



The Price of Liberty is Still Eternal Vigilance

THE VOTER

The League of Women Voters of Kent County Delaware

Volume 2/October 2020

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Mary K. Eggers

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Christine Stillson

2ND 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

October 20	7:00 PM Virtual Candidates Forum for State Senators for Districts 14 & 15; State Representatives for Districts 28, 29 & 30
October 21	7:00 PM Virtual Candidates Forum for State Representatives for Districts 31, 32, 33 & 34
October 22	7:00 PM Virtual Candidates Forum for Kent County Levy Court Commissioners 1, 3 & 5; Kent County Clerk of Courts and Register of Wills
October 27	2:30 PM Monthly LWVKC Board Meeting via Zoom
October 27	7:00 PM Virtual Candidate Forum for US Senator and US House of Representative
October 28	7:00 PM Virtual Candidates Forum for Delaware Governor, Lt. Governor and Insurance Commissioner
November 3	GENERAL ELECTION DAY (In person or by mail)
November 18	12:00 PM LET'S TALK Discussion Roundtable Via Zoom
December 1	2:30 PM Combined Board and Planning Meeting via Zoom
December 16	12:00 PM LET'S TALK Discussion Roundtable via Zoom
December ?	Holiday Party (Depends on the pandemic status for the state.)
January 13	12:00 PM Money In Politics program and discussion
January 26	2:30 PM Monthly LWVKC Board Meeting via Zoom



sessions.

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

THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE BY MARY K. EGGERS

Hello Members,

This pandemic is forcing us to modify nearly all that we do. It is amazing, though, how adaptive so many have become to continue to have links to those we care about and to share information and offer needed programs.

One area of need is accurate information about political candidates. Who are the candidates in our districts and for what do they stand? How can we vote and where can we vote? **VOTE411.org** has been in operation in our area for several years, and now this League of Women Voters online guide is more valuable during this pandemic than ever before. It is sponsored by LWVDE and coordinated by Kim Wells from New Castle County with volunteers in Kent County entering data for our specific candidates. Visit this site and encourage your friends and neighbors to visit this confidential site. Our democracy needs *Informed Voters*.

We are fortunate in our Kent County League to have Mary Ann Coe and Chandra Owens to Zoom us together for programs and committee meetings. Our first virtual program in August was the “Chat and Chew” held at noon and which yielded several very good ideas for future programs. In September, Chris Asay conducted an interesting informational update on “Money in Politics”.

The technical involvement integrating 3 different sources was a bit more challenging in our first “Let’s Talk” on Voter Suppression on September 30th. We were hoping for another “Let’s Talk” on “Racism” at noon on October 28th but had to move it to November 18th because of the increased dates for candidate debates. Please join us at noon on November 18th.

Ellen Wasfi and her committee have been addressing the challenges of converting our usual, two in-person candidate debates into five Zoom events. I would like to recognize the time, energy, and commitment of Ellen’s committee: Jean Bauer, Gwendolyn Elliot, Mary Merritt, Gail White, and myself who called all the candidates and continue to follow-up on questions and problems. Chandra Owens, Mary Ann Coe, Joan and Fred Breukelman, and Beverly Jackson who are taking care of the posters, letters of invitation, responses and technicalities of actually doing 5 separate virtual debates. Our thanks go out to Ellen Wasfi for scheduling, coordinating, writing press releases, serving as moderator and addressing every little unexpected blip in this new endeavor. Whew! Please reference the dates and program information in this newsletter and on our web site (my.lwv.org/delaware/kent-county-delaware).

Please join us whenever you can fit it in. Together we can make our League work better. I am looking forward to our remaining programs.



“Fight for the things that you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.”

U. S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg
March 15, 1933 – September 18, 2020

THE CANDIDATES DEBATE FORUMS

The much-anticipated opportunities to see the candidates' debate for the elected offices will be in the next two weeks, during the Virtual Forums. Participation by the candidates allows the constituents to ask poignant questions to address their local or statewide concerns. If you have questions for the candidates, please submit through email to KCDELWV@gmail.com to have it included in the forum. A replay of each forum will be on our LWVKC Facebook page and Kent County website.

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KENT COUNTY, DELAWARE

2020 Candidate Forum

Candidates for
State Senate, Districts 14 & 15
State Representative, Districts 29 & 30

Tuesday, October 20, 7:00
Video will be posted October 23 on
LWVKC website and Facebook page

Send candidate questions to
kcdelwv@gmail.com by October 19

Co-Sponsored by AAUW, NAACP Central Delaware Branch, NPHC Central Delaware & Restoring Central Dover

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KENT COUNTY, DELAWARE

2020 Candidate Forum

Candidates for
State Representative, Districts 31, 32, 33 & 34

Wednesday, October 21, 7:00
Video will be posted October 23 on
LWVKC website and Facebook page

Send candidate questions to
kcdelwv@gmail.com by October 20

Co-Sponsored by AAUW, NAACP Central Delaware Branch, NPHC Central Delaware & Restoring Central Dover

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KENT COUNTY, DELAWARE

2020 Candidate Forum

Candidates for Kent County Levy Court
Commissioner, Districts 1, 3 & 5
Kent County Clerk of the Peace &
Register of Wills

Thursday, October 22 at 7:00
Video will be posted October 23 on
LWVKC website and Facebook page

Send candidate questions to
kcdelwv@gmail.com by October 21

Co-Sponsored by AAUW, NAACP Central DE Branch, NPHC Central DE & Restoring Central Dover

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DELAWARE

ELECTION 2020 FORUM

U.S. Senate Candidates U.S. Representative Candidates

Wednesday, October 28, 7:00 pm
Video will be posted on October 30 on
LWVDE website and Facebook page
Send candidate questions by 10/26 to lwvdelaware@gmail.com

Co-Sponsored by: AAUW, NAACP Central DE Branch, NPHC Central DE

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DELAWARE

ELECTION 2020 FORUM

Governor
Lieutenant Governor
Insurance Commissioner

Wednesday, October 29, 7:00 pm
Video will be posted on October 30 on
LWVDE website and Facebook page
Send candidate questions by 10/26 to lwvdelaware@gmail.com

Co-Sponsored by: AAUW, NAACP Central DE Branch, NPHC Central DE & Restoring Central Dover

COMMEMORATION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT IN DELAWARE



The Delaware Public Archives placed in historically significant locations and sites across the state, markers on commemorating the anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment. The Kent County marker is located next to the Old State House on the Green, Downtown Dover.

USING OUR LET'S TALK TO EXPAND OUR CONVERSATIONS

The League of Women Voters of Kent County are hosting monthly talks that will allow members to discuss topics of interest to the league. A monthly **LET'S TALK** discussion will meet either by Zoom or at a venue to be announced.

The meeting format includes watching a video that has been approved by the board and then discussing the content, ideas, and provide suggestions on the topic, especially for our local area. These discussions will be open to the public, and an online pre-registration will be required.

The Next LET'S TALK is on Wednesday November 18th at noon.

Zoom registration required. Go to our [website calendar](#) for link to registration. Featuring a TED Talk by Dr. Phillip Atiba Goff entitled: *How we can make racism a solvable problem — and improve policing.*



The graphic is a green rectangular poster. At the top left is the LWV logo (League of Women Voters of Kent County, Delaware). The main title 'LET'S TALK Discussions' is in large white and green text. Below it, 'Racism & Policing' is written in a smaller font. An illustration shows four people sitting at a table with laptops and speech bubbles above them. At the bottom, text reads: 'AFTER WATCHING THE SUBJECT MATTER VIDEO, LET'S TALK ABOUT IT FROM ALL VIEWPOINTS. WED NOVEMBER 18TH | 12:00 PM Registration Required Through the Link This Virtual Meeting is Open to the Public & Members'. A small 'Made with PosterMyWise' watermark is at the bottom left.

THE 2020 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Looking to a bright spot on our 2020 calendar, the holiday season, we all have so much to be grateful for, still. We are seeking opportunities for our membership to connect with friends and meet new members, and would like for you to suggest some options for us to **Celebrate Together?**

Send your ideas or suggestions to KCDELWV@gmail.com with the subject “Holiday with the League” by November 14, 2020 for the board to go through all of the suggestions to survey you all for the final suggestion on the planning for a day to come together in December. Again, we all have plenty to be grateful for and to appreciate what is in our future. We are looking forward to your great ideas.



MONEY IN POLITICS OVERVIEW

Should A Corporation Have the Same Constitutional Rights as You?

On September 16, 2020 Chris Asay did a Zoom presentation on Corporate Personhood and Money = Free Speech to explore two aspects of “Money in Politics”. MIP as LWVUS references it, has been a League challenge for more than 50 years. Chris showed slides to illustrate the documented relationship between the amount of money donated and the success of recent legislation. This issue, therefore, makes money in politics as essential to a representative government as the right to vote – perhaps more.

Chris also showed a short video explaining the growth of simple short-term corporations into mammoth enduring corporations. The ideas that (1) corporations are entitled to the same Constitutional rights as real people and (2) the ability to spend unlimited amounts of money on advertising to influence an election is free speech and protected by the Constitution, were created by US Supreme Court rulings (including the 2010 *Citizens United v FEC* ruling).



There was some discussion regarding why the legislature can’t just pass a law negating the *Citizens United* Decision. A few of those participating indicated that their Civics was rusty regarding the methods for a Constitutional amendment. Chris offered to do a workshop on “Amending the Constitution: What Are the Rules and the History?” if there was sufficient member interest.

There are some other issues related to Money in Politics that surfaced during the discussion that we might examine further. To such an end, a MIP Committee was created to be chaired by Chis Asay, and Gwen Elliot volunteered to assist Chris.

We would like your response, as a member, to the following 3 questions:

- 1. Are you interested in a program on “Amending the Constitution: What Are the Rules and the History? Yes or No.**
- 2. Are you interested in other money in politics topics? Yes or No.**
- 3. Are you willing to help Chris and Gwen work on additional MIP programs? Yes or No.**

Please send you responses to kcdelwv@gmail.com as soon as possible. Your comments are welcome.

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** _____

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS IN 2021



February 2 is the Bylaws, Policies and Program review meeting, the time and location will be announced.

February 23 is the monthly LWVKC Board meeting at 2:30 PM, location to be determined.

March 23 is the monthly LWVKC Board meeting at 2:30 PM at Barclay Farms multi-use center.

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/>

THE VOTER Of Kent County Editor – Chandra Owens, Chandra.owens6@yahoo.com

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>