

**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**  
We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

**League of Women Voters of Delaware invites all members to its biennial  
CONVENTION, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019  
Barclay Farms Clubhouse & Meeting Rooms  
1 Paynter's Way, Camden, DE 19934**

**No experience required to become a delegate! Join us for an informative and productive day.**

**Registration: 8:30 – 9 am with catered Continental Breakfast**

**Business meeting 9:00 am • Advocacy Corps 11:00 – 12:00 pm • Luncheon at 12:15 pm**

**• Business meeting 1:00 pm; Local Presidents highlights of year; Advocacy Corps, con't • Adjourn 3 pm**

**THEME:**

**How Our Advocacy Corps Works  
and you can participate in our decision-making**

Members of the AC will consider new bills introduced since its last meeting to decide whether to support, oppose, or monitor. Portfolio chairs will present the status of major bills and explain the intent of new proposals. And YOU can join in by expressing your thoughts about the bills under review and what policy positions we have as a basis for support or opposition.

Among *possible* topics: dental care for adult Medicaid recipients; criminal justice, gun control, a plastic bag bill, prescription drug prices and issues, amending Delaware's "equal accommodations" law.

At our LWVDE conventions every two years, we come together to take care of the business of the League. We elect state board members and officers, pass a budget, adopt policy positions, and amend bylaws. It's also a time to reflect on how we can become better citizens . . . how we can engage in the process of government. So join us on June 1st to take care of business, and take part in our decision-making process.

**The Business of Convention 2019 includes:**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS; ADOPTION OF: PROPOSED PROGRAM 2019-2021, PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES and PROPOSED BUDGET(S) for 2019-20 AND 2020-21**

**Registration Information, RSVP by May 28**

**Registration: \$25.00. Pay with check or cash at registration desk.**

**Call or email your local League president (listed below) and let her know that you will be a delegate or visitor. Send your name, contact information and the League you are representing to the office lwvde@comcast.net or call the office at 302- 571-8948.**

*If you are a nominee for board not currently serving on a board, you are encouraged to represent your local League as a delegate. All League members are encouraged to be a delegate or visitor. Visitors are welcome and pay \$25.*

*(Continued on page 2 Convention)*

(Continued from page 1 Convention)

Note: If you are a current state board member and also serve on a local League board, please register as a state board delegate. This will enable the local Leagues to send a local League delegate in your place.

**Current State Board: Joann Hasse - 478-4096 H joannhasse@aol.com**  
**LWVKC: Christine Stillson - 697-8600 cstillson@verizon.net**  
**LWVNCC: Marj Johnson - 765-2081 H marj@comcast.net**  
**LWVSC: Martha Redmond - (410) 215-1301 (cell) marthr27@hotmail.com**  
You can also leave a message at 302-571-8948, the LWV Office.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**OFFICERS**

Co-presidents:  
Sue Claire Harper (2019-2021) (LWVSC)  
Carol Jones (2019-2021) (LWVSC)  
1st Vice President:  
Sandy Spence (2019-2021) (LWVSC)  
2nd Vice President:  
Linda Barnett (2019-2021) (LWVNCC)  
Secretary:  
Kathleen Baker (2019-2021) (LWVSC)  
Treasurer:  
Jill Itzkowitz (2019-2021) (LWVNCC)

**DIRECTORS**

Kyra Hoffner (2019-2021) (LWVKC)  
Jack Young (2019-2021) (LWVSC)  
Beverly Jackson (2019-2021) (LWVKC)  
Coralie Pryde (2019-2021) (LWVNCC)  
Les Stillson (2019-2021) (LWVKC)  
Ellen Wasfi (2019-2021) (LWVKC)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Letty Diswood (NCC) Chair  
Penny Deiner (SC)  
Martha Redmond (LWVSC)  
Donna Reed (KC)

Two additional nominating committee members will be appointed from the board. **Local League presidents** or their designees serve on the state board. The state president can appoint an additional 6 directors)

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Linda Barnett (NCC), Letty Diswood (NCC), Carol Jones (SC), Ellen Wasfi (KC)

The Convention booklet will be emailed to delegates and a copy available at convention.

**KATHLEEN BAKER - SECRETARY**



Artist, educator and activist, Kathleen Baker retired as a National Board Certified Teacher – Music/Early and Middle Childhood – from Arlington and Alexandria, VA Public Schools in 2011. Her early work in researching, writing and performing education programs on women in American history led to founding the professional company, Opera Americana, which worked to acclaim from 1986 for ten years. As a classroom teacher, her creative multidisciplinary approach inspired student-created operas on science, mathematics and social studies, recognized by National Board Certification in Early and Middle Childhood Music. The Alexandria Arts Alliance and Alexandria’s Sister City program with Caen, France, thrive today since their founding with Kathleen’s leadership. She was named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2015.

In Delaware, she has served as her condominium association President and continues to Chair the Advocacy Team. Active with the Southern Delaware Alliance for Racial Justice and the League of Women Voters of Delaware, Kathleen leads the Book Club for Browseabout Books in Rehoboth Beach.

**LINDA BARNETT- 2ND VICE PRESIDENT**



Linda joined the LWVNCC in the summer of 2015. She has become an active member of the Advocacy Corps, focusing primarily on legislative proposals dealing with education and social policy. Linda is also active in the American Association of University Women. Her term as President of the AAUW Wilmington Branch ends June 30, after which she will take the post of Financial Officer for the Branch. Linda has lived in Delaware since 1978, working for the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services as a planner for over 35 years. She and her husband made a variety of locales home prior to settling in Delaware – including Gainesville, Florida; Los Angeles; Flagstaff, Arizona; and Omaha, Nebraska (moves prompted by her husband’s career as a Sociologist and then Professor of Law). She is now a member of the Lobby Corp.

## **SUE CLAIRE HARPER - CO-PRESIDENT**



Sue Claire Harper joined the Board of the LWVSC soon after moving to Rehoboth in 2011, serving on a variety of committees including Voter Services, Common Core Initiatives and the Observer Corps. In November 2014, she became chair of the Land Use Committee whose focus was to invite knowledgeable speakers to participate in public educational forums wherein Sussex County residents could learn about the myriad components involved in the drafting of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan. A key aspect of these 16 forums was to educate and encourage residents on how they could share their views with their appointed and elected officials so that the final draft of the Comp Plan reflected their vision as to what is desirable for Sussex County's future. With Governor Carney's signing of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan on March 19, 2019, Sue Claire stepped down as chair of the Land Use Committee, as it had fulfilled its charter.

Prior to her retirement, Sue Claire was a registered nurse, certified in rehabilitation and case management. For 40 years, she lived and raised her family in Madison, NJ where she was active in multiple community organizations. When her children entered school, she became active with the Madison parent-teacher organizations, including stints as both vice-president and president. In addition, Sue Claire helped found a non-profit adult daycare center for dependent adults, serving as its first executive director.

In her leisure time Sue Claire derives immense pleasure traveling abroad in the company of her teenage grandsons, attending Osher classes, working in her garden and maintaining her 20 year yoga practice. She also volunteers at All Saints Thrift Shop and serves as a volunteer driver for ITN of Southern Delaware.

## **KYRA HOFFNER - DIRECTOR**



Kyra Hoffner, a member of LWVDE Advocacy Corps since June of 2018, is committed to social justice change through advocacy. For the League Day 2019, she coordinated the visits of LWV members to elected officials and staff in a successful initiative to introduce the League's general membership to lobbying at Legislative Hall.

Kyra serves as the volunteer Coordinator for the Delaware Cannabis Advocacy Network, holding over 60 informational meetings per year since 2016 throughout Delaware. She is also active with NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, and is certified with Americans for Safe Access, Cannabis Care Certification Patient Education Program.

As a Mortgage Originator for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage before early health-related retirement, Kyra was admired and respected for her commitment to families and their future well-being. Her current activism for the Environment, Social Justice, Criminal Justice and Education enables her to give expression to her passion for these vital issues together with her interpersonal and professional skills in advocacy with colleagues and at the local, state, and national level of legislative initiative.

## **JILL ITZKOWITZ - TREASURER**



Jill Itzkowitz was born a red diaper baby in Brooklyn New York, where her family was very active in the labor and civil rights movements. She attended the University of Delaware and received a masters degree in political science. Jill then worked for 30 years at JPMorgan as a Vice President managing technology projects. She was based in Delaware, but frequently traveled to New York, London, and Asia. The best part of her job was working with people from different countries and cultures.

After retiring from JPMorgan, Jill began to pursue interests important to her. She joined the LWVNCC in 2017, joined their Board in 2018, and co-chairs the LWVDE election committee. She also volunteers for Faithful Friends, mentors teens at risk, and at Hagley Museum. She is also a member of an Indivisible group, where she focuses on protecting voter rights and civil liberties. Jill is an avid tennis player, and a bridge life master.

### **BEVERLY JACKSON - DIRECTOR**



Beverly Latimer Jackson joined the LWV in Connecticut and served as her local league treasurer. She moved with her husband to Dover in September 1992 and shortly after her arrival was contacted by Ellen Wasfi, president of the Kent County League. Beverly served several terms as treasurer and assists with Candidate Debates and consensus meetings. She is an avid reader and the only time she's ever lied about her age was to get her first library card, telling the librarian (who regularly played Bridge with two of her aunts) that she was seven when in fact, she was only six. She got the card and was the topic of conversation at the next Bridge game. She remains an avid reader but never became a Bridge player.

### **CAROL JONES - CO-PRESIDENT**



Carol goes back a long way with the League – from pre-retirement life in NJ to post-retirement life in Delaware. She joined the Sussex County League in 1997, served on a few committees, chaired Voter Service for SC and went on to become president of LWVSC. Carol became active with the State LWV early on and has served there as President and Finance Chair (a position which she currently holds). Additionally, she is developing a video series on Civics for Adults for LWVDE. Carol also served on the state board of the Delaware Humanities Forum. In her spare time she reads and enjoys time spent with friends and her awesome extended family.

### **CORALIE PRYDE - DIRECTOR**

Coralie was raised in southwestern Wyoming. She has a Master's degree in Organometallic Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts. Her work at Bell Laboratories, and later DuPont Electronics, focused on polymer chemistry and materials science. She has had a long-term interest in environmental issues including preservation, limiting toxic chemicals in the environment, recycling and “zero waste”, and development of renewable energy sources. She is also concerned about maintaining open, accountable government at all levels and sustainable development at the local level. Along with co-chairing the LWVDE Environment Committee, she chairs committees for the Sierra Club of Delaware and is a member of the Delaware Nature Society Advocacy Board, the board of the Delaware Coalition for Open Government (DelCOG), and the Civic League of New Castle County. Coralie has served as 1st vice-president on the LWVDE board the last two years.

### **SANDY SPENCE - 1ST VICE PRESIDENT**



A retired association executive, Sandy immigrated to Delaware in 2003 from Washington, DC. Currently, she serves as LWVDE board member and Advocacy Chair. She was president 2009-11 and treasurer 2007-09 and 2012-14. She served LWVSC as membership chair, Observer Corps member, and program chair/organizer of a public forum series on land use issues 2009-10.

Sandy also served on the Delaware Housing Coalition board, 2006-2014 and Sussex County Habitat for Humanity, 2003-2006. She earned a BA from Allegheny College and an MA from Rutgers, both in political science. When not working on League stuff, she's probably walking her lovable adopted dog.

### **LESTER E. STILLSON - DIRECTOR**



Les retired in 2010 from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Delaware. Retirement allowed him to become more active in both the LWVDC and LWVDE. He recently facilitated the LWVDE merger process and currently serves on the LWVDE Board of Directors and Finance Committee. From 1989 to 2010, Les was responsible for managing and directing all NRCS field operational functions for Delaware. He has over 42 years of diverse professional experience working in eight states and three foreign countries. He was raised on a small dairy farm in Vermont and is a graduate of the University of Maine with a degree in Forest Science.

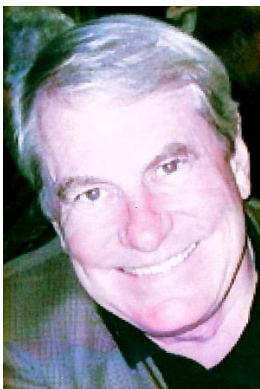
## ELLEN WASFI - DIRECTOR

A native New Yorker, Ellen Wasfi received her B.A. from Barnard College with a joint major in sociology and history, and her M.A. in International Relations from The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She was a Fulbright exchange scholar in Merida, Venezuela, and worked as a research consultant for the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the US Senate-House Joint Economic Committee where she authored two studies on the US aid program in Latin America.

Ellen has served on the state board for the last four years. She has been a board member of the League of Women Voters of Kent County for 32 years and served as its president for over 15 years. She has moderated the League's Candidate Night debates and initiated the Dover League's monitoring of Resident Advisory Council Elections at sites of both the Delaware and Dover Housing Authorities. She chairs the League of Women Voters of Kent County International Relations Committee, moderates its Great Decisions discussion program on global issues, and has taught courses on foreign policy to Dover public school teachers under the Capital School District's in-service program. In 1992-95, she was appointed to the State of Delaware Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks Commission which revised and updated the State's elementary and secondary school social studies program.

She has served on the Capital School District's Diversity Committee and has been a facilitator and administrator for YWCA Study Circles on Racism and Race Relations in Kent County. She was on the organizing committee of SURJ (Stand Up for What's Right and Just), the statewide effort to reform Delaware's criminal justice system. She has been awarded the Central Delaware NAACP Community Service Award, the DEMCO (Delaware Multicultural and Civic Organization) Shofar Award for public service, and in 2010, LWVDE honored her with its Flame of Democracy Award. In 2002, she was appointed by the Dover City Council to the Dover Human Relations Commission where she currently serves as Commissioner.

## JOHN HARDIN "JACK" YOUNG - DIRECTOR



Jack is a resident of Rehoboth Beach. He is a past member of the American Bar Association Board of Governors; past chair, Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice and the Senior Lawyers Division; and, former member, Board of Trustees, American Inns of Court Foundation. Currently, a Life Fellow, American Bar Foundation; Life Member, American Law Institute; member, Advisory Committee of the National Center for State Courts-William & Mary Law School Election Law Project; Volunteer Attorney, National Veterans Legal Service Project, International Election Dispute Resolution Counsel, and senior counsel at SandlerReiff in Washington, D.C. Adjutant Professor, William & Mary Law School in international and comparative election law. Member Governors Council on Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities.

LWVSC Observer Corps, and LWVDE Advocacy Corps. Member Women's Suffrage Centennial Subcommittee of the Delaware Heritage Commission.

**The Nominating Committee has three to four elected members and two appointed members from the state board.**

## PENNY DEINER - NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Penny Deiner was a professor at the University of Delaware for 35 years where she worked in the area of Individual and Family Studies. She is the author of three books: *Inclusive Early Childhood Education: Development, Resources and Practice* (6th ed.) and *Infants and Toddlers: Development and Curriculum Planning* (2nd ed.) as well as *Doodle and Color Lewes*. Her research focused on ways to include children with disabilities in child care settings and the development of a curriculum for obesity prevention for child care workers. Since her retirement in 2007, she has focused her energies on women's advocacy. She has been the state president of the American Association of University Women and was also the president of the Coastal Georgetown Branch.

*(Continued on page 6 Nominating Committee)*

*(Continued from page 5 Nominating Committee)*

She is currently the state AAUW public policy chair. In this position, one of her focuses is pay equity. She is also active in AAUW at the national level as the co-chair of the Branch Program Resource Committee. She joined the League of Women Voters in 2016 and, in Sussex County, was active in the getting out the vote. She is now a member of the Lobby Corp.

#### **LETTY DISWOOD - NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR**



Letty was born in Paraguay to European parents who left Germany and England during the early part of World War II. She moved to England in 1960, and immigrated to the United States, New York State, in 1964. She is a graduate of Oklahoma City University with a Bachelor of Arts. During her League career she has had numerous positions in the LWVNCC: Criminal Justice committee chair, secretary, director and vice president position to president of the Greater Wilmington League, (later merged with Newark to LWVNCC). On the state level she was Co-president with Christine Stillson and then Nadyne Rosin, vice president with administrative responsibilities, and Advocacy Committee chair. She has also served as secretary to DelCOG for many years and has been a board member since the organization was created. Letty has been the office manager for many years and has seen a transformation in all forms of communication and office tasks increasing overall administrative efficiency.

Letty's hobbies and interests include walking, listening to all kinds of music, and camping. She still is a member of an archery club in PA, and misses her motorcycle touring. She is married to Larry, who is a retired engineer and takes pictures at League events and does a wonderful job editing them for publication in the state, local newsletters and on the League website.

#### **DONNA M. REED - NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Native of Brooklyn, NY. Retired to Delaware in 2006 following retirement from Danbury Hospital in Ct. Active in Delaware Manufactured Housing issues. Volunteer advocate for ACSCAN

Currently a member of LWV Kent County. She is a member of the state Advocacy Corps, and involved in voter registration activities in Kent County

#### **MARTHA REDMOND - NOMINATING COMMITTEE**



Martha Redmond retired to Sussex County in 2011 and quickly joined the LWVSCDE. She joined the Observer Corps observing both local school boards and county council meetings. She organized school board candidate forums and became a board member. She served as secretary for two years and then has been the President for the Sussex County League for the past two years. As the Sussex County League President she also served on the state board for two years.

She was part of her local leagues nominating committee in 2015 and 2019.

#### **PROPOSED PROGRAM 2019-2021 (Current Program listed on pages 10-12)**

**Deletions in parentheses and added language underlined.**

**The state board recommends adoption of the current Program and Continuing Studies with the following changes:**

**Under Social Policy:** Support for methods of financing public education that will promote equal opportunity for quality education and improve both the local districts' and state's budgeting while maintaining a (high) level of local control.

*(Continued on page 7 Proposed Program)*

(Continued from page 6 *Proposed Program*)

## Under Health Care

### End of Life Options

Support for state laws that grant the option for a terminally ill person to request medical assistance from a relevant, licensed physician to end one's life and that such legislation should include safeguards against abuse for the dying and/or medical personnel.

**Position adopted by concurrence with LWV Utah position at April, 2019 state board meeting.**

**Continuing Study:** A study of the financing and delivery of health care in Delaware (with emphasis on following the work of the Delaware Health Care Commission and its related committees and the activities of the Delaware Center for Health Innovation).

The LWVDE also acts under the LWVUS health care position: "Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of care for all U.S. residents and controls health care costs."

### Proposed recommended new study item: Alternative Election Methodologies

**Proposed:** LWVDE take up a broad overview study of alternative election methodologies, with a goal of selecting for further study any of those methodologies that appear to have promise to improve the democratic process in Delaware. Such alternative election methodologies include Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV; also known as Instant Runoff Voting, or IRV), approval voting, and proportional voting (multi-representative districts).

## Proposed Amendments to Bylaws:

### Article V Board of Directors

#### Section 5. Regular meetings

There shall be at least 6 (4) regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually to include meetings convened in March and April in preparation for the scheduled Council or Convention.

#### Section 9. Electronic Voting

Delete current e. (Board members who do not have access to electronic mail must be polled by telephone or in person with background information having been supplied.)

Current f. would become e.

## LWVDE Acting on Public Policy Issues

League Day in Dover was held on March 28, 2019 at The Duncan Center in Dover. Topic was:

### Promoting Democracy and a Clean Environment in Delaware

The focus was on four key issues:

- Improving our election system to allow all citizen voices to be heard!
- The National Popular Vote Compact: Basing the Electoral College on the popular vote.
- Securing Clean Water and sound infrastructure.
- Clean Energy supplied through Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) and Green Power.

**SPONSORS:** League of Women Voters of Delaware, Inc, cosponsors National Popular Vote (NPV), Inland Bays Foundation, American Civil Liberties Foundation (ACLU), Delaware Nature Society (DNS), Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence, Delaware for Open Government (DelCOG), ERA Now Delaware.

(Continued on page 8 *League Day*)

(Continued from page 7 *League Day*)



We had great turnout and presenters provided a hard hitting picture of the challenging situation that exists in Delaware.

After the morning session we headed over to Legislative Hall to meet with legislators.



*Pictured L-R: Letty Diswood, John Sykes, LWV Advocacy Corps, Joann Hasse, LWVDE President, Elaine Manlove, Del. Election Commissioner, Rep. Valerie Longhurst and Andrew "Drew" Wilson, Esq*

**Table at Legislative Hall:** On March 27, 2019 the LWVDE Advocacy Corps sponsored a table at Legislative Hall. Multiple Corps and non-Corps members staffed the table from 11AM until 2 PM. We were able to interact with and engage passing legislators, support staff, and visitors providing information on League activities and goals. An informational triptych created by Peggy Schulz provided a great synopsis of the Delaware League's main current priorities.

In addition, a student from Delaware State University (a member of DSU/LWVKC) attended the day starting with a guided tour of the building by First State Historic Division and finishing the day accompanying a Corps member to a Committee meeting.

In this informal setting, it was energizing and fun to reach out to the Assembly and the public.

*Submitted Donna Reed*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I've been a League member since the early 60's in several different states (WV, DE x4, TX x2, MD and MA) and have been on local League boards in every one. That is where the work of the League starts! It is a great way to become familiar with a new community or to increase involvement in the one in which one may have lived for a long time. League membership is a wonderful opportunity to learn and to expand one's horizons. To me, being a Board member is the frosting on the cake! It means being INVOLVED versus being "just a member"—as great as that is.

The state board experience is somewhat different—further expanding one's horizons—but in Delaware it is truly different. Because we are so small, both in size and population, governmental functions which are performed at the local level (city or county) in most states are performed at the state level in Delaware. This means that the actions of our state legislature, and the state government generally, have greater effect on daily life than in most states. The state League, mostly through the Advocacy Corps, is the eyes, ears and voice of our members in representing League positions. A bigger cake, more frosting!!

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Above is the "promo" which I wrote at the request of the Nominating Committee a few weeks ago. I have no idea whether or not they used it but I'm using it now in my "farewell" message because it expresses how I feel about the League. As I wrote in a previous farewell message (in 1993), I am not a college graduate. I graduated from a 3 year hospital school of nursing in the years when that was the norm for the nursing profession.

*(Continued on page 9 **President's Message**)*



(Continued from page 8 **President's Message**)

Now I'm proud to say that I continue to attend the University of the League of Women Voters and I'm a more educated and well rounded person because of it.

I have participated in many, many League meetings over the years. I think I MIGHT be able to count on the fingers of both hands the number of times I didn't learn something or think about a fact in a different way when I went home. League members everywhere are interested, interesting people and our meetings reflect that!

If you are a new or relatively new member, I hope you will find your League experience as rewarding as I have, both in your personal growth and in what you know you are doing to contribute to your community, however you define "community". If you have been around for a few years, like me, I say carry on! Carry on to learn, to contribute and to continue to help to fulfill the goals of the suffragette leaders who founded this wonderful organization nearly 100 years ago. This is Making Democracy Work!

*Joann Hasse, President*

**ADVOCACY UPDATES - will take place at the Convention**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DELAWARE, INC  
A SUMMARY OF CURRENT STATE PROGRAM 2017- 2019**

**STATE GOVERNMENT**

**Delaware General Assembly** - Support of measures to promote a more effective and responsive legislative branch of state government, including strengthening the committee system and use of the budgetary process to review and evaluate state programs.

**Ethics** - Support of ethics legislation in the areas of campaign finance, conflict of interest, financial disclosure and lobbying disclosure.

**Delaware State Constitution** - Support of a Constitution for the State of Delaware which would be confined to broad principles and would promote more efficient and responsive government.

**Public/Private Partnerships** - Support the use of public/private partnerships by governments in Delaware if a project can be better undertaken with public/private cooperation. Public input, careful controls and adequate safeguards need to be part of these partnerships.

**Reapportionment/Redistricting** - Support for an open unbiased process for reapportionment and redistricting with opportunities for public participation.

**SOCIAL POLICY**

**Justice System - Continuing Study: *A re-evaluation of Delaware's criminal justice system and the impact of the current policies and practices on society. (Action will continue to be taken under LWVDE current position***

*(Adopted at convention June 2017)*

*The study is worded intentionally broad so that the study committee can start where its sees the most effective effort and timeliness.*

Support for the adoption of consistent policies which, within budgetary constraints, will permit the disposition of offenders in the best interests of society, the victim(s), and the offenders and their families.

We oppose mandatory sentencing.

We support the expansion of drug courts and mental health courts for all nonviolent offenders and the appropriate science based health and mental health treatment of all offenders.

*(Continued on page 10 Current Program)*

*(Continued from page 9 Current Program)*

**Family Court, Related State Programs for Children, Domestic Violence** - Support of uniformity in operation of the Family Court system; automatic expungement of certain juvenile records; state provided diagnostic services, care, education and treatment to age 21 for youths and young adults who have mental or physical illness or who are developmentally delayed or are substance abusers or abused/neglected; strong educational programs on the rights of victims of family violence.

**Before and After School Child Care** - Support for state government involvement in encouraging, establishing and/or supporting child care programs.

**Financing Public Education** - Support for methods of financing public education that will promote equal opportunity for quality education and improve both the local districts' and state's budgeting while maintaining a high level of local control.

**Education - Continuing Study: *A study of the public education system in Delaware with special focus on financing, charter schools, and transparency and accountability to citizens.*** *(Adopted at convention June 2017)*

**Gun Control** - Protect the health and safety of citizens through limiting the accessibility and regulating the ownership of handguns and semiautomatic weapons. Support regulation of firearms for consumer safety. (LWVUS position applies)

**Health Care: New Study: *A study of the financing and delivery of health care in Delaware with emphasis on following the work of the Delaware Health Care Commission and its related committees and the activities of the Delaware Center for Health Innovation.*** *(Adopted at convention June 2017)*

LWVDE also acts under the LWVUS health care position: "Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of care for all U.S. residents and controls health care costs."

**Needle Exchange Programs** - Support for comprehensive needle exchange programs, which also offer education and referrals to appropriate services, as part of a public health effort to reduce the spread of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C.

**Public School Libraries** - Support policies and funding for public school library media centers that promote their central role in providing equal opportunity for all children to achieve educational excellence.

## **ENERGY/CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Renewable Energy Portfolio** – Support for an increase in the percentage of renewable energy sources in Delaware’s Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) provided that they: have minimum environmental impact; use the best current technology as measured by reliability, proven effectiveness, and being state-of-the-art; have long range cost effectiveness including all net costs such as health and environmental costs, state and federal subsidies, and price stability. Support of measures ensuring that total electricity sales in Delaware be required to meet the RPS.

**Support aggressive increases, by increments, of the percentage goals of renewable energy resources of electricity sold in Delaware beyond the goal of 25% renewable energy resources by 2025, with increased goals for 2035 and 2050. (Updated 6/2017)**

**Transmission and Distribution** – Support for maximizing the development and delivery of renewable energy to Delaware when designing and developing new transmission plans for the region. In addition to delivering reliable, adequate electric service to Delaware, the key factors to be considered in making a decision on any transmission plan/transmission enhancements are: Degree of environmental impact; Degree of utilization of the transmission for renewable resource power vs. fossil- fuel generated power; True cost, including all cost- externalities; Safety and security of the grid.

**Energy/Climate Change** – Support for an aggressive and comprehensive energy use/climate change plan for Delaware. Some key points that should be included:

*(Continued on page 11 Current Program)*

*(Continued from page 10 Current Program)*

Accelerate bringing new green businesses, jobs and industries to Delaware, and investigate emerging energy technologies. Set targets and a timetable for reducing Delaware's total greenhouse gas emissions. Plan for extensive adaptation measures at all levels of government for climate change impacts that cannot be avoided---especially sea level rise.

**Support increasing the currently recommended 2030 goal for reducing Delaware's emissions of all greenhouse gases from 30% to a larger percentage, e.g., 40-45%, relative to 2008. A longer-term goal should be set and be significantly higher, e.g. 80% by 2050, relative to 2008. (Updated 6/2017)**

Support public education and outreach; expand renewable energy and climate change in Delaware curriculum standards. As Delaware calculates energy costs, full life cycle analyses\* with all externalities\*\* must be included. Social and economic justice must be considered in implementing energy and climate change policy.

**The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)** involves pricing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from electricity generation in Delaware and eight other Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states. It uses a system of cap and trade, and now has a decreasing emissions cap of 2.5% per year. The League supports decreasing the RGGI cap by 5% per year, starting 2021 through 2030. (6/2017)

**The Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI)** is similar to RGGI in that it is a regional effort to reduce carbon emissions from the transportation sector. The League supports Delaware having an increasing price on carbon emissions from transportation fuels - especially on a regional basis - provided that some of that revenue is used to ease the burden on low-income families, such as offering gas stamps, or returning part or all of the revenue as a rebate to adult residents on a per capita basis; to promote walkable/bikeable communities; to be used for refurbishing transportation infrastructure; to stimulate research and innovation; to encourage vehicle energy efficiency; to provide additional electrical charging stations for hybrid and all-electric vehicles; to develop economic opportunities and create jobs. (6/2017)

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Support of policies that protect air and water quality, and reduce solid waste.

**COASTAL ZONE** - Support for Coastal Zone planning which considers the best possible outcome for people, the land, and the coastal environment.

**CRITICAL LAND AREAS** - Support for preservation and/or protection of certain critical areas (ecologically fragile estuaries and coastal areas, farmland, flood plain, aquifers, and natural areas); erosion and sedimentation controls; and coordination among all levels of government in decisions involving major facilities.

**FARMLAND** - Support of a farmland preservation program.

**LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION** - Support of the regulation of growth and optimum use of land through comprehensive planning policy. Monitoring of land use policies and procedures and their relationship to human needs, population trends, transportation planning, and ecological and socioeconomic factors. Encouragement of continuing cooperation among governmental agencies.

Support of a balanced, intermodal transportation system interconnected with land use and based on interagency and inter-jurisdictional coordination.

Support reducing transportation-generated greenhouse gas emissions by wiser land use planning and by enhancing public transit options.

Some key points that should be included:

Direct development towards growth zones, except for environmentally sensitive areas within those growth zones; assure availability of infrastructure, services and walkability before developing. - Build compact, or dense, development within established development areas in which pedestrians can safely and conveniently access services; reduce vehicle miles

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traveled (VMT). - Modify Delaware's paratransit fee schedule to establish separate classifications for ADA\* and non-ADA\*\* service. - Reform the system to establish fairer pricing for non-ADA paratransit use. - Tighten eligibility requirements for all paratransit use in situations where the state has discretion. Establish a dedicated funding stream for public transit; explore a variety of funding sources.

### Join the Conversation!

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Twitter provides a quick digest of the nation's leading headlines, while Facebook gives us an open forum where we discuss the important issues of the day. All posts and points-of-view are welcome as long as our nonpartisan and inclusive policies are being respected.

To join Facebook, go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Once you join, search for the League of Women Voters of Delaware and send us a "friend request." To join Twitter, go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and follow the instructions. Once you join, search for @lwvde and "follow" us!

### ACTION ALERT LWVUS

**The For the People Act**, shaped by the League and our allies, passed in the House of Representatives last month, and is an all-star lineup of League priorities. [Contact your Senator now to demand a hearing on the For the People Act.](#)

This comprehensive package will change our democracy for the better and includes:

- Same-day and online voter registration, which will **increase voter participation**.
- Expanded early voting and simplified absentee voting, which **will also bring more voters into our electoral process**.
- **A ban on voter purges that kick eligible voters off the registration rolls.**
- Public financing of elections, which **will encourage more women to run for office**.
- Independent redistricting commissions, established to **end partisan gerrymandering once and for all**.

Not surprising, powerful special interests and partisan operatives are engaging in fear mongering, misinformation campaigns, and outright bullying to stop the For the People Act in its tracks.

P.S. The For the People Act may have passed the House, but Senate leadership shows no signs of stepping up and passing this historic legislation. **Please, help us rally our grassroots network and apply as much pressure as possible on the Senate to advance democracy reforms around the country.**

### CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 11 am - noon	Sheridan's Irish Pub 44 W. Commerce Street, Smyrna, DE 19977	<b>Election Committee meeting.</b> Contact Jill Itzkowitz for details (302-650-6862) <a href="mailto:jillitzkowitz@gmail.com">jillitzkowitz@gmail.com</a>
Wednesday, June 12, 2017 9:30 - noon	Tatnall Building, 3rd Fl. Conf. Rm. <a href="#">150 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd South Dover, DE 19901</a>	<b>Advocacy Corps meeting.</b> Contact Committee Chair Sandy Spence for details (302-841-2882) or <a href="mailto:sandyspence325@gmail.com">sandyspence325@gmail.com</a>
Saturday, June 1, 2019, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm	Barclay Farms Clubhouse & Meeting Rooms, 1 Paynter's Way, Camden, DE 19934	<b>LWVDE Biennial Convention.</b> All details in this newsletter. No experience required to become a delegate. Call 302-571-8948 or <a href="mailto:lwvde@comcast.net">lwvde@comcast.net</a>

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