



LWVUS MISSION STATEMENT The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

For additional information go to the calendar page at www.sussexlwv.org.

October 8, Monday, 10:00 AM

LWVSC Board meeting, A. Nolan's
Email for directions

All members are welcome to attend

October 10, Wednesday, 1:30 PM

Forum on "Educating for the 21st Century"
Beebe Medical Arts Bldg, Rte 24, Rehoboth

October 19, Friday, noon

Fun Lunch, Irish Eyes, 52 Rehoboth Avenue
Rehoboth

October 23, Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Candidates Forum, Cadbury
17028 Cadbury Circle, Lewes DE'
(See article for districts involved)

October 25, Thursday, 7:00 PM

Candidates Forum, Georgetown Public
Library, 123 W. Pine Street, Georgetown

October 29, Monday, 7:00 PM

Candidates Forum, Seaford Public Library,
600 N. Market Street, Seaford

October 30, Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Candidates Forum, Georgetown Public
Library, 123 W. Pine Street, Georgetown

November 12, Monday, 10:00 AM

LWVSC Board Meeting, Location TBA
Email for location and directions

November 14, Wednesday, 1:30 PM

Forum on "The Cost of Education"
Beebe Medical Arts Bldg, Rte 24, Rehoboth

November 26, Monday, noon

Fun Lunch, 1776, Midway Shopping Center
Rehoboth Beach

December 10, Monday, 10:00 AM

LWVSC Board Meeting, Email for location and
directions

December 28, Friday, noon

Fun Lunch, Serendipity, 32580 River Road
Millsboro, DE

**LWVSC's MANY ELECTION
ACTIVITIES**

**Voter Registration Events
and Festivals**

Fourteen League members were trained and certified as Voter Registration Agents by a Certified Trainer from the Delaware Department of Elections in Dover at a session for us in Lewes.

We have participated in two festivals so far, AFRAM on August 11th in Seaford, and the Festival Hispano in Millsboro on August 18th. Both were very successful. We were able to register 14 new voters between the two, to meet many new people and emphasize the importance of voting. We educated many fair attendees on the work of the League and how we study issues, take positions on them, and thus are often able to influence our elected officials on the issues that are important to the voters. We also made people aware of the upcoming activities of the Sussex County League, such as our Education Forums, Fun Lunches, membership drives and voter registration drives. In addition to the festivals, we had a Voter Registration event at the Women's

Health Fair at Epworth Church and have many upcoming Voter Registration events planned for the coming weeks, leading up to the deadline for registration on October 13th.

If you are interested in assisting in these vital LWV activity, please contact Janet Orlando through sussexlwv@gmail.com If you have not received the training, you will be paired with someone who has.

VOTE411.org

The Delaware League's website **www.VOTE411.org** went live online with *State of Delaware* candidate data on our target date of September 4th.

VOTE411.org is a "one-stop-shop" for all kinds of election related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public with both general and state-specific assistance on many aspects of the election process, such as election dates, registration and voting information and deadlines, polling place locations, etc. It also provides information on candidates in various federal state and local races.

The use of the VOTE411 program by the League of Women Voters of

Delaware was made possible by a grant from the Arsht-Cannon Fund.

We are following 98 races in the state, having 239 candidates. Of those 239 candidates, 105 responded to the League's questions, prior to our September 11th primary. We covered 131 primaries; 70 of the candidates in that group responded.

Each candidate was asked several questions determined by committees of League members. Most were sent and received electronically and a very few were handled via the U.S. Postal Service. Candidates also had the option to include additional bio information and a picture if they chose to do so.

Once the primaries were completed, the entire website was updated to reflect the winning candidates in preparation for the General Election on November 6th. We are still hoping that the remaining candidates who have not yet responded to our questions will reply before the GE in November.

We are also currently in the process of adding to the website, the translations into Spanish of the League's questions and candidates' responses to those questions.

We were surprised and delighted when cartoonist/artist **Chris Wildt**, of The Cape Gazette turned the press release from our PR person, Ann Nolan, into a wonderful Editorial Cartoon. We were given permission by the artist to use the cartoon in any way we chose, and it has been forwarded to LWVUS and also made into a poster for local use.



Candidate Forums

Four Candidate Forums are planned for the month of October. All will start at 7:00 PM in the locations indicated. Addresses for each location are included in the calendar on the website.

Our first Candidate Forum will be held in Lewes at Cadbury on October 23. The candidates running in State Senatorial races from Electoral Districts 6 and 20 and in State Representative races from Districts 14 and 20 will be invited to participate.

The second Candidate Forum will be held on October 25th at the Georgetown Public Library. Candidates running in races from State Senatorial Districts 18, 19, and State Representative Districts 36 and 37 will be invited to participate.

Our third Candidate Forum will take place on October 29th in the Seaford Public Library. Candidates from State Senatorial District 21 and State Representative Districts 35, 39, and 40 will be invited to participate.

The fourth will also take place at the Georgetown Public Library and will be held on October 30th. The candidates from Sussex County Council Districts 1, 2 and 3, and those running for the office of the Sussex County Clerk of the Peace will be invited to participate.

As always the League of Women Voters' rules will apply and we look forward to the participation of all the candidates in these events.

Janet Orlando, Voter Services Chair

Observer Corps The Eyes and Ears of the League



Our League is growing and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new members and invite them to get to know their local government better. The Observer Corps has representatives at County Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, Board of Adjustment and School Board meetings. If you would like to join an Observer at one of these meetings, please contact me at sussexlwv@gmail.com and we will arrange a “field trip” that fits your schedule. This invitation applies to “old” members, too.

We are, of course, always happy to have League members who would like to be “official” Observers, but even if regular Observing isn’t your thing, there’s a lot to be learned from an introductory visit. This year the LWVSC is conducting a series of forums on education. If these thought provoking programs have prompted you to learn more about the schools in Sussex County, being an Observer at School Board meetings is an excellent opportunity. An orientation is provided for all Observers and the schedule is flexible.

As everyone knows, change takes time, and sometimes it seems like it takes forever, but I am happy to report progress in an important area of open government. At County meetings, the council members and the press have been provided with packets of information containing materials like minutes, diagrams, proposals, etc. These were not available to the public attending the meetings, which made it difficult to follow the discussion of many agenda items. The Observer Corps has been reporting on this lack of public information for three years and finally this summer, the packet information has been made available on the County web site. This is a welcome change and a real step forward.

You can be a Change Agent. Join the Observer Corps!

Carole Somers, Observer Corps Coordinator

Welcome to the Newest LWVSC Members

Carol and Kevin O’Brennan
Judith Cousins
Claire Snyder-Hall
Cathy Hartman

Constance Jones
Ann Cousens
Patricia Makos
Bette Rae Bevan

We are delighted to have you as members. When you attend an event, make sure we know you are new to the group. Carpooling to events is a great way to get to know each other, too.

Valerie Driscoll, Membership Chair

President's Report

The Future of Health Care in DE Did you know that Delaware's population grew by a larger percentage than did the US population over the last two decades? By 2030 Delaware is projected to have the 9th-highest proportion of people age 65 and older in the U.S.

25% of Americans of any age have two or more chronic conditions; 80% of adults 65+ have at least one chronic condition; 50% of adults 65+ have two chronic conditions. It is estimated that the average American who is 85+ consumes twice as much health care as those 75-84 and three times as much health care as those aged 65-74.

I attended a Health Conference sponsored by DE Health and Social Services. First, I was very impressed by the youthfulness and sharpness of the female leaders in Delaware, such as Rita Landgraf, the Cabinet Secretary of DE DHSS. Second, I was also impressed by The Recruitment and Retention Conference which revealed the high degree of the shortages of Primary Care Physicians in DE and how creatively and extensively they are planning to work on this. It also became clear how much more important will be the role of advanced practice nurses and other mid-level health care professionals in the near future. Sussex County will have an even greater elder population than the rest of the state.

Vote411.org Your board has been very active and hard working in helping with Voter Registration as have many of you. and we hope to continue to have your active participation for the candidate forums and Coast Day. Please tell everyone you can about www.vote411.org. Janet Orlando and her committee are doing an incredible job on that website and in many other events. She needs volunteers. Carol Jones, DE State President, got a grant from the Arsht-Cannon Fund to translate the website into Spanish. Pass the word!

Return Day will take place on November 8 in Georgetown, and we want you to join us in the parade. This is the only place in the world that such an event takes place. The opponents for each elective office ride together in horse-drawn buggies; the burying of the hatchet ceremony also takes place. We had a blast during the parade in 2010! (even though it rained.) We received a ribbon for our decorated vehicle and were invited to parties. It is a real happening! Please plan to join the parade.

NPR I was able to listen to WDDE 91.1 FM while in Dover recently. This is our first and only DE NPR Station. Check them out. If you live in upper Sussex Co. you may be able to tune them in.

Social Media Every age group deals with social networking differently. Whether it is Facebook, Twitter, or Pinterest, it is fascinating how different age groups deal with one aspect or another, We want to reach each generation where they are . but we particularly want to reach younger women with our technology. Anyone of you able to help with Twitter, etc? Contact Jo Klinge at sussexlwv@gmail.com.

Wanted We are looking for a volunteer to help us with our Public Relations , sending out notices of our events to the local papers. If you are willing to help, leave a message at

sussexlwv@gmail.com. The office of Vice President is also open until elections in 2013. If you are interested in serving on the LWVSC Board, contact us at the same gmail.com

The Movie: F.L.O.W We are co-sponsoring "For the Love of Water" with the Unitarian Universalists of Southern DE at 33739 March Rd., Lewes, DE on Friday, 10/5/12 at 6:30PM for a light snacks potluck and the movie at 7PM. This is an incredibly important documentary regarding the life giving asset, drinking water.

"Reviving the Dead Ladies" We are looking for a director of our popular presentation, "Reviving the Dead Ladies". It is a play featuring our nation's brave suffragettes. We already have dedicated actresses, a script, costumes and background music but we need someone with the creativity to bring it all together. We hope to make this a travelling show, bringing its inspiring message to local groups throughout Sussex Co.. If interested, leave a message at sussexlwv@gmail.com.

Western Delaware League member Janet Denman reports a great turnout for the showing of "Iron Jawed Ladies" in Laurel, DE. Kudos to her and her committee for the collaboration with a teacher from the local high school and the Laurel librarian, which certainly benefited all involved.

E. Anne Riley, President

"Iron Jawed Angels" Viewing in Laurel

In a collaborative effort with Laurel Public Library, LWVSC aired the award-winning HBO movie *Iron Jawed Angels* on September 18. *Iron Jawed Angels* is the story of Alice Paul and others in the suffrage movement, who took enormous risks in their struggle for the right to vote. Their activism through picketing, protesting, and publicity during Woodrow Wilson's Presidency led to the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution in 1920. Today, Alice Paul is remembered through the Alice Award given to leading American women, but her contributions to women's voting rights went unremarked for much of the 20th Century. Most of the film's audience had never heard of her until the showing.

Over 25 people showed up for the film in the midst of a tornado watch and major storms throughout Sussex County, We were particularly pleased that eight Laurel High School students were in the audience.

Library Director Wendy Roberts enthusiastically welcomed guests. Tara Smith and I briefly discussed the role of LWVSC in our community and presented the DVD of the film to the Library. Laurel High School teacher Susan Fewell led an animated post-film discussion . It was clear that the film had had a powerful impact on the audience.

Watching the film prompted me to re-read "When Everything Changed," Gail Collins' masterful 2009 history of the continuing struggle for women's rights through the rest of the 20th Century and into the 21st. In the same way that Alice Paul's story was obscured through much of modern history, so is the story of how the 1964 Civil Rights Act came to include women, and acted as the tipping point for "when everything changed." Though

many of us lived through that period, few of us understand exactly how it came about. It's a great and surprising story.

Submitted by Janet Denman

Did you forget to renew?

Remember “Busy day. Busy day. No time to fix dessert.”? That’s what life feels like for many of us these days. There is so much going on and so little time.

That’s true of the League, too. There are Candidate Forums to schedule, Festivals to staff, Fun Lunches, Programs and meetings. This takes a lot of energy and woman hours, but it also takes money.

Perhaps in managing your own busy days, you forgot to renew your membership to the League of Women Voters of Sussex County. If you aren’t sure, you can send an e-mail to sussexlww@gmail.com and the treasurer will check for you. A renewal form is included in this Voter for your convenience.

Donations Always Welcome

Maybe you would like to make a donation to help offset some of the costs associated with the LWVSC Candidate Forums. Donations can be made to the LWVSC Ed Fund which makes them tax deductible or to the LWVSC to use toward other expenses associated with lobbying in Georgetown and Dover. Mail those checks to LWVSC PO Box 474 Nassau, DE 19969

New Education Policy Position Announced by LWVUS

Remember our forums on the role of the federal government in education? They were conducted as part of a two year national study authorized at the LWVUS 2010 convention. After our forums, we held a consensus meeting where we collectively agreed on answers to a number of questions that were developed by a special LWVUS committee. The study ultimately led to the announcement of a new policy statement adopted by the LWVUS Board in March. The position states that “The League of Women Voters believes that the federal government shares with other levels of government the responsibility to provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12. A quality public education is essential for a strong, viable and sustainable democratic society and is a civil right.” For the complete policy statement, go to <http://www.lwv.org/content/federal-role-public-education-position>. The new policy provides a basis for advocacy by Leagues at the national, state and local levels.

League of Women Voters of Sussex County
Mailing Address: PO Box 474 Nassau, DE 19969
E-mail Address: sussexlwv@gmail.com
Website: www.sussexlwv.org

Membership Renewal Form
2012-2013

Yes! I want to RENEW my membership in LWVSC

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone #(s): _____

E-mail(s): _____

Individual Membership for 1 year	\$50.00
2- Person Household Membership for 1 year	\$75.00
For Each Additional Household Member	\$25.00
Student	\$25.00

Membership Assistance Fund Available

Would you like to have an LWV Sussex County Mentor? Yes No

I am interested in the following issues:

I also want to make a **tax-deductible contribution** to the LWV Education Fund for the work done on my behalf by the League of Women Voters in Sussex County.

Dues Amount:\$_____

Ed Fund Amount: \$_____

Make check payable to: **LWVSC**
DE 19969

Mail to: **LWVSC PO Box 474 Nassau,**

Thank You!

