

October 2022

A Busy & Beautiful Fall

Our League members have been working flat out with myriad election related activities. We held three tableing events—at the Cooperstown Farmers Market, the Cherry Valley Kite Festival and the Rotary Fall Fling. We registered voters and handed out voters guides, our “Make a Plan to Vote” materials, information about the New York Clean Air, Clean Water, Clean Jobs Bond Act, and the LWVNY Voters Guides. We made contact with more than 500 citizens in the course of these activities. It was great fun to talk to people about registering and voting. These events bring home the importance of the work we do. People were glad we were there, many of them said “thank you” for the work that we do, and many others engaged in general, pleasant, calm discussions about the state of government and politics today. There is a lot of work in planning and organizing these events, but we both are always so glad to have been part of it.

Our League has a full schedule of activities for the next two months as well. We are sending this *Mini Update* so you can mark your calendar for the events. We hope to see you soon.

Patty MacLeish and Maureen Murray
Co-presidents,

League of Women Voters of the Cooperstown Area (LWVCA)

October 18, 11 am, Stagecoach Coffee, Cooperstown

New (and Newish) Member Welcome

The LWVCA Membership Committee is pleased to announce the first in-person welcome meeting in many years. This informal gathering will be held at Stagecoach Coffee, 31 Pioneer St., Cooperstown on Tuesday, October 18 at 11:00 a.m., Deb Dalton and Carina Franck encourage all new—and newish—members to attend. We’ll treat you to coffee as you meet our local LWVCA leaders and learn some League basics.

November 1, 7 pm, Cooperstown Village Hall

Teaching History with the Harvard Case Study Method

Last summer, LWVCA Youth leader September Schecter attended the Harvard Business School Case Study Institute for Social Studies teachers, a program lead by David

Moss and sponsored by the LWV Greenwich (Connecticut). Attendees at the conference are required to present what they learned to their local communities. September will lead a forum, on November 1, 2022, at 7PM, in the Ballroom at the Village Library of Cooperstown, 22 Main Street, to introduce the Case Study Method resources to area teachers.

September, who is a social studies teacher at Cherry Valley -Springfield High School, has invited all Otsego County social studies teachers to attend. League members and the general public are also invited to the program to learn about this innovative and effective method of teaching history. The LWV Greenwich holds the Case Study Methods programs annually and September hopes to encourage more teachers to attend.

This event will also showcase our Students Inside Albany Program and other state-wide Youth initiatives.

November 15, 6 pm, Clark Sports Center

Reducing Polarization Group

Can We Reduce Polarization? Many members of our League think the answer is yes, and they want to give it a try. The objective of the reducing polarization project is twofold: 1) to educate participants about the history, nature, and consequences of political polarization, and 2) to help participants engage in activities that will help reduce political polarization on local, state, and national levels. Join the League for Part II of our ongoing discussion of how we can reduce polarization. The discussion focuses on Ezra Klein’s *Why We’re Polarized*. The meeting will be at the Clark Sports Center at 6 pm. on November 15. You need not have attended the first meeting to join the group. Learn more at LWVCooperstownArea.org. or contact Tom Pullyblank at tompullyblank@gmail.com.

November 28, 6:15 pm, Clark Sports Center

Making Democracy Work

Former congressman Lee Hamilton once noted that “...public service is a stimulating, proud and lively enterprise. It is not just a way of life, it is a way to live fully.”

On November 28, community members will hear from two local citizens who have chosen public service. Join us for an informal discussion with Dave Bliss and Ben Bauer on the challenges and rewards of serving in local govern-

ment. Dave represents District 7 on the County Board of Representatives and serves as chair of the board. Ben was elected to his post as Otsego Town Supervisor in November 2021. Both are from the area and will join a discussion about why they ran for office and what the challenges and rewards of public service are. Learn how they are helping to make democracy work in our community. You may be inspired to do the same.

The meeting is set for 6:16 p.m. on Monday, November 28, at the Clark Sports Center. Please join us for what should be a lively discussion. Contact Deb Dalton (ddalton@stny.rr.com) if you have any questions.

Membership Renewals are Due!

A quick reminder: we are counting on your continued support as we enter the 2023 membership renewal period. As you know, our membership term runs from January to December. I must report an accurate count of our membership by January 31, 2023, and it's much easier to do so if we receive your renewal in November.

Each year, many of you contribute to the League by making an additional donation to the League. We are excited to let all of you know that the membership committee requested, and the board approved, adding a "pay-what-you-can" option to our membership categories. We don't want cost to be a deterrent to joining the League. Any additional donation you make to the League, will go toward funding this initiative.

Lost your membership renewal form? Download a copy from our website (www.LWVCooperstownArea.org). Please fill it out and return it along with your check to PO

Box 426, Cooperstown, NY 13326 as soon as possible. Thanks to all of you who have renewed already and the many members who have made additional donations to the League.

Your 2022 Election Calendar

VOTE! You have three ways to vote in New York State.

1. VOTE ABSENTEE to vote absentee, you must first apply for an absentee ballot.

- apply for a ballot online at www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html
- pick up an application at the Board of Elections, Meadows Office Complex | 40 County Highway 33W, Cooperstown, NY online at www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html.
- Fill out your ballot as soon as it arrives in the mail and return it promptly.

2. EARLY VOTING Early in-person voting begins October 29 and ends November 6 at the **Otsego County Board of Elections**, Meadows Office Complex, 140 County Highway 33W, Cooperstown and the **Foothills Performing Arts Center**, 24 Market St., Oneonta. Choose the date you plan to vote early:

Sat., Oct. 29, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 3, noon - 8 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 30, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 4, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Mon., Oct. 31, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 5, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Tues., Nov. 1, noon - 8 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 6, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Wed., Nov. 2, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

**3. VOTE ON ELECTION DAY:
NOVEMBER 8 FROM 6 A.M -9 P.M.**

PO Box 426, Cooperstown, NY 13326