



The

MAY 2016

# LOCAL VOTER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA

Syracuse Metro LWV  
PO Box 11866  
Syracuse NY 13218  
Phone: (315) 396-8225  
Email: [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org)  
Web Sites:  
Local: [www.lwvsyr.org](http://www.lwvsyr.org)  
State: [www.lwvny.org](http://www.lwvny.org)  
National: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

### UPCOMING ELECTIONS

**Tuesday, June 28**  
Congressional (Federal) Primary  
**Tuesday, September 13**  
State & Local Primary  
(Polls open 12 Noon—9PM)  
**Tuesday, November 8**  
General Election  
(Polls open 6AM-9PM)

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### School Board Elections Budget Proposals



**Tuesday, May 17th**  
**(exception City of Syracuse)**

**Please Vote**

## SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS 2016 ANNUAL MEETING AND BUFFET LUNCHEON



**FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2016**  
**11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**  
**NICK AND ANGELO'S RISTORANTE**  
**7376 OSWEGO ROAD (ROUTE 57)**  
**LIVERPOOL NY 13909**  
[www.nickandangelosristorante.com](http://www.nickandangelosristorante.com)

### GUEST SPEAKERS:

**ONONDAGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**  
**DUSTIN CZARNY (D)**  
**HELEN KIGGINS WALSH (R)**



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Reservations @ \$25.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with your payment by **May 26, 2016**. Checks should be made out to **Syracuse Metro LWV Ed Fund**, PO Box 11866, Syracuse NY 13218 or email us at [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org) or call us at 315-396-8225 if you have questions or would like to reserve a seat for the annual meeting.

*The event is open to the public - feel free to bring a friend*

# BOARD NOTES

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR LWV MEMBERSHIP

***New York State may not have early voting but it is not too early to renew your membership in the Syracuse Metro League of Women Voters.***

Be proud you are part of a grassroots network of women and men in communities across the country. Every member strengthens the League's political clout. With your support, the League is able to continue its commitment to help every citizen have a voice in safeguarding democracy.



### ***Going Green and Preserving Our Resources:***

In previous years you would have received a renewal notice via the USPS. To conserve the League's limited resources and some trees, we anticipate only sending renewal notices via email.

Please renew now by returning the renewal form on the last page of this newsletter. Your renewal will cover the July 1, 2016—June 30, 2017 membership year.

We will also be accepting renewals at our June 3rd Annual Meeting at Nick & Angelo's in Liverpool. Thank you for your membership and involvement in the League. It is important and very much appreciated.

## HOW YOU CAN SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE SYRACUSE METRO LWV

**\$\_\_\_\_\_ LWVSYR donations support our local general operation fund (non-tax deductible)**

**\$\_\_\_\_\_ LWVSYR Education Foundation donations (tax deductible) Simply note on your check that you are donating to the Syracuse LWV and your donation will be held in our grants management account to be used for our local educational programs.**

**Please mail your check payable to:  
Syracuse Metro LWV  
PO Box 11866  
Syracuse NY 13218**

### Officers

Leadership Team  
Joan Durant  
Joan Johnson

Secretary... open  
Treasurer.... Roberta Millert

### Directors

Education Margrit Diehl  
Membership ... Sylvia Matousek

Publications/Public Relations... Joan Johnson  
Voter Service... Joan Durant

Directors-at-large  
Mary Ann Barth  
Peggy Chase  
Harold Bertram  
Michele Jones Galvin  
Ann Jamison  
Hasoni Pratts

### Off-Board Positions

Budget Director.... Harold Bertram

Nominating Committee.....  
Lisa Alford  
Ona Bregman  
Diane Chappell-Daly  
Michelle Jones Galvin  
Sylvia Matousek

Technical Support... Roberta Millert

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information please call the League office at (315) 396-8225 or e-mail to [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org)

### **Diversity Statement**

The Syracuse Metropolitan League of Women Voters is committed to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any League activity on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, or national origin.



Please let us know if your email address s changed. It is the most efficient way to communicate . You will be notified of upcoming local events and LWVUS and LWVNY National & State Action Alerts and news.

**Your e-mail address will not be shared or sold. Please respond to [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org) if there has been a change in how we can contact you.**

# FROM YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

## VOTING MADE EASIER ???



On April 19<sup>th</sup> millions of New Yorkers went to the polls to cast their ballot for a presidential candidate of their choice. The primary marked the first time since the 1960's when a presidential primary in New York would make a difference. But many citizens were unable to make their choice known because of New York's many restrictive elections laws.

Thousands of voters who were not enrolled in a political party learned the hard way they would have had to enroll in either the Democrat or Republican Party way back in October of 2015 because of our closed primary system. It is not likely we will see this change but there are several other reforms that would make voting easier for New Yorkers including early voting, election day registration, no-excuse absentee voting, improved ballot design and automatic voting.

New York ranks 49 out of the 50 states in voter turn out at the polls. Will any of these reforms change that? We hope you will join us at our **annual meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>** to learn where our two election commissioners stand on these reforms.

**SAVE THE DATE—JUNE 3RD  
LWVSYSR ANNUAL MEETING  
LEARN WHERE OUR ELECTION  
COMMISSIONERS STAND ON THESE ISSUES**

## WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL

The next few years mark several milestones in the fight for women's suffrage and the League of Women Voters. The League is planning several celebrations to mark these occasions including the following:

- November 2017 celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women suffrage in New York State
- November 2019 celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League of Women Voters of New York State
- 2020 celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women suffrage nationally and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LWVUS
- 2023 marks the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the Syracuse Metro Area

All levels of the League will be planning celebratory events, researching and updating league history, and coordinating educational forums/exhibits across the state and across the country.

Locally we hope to participate in the celebration. There is a lot of history in this span of 100 years. If you would like to be part of a committee to plan and research events and exhibits to celebrate the centennial, please let me know at [jaj62@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jaj62@twcny.rr.com) or 488-4339.

**Joan Johnson  
Johnson**



## CALENDAR

Sunday, May 8, 2016

Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 10

Corner Stone at the Plaza, Empire State Plaza  
Albany NY

LWVNYS Advocacy /Lobby Day  
10AM-5PM

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

School Board Elections

Friday, June 3rd, 11:30AM-1:30PM

Nick and Angelo's Ristorante  
7376 Oswego Road, Liverpool NY

LWVSYSR Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Tuesday, June 28th

Polls open 12 Noon- 9PM

NYS Federal (Congressional) Primary

**The LWV of the Syracuse Metro Area's Proposed Budget for 2016-2017**

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>2015-2016 BUDGET</b>	<b>Estimated Actual</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
<b>A. Dues</b>	1. Individuals (62 members @ \$55)	\$ 3,630.00	\$ 3,410.00	\$ 3,410.00
	2. Household ( 5 households @ \$80)	\$ 640.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 4,270.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,810.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,810.00</b>
<b>B. Contributions</b>	1.Member	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 495.00	\$ 600.00
	2. Non-member	\$ 300.00		\$ 300.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 1,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 495.00</b>	<b>\$ 900.00</b>
<b>C. Elections</b>	1.Election Reporting	\$ 65.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 130.00
	2. Monitoring Elections	\$ 400.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 400.00
		<b>\$ 465.00</b>	<b>\$ 580.00</b>	<b>\$ 530.00</b>
<b>D. Fundraising</b>	1. Raffle/ Leg Breakfast	\$ 150.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 200.00
	2. LWVNY Raffle Sharing		\$ 74.00	N/A
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 150.00</b>	<b>\$ 184.00</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
<b>E. Grants</b>	1. Voter Registration	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 600.00
	2. Bar Association	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 400.00
	3. 100th Anniversary			\$ 500.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 750.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>
<b>G. From Reserve</b>	1. NY Education Fund	\$ 350.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 648.00
	2. Geddes Savings Acct.	\$ 1,337.00	\$ 648.00	
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 1,687.00</b>	<b>\$ 833.00</b>	<b>\$ 648.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$ 8,872.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,652.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,588.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>2015-2016 BUDGET</b>	<b>Estimated Actual</b>	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
<b>A. Per Member Payment</b>	1. National LWV	\$ 2,672.00	\$ 2,672.00	\$ 2,128.00
	2. State LWV	\$ 1,670.00	\$ 1,670.00	\$ 1,330.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 4,342.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,342.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,458.00</b>
<b>B. Operating Costs</b>	1. General Supplies / Operations	\$ 150.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00
	2. Postage & PO Box	\$ 220.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 370.00</b>	<b>\$ 260.00</b>	<b>\$ 260.00</b>
<b>C. Board &amp; Admin Tools</b>	1. President	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
	2. Board Tools (Website)	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
	3. Finance Drive & Fundraiser	\$ 150.00		\$ 150.00
	4. Membership	\$ 200.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 150.00
	5. Public Relations	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 521.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>D. Delegates: State/National Conventions</b>		<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>E. Local Voter</b>	1.Supplies & Printing	\$ 150.00	\$ 67.00	\$ 100.00
	2. Postage	\$ 140.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 100.00
	Subtotal	<b>\$ 290.00</b>	<b>\$ 116.00</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
<b>F. Educational Activities</b>	1. Publications	\$ 200.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 100.00
	2.Program	\$ 500.00	\$ 201.00	\$ 500.00
	3. Who's Who	\$ 200.00	\$ 182.00	\$ 200.00
	4.Voters Guide	\$ 250.00		\$ 150.00
	5. Youth Activities/ Students Inside Albany	\$ 720.00	\$ 708.00	\$ 720.00
		<b>\$ 1,870.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,130.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,670.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 8,872.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,369.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,588.00</b>

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA 2016-2017 PROPOSED LOCAL ISSUES/POSITIONS

## MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

- Promote greater citizen participation in the political process by encouraging citizens to become knowledgeable about the issues and to actively lobby elected officials
- Encourage individuals to exercise their right to vote especially among underrepresented populations

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Study and support, where appropriate, legislation which promotes proposals to modernize local government by sharing services among villages, towns, public schools, the city of Syracuse, and Onondaga County
- Support efforts to contain sprawl with planned growth throughout Onondaga County

## SOCIAL POLICY

- Monitor the state school aid formula and its implications for upstate school districts and the Big 5 city school districts
- Promote educational efforts dealing with domestic violence and the Integrated Domestic Violence Court in Onondaga County
- Promote opposition to the Death Penalty in support of the LWVNY position

## NATURAL RESOURCES

- Support efforts to facilitate improvement projects for Onondaga Lake and its watershed

## LOCAL SUPPORT FOR STATEWIDE ISSUES/STUDIES

- Promote improved reforms for the Help America Vote Act (HAVA): including improved training for poll workers, adequate staffing at polling places, the use of split shifts for election workers, and citizen education and training for replacement machines
- Promote improved election processes which extend and encourage voting, including no-excuse Absentee Balloting, Election Day registration and allowing 16 and 17 year olds to pre-register to vote
- ***Promote efforts to simplify the procedures and format for obtaining petition signatures for potential candidates\****
- Promote and encourage meaningful campaign finance reform
- Promote the creation of an independent redistricting commission
- Promote the creation of an independent ethics commission
- Promote meaningful reform of public authorities
- Promote additional legislative rules reform
- Promote and encourage meaningful property tax reform

***\* New statement suggested by the Board of Directors***

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
PROPOSED NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
2016-2017 SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Officers to be elected at annual meeting:**

Leadership Team	Roberta Millert	Term Expires 2018
Leadership Team	Harold Bertram	Term Expires 2018
Leadership Team	Margrit Diehl	Term Expires 2018
Treasurer	Roberta Millert	Term Expires 2017
Secretary	Vacant	

**Continuing Officers and Directors:**

Leadership Team	Joan Johnson	Term Expires 2017
Leadership Team	Joan Durant	Term Expires 2017
Director-at-large	Mary Ann Barth	Term Expires 2017
Director-at-large	Peggy Chase	Term Expires 2017
Director-at-large	Michele Jones Galvin	Term Expires 2017
Director-at-large	Ann Jamison	Term Expires 2017
Voter Service	Joan Durant	Term expires 2017
Education	Margrit Diehl	Term Expires 2017
Public Relations	Joan Johnson	

**Officers and Directors to be Elected:**

Membership Recruitment	Vacant	Term Expires 2018
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**Off Board Positions to be Elected:**

Budget Director	Harold Bertram	Term Expires 2018
Membership Data Base	Rhonda Hungerford	Term Expires 2018

**Continuing Off Board Officers:**

*Nominating Committee	Lisa Alford	Term Expires 2017
	Ona Bregman	Term Expires 2017
	Diane Chappell-Daly	Term Expires 2017

\*Two additional members of the Nominating Committee, who shall be members of the Board, will be appointed by the Board soon after the Annual Meeting.

**Nominations can be made from the floor by any voting member providing the consent of the nominee has been secured.**



## LEAGUE EVENTS

### ***LWVSYR ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST***

Our Legislative Breakfast was held on Friday, April 8, 2016 at the Craftsman Inn in Fayetteville. Over 40 members and friends joined us to hear from our area legislators. They briefed us on the recently passed State Budget and issues of interest to our members and guests. All of our local legislators were able to be there including from left to right- Senator DeFrancisco, Senator Valesky, and Assembly members Will Barclay, Gary Finch, Al Stirpe, Pamela Hunter, and Bill Magnarelli. We also held a basket raffle to help defray the cost of the event. Thank you to Peggy Chase, Diane Dwire, Ann Jamison, Joan Johnson, Janet Mallan, Sylvia Matousek, and Roberta Millert for donating baskets or items for the raffle, and to all league members who helped make the event a success. A special thank you to CNY News Broadcaster, Laura Hand, who moderated the event.



### **FIX IT** **HEALTHCARE AT THE TIPPING POINT**

On Tuesday, April 12, 2016, members and friends of the league gathered at OASIS to view a documentary on the current status of healthcare in the United States. It covered the issue of affordable healthcare for individuals and businesses as well as our economy. The screening was followed by a discussion led by Syracuse University's Eric Kingson, Professor of Social Work at the Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics, and Ursula Rozum, Staff Member of the Syracuse Peace Council and former Upstate Coordinator for the Campaign for NY Health.

The event was co-sponsored by the Syracuse League, CNY National Organization for Women, New York State Nurses Association, Syracuse Peace Council and NASW-NYS, Central Division National Association of Social Workers. Thank you to League Member Ann Jamison for organizing the event. Pictured are panelists Ursula Rozum and Eric Kingson.



### **LWVNYS LOBBY/ADVOCACY DAY**

May 10, 2016 10AM-5PM Albany (Corner Stone at the Plaza, Empire State Plaza) \$15.00 fee includes lunch

**Presentations by League Issue Specialists**  
**Lobby Your Legislators**  
**Observe Legislative Session**

Please call the League at 396-8225 or email us at [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org) for more information including car pooling to Albany. **Deadline for reservations is May 6.**



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
 SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA  
 PO BOX 11866  
 SYRACUSE NY 13218**

**MAY 2016**

**LWVSYR ANNUAL MEETING  
 JUNE 3, 2016**

**LWV of the Syracuse Metropolitan Area  
 July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 Membership Renewal Form**  
 (Also includes membership in the National and NYS Leagues)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 55.00 Individual                      \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 80.00 Family                      \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 25.00 Student

You can also show your support by donating:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ LWVSYR donations that support our local general operation fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ LWVSYR donations that support our Education Foundation \*

\* Tax-deductible gifts support our local education fund. Ask if your employer if they offer a Matching Gift Program.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your check to: LWV Syracuse Metropolitan Area, PO Box 11866, Syracuse NY 13218

Let us know your specific interests and/or how you would like to be more involved with the League \_\_\_\_\_