

LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area

Vol. 65, No. 4; December 2020 / January 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What's Next?

The most frequent question that I am asked lately is, "What's Next?" I ask myself the same question. There was an enormous amount of energy expended on the election, both physically and mentally. The efforts are too numerous to recount, but our work does not end with the election.

In these uncertain times, the League should be the calm voice of reason. Our mission involves "Empowering Voters". The most effective way to empower anyone is to help them be informed. By informing the electorate, we fight complacency. According to the Cambridge English dictionary, *complacency* is defined as, "a feeling of calm satisfaction with your own abilities or situation that prevents you from doing better." We must avoid this at all costs.

Going forward, we need to be good citizens, not just as individuals but as a League. There is a need for renewal and regeneration. There is a call for truthful, meaningful distribution of factual information. Our Educational Forums and extensive Book Club discussions are excellent examples of disseminating information. Discussions continue regarding how the League can further reach out and broaden its scope of influence.

In the past several months, we have witnessed our democracy under attack. At times, it may have seemed that it was on life-support, with many factions fighting to see who could pull the plug first. The League must fight for democracy with our strongest and most effective weapon...information. It is incumbent upon us not only to inform the electorate but also to help our elected officials fulfill their commitments to their constituents. In short, we must do our best to be good citizens and enable our neighbors to do the same.

Kandy Duncan, President

HOW TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

Our democracy depends on the participation of its citizens. By serving in a public office we support our democracy. In 2021, positions for county, township, borough and school board will be on the ballot during the Municipal Election.

Are you interested in running for a local office or know someone who might be interested in running? Are you wondering how to get started? Take a look at our League's *How to Run for Public Office* notebook at: [HTRFPO Notebook](#). It is a valuable resource for information about whether or not you should run for office, and how to get started if you decide you want to run. Would you like to attend a virtual Campaign School sponsored by the LWV of Lackawanna County? Contact jrbllwv@gmail.com for more information about this event that will be held on the morning of January 30th, 2021.

Janice Bigelow

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, December 1st. Coronavirus containment measures may cause delays or cancellations. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

Monday, December 7th, 3:00pm

BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom, video conferencing tool

Tuesday, December 8th, 10:00am

LWVLA Book Club

Via Zoom, video conferencing tool

Please see Book Club article about registering for the meeting

Wednesday, December 15th, 5:00-6:00pm

EVENING SOCIAL FORUM and
COCKTAIL PARTY

Nancy Neuman

"The Fight to Ratify the ERA"

Via Zoom, video conferencing tool

Please see Forum article about registering for the meeting

Monday, January 4th, 2021, 3:00pm

BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom, video conferencing tool

Wednesday, January 6, 3:00pm

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER
Live Virtual Tour

19th Amendment Exhibit

Tuesday, January 19th, 11:30-1:30pm

FORUM

Dennis Lyons, Editor of *The Daily Item*

"Real News When We Need It Most"

Via Zoom, opening at 11:00am

Please see Forum article about registering for the meeting

Monday, February 1st, 3:00pm

BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom, video conferencing tool

Thursday, February 25th, 10:00am

LWVLA Book Club

Via Zoom, video conferencing tool

Please see Book Club article about registering for the meeting

CONSTITUTION CENTER VIRTUAL TOUR

Join us for a LIVE virtual guided tour of the National Constitution Center's newest exhibit about the 19th Amendment! This exhibit will help us better understand the long fight for women's suffrage, and will also highlight some of the many women who transformed constitutional history. The event will be held on **Wednesday, January 6th, at 3:00pm**. Details about registration will be sent out just as soon as they are available. You can learn more about the Constitution Center at:

constitutioncenter.org

Save the date!

Janice Bigelow

BOOK CLUB

The LWVLA December Book Club meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 8th, at 10:00am via Zoom. We will read *How Democracies Die* by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. Nationally, this book is a selection in many other LWV Book Clubs, and elaborates our October Forum theme of political polarization in the U.S. and how extreme polarization can kill democracies.

The next Book Club meeting is scheduled for February 25th, 2021. The book is *Caste: The Origins of our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. This book has been longlisted for the National Book Award. Pulitzer Prize winning author, Isabel Wilkerson, examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are defined by a hierarchy of human divisions. We will use the book as a basis to continue our discussion of race and broaden that discussion.

Please contact me if you would like to join either discussion, at moffa5@comcast.net. A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the meeting date.

Mary Beth Clark

NOVEMBER FORUM



Dr. Amy Wolaver Associate Professor of Economics at Bucknell, spoke to League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area on November 17th about issues involving public health policy and COVID-19. She started by giving a brief historical survey of what has been learned about the disease since January 2020, making it clear that policy has changed as knowledge has advanced. She then discussed the new vaccines with special mention of some of the problems involving distribution. For the video of Prof. Wolaver's presentation and the rich Q&A period click on [this link](#).

Mary Zimmerman, Forum Committee

DECEMBER SOCIAL FORUM

PLEASE NOTE: *All Forums until further notice will be held via Zoom, and will require registration.*

Join the League for a virtual cocktail party at 5:00pm on Tuesday, December 15th! Instead of our regular forum we will have a final toast to honor the anniversary of women getting the right to vote in remembrance of battles won. In remembrance of battles lost, we will have a talk by Nancy Neuman who led the fight to ratify the ERA for the National League. We also will have an opportunity to socialize in small groups so get your wine glasses ready.

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

The meeting is open to members, prospective members, and recent attendees of other fall forums. The Zoom Meeting Room will open at 4:40pm. There will be breakout conversations as well as general discussion. All participants must register in advance. To register, send an email to: LWVLAForum@gmail.com The registration deadline is Sunday, December 13th. Instructions and unique links will be sent to registrants. *Mary Zimmerman, Forum Committee*

JANUARY FORUM

PLEASE NOTE: *All Forums until further notice will be held via Zoom, and will require registration.* Please join us Tuesday, January 19th, for the LWVLA Educational Forum featuring Dennis M. Lyons, Editor of *The Daily Item* and CNHI National Editor. Mr. Lyons will speak on “Real News When We Need It Most.” The Zoom meeting will run from 11:30am - 1:30pm, with the Zoom room opening at 11:00am. All participants must register in advance. To register, send an email to: LWVLAForum@gmail.com The registration deadline is Sunday, January 16th. Instructions and unique links will be sent to registrants. *Mary Zimmerman, Forum Committee*

MAUCH MILLENNIAL PROJECT

November was an exciting month for the Bucknell Mauch Fellows and for the Mauch committee members! The Fellows held their third and final forum right before the election so that students would be informed about the two presidential candidates’ views on three important issues: immigration, health care, and the environment. Each of the Fellows researched and presented one of the issues. Substantial discussion followed each presentation. On November 10th, the Fellows gave their final presentation via Zoom to a group that included all the members of the Mauch committee and several members of the Board. Everyone who attended the meeting was very impressed with these young women, especially because of the challenges that COVID-19 presented. As the Fellows noted, it’s not easy to get students to attend another Zoom meeting after having spent much of the day in Zoom classes; but their recruitment techniques were successful. It was particularly interesting to hear how they handled the challenges that come when managing discussions on political issues that elicit strong opinions. The committee congratulates the three Fellows, Jerra Holdip ’23, Annie Haley ’21, and Maya McKeever ’21, and their adviser, Prof. Scott Meinke of Bucknell’s Political Science Dept., on a job well done! The last word is from the Fellows themselves, in their

LEAGUE LINE
DEC. 2020/JAN. 2021
League Line is published monthly by the
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE LEWISBURG AREA.
Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month.
Betsy Noyce, *editor*
570-524-2104 / schecktr@bucknell.edu
Dawn Maneval, *designer*
570-523-7372 / dmaneaval922@gmail.com
Key Contacts
Kandy Duncan, *president*
570-524-4439 / lwvlewisburgarea@gmail.com
Facebook Page
facebook.com/lwvla
Website
LWVLewisburgArea.org

final report. They said that the fellowship “gave us all the opportunity to look specifically at different issues pertaining to our futures and, as new and even first-time voters, it gave us as Fellows, and our peers, a sense of power in a political climate that often makes people feel powerless. Knowledge really is power and the ability to spread knowledge and ensure that even people with conflicting beliefs are making informed political decisions is invaluable.” For more information about the Bucknell Mauch Fellowships or about the Mauch Millennial Project more broadly, please visit our web page at: LWVLewisburgArea.org/mauch-millennial-project *Elaine Hopkins for the Mauch Millennial Project*

VOTER SERVICES REPORT

Facts for Voters We will be publishing *Facts for Voters* in February 2021. Editor, Jane Magee Mitchell will be assembling her staff in the next month. **National Popular Voter Interstate Compact** After the November 2020 election, we are closely monitoring the review and certification of election results that is occurring in the six swing states. I and several other LWVLA Voter Services members have been attending seminars that focus on learning about the *National Popular Vote Interstate Compact*, since the national League has committed to supporting this effort. LWVUS is working collaboratively with other states to help get the Compact passed in each state. Recent work is focusing on Colorado.

The compact is designed to ensure that in presidential elections, the candidate who receives the most votes nationwide is elected president. For more information about the Compact, go to: projectvote.org/issues/voting-policy/national-popular-vote-interstate-compact/

- Emphasis on Civics Education** Our Voter Services’ emphasis in the next few months will be on civics education. We will be working with the State League’s Voter Services Committee to organize virtual Zoom sessions on topics that may include the following, depending on interest and availability of speakers:
- How data drive elections
 - Voter turnout research
 - The Electoral College
 - Rank choice voting
 - National Popular Vote Interstate Compact
 - Voter suppression, election observers, and recount rules
 - Gerrymandering
 - Disinformation and what can be done about it
 - What is in Act 77 and 12?
 - Children and the vote (how to engage young people)
 - The social vote
 - Disability and the ability to vote
 - Civil Discourse Project

Please contact me at lsarris323@gmail.com if you would be interested in learning about these topics and/or working on this civics education program. *Linda Harris, Voter Services chair*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Member Renewal The membership renewal campaign is in full swing. Reminder letters were sent out recently. Thanks to all renewing members for your support and the important work you do to keep our League strong. One way we remain vibrant is through gathering together. In these COVID-19 times, we do this remotely. While it is not the live camaraderie we long for, it is wonderful to be with each other in some fashion. Do try to join us for the December 15th cocktail party celebration. *Membership Team*

LWV

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF THE LEWISBURG AREA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL
September 2020 — August 31, 2021

Yearly membership dues: Individual, \$55; Under 35, \$35; Additional household members, \$25 each. Student, \$10

Dues include membership to the local, state, and national League, as well as information and notifications from all three levels (*League Line*, *Pennsylvania Voter* and *National Voter Online*).

I/We wish to join the **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE LEWISBURG AREA.**

Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone (cell, work or home) _____ Email _____

I/We have interest in participating in the following League activities:
____ Voter Services ____ Study Groups ____ Community Forums ____ Special Events

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (Please make your check payable to LWVLA)

Mail your check and form to: LWVLA Membership, P.O. Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837. For more information, phone 570-522-4439 or email lwvlewisburg@gmail.com. Thank you!