

LEAGUE LINE

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is almost impossible to believe that we are on the down-side of summer. I am constantly amazed at how fast time flies as I “mature” and actually, have less time available! It has prompted me to think about all the things I took for granted and counted on in my youth.

I was fortunate to have an idyllic childhood. We could always count on both parents being there when we needed them. We always had enough food, and even though my mother made all my clothes, I always had clean clothes, and a roof over my head.

There were other things we could count on too, like summer’s relentless heat, endless sunburns, and, in Ohio, if the “corn was knee high by the fourth of July”, it meant a good year for farmers. There was also the inevitable once a week liver and onions, which only my mother enjoyed (we had a very healthy dog!). And we could always count on being held accountable and facing consequences for any infraction of the established rules.

In today’s world there is far less that we can absolutely count on. Certainly, the weather seems to be more volatile. With climate change and the unstable environment, the weather seems far less predictable in the short term, and the long-term forecasts are even more unreliable.

In my youth, with my naïve political mind, I trusted we could count on our elected officials and government. While I still believe we can count on our government, for the most part, elected representatives seem more problematic. We know we may disagree with some of their viewpoints, but when facts are repeatedly discarded, disputed or misrepresented, we begin to lose faith in the system and people who purport to represent us.

Amid the chaos, we must not lose heart; there remain many things that we can count on. One is the voice and mission of the League: to provide information to the voting public through the *Voters Guide* and *Facts for Voters*. We will continue to present valuable and informative Educational Forums to the public. We will do high caliber work with youth through the Mauch Project. Moving forward, we will continue to develop our focus on the Integrity of the Ballot, providing information about the security of elections in hopes of fostering the trust we counted on in the past.

I’m looking forward to the coming year, to expanding our mission and continuing our worthwhile work as we head toward a very important time in our nation’s history.

Kandy Duncan, President

INTEGRITY OF THE BALLOT TASK FORCE

If you attended the Annual Meeting, or read the Annual Meeting booklet, you may remember that we voted for a program this year involving “Integrity of the Ballot”. It will be one of our main areas of focus and is in response to

WHAT’S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, September 1st. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

Tuesday, September 5th, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING
East Buffalo Township Municipal Building
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg

Tuesday, September 19th, 12:00-1:00p.m.

FORUM
Scott Meinke, Bucknell University Political Science Professor
“Young Americans Really Do Care About Politics: The Surprising Story of Youth Voter Turnout”
*DISCUSSION of “Integrity of the Ballot” at 1:00p.m. Open to all interested
La Primavera, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg

Monday, October 2nd, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING
East Buffalo Township Municipal Building
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg

Tuesday, October 17th, 12:00-1:00p.m.

FORUM
Christopher Baxter, Editor in Chief, *Spotlight PA*
“Journalism, Democracy and Driving Change”
La Primavera, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg

Monday, October 23rd

LAST DAY to REGISTER to vote or to CHANGE PARTY AFFILIATION before the November election

Tuesday, October 31st

LAST DAY to APPLY for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot for the November election

numerous attempts to question the credibility of the election process, vote counting, and voting certification in multiple states, among them, Pennsylvania.

“Integrity of the Ballot” has everything to do with assuring the voting public that the election process is not corrupt. It actually functions quite well, and indeed, all votes count. Our project will attempt to examine each of the various components within the election process. One of our first major steps forward will be to provide a venue for honest, safe discussion for members and the public. The inaugural event will occur immediately following the Sept. 19th Educational Forum. We’d like to take that time to accomplish 2 major initiatives. First, we would like to introduce the project as it currently stands. Second, we would like to gather information on topics or questions that we, as a task force, may not have identified. We have some preliminary topics but we would like to hear from you.

The discussion will be facilitated by the members of the task force: Patti Johnston, Linda Harris, Janice Bigelow, and Mary Lahner. You will be hearing much more about this in the coming weeks.

Kandy Duncan

2023 LWVPA CONVENTION

The LWVLA was represented at the State convention this year by Kandy Duncan, President. It was held on June 16th, 17th, and 18th in Harrisburg, PA. It was a lively combination of voices from around the state. Below please find a list of items that were passed at the Convention:

- [LWVPA Bylaws as of 2023](#)
- [LWVPA 2023-2025 Program](#)
- [LWVPA: Where We Stand as of 2023](#)
- [LWVPA 2023-2025 Board of Directors](#)
- [LWVPA Fiscal Year 2024 Budget](#)

Editor’s Note: If your *only* access to this *League Line* is a printed copy and you want to see the contents of any of the items listed above, please contact Dawn Maneval (dmaneval922@gmail.com) for the associated PDF file.

Kandy Duncan, representative

SEPTEMBER FORUM AND DISCUSSION

On Tuesday, September 19th, from noon to 1:00p.m., the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area’s Educational Forum series resumes at La Primavera Restaurant, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg. Political Science Professor Scott Meinke, of Bucknell University will deliver a talk entitled, *Young Americans Really Do Care About Politics: The Surprising Story of Youth Voter Turnout*. As always, League members and the general public are invited to attend the presentation. An optional buffet lunch will be available beginning at 11:30 for a cost of \$15.50.

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Following the presentation, at 1:00p.m., there will be a discussion facilitated by the members of the LWVLA Integrity of the Ballot Task Force: Patti Johnston, Linda Harris, Janice Bigelow, and Mary Lahner. After a description of the project's goals and current status, task force members will encourage the audience to share their ideas on topics or questions the task force may want to consider as the project moves forward. All interested people are strongly encouraged to attend this 30-60 minute discussion if at all possible.

OCTOBER FORUM

On Tuesday, October 17th, from noon to 1:00p.m., the Forum speaker will be Christopher Baxter, Editor in Chief for *Spotlight PA*. His presentation is entitled, *Journalism, Democracy and Driving Change*. League members and the general public are invited to attend the presentation and enjoy an optional buffet lunch available starting at 11:30.

This year's Educational Forums promise to be as interesting and informative as they have been in previous years. Mark your calendars. We hope to make recordings available after each forum via the League website at:

lwvlewisburgarea.org

Teri MacBride, Forum Committee Chair

LWVLA RECEIVES GLASSCOCK HERITAGE TRUST DONATION

The LWVLA has received a \$20,000 donation through the Glasscock Heritage Trust (administered by the Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund) located in Utah. The donors are Collette Blakey and her daughter Gretchen. Collette is a 79-year-old and her maiden name is Glasscock (thus the Glasscock Heritage Trust). The donation does not appear to be restricted in any way. To quote the check, "for use where it can do the most good". This money now resides in our Educational fund.

BOOK CLUB

We need your help! It is time to begin selecting books to read for the winter months. If you have ideas or suggestions, please send them our way (wclark7722@gmail.com or lmcgann27@gmail.com). We are excited to have this opportunity to discuss interesting ideas and to get to know you through these conversations. And we hope you will attend even if you have not read the book!

Wanda Clark & Linda McGann, co-chairs

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome new member
Martha Verbrugge
verbrgge@bucknell.edu

A reminder: This League will be celebrating its 70th birthday in May of 2024. We are looking for a couple of people to help plan the birthday party!

Please let us know if you are interested.

LEAGUE LINE SEPTEMBER 2023

League Line is published by the
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE LEWISBURG AREA.

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by the first of the month.

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the 15th of each month.

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VOTER SERVICES

Join Us!

New Members wanted: Join the Voter Services Committee!

Hello LWVLA members! Let me introduce you to the Voter Services Committee. We meet monthly at the Chair's home and discuss ways to engage our community in the election process, registration, candidate information for the *Voters Guide*, *Facts for Voters* and candidate events.

Contact Linda Harris via email:

Lsharris323@gmail.com.

Distribution List Manager

Are you interested in managing the distribution of our publications?

The Voter Services Committee needs a **Distribution List Manager**.

Qualifications: Since we already have an established list of volunteers, the main job is to maintain the distributors' lists which we use to distribute the bi-annual *Voters Guide* and the yearly *Facts for Voters*. The manager will contact volunteers via email and phone to remind and coordinate distribution, and have a willingness to contact members to fill vacancies. This position offers a chance to get to know and talk with members. The distribution manager will communicate with all distributors to ascertain their availability 3 times per year, at least 8 weeks before the two election cycles, and before the disbursement of the *Facts for Voters*. Very basic knowledge of Excel would be helpful. Training is available.

Who's Running in the Upcoming Elections?

Here are two ways to learn about who's running in the upcoming elections:

1. Voters Guide

In Print: The LWVLA printed the Fall *Voters Guide* and distributing it to 124 sites in Union County. When you go to a store/library/post office that doesn't have one, ask if it is available. If not, and the proprietor is willing to provide them, contact me and I'll drop some off. We currently provide the *Voters Guide* to the Union County libraries and post offices.

Online: The *Voters Guide* will be available on our local League's website at:

LWVLewisburgArea.org/voter-resources/voters-guide

2. VOTE411.org



VOTE411.org is the website of the LWVUS (National League). It is an innovative "one-stop-shop" for non-partisan election related information, both general and state specific. Compare candidates' information side-by-side, and create your own custom ballot based on your address. One advantage to this website is that candidates who don't answer the questions by the *Voters Guide's* printing cut-off date, can do so on the VOTE411 website, right up to the election. VOTE411 also provides links to register to vote, check your voter registration, find your polling place, discover upcoming debates in your area, and much more!

Races on the November Ballot

Who will you be voting for in the upcoming November 7th election?

Contested races include:

- **APPEAL COURTS:** Justice of the Supreme Court, Superior Court Judge, Judge of the Commonwealth Court
- **UNION COUNTY:** Commissioners, District Attorney, County Auditor
- **TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS:** East Buffalo, New Berlin, Union
- **SCHOOL DIRECTORS:** Lewisburg, Mifflinburg Regions 1, 2, 3, and Warrior Run

New race: Limestone Tax Collector.

Candidates Events

We are planning virtual events. Check our website for event dates and races that will be represented.

Important Election Dates - Fall 2023

October 23rd – Last day to register to vote or to change party affiliation before the November election

October 31st – Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot for the November election

November 7th – Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00p.m.)

November 7th – Municipal Election

November 8th – First day to register after the election

November 14th – Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots for the fall election (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59p.m. on November 6th)

Linda Harris, Voter Services Chair