



# THE VOTER

September 2011 Vol 38, No 9

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area

## President's Message



Our official start for the new League year is the new member event on August 30<sup>th</sup> described elsewhere in this VOTER, but really, the League has been at work all summer. We had a meeting with Matt Saltzman on redistricting. Linda Gahan has been attending meetings of the Pickens County Election Commission to follow the Voter ID issue as it plays out in voter registration. We had a board retreat and set some goals (also elsewhere in this VOTER). Some of our teams, especially Membership and Program and Action, have been meeting and getting ready for the next nine months of working to promote informed citizen participation in government.

We want each and every member of the League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area to find a way to be a part of our work and our organization. You can plan to attend League Leaders' Day on August 27<sup>th</sup>, bring a prospective member to the new member event on August 30<sup>th</sup>, or be at the meeting with legislators from our three counties on September 13<sup>th</sup>. You can help with voter registration, especially as we try to offset the harm from the new Voter ID law. You can participate in a study team—we have two going on right now, one on education, one on privatization. You can join one of our four teams—communications and voter service, program and action, membership, or finance and fundraising. You can help with hospitality at meetings, write letters to the editor, attend a public meeting wearing your League button so they will know the League is watching. You can pick one of our many League positions at the local, state or federal level and volunteer to watchdog that one issue. Or, if you can't figure out your niche, you can come to the action lunches on Fridays at Western Sizzlin' in Clemson to explore how you can contribute to making democracy work in our three counties, our state, and our nation.

The calendar says that New Year's Day is January 1<sup>st</sup>, but for me the new year always begins in August. So make a New Year's resolution to be more engaged, more involved, more active in the League in 2011-12. You need us, we need you, and the world needs our energy, our faith, and our commitment.

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## THE VOTER

League of Women Voter Clemson Area  
P. O. Box 802, Clemson, SC 29633  
[www.lwvclemsonarea.org](http://www.lwvclemsonarea.org)

Holley Ulbrich, President  
Paula Appling, President Elect  
Mary Ann McKenzie, VP/Program Co-chair  
Carol Ward, VP/Program Co-chair  
Ada Lou Steirer, Secretary

Bill Hare, Treasurer/Finance Co-chair

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Elaine Epstein, Voter Service Anderson Co  
Della Baker, History and Archives  
Arlene Stewart, Nominating Committee

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Friday, Aug. 26   | ACTION FRIDAY LUNCHEON, Western Sizzlin, Clemson, noon  |
| Friday, Aug. 26   | WOMENS' EQUALITY DAY  |
| Saturday, Aug. 27 | LEAGUE LEADERS' DAY, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1715 Bull St., Columbia, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm.  |
| Tuesday, Aug. 30  | LWVCA WELCOME MEETING with Bobbie Paul, Holley Ulbrich's house, 106 Highland Drive, Clemson, 5:30 – 7:30 pm.  |
| Tuesday, Sept. 6  | LWVCA BOARD MEETING, Clemson City Community Meeting Room, 5:00 – 6:00 pm.   |
| Tuesday, Sept. 13 | "A NIGHT WITH OUR LEGISLATORS": Legislative Panel with Senator Alexander, Senator Larry Martin, Representative B. R. Skelton and Representative Don Bowen, Central-Clemson Library, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. |

### A NIGHT WITH OUR LEGISLATORS

#### LWVCA Program on SEPTEMBER 13

CENTRAL-CLEMSON LIBRARY

7:00 – 9:00 pm.

Legislative All Stars! Legislative Panel with SC Senator Tom Alexander, SC Representative Don Bowen, SC Senator Larry Martin, and SC Representative B. R. Skelton will appear LIVE to present their news and views and to answer your questions. How could you possibly miss it? Come at seven o'clock for refreshments. At seven thirty, the show begins!

*~Submitted by Mary Ann McKenzie/Carol Ward*

***You're invited:***

### LWVCA WELCOME MEETING

**Tuesday, August 30, 5:30 to 7:30 pm.**

**106 Highland Drive, Clemson**

**Guest speaker, Bobbi Paul**

Invitations to our first meeting of the year are being mailed to prospective members. The Membership and Hospitality Committee would also like to extend a special invitation to current members, especially those who joined the Clemson Area League last year. We think you will be inspired by our guest speaker, Bobbie Paul, the Executive Director of Georgia WAND (Women's Action for New Directions). Join us for the social time with hors d'oeuvres, wine and other beverages starting at 5:30. For more information email Matt and Elaine Laiewski at [lski4lwv@gmail.com](mailto:lski4lwv@gmail.com).

*~Submitted by Matt and Elaine Laiewski*

## Glancing ahead: 2011-2012 Programs

- Sept. 13:** "A Night with Our Legislators: Legislative Panel and LWVCA Moderator", Central/Clemson Library, 7-9 pm.
- October 11:** "A Look at Juvenile Justice" with speaker Robin Kimbrough-Melton, Central/Clemson Library, 7-9 pm.
- Nov. 15:** "Exploring the Role of the Federal Government in Education", LWVCA Education Committee presentation, Clemson City Hall Community Meeting Room, 7-9 pm.
- Dec. 13:** Holiday Party TBA
- January 10:** "Privatization of State and Federal Government Functions", LWVCA Privatization Committee panel, Central/Clemson Library, 7-9 pm.
- January 28:** Program Planning Potluck Luncheon, TBA
- February 14:** "What's Going Green in Clemson", Tour of new CAT Bus Terminal by Al Babinich, CAT Bus Terminal, time TBA
- March 13:** "Voter Rights and Challenges Facing the Integrity of the Voting System", LWVCA committee, Central/Clemson Library, 7-9 pm.
- April 10:** Topics on education under consideration: "Evaluating Teachers on the Basis of Test Results, or The Impact of Budget Cuts on SC's College and University System, Central/Clemson Library, 7-9 pm.
- May 1:** ANNUAL MEETING, "The Effects of PCB's on the Local Environment", Cindy Lee speaker, TBA

## HOT TOPIC LUNCHEONS

In the past several years, LWVCA has hosted "hot topics" luncheons in the Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties. These luncheons provide a forum for discussing topics related to growth management, development, recycling and other issues for our members don't like to go out at night. Some of our members want an occasional meeting that is in their county and about their county.

This year, our Hot Topics Luncheon will focus on "The Impact of Decreased State Funding on Our Local Public Schools and How the School Districts and Citizens Should Respond". TBA

## LWVCA Goals

### 2011-2012

- Encourage citizen participation in government
  - Voter registration
  - Voter ID
  - Candidate forums
  - Informative programs on public issues
- Strengthen our advocacy and action
  - Separate action from program
  - Network with other groups
  - More letters to the editor and newspaper articles
  - Localize state and national issues to make them more relevant
- Increase member participation
  - More attendance at meetings
  - More members involved in teams
  - More participation at state level
  - More small tasks assigned to individuals
- Stabilize our financial base
  - Increase membership
  - Continue strong fund-raising
- Increase our visibility
  - More press releases and op-eds
  - More observers at public meetings

~ Submitted by *Holley Ulbrich*

## August 27 is League Leaders Day

League Leaders' Day is an annual event that brings active Leaguers from all over the state for a day of conversation, education, inspiration, and good fellowship as we each begin a new League year. We gather in Columbia at 9 and finish at 3:30. Along with lunch, there's a good balance of issues, League tools, and informal networking. Issues covered will be redistricting, transportation, and recycling (a panel led by our own Donna London). Cost is \$25 including lunch. Send your check by August 24<sup>th</sup> to Dianne Haselton, LWVSC Treasurer, 119 Tant Street, Clemson, SC 29631; or register with our state president at [ziab1@comcast.net](mailto:ziab1@comcast.net) and pay at the door. Let Dianne or Barbara know if you want a vegetarian lunch.

### 9:00 Gathering & Continental Breakfast

**9:30 Welcome & Introductions** —Peggy Brown & Barbara Zia, LWVSC Co-Presidents

### 9:35 Redistricting in South Carolina: A Status Update

### 10:15 Planning South Carolina's Transportation Future

**11:00 Leading the League in South Carolina, Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow: A Conversation with Former State League Presidents**

**11:45 Mission 2012: Electing More Women Than Ever in South Carolina**

**12:00 Break and Buffet Lunch: Time to Network – Eat & Meet!**

Take a break. Shop the wares tables. Connect with LWVSC Board leaders & Leaguers across SC

### 1:00 \$ & Sense of Recycling

**1:45 Let's Rap: What's Happening in Leagues Around South Carolina...**

**2:15 Nuts and Bolts of Building and Leading Your League in 2012**

□ Planning strategically

□ Streamlining & organizing your team

□ Growing and engaging members as leaders

□ Taking action locally

□ Communicating with members and the public (websites; social media; newsletters)

### 3:30 Closing

## NEW! ACTION FRIDAYS

You joined the League because you want to change the world, right? Here's your chance. Advocacy and action is at the heart of why the League exists. Yes, we study issues, so we can act based on solid information and thoughtful consideration, but study is the means, action is the end. Yes, we recruit members and register voters and do fundraising, but all of these activities are a means to an end, which is broad-based citizen participation in government. Every Friday (except for holidays) come to 'Western Sizzlin' at noon, go through the food line, and find us, probably at a big table in the back room, and we will work on becoming more effective advocates on those League issues that we care about. We'll get talking points and updates on issues and tips on how to advocate. We will encourage people to attend public meetings and teach you how to follow legislation online. And we will also have some good social time with people who share the same civic values and live in the same communities. So mark your calendars. No reservations, but if there is a particular issue on the agenda that week I will try to get it out to everyone a few days in advance. Carol Ward and Holley Ulbrich will be coordinating these Action Fridays, but we welcome other people to provide ideas, information, enthusiasm, and follow up!

*~Submitted by Holley Ulbrich*

## LWVCA Dues are Due!

According to our By-Laws, all dues should be paid by September. While individuals may join LWVCA at different times throughout the year, all membership renewals are due in September. However, if you have joined LWVCA since June 1st, you do not need to send another check.

Dues are \$60 per year; dues for a second member of the same household is half price! Student membership is \$25 per year. Please send your dues to the following address:

**LWV of the Clemson Area  
P.O. Box 802, Clemson SC 29633-0802**

Additional contributions are always needed and most welcome. Our budget projects \$500 in member contributions. So, please be generous, as always.

Also, remember that you can make a **tax-deductible contribution** to **LWV Education Fund**. This donation must come in a **separate** check made out to the LWV Education Fund. The local League can use these funds to pay up to one half of our Per Member Payment or we can fund other qualifying educational projects. Mail these checks to the same address noted above and the treasurer will forward them to the Clemson Area League account at the national office. Also, please notify us of any change of address, phone or email, too.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

*~ Submitted by Bill Hare*

## South Carolina's Voter Photo ID Law

On May 18, 2011, Governor Nikki Haley signed a new voter identification law that will take effect in 2012 or sooner depending on Department of Justice action. If the new law is pre-cleared by the Department of Justice, you must show one of the following in order to be allowed to vote:

- a valid South Carolina driver's license;
- a current identification card containing a photograph issued by the SC Department of Motor Vehicles;
- a current U.S. Passport
- a current military identification card containing a photograph issued by the federal government; or
- a South Carolina voter registration card containing a photograph issued by the SC election Commission (photo registration cards are not yet available.)

Identification cards from the SC Department of Motor Vehicles will be free to SC residents over 17 years of age and will be valid for a period of five years. To obtain an identification card from the SC Department of Motor Vehicles you must be able to show:

- a certified birth certificate

To obtain a birth certificate from SC you must be able to show:

- documentation of any name change from the birth certificate (e.g. marriage license, divorce decree, adoption papers, etc.); and
- a photo ID, which can be:
  - a SC driver's license
  - a SC DMV photo ID card
  - a current passport
  - a current military ID card issued by federal government
  - an employee ID card

S.C. Voter Registration Cards **with photo** will be available from the State Election Commission sometime in late 2011 or later. These cards will not expire and will be free to registered voters. To obtain a photo ID from the Election Commission when available, a **registered voter** must present:

- a utility bill with current address and name exactly as record appears at the Election Commission.

ID required to **register to vote** will not change. To register, you must provide:

- a current valid photo ID, **or**
- a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or other government document that shows your name and address in the county in which you are registering

*~Submitted by LWVSC*

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LWVCA OFFICERS:

Ada Lou Steirer, Secretary  
 Carol Ward, VP/Program Co-chair  
 Holley Ulbrich, President  
 Paula Appling, President-elect  
 Bill Hare, Treasurer

## REDISTRICTING UPDATE

Seven members of the LWVCA met with mathematician and political activist Matt Saltzman to talk about local redistricting in the three county area, especially focused on Pickens County because we were able to get the relevant information. We examined the proposed maps (Holley Ulbrich has copies if you are interested) and developed criteria that we will share with our County Council.

Both Pickens and Oconee will redistrict using the same districts for County Council and School Board, which makes it easier, but may result in less attention being paid to communities of interest when it comes to schools.

We offered four considerations that we thought should be reflected in the redistricting.

1. Consider potential or expected growth in drawing district lines so that they do not become increasingly unequal in population before the next census. This can be done by underpopulating the districts expected to grow and overpopulating the ones that are not expected to grow within the permitted population variances.
2. Respect municipal boundaries and precinct lines to the extent possible.
3. Take into account not only total population but also school population and projected school population growth, because these districts serve schools as well as the county.
4. In reassigning areas from one district to another, consider what constitutes a community of interest. In the Clemson area there are commonalities between Clemson and Central in having a large student population living in condo communities, for example.

We were uncertain about the appropriate way to deal with shrinking the district currently represented by Trey Whitehurst. While we agree that the Patrick Square area is indeed part of a community of interest with Clemson, its 2010 population is much smaller than it is in 2012 or will be in 2015 or 2020, because it is developing rapidly. Perhaps some compensatory redrawing of lines to underpopulate this district on the Central side will allow for expected above average growth in that tract of land.

~ *Submitted by Holley Ulbrich*

On Monday, August 15, Pickens County Council adopted a draft of a map redrawing the six county districts. 2010 Census data shows Easley and Six Mile must decline in numbers whereas Clemson, Liberty and Pickens must increase. Dacusville stays the same. A map was put in each branch library for public comment until the middle of September. ~ *Submitted by Linda Gahan*

## OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

Pickens County Registration and Elections Commission, August 2, 2011

Municipal elections in Central, Liberty, Norris, Pickens, Easley and Six Mile will be held November 8, 2011.

It was announced that two staff members have left the SC State Elections Commission (SEC) to join the Richland County Elections Commission. (1127 votes cast in Richland County in the 2010 General Election were not included in the reported totals.) Three additional staff members have recently left the SEC.

Pickens County privately contracted with Patrick Lee of the Charleston County Elections Commission to prepare the ballot definition for 2011 elections. The ballot definitions prepared by SEC for the 2010 General Election were not correct. This error was discovered during test scanning of ballots and was corrected before the election.

Mr. Lee also will be doing ballot definitions for Charleston, Florence and Laurens Counties.

~ Submitted by Bill and Eleanor Hare

## LWVCA IS ON FACEBOOK

*LIKE* us on Facebook

Get links to news articles on League issues, learn about upcoming events and get election results. When you *LIKE* us on Facebook, information that we post will appear in your News Feed.

How do you find us to *LIKE* us? From your Facebook, search for "League of Women Voters Clemson Area." When it appears, click it to go to that Facebook. Then find the *LIKE* button and click it. It's that simple!

If you don't have a Facebook, it's simple and easy to join. Go to [facebook.com](http://facebook.com) and fill in the boxes under "Sign Up." Once you're a member, not only can you hear from us, but you can keep up with friends and family too.

~ *Submitted by Paula Appling*

## Auditing the 2010 General Election Update -- August 9, 2011

Background. An audit of the 2010 General Election under the auspices of the LWVSC disclosed 1127 votes cast in Richland County not included in the reported vote, 114 votes in Horry County not included in the reported vote, almost 1400 more votes reported in Colleton County than ballots cast, and a collection of other problems. This audit examined only 14 of the 46 counties. No help was received from either the SC State Elections Commission (SEC) or the manufacturer, Elections Systems & Software (ES&S). Our data files have all been obtained by Freedom of Information Act requests to the individual counties<sup>1</sup>.

Examining the Individual Ballots. Each iVotronic voting terminal contains a compact flash (CF) memory, similar to a camera battery. At the close of an election, poll workers are instructed to shut down the iVotronics, using a process that collects the summary data on a Personal Election Ballot (PEB) and transfers copies of the individual ballots from the memory of the iVotronic to the CF. Poll workers are instructed to remove the CF from the iVotronic and return all PEBs and CFs to the county office. At the county office, precinct totals from the PEBs and data from the CFs (which includes a list of individual ballots cast) are copied into the master computer. An audit of the election requires both the data from the PEBs and from the CFs, but we found few election officials checked that all the CF data was obtained.

Auditing the Election. Duncan Buell and Chip Moore wrote computer programs that processed data supplied from the master computer in the county office. If all the CF data was available, the votes cast on the iVotronics could be recounted entirely, ballot by ballot. Even when all the data was not available, failure to include votes in the reported totals could sometimes be detected. Mal-functioning iVotronics, inclusion of test votes in election totals, incorrectly set clocks and other problems were identified.

Violation of SC Law. When the difference in totals for two candidates is less than 1%, South Carolina law<sup>1</sup> requires a mandatory "recount of such votes." The South Carolina Elections Commission has been ignoring this law and, instead, instructing the counties to sum the precinct totals a second time. Performing a recount of the votes is possible with the iVotronic voting system, but requires the use of computer software such as that developed by Duncan Buell and Chip Moore.

Senators Require Audit. Duncan Buell and Frank Heindel testified at a Senate subcommittee (Senators Cleary, Campsen, Scott) hearing on April 14 to discuss a bill submitted by Sen. Thomas Alexander (R-Walhalla) that would provide paper receipts for recounts. Since adopting the ES&S system, SEC has not audited the county election files. Senator Scott encouraged SEC and the LWVSC team to work together and Marci Andino, Executive Director of SEC, nodded that she would. SEC has now contracted with a programmer to write audit programs similar to the programs written by Duncan Buell and Chip Moore. Duncan offered his experience to help the programmer.

Data Files. SEC posted data files<sup>1</sup> from 44 counties on August 5. SEC reports that no data is available from Lancaster and Orangeburg Counties and that data received from Charleston County is incomplete. SEC has not yet posted results from any audit. We will compare the posted audit data with data we received from counties and run our programs with the posted audit data.

~ Submitted by Eleanor Hare

<sup>1</sup><http://lwvsc.org/files/fiveauthor.pdf>

<sup>1</sup>Section 7-17-280. Mandatory recounts

<sup>1</sup><http://www.scvotes.org/2011/08/03/2010> general election audit files

### OBSERVER CORPS

Clemson City Council	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 pm.	Anderson County Council	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 6:00 pm
Seneca City Council	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 pm.	Pickens County School Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday, 7:30 pm.
Pickens County Council	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:00 pm.	Oconee County School Board	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6:00 pm.
Oconee County Council	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 6:00 pm.	Anderson Co. School Board	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6:00 pm

### Contribution Form

**League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area LWVCA, P. O. Box 802, Clemson, SC 29633**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (opt) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish my contribution to remain anonymous.

I wish my contribution to be tax deductible where allowed by law. My check is made out to the "*League of Women Voters Ed Fund*" which is a 501(c)(3) organization.

I wish to support the League's action priorities. My check is made out to the "League of Women Voters" and is not tax-deductible.

League of Women Voter of the Clemson Area

P. O. Box 802  
Clemson, SC 29633

[Recipient]

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Address Line 4