

LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area
Vol. 61, No. 7; April 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to take this opportunity—in my last message to you as president—to thank the multitude of members in our local League who do so much for our organization and community. We are truly a group of women and men who quietly (some more than others), competently and persistently go about the work of the League every day. Teams of League members put together this *League Line* newsletter, *Facts for Voters*, the *Voters Guide*, Candidates Night, Lunch Forums, consensus study research and meetings, and new projects such as our upcoming series of public information Civic Education programs. Others tirelessly accomplish the behind-the-scenes administrative work—our secretary, treasurer and other board members; committees and committee chairs; membership, fundraising, publicity and social media coordinators; and *Facts* and *Voters Guide* distributors. The list honestly goes on and on.

As an added bonus, we are seeing not only a host of new members, but new members who want to participate and contribute in ways large and small. They are attending our lunch forums and consensus meetings, stepping up to help with the projects that spark their interest and engage their unique talents. Our League is alive, vital, and on the move!

It bears repeating once more: I could not be more proud to be a member myself. Thank you, every one of you, for the opportunity to work with you this past year.

Susan Warner-Mills, President

CALL TO LWVPA CONVENTION JUNE 1-4 at Pocono Manor!

Members old and new are invited to learn about the League and get a boost of enthusiasm about the critical role the League of Women Voters plays at every level of our democracy: consider serving as a delegate of our local League to the State Convention of the League of Women Voters of PA, to be held June 1-4 at the Inn at Pocono Manor. Take it from a seasoned League convention delegate: you will come away re-energized and reassured about how much we can accomplish together on behalf of our democracy. If you are interested, please contact me at swm@dejazzd.com or 570-522-9254 and I will be happy to provide further details.

Susan Warner-Mills, president

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mark your calendars! Our 2017 Annual Meeting will be Wednesday May 10th at 5:30 pm, at the Lewisburg Hotel. Cost of the dinner is \$25. An invitation and information about the meeting will be mailed to you in early April. Many thanks to Carol Crichley

Check out
our
new website
at:

<http://lwvlewisburgarea.org>

and the Ridgecrest “Stuffergists” for their help in getting this mailing out to you. This is a very important meeting when we elect new officers and board members, adopt a budget and program, and honor members and community leaders. This is a fun, social evening so please plan on attending. We look forward to seeing you there!

Marilyn Brill, Membership chair

MAUCH MILLENNIAL PROJECT UPDATE

We have exciting news to report to you from the Mauch Millennial Project this month! On Friday March 17th, one hundred ninth-grade Lewisburg Area High School students took a trip to the state capitol in Harrisburg along with 10 teachers and aides to chaperone. They toured the stunningly ornate capitol building and presented pro and con arguments to State Representative Fred Keller on 4 different bills in the official House Caucus Room. High school social studies teacher Dakota Gessner and his students selected the bills ahead of time so

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please place the following events on your personal calendar.

Monday, Apr. 3rd, 4:00pm

BOARD MEETING

Iron Front Works Conference room (3rd Fl, Chamberlin Building, 434 Market St., Lewisburg)

Tuesday, April 17th

Last day to register or change party affiliation before the primary

Tuesday, Apr. 18th, 11:30am-1:00pm

APRIL LUNCH FORUM

Preston Boop, John Mathias,

John Showers

Union County Commissioners

La Primavera Restaurant (Lunch \$13)

Wednesday, May 10th, 5:30pm

LWVLA ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

Lewisburg Hotel

Tuesday May 16th, 7am to 8pm

MUNICIPAL PRIMARY

that Rep. Keller could prepare to engage students in discussion. The League's Mauch Project fund paid for the three buses as well as water and snacks for the trip. Our very great thanks to Rep. Keller and his staff; to Mr. Gessner, Mrs. Rapp and their colleagues at the high school, and to the students who attended and engaged so completely in the events of this exciting day!

Another exciting development with the Mauch Project high-school activities is that a second high-school student representative is now serving on our Advisory Committee. Liv Manner is in 9th grade at the Lewisburg High School and will continue to serve next year, when we lose this year's representative, Kat Gardner, as she leaves for college. Liv, Kat and Mr. Gessner will be our guests at our May 10th Annual Dinner Meeting—please help us make them feel welcome!

New Mauch Project Advisory Committee members Mary Beth Clark and Sharlie Schmidli have offered to provide additional logistical support to Mauch Young Adult project coordinator Natalie Sowers. Together they will organize activities for young adults living in our local communities. The first networking event is being planned for this spring in partnership with the Susquehanna Valley Young Adult Professionals group. In addition to a series of networking events, in future months they hope to hold a civic engagement fair and possibly an informational program about holding elected office.

One final note: Bucknell Professor Chris Ellis has completed his final report and analysis of the fall LWVLA-Bucknell Mauch Student Fellowship program. It makes fascinating reading and will provide invaluable help to us as we plan and implement future fellowship programs in conjunction with Bucknell's Political Science Department. Please contact me at: 570-716-0870 or swm@dejazzd.com if you would like a copy.

As our Mauch Committee members continue to work on this project, they achieve impressive results. The success of the Mauch Millennial Project reflects a most positive light on our local League!

Susan Warner-Mills, MMP Advisory Committee

APRIL LUNCH FORUM

Our April forum will be held on the 18th of April at 11:30am at La Primavera Restaurant. Our speakers will be Union County Commissioners, Preston Boop, John Mathias, and John Showers. The title of their talk will be “The State of Union County.” Lunch will be served at a cost of \$13. Those with gluten allergies may order a special meal by contacting me at 570-523-7961 or emailing me at peltier@bucknell.edu.

Cindy Peltier, Forum Committee chair

FINANCE DRIVE

Letters were sent on March 9th requesting contributions to our local Members & Friends Finance Drive. Thanks to those who have already contributed! The dues we pay in the fall go toward covering costs of membership in the state and national Leagues; the spring drive contributions go toward funding our local efforts. Please consider supporting us in this way.

Carole Madle, Members & Friends Finance Drive chair

VOTER SERVICES REPORT

Facts for Voters

I am pleased to report that the 2017 issue of *Facts for Voters* has been completed and distributed. Kudos go to Priscilla Stowe for obtaining and preparing the information and to Dawn Maneval for presenting the information in such a visually appealing way. Dawn also modified the *Facts for Voters* into a new Web version that you can see on our LWV website:

<http://www.lwvlewisburgarea.org>

I want to thank Phyllis Dyer for organizing the distribution of the *Facts for Voters*, Carol Madle for picking up the *Facts* from the printer, and the following people for distributing the *Facts for Voters* around the Lewisburg area: Janice Bigelow, Marilyn Brill, Marion Brown, Carol Crichley, Phyllis Dyer, Ann Grundstrum, Keay Hathaway, Patty Johnston, Ann Longanbach, Carole and Ron Madle, Pam and Paul Mauger, Diane Meixell, Marilyn Murphy, Carol Thomas, Susan Warner-Mills, and Mary Zimmerman.

Voters Guide

We are in the process of completing the Spring edition of the *Voters Guide*. Thanks go to Sue Travis for mentoring our new co-editors, Diane Gottlieb and Sheri Stayton. The *Voters Guides* will be distributed one week prior to our May 16th Municipal Primary Election. The Board has approved the questions that candidates will be asked for the *Voters Guide*.

LEAGUE LINE APR. 2017

League Line is published monthly by the **League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area**. Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month.

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Candidates Night

Mary Zimmerman and I are working on organizing Candidates Night. We are asking candidates for their availability. Once we have chosen a date, we will choose a location and inform the candidates. Check our website for additional information as we finalize the plans.

Civics Education Program

The following members have agreed to help in the creation of the Civics Education Program: Mary Beth Clark, Amy Ershler, Ann Grundstrum, Patty Johnson, Pat Longley, Teri MacBride, Cynthia Peltier, Pat Piper, Mary Margaret Rostan, and Stacy Richards. *The Daily Item* publisher, Frank Leto, is also a member of the development committee and will be facilitating one of the groups. Several other members have also indicated their willingness to help with the logistics of the programs as plans evolve.

The goals of the Civics Education program are:

- To inform and to empower community members in Union, Northumberland and Snyder counties
- To present the rights and responsibilities of an individual as an engaged and informed citizen
- To help people discover how to channel their interest, that is, how to take energy and turn it into action.

We expect these events to begin in early fall 2017. If others are interested in getting involved with this initiative, feel free to contact Linda Harris at:

lsb413@hotmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Tom and Harriet Bresenhan
tompat01@ptd.net
570-524-7108

Welcome to the League!!

Spring Dues Rate

Once again we will be offering a special rate this spring for new members to LWVLA. If you are new to LWV, you are eligible to join the League for the prorated dues of \$25.00 from February 1st, 2017 until May 31st, 2017! You will then be asked to pay full dues of \$50 dues in September with the rest of our members.

Thanks to all of you for what you do to keep our local League strong and active in our community.

Marilyn Brill, Membership chair

LWVLA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM February 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017

Mid-term membership dues: Individual \$25. Dues include membership to the local, state, and national League, and information and notifications from all three levels (*League Line*, *Pennsylvania Voter* and *National Voter Online*).

I/We wish to join the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area.

Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone (cell, work or home) _____ Email _____

I am interested in participating in the following League activities:

____ Voters Service ____ Study Groups ____ Community Forums ____ Special Events

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

(Please make your check payable to LWVLA and mail your check and form to: LWVLA Membership, P.O. Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837.) For more information, phone 570-522-9254 or email mfb@dejazzd.com. Thank you!

Marilyn Brill, Membership chair