



# THE VOTER

The League of Women Voters of Kent County Delaware  
Volume 1/JULY 2020

## 2020-2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**  
Mary K. Eggers

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**  
Christine Stillson

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**  
Chandra Owens

**SECRETARY**  
Vacant

**TREASURER**  
Beverly Jackson

**DIRECTORS AT-LARGE**  
Mary Ann Coe  
Crystal Hamilton  
Lester Stillson  
Peggy Swygert  
Ellen Wasfi

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 17	The Last Day to apply for a Mail-In Ballot. (Ballots will be accepted up to the day of the State Primary Election)
August 19	Chat & Chew -- A Noon Zoom Lunch meeting for program considerations. **See the link.
August 26	Statewide Suffrage Markers installed at 11:00 AM in Downtown Dover
September 15	Delaware Primary (If you haven't voted already by mail.)
September 16	Money In Politics Program by Chris Asay and Committee for Fall "Kick Off" at 6:30 PM at a venue to be announced or via Zoom
September 22	Monthly Executive Board Meeting At 2:30PM via Zoom
October 14	Candidates Forum Local Debate at 7:00 PM at the Modern Maturity Center or via Zoom
October 20	Monthly Executive Board Meeting At 2:30 PM via Zoom
October 28	Candidates Forum State & Federal Debate at 7:00 PM Venue to be announce
<b>November 3</b>	<b>GENERAL ELECTION DAY</b> (In person or by mail)
November 18	TED Talk Discussion Roundtable TBA
November 24	Monthly Executive Board Meeting At 2:30 PM at Barclay Farms or via Zoom
December 1	Planning Meeting at 2:30 PM at the Barclay Farms or via Zoom
December ?	Holiday Party (Depends on the pandemic status for the state.)



*It is our Centennial Year, a milestone that continues, let's celebrate!*

Due to the restrictions of the 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 your access to the valuable information and sessions.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY MARY K. EGGERS

Hello Members,

Most of us had hopes that life would return to “normal” by fall, but it looks like our hopes will be dashed. We do, though, have several League programs scheduled using Zoom and others anticipating actual in-person programs with a Zoom back up. Hopefully, you will be able to participate in the noon lunch on August 19th and we will be able to discuss some of this further.

As most of you know by now, the Wyoming Peach Festival has been cancelled. So, our traditional information and voter registration table on the corner of the Stillsons' yard will also not happen. Donna Reed is working with Katy Goff to schedule a time to register voters at Wesley College this fall. I believe that the Kent County Board of Elections is still scheduling voter registration training sessions if you would like to take a class so you can help when we get a chance to register voters. The training is good for 2 years.

Voting by mail is a possibility for both the September Primary and November General Election. You can request a ballot through our LWV websites, the [iVOTE.DE.org](http://iVOTE.DE.org) or the [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org). I strongly encourage you to visit [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), it was created by and is maintained by the League of Women Voters and provides considerable information on the candidates, as well as other salient voter information. There are candidates saying discouraging words about voting by mail, but all research indicates that voting by mail is safe and accurate. I personally love the sense of community when voting in person. But I was delighted to be able to vote by mail in our July Primary and intend to do so for the September Primary and the November General Elections. We need to keep reminding people that every vote is important in a Democracy.

## COMMEMORATION OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT IN DELAWARE



The Delaware Public Archives operates the Historical Markers program as part of its mandate. Markers are placed at historically significant locations and sites across the state. The unveiling of three new Markers that commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote and the 19th Amendment will take place around the state of Delaware.

The dates, times, and locations for the New Castle, Sussex, and Kent markers are as follows:

**Dover: August 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

Along the walkway on the North side of the Old State House between Federal Street and The Green.

**Georgetown: September 16<sup>th</sup> at 12pm**

E Market Street side of the Sussex County Courthouse

**Wilmington: September 21<sup>st</sup> at 11am**

E Front Street Park

*All of the dedications will be held outdoors.*

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE BY PEGGY SWYGERT

Growing the League's membership and leadership is not a one-person job. Our entire Chapter membership has the opportunity to seek out new members, to ask people to join, to share the value of becoming a member and to retain current membership.



It is also equally important to welcome back members who for various reasons, were absent for a limited amount of time. Thanks to Ellen Wasfi and others, we welcome the following new members and the return of another member:

- (1) **STEPHANIE JOHNSON.** Her career with DelDot spans over twenty years and has included positions within accounting, audit, finance, and planning. She resides in Little Heaven and is currently an Assistant Director within the Division of Planning. Married and a mother of three, she has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Wesley College. Stephanie is also extremely interested in advocating for people with physical and cognitive disabilities. She has participated in many community activities, special committees and served as chairperson of the DelDot's Minority Network Organization that served to promote, foster and enhance a valued minority workforce. In her free time, she enjoys trying new recipes, watching documentaries, hosting family and friends, and participating in community events.
- (2) **KATHERINE (KATY) GOFF.** Library Director, Wesley College, Dover, DE. "Katy" is a native of Delaware. She was born in Kent General Hospital. She left Delaware when she turned 21 and toured around the country with the organization Read Across America. She painted murals to promote reading. At the end of her tour she got off in Long Beach, California and decided to go to college. She attended California State University for her undergraduate Degree and San Jose State University for her Master's in Library and Information Science Degree. Katy returned to Delaware in 2005. She was the Teen Librarian at the Dover Library and is proud that she was an original organizer for the Dover Comic Con. Katy has numerous interests and check every topic/issue and is willing to participate in several ways. She also added LGBTQ Issues to her list.
- (3) **CHRISTOPHER ASAY.** A Massage Therapist for over 30 years. He has lived in Dover for 25 years and became a Business Owner in Dover for over 29 years. Chris has an M.S. from UC Davies ('83). He has been a Bicycle Policy Advocate for over 20 years. Currently, Chris serves on Dover's Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of City Council, the Public Advisory Committee for Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organizer and serves as Bicycle Policy & Legislative Liaison for Downstate Delaware Striders and Riders (Running and Bicycling Club). He holds membership in FCNL, ACLU, Common Cause, AARP, etc. Chris has interests in presenting workshops and participating in several Chapter activities. He is scheduled to present a workshop this Fall.
- (4) **CAROLYN PAGE.** Realtor in Delaware. We welcome back Carolyn, who was actively involved with the Chapter's activities, until she had business related issues. We are glad that she has returned and now resides in Magnolia.

Dues continue to be \$55 annually for one adult; \$82.50 for a two-member household; \$25 for each additional member in a household. At the present time, there are no student members, but their fee is \$15. Hopefully, we will be able to recruit more new members as well as students.

Our plan is to continue to grow the League. So, let us make our new members feel welcomed! Good retention practices begin as soon as a new member is recruited and never stops.

## FROM OUR LWV-KC TREASURER-BEVERLY JACKSON

With the start of the new year on July 1<sup>st</sup>, I am collecting the annual dues of members and NEW members to our League of Women Voters in Kent County. Please complete the attached form and mail to me at the address listed. I am looking forward to reporting 100% renewal from our roster of members at our next meeting.

## League of Women Voters – National Update:

Congratulations to the newly elected Officers & Board of Directors of the LWV-US:

Dr. Deborah Turner – President	Melissa Currence – Director
Jessica Lowe-Minor – Vice President	Joan Hunault - Director
Jessica Rohloff – Secretary	Sania Irwin – Director
Leah Edwards – Treasurer	Allison Riggs - Director
Onyinye Akujuo – Director	Lalia Watts – Director
Liz Bander – Director	Toni Zimmer - Director
Melissa Breach - Director	

## COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization’s current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

## FROM THE LWV-DELAWARE PERSPECTIVE – TRAINING OFFERED

### Inclusion Program: Moving the Conversation Forward

The *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Awareness Program* is a series of workshops. The series begins with *Moving the Conversations Forward on Diversity*, followed by *Moving the Conversations Forward on Equity* and concludes with *Moving the Conversations Forward on Inclusion*. Through courageous conversations, self-reflections, role plays, and engaging activities, League members move from awareness to **action**. Using the content in this program, members will learn to:



- Integrate diversity, equity and inclusion best practices into our programs, policies, systems, and procedures.

- Engage in honest conversations about how to improve interactions with new and diverse audiences; and
- Understand how the dynamics of privilege and marginalization impact us in our daily lives.

*Moving the Conversations Forward on Diversity* begins July 27, 2020! Each member may register to attend *one* of the dates provided, July 27, Aug 3, 24, 31, September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 19, & 26. If an event is full, please consider another date. An email with the zoom information will arrive a few days before the event. Note: Part two *Moving the Conversations Forward on Equity* will begin in January of 2021, and part three, *Moving the Conversations Forward on Inclusion*, will be offered in March of 2021.



Join your League members for this research-based, interactive, and dynamic series on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion!

**[PLEASE USE THIS EVENTBRITE LINK TO REGISTER](#)**

---

*“If you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have a moral obligation to do something about it.”* Rep. John Lewis

---

## USING TED TALKS TO EXPAND OUR CONVERSATIONS

The League of Women Voters of Kent County will begin a new activity for members to discuss topics of interest to the league. A monthly **TED** Talk discussion will meet either by Zoom or at a venue to be announced.

The meeting format is to watch a **TED** Talk that has been approved by the board and then discuss the content, ideas, and suggestions on the topic. These discussions will be open to the public, and an online registration will be required.



For those not familiar with **TED** Talks:

- TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less).
- TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages.
- There are over 3500 talks available.

KENT COUNTY LWV 2020-2021 DUES UPDATE

Our annual league dues are \$55.00 for individuals and \$82.50 for a two-member household. When you pay your individual dues, the league sends \$32 to LWVUS and \$11 to LWVDE. For a two-member household, we send an additional \$16 to LWVUS and \$5 to LWVDE.

If you joined (or rejoined) the League after April 1, 2020 the dues you paid include the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

**Your help is needed to continue the League’s educational and community programs. Please consider including a contribution with your 2020-2021 dues.** Thank you for your membership renewal and your support. Membership in the League of Women Voters is still one of the best bargains around. If you no longer wish to be contacted by the LWVKC, please email pjswygert@aol.com or beverly\_jackson@comcast.net.

We appreciate your prompt response and look forward to your active participation in our League activities.

**Please note, there is a \$5.00 surcharge per individual or household for providing a hard copy of all VOTERS and Flyers to cover postage, paper and printing.**

Please mail your check to: Beverly Latimer Jackson, Treasurer LWVKC  
130 Hitching Post Drive  
Dover, DE 19904

----- (clip and send to Beverly) -----

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - \$55.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TWO MEMBER HOUSEHOLD - \$82.50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTRIBUTION TO LWVKC (NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
DONATION TO LWVKC EDUCATION FUND (TAX DEDUCTIBLE) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
HARD COPY OF VOTER AND FLYERS - \$5.00/yr. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Aug 19, 2020 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZAuf-moqzMtHt2naC9uKbr52WXTZhjgLAeC>

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

Shape  
your future  
START HERE >

United States®  
**Census  
2020**

The U.S. Census data is used to make decisions around education, healthcare, infrastructure, and political representation. With increased growth in the country, getting an accurate and complete count of

every person living within is crucial to ensure that each state receives funding to support the number of residents in each state. This Census, the focus continues to be on reaching hard to count communities and ensuring these communities get included in the Census count.

Delaware has reported only 60.0% of the household in the state, and our Kent County has only reported 64.3% of the household. Let us encourage all of our neighbors to complete the Census, by one of the three ways to get counted: 1) By Mail; 2) By Phone; and 3) Online at [My2020Census.gov](https://my2020census.gov).

Every person must be counted, ***Being Counted Is Your Right***. The count determines resources for our community including:

- ✓ **FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS**
- ✓ **FUNDING FOR HOSPITALS & FIRE DEPARTMENTS**
- ✓ **REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS**
- ✓ **NEW SCHOOLS & ROADS**



---

THE VOTER Of Kent County Editor – Chandra Owens, [Chandra.owens6@yahoo.com](mailto:Chandra.owens6@yahoo.com)

LWV -Kent Co 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>