



The Price of Liberty is Still Eternal Vigilance

THE VOTER

The League of Women Voters of Kent County Delaware

Volume 3/January 2021

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Peggy Swygert
Ellen Wasfi

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 26	2:30 PM Monthly LWVKC Board Meeting via Zoom
February 2	2:00 PM annual review of Bylaws, Policies and Programs meeting via Zoom
February 17	12:00 PM "Let's Talk" conversations via Zoom - topic to be announced
February 23	2:30 PM Monthly LWVKC Board Meeting via Zoom
March 2	2:30 PM County League Calendar Planning Meeting via Zoom
March 17	12:00 PM "Let's Talk" conversations via Zoom - topic to be announced
March 23	2:30 PM Monthly LWVKC Board Meeting via Zoom
April 6	2:30 PM County League Calendar Planning Meeting via Zoom
April 27	2:30 PM Monthly LWVKC Board Meeting via Zoom
May 17	Time to be announced - Annual LWV Kent County Meeting, via Zoom



Due to the restrictions of the COVID pandemic, all dates, times and locations are subject to change. If you are interested in attending our Zoom meetings and programs, please look for the registration tab or links to ensure you have access to the valuable information and sessions.

THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE BY MARY K. EGGERS

Hello Members,

One of my major concerns of the past few years has been the effects of increasing polarization on our two-party system. Historically the concept of two or even three parties, has held the diversity of our democracy stable. Not all people think alike, nor should they. We have different needs and often different goals. Diversity has kept us strong and healthy as a nation. If we are lucky, we still have that ability.

The League of Women Voters work to support citizen inclusion, access and representation in our democracy and at the ballot box. One of our roles is to provide accurate information to do so. In the light of a recent MIT study indicating that lies travel 6 times faster on social media than the truth, we have a task before us.

From the principal of gathering facts before we take a stand, we strive to remain nonpartisan. Sometimes our own personal biases interfere, but we are joined together to remind each other that as a League we need to try and understand both sides. A lot of the time we actually do struggle to remain nonpartisan. When we take a stand, it is because we have seriously researched all sides of the question. Current events illustrate the horror of what can happen when we lose touch with the “other side” and hunker down in our own biases. A divisive environment makes it tough.

As a League, we need work together to maintain that search for accurate information and open exchange. We all need to be involved. Hopefully, you will be able to join us on Feb. 2nd to virtually discuss programing and to look at our policies, procedures, and bylaws. The “Let’s Talk” on Jan. 13 was very informative too.

Looking forward to virtually seeing you soon.
Mary K Eggers, LWVKC President

“And now, one last clue:

***Knowledge for \$1000. Answer-
He nurtured a television safe-
space for smart people.***

***Question: Who was Alex Trebek
(1940-2020)?***



Farewell, patron saint of geeks. Jeopardy host since 1984”

Quote from Neil deGrasse Tyson, Astrophysicist

LWV-DELAWARE NEWS & UPCOMING MEETINGS



We said goodbye to former State League President Carol Jones in December when she passed away. She began her League career with the Sussex County League of Women Voters in 1997. Carol and a few other members were pivotal in reviving the local league by recruiting new members and paving the way for the thriving, vital organization it is today on all levels. Many of the initiatives she supported are still impacting us today. She will be missed, and our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

"Remember, democracy is not a spectator sport!" – Carol Jones

DE State Criminal Justice Committee Meeting -- Do you want to advocate for criminal justice reform that fosters public safety by reducing mass incarceration, recidivism, and racial disparities? How about enacting gun control legislation or fostering police reform and accountability? Then, join the LWVDE Criminal Justice committee (a subcommittee of the LWVDE Advocacy Corps).

Our first meeting is scheduled Wednesday, **January 27 at 10:30 a.m.** Contact [Jill Itzkowitz](#) for further information.

DE Redistricting Map Drawing for Kent & Sussex Counties – Participate in the discussions surrounding the possible new re-alignment of the district lines in Delaware. Practice drawing map with the Dave's Redistricting Application.

The meeting is scheduled for Friday **January 29th at 10:30 a.m.** and register in advance through this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZold--sqz0jH9MhKv16go0Hs7tnaWdaVtPC>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

2020 VOTER TURNOUT IS HIGHEST IN OVER A CENTURY AT 66.3%

Nearly every state hit a new high mark in the 2020 election, including Delaware in which 70.0% of the total eligible voters cast their ballots. The many campaigns to increase civic engagement and registration were highly effective, even during a global pandemic. The access to mail-in ballots and early voting increased the opportunities for citizens to exercise their right and privilege to vote in local and national elections. For many, the registration process was fully explained, and many new voters participated by learning about candidates and issues that most concerns them and their communities. The efforts of the organization like the League of Women Voters and our Vote 411 platforms provided useful information for more informed decisions.

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS IN 2021



February 2nd at 2:00 p.m. is the Bylaws, Policies and Program review meeting on Zoom details:

Meeting ID: 894 1760 2291 Passcode: Bylaws

February 23 is the monthly LWVKC Board meeting at 2:30 PM, on Zoom.

March will include League Days on the State Hill, stay tuned for details and dates.

March 23 is the monthly LWVKC Board meeting at 2:30

PM on Zoom.

May 19 will be the Annual LWVKC Meeting for all members to participate in the business meeting and training topics.

Consider Volunteering to help support our upcoming programs and events. We need your help to make this work for all of us.



We have a new Facebook Page, like, share, inspire and it can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/LWVkentcountydelaware/>

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LWV -Kent County Delaware website: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/kent-county-delaware>

State LWV website: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware>

National LWV website: <http://www.lwv.org>