process, absentee voting, and the LWV at many locations during the month of September: Spring Valley High School, AC Flora High

School, the US Naturalization ceremony in Greer, SC; the low-income communities off Harden Street in Columbia and Alexander Road in West Columbia, inside Save-A-Lot Harden Street grocery store, outside Ace Hardware Parklane Plaza, Newberry College, Midlands Technical College Beltline Campus, The Crossings at Columbia Assisted Living, The Central Midlands Transit (The COMET), Sumter Street Transit Center, and churches in Lexington County.

Our members and prospective members stepped up to the plate to ensure our LWVCA events were well staffed. Thank you to **Janie and Robin White, Julie Sellers, Mel Jenkins, Margaret Anne DuBose, Pam Craig, Rosemary Greco, Sej Harman, Pat Mohr, Janelle Rivers, Sharon and Bob Ayling, Konstantina Ayling, Rana Davis, Shirley Geiger, Marianne McGrath, Judy Thompson, Deloris Logan, Pat Forbis, Lill Mood, Ann Maletic, Keller Barron, Lilla Hoefler, Eve Stacey, Kathy Handel, Elaine and Stan Frick, Cynthia Flynn, Guy Jones, Bob Dufford, Cheryl Wilson, Helen Foley, Shirley Geiger**, and others who may not be named here but who also did great work!  
*Margaret Anne B. DuBose*

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**"THIS ELECTION IS NOT RIGGED AND IT IS IRRESPONSIBLE TO SAY THAT IT IS," HALEY SAID. (P&C)** The governor was quickly joined by a chorus of the state's other Republican leaders including **Sens. Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott, Congressman Mark Sanford** and state **GOP Chairman Matt Moore**. "What kind of bizarro world is this when Republicans in one

of the reddest states in the country feel compelled to contradict their party's presidential nominee?" More at [http://www.postandcourier.com/columnists/cast-your-vote-cast-aside-trumped-up-claims-of-voter/article\\_57e8d3ce-979d-11e6-ac0a-1f03b20a205d.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/columnists/cast-your-vote-cast-aside-trumped-up-claims-of-voter/article_57e8d3ce-979d-11e6-ac0a-1f03b20a205d.html).

Forwarded by Mel Jenkins

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#### A NEW ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER

**ASKS: "Why are we destroying our best defense against natural disasters?"**

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/oped/article110093122.html> Rev. Woodberry is pastor of Kingdom Living Temple in Florence and serves on the EPA Environmental Justice Leadership Forum, the S.C. Energy Coalition and the Southeast Climate and Energy Network; contact him at [leownaconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:leownaconsulting@gmail.com).

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#### SPECIAL REPORT SIDELINES

**THE POWER OF BLACK WOMEN VOTERS:** "Now is the time to make our voices heard, to awaken the activist inside each of us, and the most powerful way to do that is to vote." **Black Women Will Decide the Next President:** By Wylecia Wiggs Harris, 9/27/2016. **Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE, is the Chief Executive Officer of the League of Women Voters of the U.S.** This article originally appeared on [Huffington Post Black Voices](http://Huffington Post Black Voices). It is hosted on the Huffington Post's Contributor platform.

Without a doubt, women will play a critical role in the presidential election this year. In 2012, women overall had a higher voting rate (64 percent) than men (60 percent), [according to the U.S. Census Bureau](#). However, the most powerful group of voters will be African American women. In both the 2012 and 2008 presidential elections, black women [voted at the highest rate](#) of any racial, ethnic or gender group. Four years ago 74 percent of eligible black women went to the polls.

The next president cannot win without the support of black women. But despite our political power—or because of it—our voting right is under siege. Today, [more than 30 states](#) have introduced voter suppression legislation, with [laws passing in 14 states](#) and laws pending in 8. For example, in North Carolina, where black women made up more than 23 percent of registered women voters in 2012, a League of Women Voters-led lawsuit successfully resulted in a federal appeals court overturning a [controversial law](#) that sought to restrict early voting and eliminate same-day registration. Other voter suppression laws enacted by states make it significantly harder for millions of eligible voters to cast their ballots by requiring that voters present government-issued photo IDs in order to vote, cutting early voting hours, taking away the voting rights of ex-criminal offenders, and requiring proof-of-citizenship documents in order to vote. While there have been several key victories to overturn these challenges in recent months, the struggle for full voting rights remains.

Rather than become discouraged, we must use these voting restrictions as motivation. Today is [National Voter Registration Day](#), a nationwide, nonpartisan effort to register thousands of voters in a single day in communities and online. When millions of women head to the polls in November, they will elect the entire U.S. House of Representatives, decide who will fill one-third of the seats in the U.S. Senate, and determine many gubernatorial races. Nationwide, thousands of races and ballot

initiatives will be decided. But nearly a quarter of all eligible Americans are not registered to vote, including disproportionately high numbers of young adults, minorities, low-income Americans and those who have recently moved. These are the groups most at risk of being affected by voting restrictions. With so much at stake for all of us this election year, now is the time to ask our family, friends, neighbors and coworkers if they are registered to vote and if their voter registration is up-to-date.

The stakes in this election are especially high for black women and political candidates that want to earn our votes must address the issues that matter most to us: [affordable health care](#), [living wage jobs](#), [college affordability](#) and criminal justice reform.

To me, voting is a key form of taking action on the issues that affect our lives. It was the tragic events on June 17, 2015 that awakened my inner activist. On that day, my mother was sitting in church in Columbia, South Carolina when a shooter walked into a church two hours away and systematically [murdered nine people](#).

The Charleston shootings awakened my commitment to standing up for the rights of others and the underserved. And it awakened my desire to engage in the important conversations on the issues that define our society. That commitment is also what led me to the League of Women Voters.

For nearly 100 years, the League of Women Voters has worked tirelessly, day in and day out, to ensure that *all* eligible voters—particularly those from traditionally underrepresented or underserved communities—have the opportunity and the information to exercise their right to vote. For many Americans, the League is synonymous with candidate forums, voter guides and election protection.

There is still work to be done. Regardless of party affiliation, now is not the time for us to rest on our laurels. Now is the time to make our voices heard, to awaken the activist inside each of us, and the most powerful way to do that is

to vote. The next president *cannot* win without black women.”

On Sept. 17 National Voter Registration Day,



Margaret Anne DuBose and Deloris Logan stand ready to register people at the Save-A-Lot grocery store on Harden Street.



This African American family registered for the first time. The majority of people who registered at this event were African American women.

October 1, 2016 Columbia Area LWV and members of the USC School of Law Students Association and the American Constitutional Society at Ace Hardware in Parkland Shopping Center in West Columbia.





They walked through neighborhoods in the area, registering voters and providing information about polling places and absentee voting.

**Rana Davis, Rosalyn Glenn, and Ann Maletic** listen as the



guest of honor is presented at a meeting. **Rana Davis** is working on the website; Rosalyn is the past treasurer and Ann is the present treasurer. As young, professional, African American women, Rana and Rosalyn understand the importance of getting out the vote.

### Training USC Law Students to Register New Voters



Janelle Rivers, Judy Thompson and others train USC Law Students



Judy Thomson training USC Law Students



Margaret Ann DuBose training USC Law Students



LWVCA President Julie Sellers, USC Law students Tyra and LaShawnda, and prospective LWVCA member Cheryl Wilson.

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### CONSERVATION VOTERS COALITION MEETING

**HIGHLIGHTS:** The annual Conservation Voters Coalition meeting at Saluda Shoals Park on 14 October was well attended, with over 65 attendees, including three members of the LWV from Charleston, Horry County, and Columbia. Staff members of the various conservation organizations represented the vast majority of attendees.

There were numerous issue presentations from teams on water, energy, wildlife and habitat (land), transportation, waste, and regulatory rollback issues. Afterwards, attendees used a color dots process to rank their priorities for importance.

Some of the highest priority issues included legislation on dams and reservoir safety (a bill is still in committee), conservation bank law updates to prevent existing sunset provisions, more water monitoring funding for DHEC and USGS stream gages, incentives for solar and renewable energy production, solar property tax issues, and extension of electric vehicle tax credits. One concern was a requested audit of the Conservation Bank Program and the audit purpose by some legislators.

While not a CVSC priority, the Sierra Club is pushing against the raising of utility fees to pay for financing construction costs of nuclear power plants. The LWV is a supporter of this effort, tagged as "Stop the Blank Check".

Other concerns included efforts to prevent local governments from banning plastic bags, efforts to stop automatic stays when DHEC permits are appealed, denying permits from repeat polluters, needed funding for public transit expenses, needed water withdrawal limits (on which action is moving slowly), and the need for a SC environmental bill of rights, including citizens' rights and the power of local governments to adopt more protective requirements than State government.

Additionally, October 14 was **Ann Timberlake's** last official day as Executive Director of the CVSC. Her dedicated efforts and commitment were crucial in helping grow and sustain the organization and SC conservation policy and legislative efforts. She will continue to be a CVSC advisor and supporter. The new Director, **John Tynan**, is well qualified to lead the CVSC and needs everyone's support.

*Chester Sansbury*

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### MEMBERS CORNER

**Long-time League member Sarah Leverette** was in the hospital for a few days for tests. She was feeling tired and now she is doing fine and they are trying to regulate her new meds. She will be home by the time LL is distributed. She might appreciate a card and your good thoughts. Her home address is: Sarah Leverette, 1343 Shady Lane, Columbia SC 29206. Thanks to **Rana Davis** for letting us know. Please check with **Carole Cato** (530-3893) before calling or visiting.

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### MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK:

The Board of LWV Columbia Area has been thinking of new ways to open up discussion of issues beyond our eight Public Policy Luncheons and occasional evening meetings, usually with limited time for presentation and questions. Perhaps a few of us could develop ideas/topics for further study and action, including writing letters on current issues of importance, AND/OR small study groups, or larger presentations. Give it some thought and let us

know. Mel has volunteered to pull some details together. Julie Sellers

**Check that box of old books!** Do you have an old civics/government textbook that you are willing to give away? Contact: Mel 803-603-4351 [citycivics@earthlink.net](mailto:citycivics@earthlink.net) **Thanks!**

*Mel Jenkins*



## Making Democracy Work



We are beginning a

Discussion group:  
**MAKING DEMOCRACY  
WORK**

We'll Start Our  
Discussions After  
November 8  
(no quizzes no exams)

**Add your name to the  
list...**

Call **Mel Jenkins**: 803-603-4351 or email him:  
[citycivics@earthlink.net](mailto:citycivics@earthlink.net)



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## BOARD CONTACT INFO - 2015-2016 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE COLUMBIA AREA

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2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Women's Health	Pat Forbis	<a href="mailto:pforbis@sc.rr.com">pforbis@sc.rr.com</a>
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### DIRECTORS/PORTFOLIOS

Local Government Director	Missy Caughman	<a href="mailto:mpcaughman@earthlink.net">mpcaughman@earthlink.net</a>
Education Director and Web site	Pat Mohr	<a href="mailto:patmohr@mindspring.com">patmohr@mindspring.com</a>
Web site	Rana Davis	<a href="mailto:ranadavis@hotmail.com">ranadavis@hotmail.com</a>
Environment Director	Margaret Anne DuBose	<a href="mailto:mabdubose@att.net">mabdubose@att.net</a>
Voter Services Director	Mel Jenkins	<a href="mailto:citicivics@earthlink.net">citicivics@earthlink.net</a>
Nominating Committee	Marianne McGrath	<a href="mailto:mcgrathlady@gmail.com">mcgrathlady@gmail.com</a>
League Lines	Pat Manley	<a href="mailto:dancerpem@outlook.com">dancerpem@outlook.com</a>

### OFF-BOARD COMMITTEE HEADS

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Communications	Sej Harman	<a href="mailto:sejharman@att.net">sejharman@att.net</a>
Transportation	Lil Mood	<a href="mailto:lh mood@bellsouth.net">lh mood@bellsouth.net</a>
Membership Coordinator	Janie White	<a href="mailto:Jbwhite64@gmail.com">Jbwhite64@gmail.com</a>
Environmental Liaison	Chester Sansbury	<a href="mailto:csanburyl@sc.rr.com">csanburyl@sc.rr.com</a>
Membership	Pam Craig	<a href="mailto:Pcraig1@bellsouth.net">Pcraig1@bellsouth.net</a>
League Lines	Suzanne Rhodes	<a href="mailto:suzrhodes@juno.com">suzrhodes@juno.com</a>

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### OTHER COMMITTEES

#### Nominating Committee:

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Marianne McGrath, Chair, Pat Manley & Janie White

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**Websites:**

**National:** [www.lwv.org/](http://www.lwv.org/)

**State:** <http://lwvsc.org/>

**Columbia:** [www.lwvcolumbiasc.org](http://www.lwvcolumbiasc.org)

**Facebook:** *To see our Facebook Page:*

1. Go to YOUR Facebook page and begin typing "**League of Women Voters of the Columbia Area**" in the search box until a list pops up.
2. Click on the name **League of Women Voters of Columbia, SC** with the familiar blue LWV Logo on the left

**That's it!**

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**Twitter:**

1. Go to YOUR Twitter account and search for the League of Women Voters Columbia Area and connect.

**Facebook and Twitter email address:**

[leagueofwomenvoterscolumbia@gmail.com](mailto:leagueofwomenvoterscolumbia@gmail.com)

**VOTER INFORMATION WEBSITES**

[www.saveallvotessc.org](http://www.saveallvotessc.org)

[www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org)

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**Columbia City Council**

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 PM City Hall 1737 Main Street Columbia, SC 29201

Check website at [www.columbiasc.net](http://www.columbiasc.net) for more information.



**Lexington County Council**

Meet: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 4:30 PM 2nd Floor County

Administration Building 212 South Lake Drive Lexington, SC 29072

For confirmation of meeting dates, please call 785-8103 or check website [www.lex-co.com](http://www.lex-co.com)



**Richland County Council**

Meet: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 PM 2nd Floor County

Administration Building 2020 Hampton Street Columbia, SC 29202.

For more information, please contact the Clerk of Council Office @ (803) 576-2060 or check:

[www.richlandonline.com](http://www.richlandonline.com)

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