



LWV LEHIGH COUNTY VOTER

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

November

4	7a.m to 8p.m	ELECTION DAY!!! DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!
10	Noon	!Hot Topics! Lunch Speaker, Bill White
20	4:00 p.m.	Board Meeting, Sunrise Assisted Living
22	8:00 a.m.	Running for Local Office Workshop Northampton Community College
25	4:00 p.m.	Naturalization Old Lehigh County Courthouse

December

8	Noon	!Hot Topics! Lunch Local Transportation and Water Issues
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First of all, I wanted to mention the Hot Topics luncheon this October 13th. I was able to attend a portion of the event at which Dr. Borek spoke about identifying public opinion trends. It was a very pleasant and informative afternoon. I enjoyed meeting casually with other League members. This is good way to get out, eat, and visit with interesting people. I highly recommend the experience and suggest that if you have not already done so, give it a try!

Election campaigns are headed into the 'home stretch,' and we can expect a river of words from the candidates at all levels of government. I must say that at the national level this campaign period has been full of interesting sur-

prises and endorsements. The last Presidential debate is finished; and, happily, they did proceed as scheduled.

Thanks to the Morning Call and the joint LWVNC/LWVLC Committees' tireless efforts, you should have a copy of the Voters Guide in your hands, since Bundling Day was the 23rd of October. The Voters Guide provides timely, relevant information to local voters. It is one of the League activities that continually receives compliments and it helps to get out the vote. Incidentally, if you do not subscribe to The Morning Call you can get the Voter's Guide at our website or request that one to be mailed to your home.

Pat Swan is back to man the League telephone for the election. I think the phone will be really busy this year. I have already received one call this month from a person who wanted to register to vote in Lehigh County. (Yes, he was in time.) Thank you, Pat.

This is just a reminder that materials for the LWVUS study, Electing the President by Popular Vote, will soon be available soon. The consensus is due in May or June, 2009.

See you at the next League event,

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Anne Rood,
President, LWVLC*

November !HOT TOPICS! LUNCH!

Monday, November 10
Noon
Ruffino's
19th & Allen Streets

*Columnist Bill White
The Morning Call*

Post-Election Comments

Morning Call columnist, Bill White, will give us his Post-Election comments at this month's !Hot Topics! Lunch. He is always entertaining, so plan on attending this lunch.

The cost is **\$14** for members and guests.

Make your reservation by calling or e-mailing **Sue Phillips at 610-821-1118, or suep@entermail.net by Thursday, November 6th.**

Bring a friend!!

Pat Swan

NEWS FROM THE BOARD—

OCTOBER 9, 2008

Activities

15th Congressional District Debate: The debate sponsored by LWVLC between Sam Bennett and Charles Dent was unable to be scheduled because of Representative Dent's schedule.

The Voters Guide is expected to be included in the Morning Call on October 24 or 25. Costs are prohibitive for mailing the Guides to the membership. If you don't receive the Morning Call, copies of the Guide may be picked up at local libraries, reviewed on the League web site, or requested from Molly Faust.

Hot Topics luncheon at Ruffino's will be held at noon on November 10, 2008.

November 20, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. - LWVLC Board meeting at Sunrise Senior Living. Members are invited to attend. Note date change.

November 22 - How to Run for Office Workshop will be held from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Northampton Community College, Kiva Building. For Information: 610-432-1456.

Official Business

Treasurer's Report: The Board reviewed the September balance sheet presented by Pat Hoffman and filed the report for audit.

Voter's Guide - Responding to a Morning Call request, the Board has approved the inclusion of non-partisan advertising in this fall's Guide. An advertising policy to cover future advertising requests will be drafted for review at the November's meeting.

Mary Anne Stinner reported no response from the letter sent regarding the League's concern for the preservation of South Mountain. This month Salisbury Township

approved development plans for South Mountain.

Look for membership renewal letters during October. Two new members have joined to date. Contact Marge Dunn for information.

Voter registration information sessions were held at the State Hospital, Air Products and the Emmaus PTA.

Government Directory - Information is kept updated on the League website. To assist in keeping it accurate, contact Ann Bartholomew with personnel changes in your township.

Members may obtain a full copy of the minutes or the financial statement by e-mail from Jeanette Seaman and Pat Hoffman respectively.

Jeanette Seaman
Secretary

At this month's Hot Topics! lunch we'll listen to Bill White give us his post-election comments

RUNNING FOR LOCAL OFFICE WORKSHOP

The workshop will be held on Saturday, November 22, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Northampton Community College.

In 2009, voters in Pennsylvania will be choosing those who serve in local government. Next year in the Lehigh Valley there will be vacancies at the county, city, borough, township, and school board levels.

It isn't easy for a novice to know what to do to run a successful campaign, but this shouldn't be a handicap. To make it less confusing for people to campaign for local office, the League of Women

Voters of Lehigh County and of Northampton County jointly run a how-to workshop in the November before each municipal election. We bring in local experts and a panel of experienced campaigners to help explain the mysteries of the election process, including filing the required paperwork, fundraising, reporting contributions, working with a political party, putting together an election committee, and what works and what is a waste of time and effort in pursuing votes.

The workshop is specifically designed for those running for election in the

Lehigh Valley next year. The cost of \$45 per participant is enough to cover our expenses. This is not a fundraiser. For detailed information on what is offered at the November 22 workshop, see www.lwvlv.org.

If you have friends or neighbors who have expressed interest in being elected to a local office, do them the favor of telling them about this workshop!

Ann Bartholomew
610-967-3653
annbart@rcn.com

If you are a League member who is working for a candidate, please, do not suggest or infer that the LWV endorses or supports your particular candidate.

NONPARTISAN POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

LWV Board Members may not be associated with the campaign of any candidate for any office. Remember that although members of the League of Women Voters may work for the election of specific candidates, they must do so as individuals NOT as members of the League of Women Voters.

If you are a League member who is working for a candidate, please, do not suggest or infer that the LWV endorses or supports your particular candidate.

It is extremely important that the LWV maintains our 80+ year old reputation as a nonpartisan organization that can be counted on to deliver a fair and reasoned response to candidates and issues.

Mary Anne Rood
President

!HOT TOPICS! LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 13, 2008

Speaker:

Dr. Christopher P. Borick
Associate Professor of
Political Science and Di-
rector
Institute of Public Opinion
Muhlenberg College

Chris Borick began his talk by praising the League of Women Voters as “a gift to American democracy,” saying that “to vote and engage in politics is the essence of a republic.” He noted that this presidential election is a historic one that falls at a time of two wars and a financial crisis. Currently, the two major presidential campaigns are paying particular attention to swing states. The Muhlenberg poll has been tracking daily the inclinations of voters towards the two principal presidential candidates (<http://www.muhlenberg.edu/studorgs/polling/>), and the opinions of the public on the major issues. Fifty-five percent of those polled say that the number one issue is the economy. Health care and war are ranked as most important by far fewer people, around 7%-8% of those polled. Terrorism comes in at around 4%. When people are asked which of the two principal candidates would do a better job concerning the economy,

Barack Obama has a 20% lead over John McCain. In response to that public perception, John McCain can either address the economic issues more, or target Barack Obama on other matters, the latter being the path McCain’s campaign has recently taken, as of the time of this writing.

At the state level, Borick mentioned the race for attorney general between John Morganelli and incumbent Tom Corbett, noting that Democrats have never won the attorney general position. However, one million more are registered as Democrats than Republicans this year in Pennsylvania, so that history could change. In Lower Bucks County, Democrats are hopeful for this election; in western Pennsylvania, Republicans are hopeful.

The race in the 15th Congressional District could be affected by the presidential race. Last time, Charles Dertinger as a Democrat, mounted a strong challenge against Republican Charles Dent, which might be explained as a coattails effect related to the fact that Ed Rendell (D) and Bob Casey, Jr. (D) were elected as governor and senator respectively. Something

similar could happen this time in Sam Bennett’s challenge to Dent, Borick suggested, because Democrats are running strong in this election. After these comments, Chris Borick answered questions.

People typically report that they plan to vote because this is a socially desirable response, but whether or not one follows the race is not as strongly a socially desirable response. Borick noted a high correlation in polls between those who say, “Yes, I’m following the race,” and those who say they are planning to vote.

In answer to a question, Borick said the Muhlenberg poll does not call cell phone numbers so the polling may not tap into as many younger voters as it would if cell phone numbers were included. The policy on this may change in the future.

Another question was whether the Muhlenberg poll repeated calls to the same people, the answer being that this is not typically done except by polls that are specifically tracking trends.

In answer to whether the poll has asked about people’s concerns about

Chris Borick began his talk by praising the League of Women Voters as “a gift to American democracy,”

!HOT TOPICS! LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 13, 2008

(continued from page 4)

issues of fairness in the upcoming election, Borick said yes, and about 15% of Pennsylvanians, more so in urban areas, are concerned.

Another question concerned third parties. Borick said that polling has concentrated on the two major parties because, depending on the wording, polling questions can actually skew true voting patterns. That is, when people are given the names of third party candidates to choose from, they more often choose those candidates than when they are asked to volunteer their preferences on their own.

Concerning evangelical Christians, Borick said that in contrast to President

Bush, McCain has less support from this group, and was "never the darling of the evangelical right."

When asked what sources he consults, Borick recommended www.pollster.com and www.realclearpolitics.com. He mentioned that polls borrow questions from other polls all the time, especially those that have been tested well, as there have been no challenges on plagiarism of this sort.

Borick explained that the daily tracking poll polls about 600 voters over 5 days with results showing a margin of error of about plus or minus 4%. If there is a gap between two candidates or issues that is smaller than the margin of

error, no prediction can be made. Calls are random and made at different times of day. Prime time is between 6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., but calls are made during the day and on the weekends as well. In answer to the question as to whether polling numbers depress voter turnout, Borick said there has been no conclusive research showing an effect of the polling on turnout. Voting turnout tends to run 52% female and 48% male. Lastly, Borick answered a question about how many people called decline to participate in the polling. He said two people decline for every one that participates.

Elizabeth Bodien

At our December luncheon we'll talk about local transportation and water issues

DECEMBER !HOT TOPICS!

Our December Hot Topics luncheon will be held on Monday, December 8th at Pat Swan's home.

At this luncheon we will discuss local transportation and water issues

that are of particular importance to our Lehigh Valley area

Please call Pat by Thursday, December 4th to make your reservations.

Pay no more than \$5.00 and don't forget to bring a book for the Cops 'n Kids program.

Pat Swan

NON-PARTISAN GUIDELINES FOR THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEHIGH COUNTY

Adopted September 1990. Re-adopted July 1991, September 1998, September 2001. Amended November 2002. Re-adopted November 2003, November 10 2005.

STATEMENT OF NON-PARTISANSHIP

“The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.”

League of Women Voters of the United States
Bylaws, Article II, Section 2.

Maintaining the non-partisan character of the League of Women Voters is extremely important, and responsibility for doing so rests with each Board member. The following guidelines apply only to members of the Board of Directors. General League members are encouraged to assume active roles in the political process and are not bound by these guidelines.

ELECTIVE OFFICE

Board members:

- a) may not run for or be appointed to elective office;
- b) may run for membership on a government study commission or delegate to a state constitutional convention with approval by motion of the Board;
- c) must resign from the Board if they declare for an elective office other than one determined permissible by the League (e.g. Judge of Election, or as in b), above);*
- d) are not affected by relatives who are politically active; however, if an immediate family member (spouse, parent, parent-in-law, sibling or child) is running for or holding public office or political party office, that Board member may not hold a sensitive portfolio, such as President, Voters Guide, Public Relations, Official Spokesperson, Legislative Liaison, or Candidates Nights Coordinator.

Non-Board members cannot represent the League while a candidate for public office or while visibly involved in someone else's campaign.

POLITICAL PARTY AND CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

Board members:

- a) may not be campaign managers or official spokespersons for a candidate;
- b) may participate in political parties in a non-public manner;
- c) may attend functions for candidates, but not give them;
- d) may sign nominating petitions, but not circulate them;
- e) may not make partisan remarks or use personal opinion where they could be construed as League position;
- f) may not work on an election board.

* A public notice must be issued by the Board, announcing the resignation and naming the person succeeding to the Board position. The notice must avoid any implication of an endorsement of the resigning Board member's candidacy.

PUBLIC BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES AND COALITIONS

Board members:

- a. are encouraged to serve on boards, committees and commissions, either as individuals or as appointed representatives of the League;
- b. are encouraged to represent the League in coalitions; however, if the coalition supports or opposes candidates, the Board must issue a statement dissociating the League from that aspect of the coalition's work.

This policy must be reviewed and amended or approved annually.

LWVLC CALENDAR

November 10, 2008	Post Election Comments, Bill White, Morning Call Columnist
December 8, 2008	LWVLC Position Review, Transportation and Water
January 12, 2009	What's Happening in Harrisburg? State Representative
February 9, 2009	Row Office Reform, Andrea Naugle, Lehigh County Clerk of Judicial Records
March 9, 2009	Immigration, Will Miller, Program Administrator, Refugee and Immigration Services, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown
April 13, 2009	Renewable Energy and Sustainability, Archie Follweiler. President, Mid Atlantic Renewable Energy Association.

All meetings except December 10 will be held at Ruffino's, 1840 Allen Street, Allentown.

Pat Swan

A note from Andrea Mulrine , President
League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania
226 Forster St., Harrisburg, PA 17102-3220
717.234.1576.15

Dear League Members:

Be sure to mark November 18th on your calendar. Your participation in our annual fund raiser is very important to the life and success of The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania.

Join the League in honoring Harold Yoh, III, CEO of Day & Zimmermann

League of Women Voters of PA-Citizen Education Fund
Civic Leadership Reception
November 18, 2008—PNC Center Hall
1600 Market Street, Philadelphia , PA—5:30-7:30

LWVPA needs the support and presence of League members as well as our corporate donors.

- Individual League reservations: \$50
- Special Car-Pool Rate: 11 local League members who carpool—\$30 per person. Local League must collect the reservations and send one check to the League State Office. Carpooling groups may have their local League included in the full-page Philadelphia Inquirer ad if check is received no later than November 10, 2008.

Mary A Verdelli, Administrative Assistant
League of Women Voters of PA
226 Forster Street, Harrisburg , PA 17102
info@palwv.org, 717-234-1576 or 1-800-564-6598 x 10
Fax: 717-234-8341, website: www.palwv.org

MEMBERSHIP

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

Two new members joined
our League. They are:

Judith A Murphy
70 Springstone Hollow
Lane
Mertztown, PA 19539
610 682-2007

Caroline Dobrowolski
4698 North Church
Street
Whitehall, PA 18052
610-261-1084
caredob53@yahoo.com

If you know of anyone

who would like to join our
League, give me a call
and let me know who
they are.

Margie Dunn

REMINDER...

With the help of League
members, we try to keep
the online Government
Directory up to date.

and commissions you
know about.

Thanks to those who
have done so in the past
few months.

Ann Bartholomew
annbart@rcn.com
610-967-3653

Please send me any
changes in local boards



FOUR WAYS TO GET EVERYONE TO VOTE

1. Find Your Polling Place Location
At VOTE411.org, find out where to go to vote, learn about polling place hours and identification requirements, and verify your registration.
2. Read Tips about Election Day in Your State
Search our system to find out comprehensive [information about candidates](#) and the [electoral process in your state](#).
3. Tell All Your Friends and Family
Make sure your friends and family ready, too! [Pass this email along to make sure they are well-informed and ready for Election Day.](#)
4. VOTE
No matter the outcome, this election will determine the future



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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For single *Voter* issue rate
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