



LWV LEHIGH COUNTY VOTER

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

May		
4	7:00 p.m.	Candidates Night Wind Gap Fire Co.
6	10:00 a.m.	Bundling Day Pat Swan's House
13	5:30 p.m.	Reservation Dead- line for Annual Meet- ing
18		Primary Election
19	5:30 p.m.	Annual Meeting Morgan's Restaurant
20	4:00 p.m.	Naturalization Old Lehigh County Courthouse

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear League Friends,

We are getting ready for the LWVLC Annual Meeting and I can tell you that we will have some very special events to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the LWVUS. We finally won the right to vote; perhaps, someday we will manage to get equal pay for equal work. The LWV US continues to work tirelessly for fairness for all citizens and to foster an informed constituency. Please plan to attend our Annual Meeting this year; it will be a one-of-a-kind experience.

The LWVNC is hosting a candidates' event for those who are running for office in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives this year. The details are included in the Voter calendar and in another location in this edition.

We have just received some information from the LWVPA about merit selection of judges. It is available on the LWVPA website (www.palwv.org) if you would like to take a look at it. I have not had a chance to review the material thus far.

The Phonathon is in process and the calls may actually be completed by the time you read this edition of the Voter.

If you are interested in working with a League activity such as voter registration, legislative interviews or the *Voters Guide*, please contact any board member and we will help you find a League job.

See you at the next League event,

Mary Anne Rood
President LWVLC

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ANNUAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

The Annual Meeting of our League will be held at Morgan's Restaurant (formerly Appenino's), Cedar Crest Boulevard and Willow Street. Phone: 610-769-4100

5:30 p.m. - Cash bar
6:00 p.m. - Dinner
7:00 p.m. - Program

Entrees: \$14.95- \$26.95, order from the menu.

Please send your reservation to Sue Phillips, suep@entermail.net (a form for mailing is on the last page of this Voter), or 610-821-1118 by May 13.

Check it out at: www.morgansrest.net

Sue Phillips

NEWS FLASH!!

Sydney Davis, a member of our League who is a well-known local actress, will give a short performance as Susan B. Anthony during the annual meeting.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD – APRIL 2010

Activities

Next Board Meeting – All members welcome
Thursday, June 10, 2010
Sunrise Senior Living – 4:00-5:30 pm

LWVLC ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday May 19
Morgan’s Restaurant
Contact Sue Phillips to make reservations

Phone-a-thon for LWVPA
Calls finished by April 26

LWV National Convention
June 11-15
Atlanta, GA

Official Business & Reports

Treasurer’s Report: The Board reviewed the March 2010 balance

sheet presented by Pat Hoffman and filed the report for audit.

Action – The LWVLC continues its support for development of a Regional Health Center. Regional Transportation initiatives are being followed with the expectation of having a LWVLC liaison involved in these efforts.

Government Directories will be mailed to each member. If more are needed, contact Pat Swan.

The annual LWVPA phone-a-thon to raise tax deductible funds for the League’s voter and educational programs will begin shortly and conclude early in May. 20% of the funds raised locally are returned to our local League.

Ken Mohr will chair the Planning Committee for the fall Run for Office Work-

shop. Further information can be gotten by contacting Ann Bartholomew or Doris Glaessmann.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED – The Board would like to send a member as our delegate to the convention in Atlanta scheduled for June 11-15. Contact Mary Anne Rood if you would be able to go to Atlanta as a delegate. Funds for this delegate are available. See more details about the convention on the website for LWVUS.

Note: Copies of the minutes and the Treasurer’s report may be obtained by e-mail by contacting J. Seaman and P. Hoffman respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Seaman, Secretary

NEW MEMBER

We have a new member in our League! Janet Little, 6029 Helen Drive Allentown PA 18104, 610-398-7228, jklrd@jklrd.com, joined as a national member via the national website. We welcome Janet to our League.

Margie Dunn

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 11 - Last day to apply for absentee ballot for Primary Election

May 14 - 5:00 p.m. - deadline for county election board to receive absentee ballots

May 18 - PRIMARY ELECTION. Polls open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

MARCELLUS SHALE – NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION & LEASING

Although we have finished our Marcellus Shale Consensus Study, members may find this Penn State program of interest!

The Penn State Extension – Lehigh Valley, is presenting a program for educational purposes at its new campus, 2809 Saucon Valley Road in Center Valley on **Wednesday, May 26, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** The cost of the program is \$15 payable at the door. You may also pre-register by calling 610-301-9840.

For more information go to: www.naturalgas.psu.edu

Pat Swan

!HOT TOPICS! LUNCHEON—APRIL 2010

Speaker: Deana Zosky, CPA
Water: Drinking Water, Waste Water, Storm Water, and the Necessity of Planning

Before Deana Zosky spoke, Anne Gemmell from Education Voters (<http://www.educationvoterspa.org/>) spoke briefly about the funding of schools in Pennsylvania and the current 6-year plan to increase funds for public education, including charter schools. She explained that the distribution of funds rests on four factors: the number of children, whether English is spoken at home, special education needs, and poverty.

Pennsylvania is now seeing major gains in achievement and is leading the nation in the number of children who are coming out of poverty. The mission of Education Voters is to engage the public in public education. Most Americans consider education as the bedrock of democracy. Elected leaders should be familiar with education in Pennsylvania, in other states, and in other nations. She invited everyone to sign up for updates on policy issues and then read the e-mails that are sent out.

Deana Zosky began by recommending several resources for learning about water issues, including the National Geographic Magazine special issue, April 2010, devoted to water (<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2010/04/table-of-contents>), which included the fact that we have now exactly the same amount of water as when the dinosaurs roamed the earth. In other words, water is a finite resource.

She described herself as having grown up in Center City Allentown where as a child she played in the streams, and now, as “a lowlander, a river dweller, a bottom dweller,” she is passionate about preserving water. “Water is an important social justice issue” for all levels of income, Zosky said.

Zosky also recommended the movie “Flow,” which addresses the question of whether water should be held in a public trust (Zosky says yes), rather than being bought by companies, especially bottling companies such as Nestle and Niagara. She urged people to pay attention to what is happening at the local level in deciding the future of water because such decisions are being made by townships and boroughs.

In terms of waste water, she referred to Liquid Assets, which reports a different view on water, focusing on the infrastructure for moving waste water. For example, in the western Lehigh system, there is a gravity line that runs down the Little Lehigh stream, the pipes having an engineered capacity to hold so much water for so long but the calculations are not always accurate. Strong contents in the pipes have in the past compromised the pipes and allowed surcharging of waste into the stream. More houses continue to be built and require good planning. “There is nothing more basic from a planning perspective than water,” Zosky stressed. In the recent past, these issues have not been addressed. Meanwhile development has continued to expand into rural areas.

Zoning must also include a good plan for storm water. The Little Lehigh River is in peril due to both sewage and storm water issues which have affected the health of the stream due to siltation and flooding. More houses means more chemicals from yards are now in streams, as well as other contaminants that are routinely found in water samples.

Zosky noted that “if you do fix it, you increase capacity and then it invites more volume,” and the system is overtaxed all over again so infrastructure needs ongoing maintenance and a plan to manage growth. The Little Lehigh has a good aquifer beneath it, but pumping of excessive amounts of water in the past has caused sections of the stream to go completely dry, with a devastating affect on the stream life and ecology. There is a “broken record” of building more pumping stations (used as a means of addressing surcharging by creating a system that bypasses the problem area in the stream) instead of addressing how to permanently solve the problem. A report on water resources of the Lehigh Valley by the USGS presents the science of gaining and losing stretches of the river.

RenewLV is working on a water and sewer initiative. It is important for boroughs and townships to work together and include all stakeholders to address both the economic issues and the even tougher environmental challenges of the important issue of water.

Elizabeth Bodien

CANDIDATES FORUM SCHEDULED

The League of Women Voters of Northampton County is sponsoring a candidates forum featuring contested races in the May 18 primary.

The forum, at 7:00 p.m., May 4, at the Wind Gap Fire Company, 111 Broadway, will feature Democrats Charles Dertinger and Frank Scagliotta, and Republicans Joe Emrick and Donald Albanese, who are running for State Representative in the 137th District; and Republican Marcia Hahn and Democrat Cory Miller, who are running in the special election for State Representative in the 138th District, to fill the seat formerly held by Craig Dally until November.

The 137th District is currently represented by Richard Grucela, who is not

running for re-election. It includes the boroughs of Bangor, East Bangor, Nazareth, Portland, Roseto, Stockertown and Tatamy; and the townships of Forks, Lower Mount Bethel, Palmer, Upper Mount Bethel, Upper Nazareth and Washington.

The 138th District was represented by Dally, who was elected judge this past November. It includes the boroughs of Bath, Chapman, Pen Argyl and Wind Gap; and the townships of Bethlehem (wards 1 and 4), Bushkill, East Allen, Hanover, Lower Nazareth, Moore and Plainfield.

There will be an opportunity for questions from the audience, so come and let your voices be heard!

Miller withdrew from the 138th primary ballot and Hahn appears on the ballot for both the special election and the 138th District primary, but she is unopposed in the primary.

Directions to the Wind Gap Fire Company: From the Wind Gap exit off Route 33, turn north onto Route 512 (Broadway) and go almost 1.2 miles north. The fire company is on the right, across from the post office and just past the intersection of the Turkey Hill traffic light. For information, call 610-252-1339, or go to www.lwvlv.org

Mary Anne Rood

MARCELLUS SHALE NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION STUDY CONSENSUS SUMMARY

(Continued from the April Voter)

In last month's Voter Mary Anne Rood outlined the discussions we had at the home of Pat and Burke Swan to review the consensus questions and determine our local League responses to the questions – a rating scale numbered from 1 through 5. Number 1 means "Not Important" and number 5 is "Very important" in all four of the consensus categories **except** Section A of the Revenue/Taxes (II)* category in which number 1 is "Unfair and Inequitable" and number 5 means "Fair and Equitable" (5).

We published the responses to Sections I and II and our numerical responses to them. This month we are publishing the responses to Sections III and IV. They are as follows:

Section III is entitled "Citizen's Rights". It consists of six statements, all of which we felt should be considered "Very Important." They are as follows: support legislation that provides transparency about the processes, balance the rights of surface owners and gas/mineral rights owners, set up quick, easy ways to request DEP inspections, provide for citizen input on the placement of pipelines and compressors, extend timelines for testing water quality and, finally, establish and oversight hotline for reporting problems.

Section IV is the "Environment." We rated all eight of the statements in this section as "Very Important." They include removing natural gas industry exemptions from environmental laws;

restoration in all leases; consistent statewide water use and enforcement; full disclosure of fluids in fracking liquid and flowback wastewater; devices to monitor the effects of drilling, etc. on air and water quality; procedures to insure collaboration between local, state and federal regulation and enforcement processes, require the use of 'best practices' to mitigate environmental effects.

If you have questions or want a more detailed description of the consensus questions and material please, check the LWVPA website.

Mary Anne Rood
President, LWVLC

VOTERS GUIDE AND BUNDLING DAY

The Voters Guide is now online at www.lwvlv.org, and will be published in The Morning Call on May 6.

Bundling day is at Pat Swan's home on Thursday, May 6, starting at 10 a.m.

Call her at 610-435-4148 to let her know you'll be coming to help.

Directions to Pat's house: Heading south on Cedar Crest Boulevard, turn right on Riverbend Road. Drive 0.4 miles, then turn right on Brookhaven

Road, go one block, then turn right again on Ravenswood Road. Pat's house is at 3946 Ravenswood Road.

Please come to help.

Ann Bartholomew

CENSUS 2010

Still haven't filled out your Census 2010 questionnaire? Even though the Census Bureau extended the deadline to mail back forms to April 16, those who either haven't received Census forms, or haven't returned them, can interview over the phone by calling the Telephone Questionnaire Assistance line at (866) 872-6868. For complete information, visit the [2010 Census homepage](#).

After May 1, if you have not filled out and returned a form, a Census taker will contact you at home. Here is some information on what happens next and what to expect:

Who is a Census taker?

A person from your community who is hired by the Census Bureau to make sure your neighborhood gets represented as accurately as possible. The Census worker's primary responsibility

is to collect Census information from residences that have not sent back their 2010 Census forms.

What should I do when the Census taker visits?

First ask to see his or her ID. All Census workers carry official government badges marked with just their names; they may also have a "U.S. Census Bureau" bag. Answer the Census form questions for your entire household so the Census taker can record the results for submission to the Census Bureau. If you prefer, you can schedule a visit with your Census taker by calling your [local Census office](#).

Do I have to talk to the Census taker?

Yes. Your participation in the 2010 Census is [vital to your community](#) and required by law.

What about the privacy and the confidentiality of my answers?

Protecting your privacy and the confidentiality of your personal information is a top priority of the Census Bureau. The Census taker who collects your information is sworn for life to protect your data. The Census Bureau uses your information to produce statistics. Your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

The U.S. Census happens only once every 10 years - **and with the distribution of \$400 billion in federal funds per year at stake, it's too important to miss.**

Sincerely,
Mary Wilson
President, LWVUS

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RARITAN VALLEY TRANSIT STUDY

The RenewLV meeting on 19 April was a summary of a study which looked at extending the rail line from Phillipsburg to Allentown. The study also looked at express bus service.

The numbers are based on a model which uses current data. It is not allowed to project into the future because that could make the projections pretty rosy and non comparable to similar studies. The general consensus was that the numbers for riders

were not only low but off base. For example, they are projecting a daily rate for Allentown of about 70 riders for the bus. A comment by Mayor Pawlowski indicated that there are about 4-5 loads daily already today. The model also is not allowed to take into account the inevitable increase in the price of gasoline which would also drive people to rail and buses.

There is no funding for the rail but there were many suggestions of where to get it. Also, it assumes that New Jersey will extend the rail from High Bridge to Phillipsburg. Of course, I-80 tolls would have been nice but the federal government recently vetoed this source. This issue is something that the League would want to support.

Ken Baumert
kbaumert@ptd.net

LWVUS CONVENTION

The LWVUS Convention is being held in Atlanta, Georgia this year June 11 to 15. If you are interested in attending, please contact any board member so registration can be made by May 14.

There is a wonderful schedule of work and fun events planned as we celebrate "90 Years of Making Democracy Work." As events are developed, weekly updates all of the special activities, panels and workshops will be

published in the Convention section of the LWVUS website.

Mary Anne Rood

League of Women Voters
of Lehigh County

P. O. Box 3275
Allentown, PA 18106
610-432-1456
LWVPA Hotline: 1-800-692-7281

President: Mary Anne Rood,
610-395-3464
Membership: Margie Dunn,
610-298-8946

Caryn Shoenthal, Editor
Email: CarynCW@yahoo.com
Phone: 610-261-0596



Wednesday, May 19, 2010

LWVLC Annual Meeting
Morgan's
Wednesday, May 19th, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

3079 Willow Street, Allentown 18104
At the intersection of
Cedar Crest Boulevard & Willow Street
(610-769-4100)

Entrees ordered at the restaurant
from \$14.95 to \$26.95
Go to: www.morgansrest.net
for full menu and prices

5:30 p.m. - Cash Bar
6:00 p.m. - Dinner
Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

Name: _____

Guest(s): _____

No. of Reservations: Total _____

Deadline for reservations is Thursday, May 13

Mail to: Sue Phillips
2611 Walnut Street
Allentown PA 18104
E-mail: suep@entermail.net
Phone: 610-821-1118

***** RSVP by May 13, 2009 *****

NATURALIZATION

On April 8, 2010, 69 people from 31 countries were naturalized in a ceremony at the Old Lehigh County Courthouse with the Honorable Edward Reibman presiding. The next naturalization ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 20.

All ceremonies are held in the Old Lehigh County Courthouse at 4:00 p.m. The ceremonies last approximately 30-45 minutes, and are very impressive and uplifting. Spectators are welcome.

Caryn Shoenthal

ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising Rates for 2009 for *The Lehigh County Voter* are as follows:
Business Card Size - \$75 a year
Full page - \$100 for 1 month, \$500 for a year
Half Page - \$50 for 1 month, \$250 for a year.

Advertisers' web links will be publicized in *The Voter*, both on-line and in hard copy. The ad year runs from July 1 to June 30. The rate for advertisers whose ads are received during the year will be pro-rated. Contact Gayle Getz at 610-398-9837, the *Voter* editor, or any board member for additional information or to arrange your advertising.

WHEN PATRONIZING OUR SPONSORS, PLEASE REMEMBER TO
LET THEM KNOW YOU SAW THEIR ADVERTISEMENT IN
THE LEHIGH COUNTY VOTER

Dan's Camera helps non-profit organizations with fund raising by offering a fifty cent rebate to the organizations for each roll of film members bring in to be developed. Members must sign a logbook for LWV. This is a very easy way to help raise funds for the League. Please see Dan's advertisement.

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

League of Women Voters of Lehigh County
P.O. Box 3275
Allentown PA 18106



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEHIGH COUNTY

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone, E-mail _____

Membership dues include membership in the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania (LWVPA) and a subscription to the local, state and national *Voter*.

League dues and contributions are not tax-deductible as a charitable donation.

Contributions to the LWV Education Fund (LWVEF) are tax-deductible.

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all citizens of voting age. Associate membership is available for non-citizens and for those under age eighteen.

ANNUAL DUES	\$55.00 individual
2009-2010	\$82.50 household
	\$25.00 full-time student

Contact membership secretary for details of pro-rated dues amounts.

Please make check payable to
LWVLC and mail to:
LWVLC
c/o Margie Dunn
8411 Carpet Road
New Tripoli, PA 18066