



League of Women Voters Rochester Metro Area Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan 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.

Voter education is one of the League's most important functions, and the League encourages all citizens to register and to cast an informed vote.

The League does not support political parties or candidates, but does take stands on important issues after careful study and research.

Membership in the League is open to all persons who are at least 16 years of age.

Those under 16 can be associate members.

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LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
ROCHESTER METROPOLITAN AREA

**Plan to attend
our Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 15, 2016
4:30 P.M.
Locust Hill Country Club.**

More information on pages 3-5

Preregister at www.lwv-rma.org or 262-3730.
We look forward to seeing you!

President's Corner

It's hard to believe we're preparing for the Annual Meeting already! Hope you've marked your calendar and are planning to attend on Thursday, June 15, at 4:30 P.M. at Locust Hill Country Club. The cost is only \$10, and you'll find wine, hors d'oeuvres, a slide show of photos taken at League events, and of course great company! We'll celebrate our many accomplishments during this year, and the board has named the following for special recognition:

Making Democracy Work Award: Rev. Dr. Marvin McMickle, President and Professor at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School;

Carrie Chapman Catt Award: The Honorable Louise Slaughter, Life Member of the League and US Representative, 25th District;

You Make Us Proud Awards: Ernest DuBois, Neil Jaschik, and Joan Rosenthal;

Life Members: Georgia DeGregorio and Phyllis Korn.

League business includes the election of new Board of Directors and Nominating Committee members, as well as discussion and adoption of a new budget, and presentation of financial statements through the 3rd Quarter.

Please make your reservation today by contacting us at 585-262-3730 or www.lwv-rma.org!

(continued next column)

Election Night with the League

At our April First Friday gathering, conversations turned to elections.

In one conversation, we were talking about how we might all get together to watch the returns come in, since so many non-League watch parties are decidedly partisan. And in another conversation, we were trying to find a way to reward members who work so hard registering voters and inspiring them to get to the polls.

Within minutes, our discussions combined and we decided to host a watch party ourselves – open to members, our families and friends and others we opt to invite. The board agreed at our April meeting.

Are you interested? Would you like to help plan? Please contact Mary Hussong-Kallen at president@lwv-rma.org or 585-262-3730 – and definitely plan to spend election night 2017 with the League!

IN OTHER NEWS:

- The Who Represents You brochures are ready! Please contact Gin Busack at ginbusack@aol.com to order yours.
- We need your photos – and we now have an easy way to share them. Please send any pictures you take at League events to photos@lwv-rma.org.
- All new (or prospective) members are invited to an Orientation Gathering on Thursday, May 18, at 7:00 P.M. or Friday, May 19, at 2:00 P.M. at Asbury First United Methodist Church, 1010 East Avenue. All members are invited to welcome our newest members and suggest committees or activities. RSVP communications@lwv-rma.org or 585-262-3730.
- You are WISE (Warmly Invited and Strongly Encouraged) to complete our new online Member Talent Survey. Early responses indicate far more talents and skills than we dared hope!
- The LWVNY Convention will be held in Syracuse on June 9 through 11. If you're active in the league (or would like to be), please consider attending. The League will cover registration and double occupancy hotel room cost. Please contact Mary H-K at president@lwv-rma.org or 585-262-3730 for further information or to register.
- First Friday continues to be a most enjoyable mix of business and pleasure – if you're available on May 5, stop in at I-Square between 11:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. (or so)...

As always, thank you for making this such a successful year – well worth celebrating as we continue to Make Democracy Work for All!

Mary Hussong-Kallen
president@lwv-rma.org



“Who Represents You” is now available!

Please contact Gin Busack (ginbusack@aol.com) or visit our website (www.lwv-rma.org/WRY.pdf).



REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

**You are cordially invited to attend the
Annual Meeting
of
The League of Women Voters
Rochester Metropolitan Area**

Thursday, June 15, 2017

at 4:30 P.M.

Locust Hill Country Club

2000 West Jefferson Road, Pittsford

Vote for:

- New slate of candidates to our Board of Directors & Nominating Committee
- Annual budget for 2017-2018
- Milestone League members
- Celebrate Carrie Chapman Catt & Making Democracy Work Awards
- Acknowledge the members who earned You Make Us Proud Awards

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine, coffee, tea – and wonderful company

Cost is just \$10 again this year!

Celebrate another year of League excellence!

Preregister at www.lwv-rma.org or 262-3730.

We look forward to seeing you!

Annual Meeting information—financial, budget, nominations—follow on pages 4-5.



REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will present for membership consideration at the Annual Meeting the following slate of **candidates to serve on the Board of Directors**:

Director **Gin Busack** (2017-2019)

Director **Barbara Kay** (2017-2019)

Corresponding Secretary **Marion O'Connor** (2017-2019)

Treasurer **Elaine Schmidt** (2017-2019)

Director **Judy Weinstein** (2017-2019)

In addition, the following Non-Board Members are presented as candidates for membership consideration to **serve on the Nominating Committee**:

Lois Winterkorn (Chairperson)

Ida Holloran

All members attending the Annual Meeting on June 15 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidates. During the Annual Meeting, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured. The bylaws stipulate a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of ten (10) elected directors and not more than five (5) appointed directors.

Many thanks to the committee members: Barbara Kay (Chair), Gloria Read and Brian Valenti.

Dollars & Cents for 2017-18

The Budget Committee has prepared the 2017-18 League budget which received Board approval at the April 13 meeting, and is presented for your review in this issue of The Voter.

In reviewing the 2017-18 budget you will note that we have continued our reorganization of some line items to present a clearer picture of our finances. We have renamed and grouped some line items. The committee feels these changes will make the Board's fiscal monitoring and oversight easier, while adding transparency to the League's finances. Overall, the committee feels that this is a moderate budget which takes advantage of the educational dollars in our Grants Management Account and exercises judicious spending while still producing good programs and fulfilling the mission of the League.

In addition to the General Fund budget described above, we offer a summary of the beginning and ending balances on our Checking and Savings Accounts, as well as the Grants Management Account.

We feel confident that you will agree that our financial position is strong and that the League's assets are well-managed.

The 2017-2018 budget is presented on page 5.

Dorothy Borgus (Chair), **Ida Holloran**, and **Mary Hussong-Kallen**

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY IN ALL ACCOUNTS

as of the End of 3rd Quarter, 2017

Account	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
M&T Checking Account	\$10,495.00	\$19,945.00
M&T Savings Account*	\$54,356.00	\$54,397.00
LWVNYS Grants Management	\$15,538.00	\$17,774.00
TOTAL	\$80,389.00	\$92,116.00



REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

LWV-RMA FINANCIAL REPORT 2017-2018			
DESCRIPTION	2016-17 BUDGET	ACTUAL (4/30/2017)	2017-18 BUDGET
Income			
Dues	\$9,230.00	\$11,058.00	\$11,000.00
Donations (including Annual Appeal)	\$900.00	\$430.00	\$700.00
Monroe County Board of Elections (Ballots)	\$1,500.00	\$3,200.00	\$1,500.00
Annual & General Membership Meetings	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
Paid Programs/Events (RACF & SBA luncheons, etc.)	\$1,250.00	\$630.00	\$1,250.00
Interest Income	\$40.00	\$56.00	\$50.00
Other Income	\$200.00	\$2,625.00	\$500.00
Grants Management Transfers			
EF-LWVUS PMP	\$1,920.00	\$1,776.00	\$1,900.00
EF-LWVNYS PMP	\$1,180.00	\$1,095.00	\$1,100.00
EF-Special Projects	\$1,000.00	\$480.00	\$1,000.00
EF-Students Inside Albany (SIA)	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
EF-Educational Materials	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
EF-Who Represents You (WRY)-RACF	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,400.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$20,720.00	\$24,850.00	\$23,600.00
Expenses			
National Dues	(\$3,900.00)	(\$3,552.00)	(\$4,000.00)
State Dues	(\$2,400.00)	(\$2,190.00)	(\$2,500.00)
Conventions			
National			(\$3,000.00)
State	(\$2,000.00)	(\$2,000.00)	
Programs/Events (LWV-RMA & other)	(\$1,300.00)	(\$1,500.00)	(\$1,500.00)
Program Planning Meeting (January)	(\$300.00)	(\$444.00)	(\$500.00)
Annual Members' Meeting (May/June)	(\$1,275.00)	(\$1,275.00)	(\$1,275.00)
Voter Services			
Who Represents You (WRY)	(\$1,300.00)	(\$2,400.00)	(\$2,400.00)
Vote411	(\$100.00)	(\$41.00)	(\$100.00)
Fair Election Practices Campaign	(\$500.00)	(\$52.00)	(\$500.00)
Brochures/Educational Materials	(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,500.00)
Special Projects	(\$500.00)	(\$782.00)	(\$875.00)
All Other Committee Expense	(\$555.00)	(\$540.00)	(\$700.00)
Administration Expense			
Internet Hosting	(\$70.00)	(\$70.00)	(\$70.00)
Office Phone	(\$840.00)	(\$800.00)	(\$850.00)
Paypal	(\$100.00)	(\$125.00)	(\$150.00)
PO Box (1 year)	(\$90.00)	(\$86.00)	(\$90.00)
Postage	(\$400.00)	(\$160.00)	(\$250.00)
Printing/Paper Supplies	(\$700.00)		(\$150.00)
Space Rental	(\$250.00)	(\$250.00)	(\$250.00)
Annual Appeal	(\$125.00)	(\$104.00)	(\$125.00)
Students Inside Albany	(\$800.00)	(\$800.00)	(\$800.00)
Allied Organization Events/Memberships	(\$15.00)	(\$15.00)	(\$15.00)
The Voter (layout)	(\$2,200.00)	(\$1,400.00)	(\$2,000.00)
TOTAL EXPENSE	(\$20,720.00)	(\$19,586.00)	(\$23,600.00)
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$0.00	\$5,264.00	\$0.00

Forum: Can Monroe County Reduce Poverty by 50% in 15 Years?

On May 1, LWV-RMA members and others met to discuss initiatives to reduce poverty in Monroe County. Among the questions considered were the following:

- What approaches are being used to reach this goal?
- What milestones have been reached thus far?
- How are these goals being funded?
- How are the results being measured? AND
- How can we ALL be engaged in the process?

Panelists leading the discussion were:

Tori Toliver-Powers, Rochester Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative at United Way

LaShunda Leslie-Smith, Connected Communities, Inc.

Henry Fitts, Mayor's Office Innovation & Strategic Initiatives

Vincent Esposito, Empire State Development, Finger Lakes Regional Office.

The Anti-Poverty committee will expand on the May 1 forum in the next bulletin. In the meantime, go to the LWV-RMA YouTube site at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjC9NCupn9AhZpH2k83m5_g to see the recording of the forum.



Henry Fitts of the Mayor's office discussing anti-poverty initiatives.



Moderator Georgia DeGregorio, Vincent Esposito, LaShunda Leslie-Smith, Tori Toliver-Powers and Henry Fitts.



More of those who attended the poverty forum



Georgia DeGregorio introducing panel.



Panelists Vincent Esposito, Tori Toliver-Powers, LaShunda Leslie-Smith, Henry Fitts.



Some of the 80 participants

VOTER SERVICES Works to Increase Voter Registration

It's shaping up to be a very busy year for Voter Services as we work to maintain the momentum built up with last year's national elections for this year's very important local elections, and continue to focus on our Goal "MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK FOR ALL."

Guided by Beth Feldman members of our Voter Education Team (Ida Holloran, Hasana Martin, Mary Olinger, Judy Sternberg, and Lois Winterkorn) have already been to Northeast College Prep, Integrated Arts & Technology, School of the Arts, and Edison Tech to present our PowerPoint on the history and importance of every vote and to register eligible students.

In addition, Barbara Grosh presented her new "Demographics, Participation & Gerrymandering" PowerPoint to students at the School Without Walls, and has invitations for presentations from East High School and School of the Arts.

Our College Team, coordinated by Gail Wilder and Georgia DeGregorio, already has registration drives scheduled at Monroe Community College and the University of Rochester.

We have shown that we are really good at registering voters with nearly 4000 new registrations last year. While registration is that first very important step, PARTICIPATION, in the end, IS WHAT COUNTS.

Toward that end, we are also continuing our efforts to build collaborations with other community groups and are pleased to announce that we have begun to work closely with La Cumbre (The Summit). La Cumbre is an umbrella group created to unify the efforts of various Latino groups across a broad spectrum of issues. Gin Busack and Ida Holloran have been invited to attend LaCumbre's bimonthly General Assembly and monthly Government Committee meetings and will be coordinating Voter Services activities throughout the summer. We are seeking LWV volunteers, particularly those who speak Spanish, to join us.

As always, we need and appreciate all the help our volunteers can offer. Our summer schedule is filling in quite quickly, with ten events already committed.

- **April 29** East High Open House (10:00 – 2:00/ information table)
- **May 2** Monroe Community College Spring Fling (10:00-2:00/ Parking Lot A)
- **May 20** Anthony Jordan "Hustle to Health" Fair at Martin Luther King Park
- **June 12** National Unity & Pride Event (12:00-4:00)
- **June 25** Brighton Farmers' Market
- **July 15-16** Pride Fest at Cobbs Hill Park
- **July 29** Anthony Jordan "Front Porch" fair at Holland Street
- **August 19** Clarissa Street Reunion
- **August 23** University of Rochester orientation (9:00-4:00)
- **August 26** St. John Baptist Church festival
- **September 14** Project Homeless Connect

If you have the time, please join in. Please contact Gin Busack at 467-6131 or ginbusack@aol.com.

NYS Constitution

LWVNYS has issued a statement of support for the possibility of holding a Constitutional Convention next year. The question of whether to review and possibly amend the state Constitution at a convension will appear on the November 2017 ballot. For information on the Convention, please visit the Rockefeller Institute's website (www.rockinst.org/nys_concon2017/) – and to read our state Constitution, please visit www.rockinst.org/nys_concon2017/pdf/Constitution.pdf.





**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS**
of New York State

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Phone: 518-465-4162 Fax: 518-465-0812
www.lwvny.org E-Mail: lwvny@lwvny.org

PRESS STATEMENT **2017 Budget Deal**

Contact: Jennifer Wilson, 518-465-4162

April 10, 2017

The League of Women Voters of New York State is outraged that the budget deal touted by the Governor and the legislature once again failed to implement any reforms to make voting easier and more accessible.

The League has fought for voting reform as well as anti-corruption measures for more than three decades. Our state continues to rank near the bottom in terms of voter turnout and participation. In 2016, lines at the polls left New Yorkers waiting for hours to cast their ballot and the names of voters in New York City were wrongly purged from voter rolls. How long must the people wait until the legislature acts on common sense voting reforms?

Governor Cuomo proposed two reforms that would have made voting more accessible. Automatic voter registration and early voting would have reduced lines on Election Day and empowered voters to cast their ballot when it is most convenient. But these proposed reforms were once again left behind while the legislature adopted the budget. The legislature needs to act and pass comprehensive voting reforms during this legislative session. In this 100th anniversary year of women getting the right to vote in New York, it is time to bring our state into the twenty-first century and pass early voting and automatic voter registration.

Fair Election Practices Campaign (FEPC)

The LWV-RMA is seeking a coordinator for the Fair Election Practices Campaign 2017. If we are going to continue this respected campaign in Monroe County this year, we need to start working on this project very soon. Sheila Abeling is willing to mentor you! Please consider doing this League project. Thank you.

Contact Sheila Abeling at 585-223-6819 or sheiler162007@gmail.com for more information.

Naturalization Report

In April the LWV-RMA was represented at three different Naturalization ceremonies. On April 13th, Sheila Abeling welcomed 55 new citizens at the Rochester City Hall. On April 26 at 1:00 pm at the Federal Building, Marcia Eisenberg greeted 50 candidates for Naturalization. On April 27, Joan Rosenthal participated in the oath ceremony at Minerva Deland School in the Fairport School District, with 50 candidates for Naturalization. Our League always welcomes members to observe/assist at ceremonies. Please consider participating in this event! Ceremonies are listed on our website at lwv-rma.org. Contact Sheila Abeling at 585-223-6819 or sheiler162007@gmail.com for more information.



Naturalization on April 26, Federal ceremony

Sunshine Corner

MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
4/11/2017

OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT



Two teams were honored at the April 11 Legislature meeting:

- East Ridge Lancer's Cheerleading Team for becoming national champs;
- Mercy High School Women's Soccer Team for winning the Section 5 championship.

A motion was passed by the legislature to accept the agenda in its entirety (less the last resolution), making this a quick meeting. Included in the items passed were a contract with Correctional Consulting, Inc. to monitor inmate medical and mental health services, as well as several other contracts with local firms for maintenance projects.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: <http://www2.monroecounty.gov>)

Elaine Schmidt, *Government Committee*
e.schmidt8@frontier.com

Voting Reforms

LWVNYS has issued a press release regarding the legislature and Governor's promise to address voting reform after budget negotiations were completed. Now that the budget has been passed, the legislature must keep its promise and put in place early voting, automatic voter registration, better ballots, and electronic poll books. The process should begin to implement no-excuse absentee ballots and same day voter registration.

Read the full release on page 8 or click here: www.lwvny.org/advocacy/vote/voting-reform/press/Press-Release-Voting-Reform-Press-Conference-April-25th.pdf



Women's Suffrage Sessions with Dr. Judith Wellman

SESSION 1 - MONDAY, MAY 15, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

Signers of the Declaration of Sentiments in Seneca Falls 1848

(Several of the signers were Wayne County residents.)

SESSION 2 - TUESDAY JUNE 6, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

A Guide to Studying and Researching Women's Suffrage in Upstate New York.

LOCATION FOR BOTH SESSIONS:

Conference Room, Wayne County Public Safety Building, Wayne County Campus, Route 31, Lyons, NY

(From Monroe County, travel east on NYS Rt. 31 past the Blue Cut Nature Center.)

Watch for a sign for the "Wayne County Campus, West Campus Entrance".

Turn right into driveway and continue straight to the flag pole and the Public Safety Building.

(There is additional parking on the east side of the building.)

Please respond to (rfox@townofhuron.org) with a "Yes" if you plan to attend one or both of the sessions.

Rosa Fox, Town of Huron Historian
Wolcott, New York 14590, 315-573-4493

Also of possible interest are Wayne County's two new Facebook Pages -

Celebrating Women's Suffrage Centennial in Wayne County, NY and

Wayne Historians Organization (WHO)



Carrie Chapman Catt



Susan B. Anthony





Coming Events!



May

- 5 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M., I-Square)
- 8 Naturalization Ceremony (9:30 A.M., RIT)
- 11 Naturalization Ceremony (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office Building)
- 11 Board of Directors (3:00 P.M., Asbury First UMC)
- 11 Rochester Federation of Women's Clubs Luncheon/Meeting (11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., Ridgmont Country Club)
- 18 New Member Orientation (7:00 P.M., Asbury First UMC)
- 19 New Member Orientation (2:00 P.M., Asbury First UMC)
- 22 LWV Book Club: *Imbeciles: The Supreme Court, American Eugenics, and The Sterilization of Carrie Buck* by Adam Cohen (1:00 P.M., Greenhouse Café, 2271 East Main Street, Rochester)

June

- 2 First Friday (11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M., I-Square)
- 8 Naturalization ceremonies (10:00 A.M., Location TBA)
- 8 Naturalization ceremonies (1:00 P.M., Location TBA)
- 9-11 LWVNYS Convention (Syracuse)
- 15 **Annual Meeting** (4:30 P.M., Locust Hill Country Club)



Be sure to check your email and our website for other events as they are scheduled!

Don't miss First Fridays with LWV-RMA

Join League colleagues for lunch or a mid-day coffee break each First Friday of the month, 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. at I-Square, 400 Bakers Park, at Titus Avenue, Irondequoit, NY 14617

May 5

June 2

First Fridays help us get to get to know one another by chatting informally. No need to RSVP. Pencil us in on your calendar and join when you can! There's a place at the table for you!



Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month at 3:00 P.M. at Asbury First UMC. Board meetings are open to all members.

Government Committee meets monthly. For details, call Elaine Schmidt at 530-7414.

Usually Naturalization ceremonies are held on second Thursday of each month. Check League website for updated info each month.

Forums are open to the public. Calendar information is subject to change.

For more complete information, consult our website at www.LWV-RMA.org, call 262-3730 or e-mail us at info@lww-rma.org



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ROCHESTER METROPOLITAN AREA

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Rochester VOTER

A Monthly Publication of the
League of Women Voters/Rochester Metropolitan Area

Officers:

Mary Hussong-Kallen
President
Sheila Abeling
First Vice-President
Ida Holloran
Treasurer
Judith Sternberg
Secretary

Board of Directors:

Gin Busack
Director
Ernest DuBois
Director
Judy Weinstein
Director

**JUNE/JULY VOTER
DEADLINE IS JUNE 15!**



Goals of the League of Women Voters:

- To encourage informed citizen participation in government and politics
- To influence public policy through education and advocacy

*The Voter is a monthly publication of the LWV-RMA
Editor, Judy Wadsworth
Layout/Design, Chris Burleigh*

SPEAK UP, BE HEARD,
IF YOU DON'T SAY A WORD, EVERYTHING WILL STAY THE SAME WAY

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK! 
We know you'll "like" us!
www.facebook.com/lwvofrma

Join the League Today!



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Check Amount: _____

Level of Membership: _____

Please send this form and your check payable to
League of Women Voters/RMA to:
LWV/RMA
PO Box 10573
Rochester, NY 14610
or join us online at: www.lwv-rma.org/join.php

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual/Associate	\$75
Household	\$105
Susan B. Anthony/Frederick Douglass	\$150
Carrie Chapman Catt	\$200
Student (full-time/under 25)	\$.25
Low income, call office	Sliding Scale