



The League of Women Voters of New York State
62 Grand Street, Albany, New York 12207
Phone: 518-465-4162 Fax: 518-465-0812
www.lwvny.org E-Mail: lwvny@lwvny.org

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS *of New York State*

State Board Updates: January 2016

HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR MEMBERSHIP LIST IN THE LWVUS DATABASE? THE LIST IN THE DATABASE ON JANUARY 31, WILL DETERMINE THE PMP YOUR LEAGUE WILL BE CHARGED STARTING IN JULY. CALL KATRINA (518-465-4162) IF YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS OR HAVEN'T UPDATED IT.

Local League To Do's (email: lwvny@lwvny.org or call 518-465-4162)

- Access to the newly revised LWVUS database is now available– see how to get your access below. Ensure that you have a Roster Manager for access to the new LWVUS Database – and update your list of members **by Jan. 31** (to determine your 2016-17 PMP amount)
- Complete and return your results on LWVUS studies on Money in Politics (**due Feb. 1**)
- Advertise Regional Training locations and dates to your members; registration form is attached.
- Submit forms of student selected to attend SIA to state office **by March 1**.

President's Report/Membership Report: Dare Thompson, darethompson@gmail.com

Do you wonder what state board meetings are like? Because New York is a very large state, they are challenging to hold and several times a year we meet by phone, as we did this January. Some of us who can fairly easily get there were in the office with staff members Laura Bierman and Kate Jankowski – me (from Mid-Hudson), treasurer Judy Middelkoop (Schenectady), and Anne Burton (Rensselaer). Six others came in by phone.

I called the Education Fund meeting to order first. We were eager to hear Kate report on how the **year-end fundraising** had gone, particularly since the board had agreed to match up to \$8000 in gifts, and the news was great. We not only surpassed the match amount but year-end online giving was up over 65%, with the number of donors up by 47%. It is so gratifying to know that so many people “get” what we do at the state level and are so generous in supporting us. And as board members it was so good to see that our own contributions truly had helped inspire other gifts. What a morale boost! And to all who contributed, THANK YOU from all of us!

Other Ed Fund business included a review of the finances, an update from Laura on the continuing high interest reported by local leagues in **Students Inside Albany**, and a reminder that we will be

having a **study later this year on Legislative Procedures**. In the regional calls and other communications with local leagues we will remind them to put study and consensus meetings on their fall and early 2017 schedules.

I adjourned the Ed Fund meeting and called the LWV meeting to order. Aimee Allaud, our specialist on election issues, had been waiting patiently on the line to report on interaction with election commissioners from all around the state when they were in Albany for the annual **Election Commissioners Association conference**. While we can't attend their meetings, we had a table displaying our voter service materials (new commissioners loved *First Vote!*) and we attended a lunch where we could interact even more effectively.

Board member Carol Mellor then reported on the responses to the **Raise the Age** concurrence. No league opposed the statements presented (though many sent comments, which we discussed), and enough leagues from different sized leagues in different parts of the states had participated, so the concurrence met the requirements and we now have a new position. Laura reported that it will be included in the **Legislative Agenda booklets** which will be printed soon.

We also discussed **Lobby Day** which will be held on **May 10th** this year. Laura reported difficulty in finding a room for a group as large as ours during a busy week, but since our phone meeting, the problem has been solved. Judie Gorenstein reported on a few more **voter service** surveys that had come in since our December meeting. We are always eager to hear what local leagues are doing and thinking.

At some point, our legislative director, Barbara Bartoletti, bustled in from a variety of media interviews to fill us in on what she saw at the Governor's State of the State the day before. As always Barbara is great fun and interesting to hear, but she's reported to you elsewhere so I'll resist the temptation to say more.

Money matters also occupied our time as we agreed to sign a new contract with our current auditors and then approved our **2016 Budget Committee**: Nancy Rosenthal (SW Nassau) as chair with Dorothy Borgus (Rochester), Maggie Moehringer (Albany), and (from the board) Anne Burton and Judy Middelkoop. I also serve *ex officio*. The Committee can't begin its work until after January 31 when the membership numbers are finalized in the database.

Our board secretary, **Kay Sharp** (Tompkins), had to resign to tend to her mother in California and we missed her. The board approved asking **Jane Park** (Broome/Tioga) to fill out Kay's term and she has since graciously and enthusiastically accepted. Welcome, Jane!

We then had a lively discussion about the **regional meetings** that will be held in March and April in four places around the state. The Membership Committee has been talking to all local leagues about their aspirations, and we were eager to apply all that we've been hearing to our planning. When the meeting went past the scheduled two hours, we adjourned the official meeting, said good-bye to those on the phone, and those of us in the office continued our efforts to make the regional meetings as useful and appealing as possible.

We got a lot done, but we missed seeing the faces of those on the phone. Happily we'll meet in March and May in person and for a longer time. And meanwhile much committee work continues!

Is Your League as Good as Your Favorite Small Business?

Sometimes it helps to look at what we do through a different lens. Here are some tips aimed at small businesses from consultant Rhonda Abrams that I saw in the newspaper. I chuckled at how much they apply to local leagues. (My comments are in italics.)

Go small to grow big. *“What’s the one sure way to fail in small business? Try to sell to everyone.” How often in the League do we try to serve “the general public” – ALL of it – and then get discouraged? How do we target our efforts? This is a very hard question but one we really need to ask.*

Make sure the dog will eat the dog food. *“...No matter how good your ideas appear to be...make certain that you have a product or service that customers really want.” Who are our League “customers” and what do they want? It’s another tough but important question to ask.*

You can’t reach a goal you haven’t set. *Abrams points out that your plan doesn’t have to be elaborate. “It’s the planning, not the plan, that matters.” We can’t be too busy to neglect this step.*

People don’t read. *“It’s a fast and cluttered world out there. Keep things short and snappy and use lots of photos.”*

People do business with other people. *“All of us prefer to do business with people we like and trust... Get to know your customers; find out about their businesses and families. Let them get to know you. Small businesses can compete with the big guys by building strong customer relationships.” As long as you don’t get clubby or exclusive, it is really healthy to care about and enjoy one another!*

Voter Services Report: Judie Gorenstein, JudieL728@aol.com

Can People Vote in the Presidential Primary?

There has been much confusion about the rules for people to vote in the presidential primary which will be held on April 19 in NYS. People CANNOT change their party affiliation now and vote in the primary of their new affiliation this April. **Anyone who is registering FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A COUNTY may vote in the presidential primary;** they must register in person by March 25 or by mail (and be received by the county BOE) by March 30. Anyone who has not registered in their county, moved to new county or moved into NYS from out-of-state, may register in their county and vote in the primary. People with questions can contact their own county board of elections. A calendar with all the deadlines and dates is posted on our website.

Voter Services Survey Results

As of Jan 18, 2016, I have received 29 completed voter service survey. I wish to thank the LWVs of Albany, Bedford/Lewisboro/NoSalem, Broome/Tioga, Buffalo, Chautauqua, Cortland, E. Nassau,

Geneva, Hamptons, Harrison, Huntington, Larchmont, Mid Hudson, New Rochelle, North Country, Port Washington, Rensselaer, Rochester, Rye-Rye Brook-Port Chester, Saratoga, Scarsdale, Schenectady, Shelter Island, Smithtown, Sommers, Tompkins, Utica/Rome, Wayne County and White Plains for completing the survey. If your League did complete the survey and I have not received it, please email it again. If your League did not, I encourage you to do so in order that we have a complete data base. Of those that I have, 22 Leagues indicated they collect voter registration forms and either deliver or mail them to the BOE. No Leagues collected the information and followed up with persons who registered. In fact several Leagues indicated their boards were definitely against doing this. LWVUS is encouraging the follow up as studies have shown that new voters need to be reminded to turn out and vote. Laura and I will be looking to see if there are ways to do follow up that are not intrusive or time consuming and will let you know.

LWVNY wants to help any Leagues struggling with voter registration drives, turn out vote efforts, and running debates. We were pleased that of the surveys returned, only four Leagues indicated they did not have some written policy on debates/ meet the candidates night. Two Leagues did send in very comprehensive policies. Thank you! Many of the Leagues are working on their policies to make them more comprehensive and this, along with engaging people to register and then turn out to vote, will be topics for discussion on a google group we will be starting. You will receive information on how to be part of this group next month.

With early and three primaries in NY, it is extremely important for us to engage and educate voters. Members from Leagues in Suffolk County are working with other community groups to look for ways to increase turnout. LWV of Huntington has contacted high schools to present Vote 18 in schools. One change we made in the presentation is we eliminate half the class when it is time for them to vote which exemplifies how many of the young do not vote. We found this effective. As our local Leagues prepare to register, educate, and turn out voters to the polls, it is important that we share our ideas and learn from one another. Don't wait for our google group to begin. Contact Judiel728@aol.com or Laura@lwny.org with any programs or ideas your League is doing to encourage turnout now.

Issues and Advocacy Report: Sally Robinson, robintwins@gmail.com

The state League is already very active in the Capitol every day, meeting with legislators, presenting testimony and submitting memoranda. Visit the state website every day to see what new action has been taken. Also, watch for updates on Capitol Beat, a blog written by Barbara Bartoletti, LWVNYS Legislative Director, and Jennifer Wilson, LWVNYS Director of Policy and Program, on “happenings” at the state Capitol; it’s updated every week, usually on Thursday. The link is on the state website and here: <http://www.lwny-capitolbeat.blogspot.com>

Update on Legislative Procedures Position

Delegates at the state League convention in June approved an update of our position on Legislative Procedures, dating back to 1997. (current position:

<http://lwny.org/advocacy/impact/issues/2013/LEGISLATIVE-PROCEDURES.pdf>)

With the Raise the Age Concurrence behind us, we are moving to plan for this update. It will be focused on two aspects of the position in particular, although it might consider other parts: the statement in favor of a part-time legislature, and the ambiguous reference to length of terms.

Suzanne Stassevich of the New York City League has agreed to chair the committee. It is not too late to contact Katrina McEwan at the League office (katrina@lwvny.org or 518-465-4162) if you are interested in volunteering to be part of the committee.

Please put a consensus meeting for this update on the fall 2016 calendar for your local League. The material for the update should be available to local Leagues by the end of the summer. We would like to wrap this up by year-end so any updated position will be available for lobbying in the 2017 legislative session.

Legislative Agenda Booklets

The 2016 Legislative Agenda booklet is now available. We will be shipping copies to each local League based on your membership numbers. We also will sell additional copies and post it on the website. We hope that you will use this booklet in meetings with your legislators, but also as a membership tool with new and prospective members.

Advocacy Training/Lobby Day

The date for this Advocacy Training and Lobby Day has been changed to **Tuesday, May 10th**! We're still developing the exact schedule, but we are tentatively planning on presentations by our Issue Specialists on "hot topics" in the morning, lunch for networking, and then lobby visits with your own legislators to lobby our League priority issues (still to be determined). Watch for more info – but mark your calendar now!

Raise the Age Concurrence Results: Carol Mellor, carolmellor140@gmail.com

Last spring, in response to the request from our Judicial Specialist, we began to look into whether or not our current positions supported advocacy in favor of reforms to the juvenile justice system. It was determined that our positions did not cover this subject, and that, in light of current attempts to achieve such reform, under the banner of the "Raise the Age" movement, we might want to take action on this. We found that the LWV of Ohio had undertaken several studies and adopted positions which seemed to be comprehensive and applicable to our state. At the convention in 2015 the delegates voted to present a concurrence study to the members, and the members have reached consensus to concur with portions of the Ohio position.

The concurrence was considered by 25 local leagues and they all came to consensus in favor of the concurrence. At its meeting held on January 17, 2016 the Board of Directors adopted the following new position.

1. Children under the age of 18 are not adults and their treatment within the juvenile justice and criminal court system should relate to their stage of development.
2. Children should not be held in adult incarceration facilities.
3. Rehabilitation is the purpose of the juvenile justice system.
4. The legal rights of children should be protected.

Thanks to all local Leagues who participate in this concurrence. This provides a new position on which the League will be taking action during this current legislative session.

State of the State: Barbara Bartoletti, bbheck1@yahoo.com, and Jennifer Wilson, Jennifer@lwvny.org

The legislative session has finally started and the League attended the Governor's State of the State address on January 13th. It was quite an exciting event that started with a confrontation between Assemblyman Charles Barron and Governor Cuomo over children in poverty and the Campaign for Fiscal Equity which after 15 years has remained unfunded. The Assemblyman shouted at the Governor as he began his speech forcing Majority Leader Assemblyman Morelle to escort Mr. Barron out of the Convention Center.

After the hoopla had died down the Governor laid out an ambitious plan that included ethics reforms that would close the LLC loophole, make legislators subject to FOIL requests, force public servants convicted of a felony to forfeit their pension, and cap the outside income of legislators. He proposed voting reforms such as instituting automatic voter registration when New Yorkers apply for a driver's license and early voting. He also touched upon several social issues including 12-week paid family leave, a \$15 minimum wage, and more funding for breast cancer prevention measures. Although we were excited about some of the Governor's proposals, we were disappointed that once again he has included in his State of the State and budget the Education Investment Tax Credit. This tax credit would give a 75% return on investment for donating to private parochial or charter school. We will continue to oppose this measure which deprives public dollars for public education.

The League will be monitoring and advocating for our positions throughout the legislative session and we will be posting weekly blog updates on the Capitol Beat which can be viewed online at this address: <http://lwvny-capitolbeat.blogspot.com/>

Election Law Reform: Aimee Allaud, 85aimee@nycap.rr.com and Jennifer Wilson, Jennifer@lwvny.org

NYS Elections Commissioners Association Conference (NYSECA)

On January 12th the League participated in the annual NYSECA Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Albany. Our Elections Specialist, Aimee Allaud, and I staffed a table which featured our First Vote booklets, Legislative Agenda, "Your Right to Vote" pamphlets, November's testimony to the Assembly Elections Committee which can be found [here](#), and our joint policy statement on voting reforms which can be found [here](#).

We were joined at the table by representatives from Citizen's Union, Common Cause, and the Brennan Center for Justice. Several Commissioners approached the table and praised the Local Leagues in their counties; others took our materials before heading off to the workshops. The most popular materials were the League's "Your Right to Vote" pamphlets. Many County Board of Election staff said the most common questions about voting they get are from those who are currently homeless and those who have been formerly incarcerated. Our materials were very well received.

Aimee and I had the chance to sit in on several of the workshops throughout the day, especially interesting was the report of the ECA Legislative Committee. The Legislative committee presented to the whole body for a vote the proposed list of legislative priorities for 2016. These priorities included closing schools on Election Day, conducting an information and technology survey of the counties, and allowing county board offices to operate on different working hours than the county itself. In total there were 13 priorities to be voted on, 12 passed easily but a proposal to allow counties to utilize electronic poll books was heavily contested by republican Commissioners. The proposal passed with 57 commissioners voting in the affirmative and 39 opposing. County boards are concerned about costs associated with electronic poll books without help from the State and believe that endorsing electronic poll books is the "slippery slope" to endorsing early voting. There is no unanimity on early voting among the ECA members; support is divided, in general along party lines (Dems-yes, Reps-no).

Transportation, Gladys Gifford, schuford@earthlink.net

Legislators in my area, Western New York, continue to support the DeFrancisco/Brennan bill S5967/A8242, introduced in June, 2015. I encourage all of our leagues to urge support for this bill when visiting and contacting NYS legislators. A reminder: this bill offers a steady and increasing stream of revenue for the capital needs of transit and transportation infrastructure for upstate and suburban downstate transportation investment. The source of this revenue is a small percentage of the NYS personal income tax, and has no impact on the personal income tax rate. Rather, a small portion of the existing tax revenues would be redistributed to the transportation systems all across the state, for use in transit and transportation agencies. This bill will be considered as part of the budget negotiations. To view the legislation, go to:<http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A08242&term=2015>

As in prior years, the main action for transportation funding will occur in the budget negotiations. The process includes several hearings in January, including one on transportation. I have submitted testimony which is posted on the state website.

Several League members have raised concerns about how rulings by the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH) have impacted rural transit systems. Senator O'Mara and Assemblyman Brindisi introduced bill S5794/A8202, to be implemented when passed. This bill would continue state transition funding to help rural transit systems impacted by Medicaid revenue loss, and would require the NYSDOH to implement administrative measures to increase use of public transit by Medicaid clients. Note: this bill is not part of the budget negotiations; it can be passed and signed at any time. To view the legislation, go to: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?term=2015&bn=S05794>

Health Care: Madeline Zevon, madeline.zevon@gmail.com

The Health Care Committee continues its advocacy for the single payer bill, New York Health, A.5062(Gottfried)/S.3525(Perkins). In the last session of the Assembly the bill passed by 92-52. We are now working on passage in the State Senate, which will be an uphill battle. The Affordable Care Act allows states to innovate in 2017 as long as they meet certain criteria: 1) The new plan must cover as many people as the ACA 2) it cannot cost more in total health care dollars 3) it must offer the same level of benefit that the ACA mandates. The New York Health Act should easily satisfy these requirements, so we are optimistic that we will get the necessary federal waivers to implement it should we get it passed and signed into law.

To that end we are pursuing various forms of grass-root activities. One such effort involves screenings of the new documentary, Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point, followed by a panel discussion and Q and A. The Westchester LWV will be hosting an event on Jan. 24th with Assemblywoman Amy Paulin and Dr. Elizabeth Rosenthal of Physicians for a National Health Program. A similar event was hosted in the Albany area on Dec. 20th, the League in Saratoga will show FixIt on Feb. 29th and the Syracuse Metro LWV plans a showing in late January or early February. The Health Care Committee is urging the presentation of as many of these educational events as possible. Please let me know if there are any more League sponsored showings around the state.

Another grass root effort involves passage of Legislative Resolutions. Thus far resolutions were passed in the Ithaca Common Council, the Towns of Caroline and Ulysses and the Sullivan and Tompkins County Legislatures. We're hopeful that our efforts in Westchester and Suffolk County will also gain resolutions in support of the New York Health bill.

A recent economic study of the bill shows that NYS would save 45 billion dollars (\$2,200 per person) in the first year after the enactment of this bill even though 100% of our population would be covered with a more comprehensive plan and no co-pays, deductibles or premiums.

Savings would be made because of the elimination of huge insurance company administrative costs and profits, and for the costly time and paperwork health care providers spend for dealing with insurance companies. Additionally, the law provides that the state can negotiate with drug companies to lower the cost of pharmaceuticals. Coverage would be funded through a graduated income tax similar to the way we pay for Medicare. Link to economic study here:

http://www.infoshare.org/main/Economic_Analysis_New_York_Health_Act_-_GFriedman_-_April_2015.pdf

The New York Health bill will no doubt draw businesses to New York because employers would not be responsible to provide insurance for their employees. Counties would benefit because currently 40% of county real estate taxes goes to pay for Medicaid and Medicaid and Medicare would be folded into the single-payer bill.

Many members of our Committee plan to attend the League lobby day on May 10th. Please let me know if you are interested in joining us.

Women's Issues: Barb Thomas, barb.lwv@nycap.rr.com

The Women's Equality Agenda (WEA) Laws passed in the last legislative session took effect this January 19th. As the Governor said, "From helping to ensure equal pay for equal work, to strengthening protections for victims of domestic violence and banning discrimination against pregnant women in the workplace, these laws are improving the lives of millions of women across the state." Thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make these laws a reality. Still to come - but not likely this year- is a law to put the protections of Roe v. Wade into NYS law.

Paid Family Leave Insurance (PFLI)

PFLI advocates were excited that Governor Cuomo included a very moving personal story about the need for Family Leave in his State of the State and budget message. He has outlined a plan calling for 12 weeks of PFLI. Advocates (including LWV) will be trying to bring his proposed benefit level up to 2/3 of the average weekly wage – as in the bill the Assembly passed last year.

Don't forget to mail in any signed Paid Family Leave petitions! The LWVNY office will be copying them so both the Governor's Office and the relevant Senator know that there is significant support for this issue. It is not too late to sign up for the Feb 2nd PFLI Advocacy Day in Albany (register here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14YdItjIJMPO3SBYGPJRuXRtF9VM2qX5W9mNE0pT2e2M/viewform>) Be sure to wear your LWV button.

Equal Pay for Comparable Worth

Ending the centuries of discrimination against women that has resulted in undervaluing the jobs our society has assigned to women – jobs like child care, nursing, care of the infirm and elderly, cooking – is an area that still needs work. What does it say about our priorities that we are willing to pay more to the person who shovels our snow than to the person who takes care of our kids? **Supporting a minimum wage of \$15** (which we can and should all do under our Living Wage position) will help low wage workers but won't get at the fundamental bias that plays out in the job market. Stay tuned.

Judicial Issues: Helga Schroeter, helgasasquith@verizon.net

We noted with great sadness that former Chief Judge Judith Kaye has passed away at the age of 77. She was the first female Chief Judge of New York, serving for 14 years with great distinction. Her compassionate and creative approach will be greatly missed. She was particularly passionate about issues of the Family Court, promoting ways to move children out of foster care into permanent loving homes. She also created and promoted "specialty courts" to deal more constructively with drug addiction, mental health and domestic violence situations which have created more positive results in the criminal and civil justice systems. Judge Kaye will be sorely missed, and we wish for the incumbent leadership to follow her course.

From the State League Office: Laura Ladd Bierman, laura@lwny.org

2016 Students Inside Albany Conference – May 22-25, 2016

The forms to be completed by the student(s) selected by the local League have been emailed to all local Leagues, but also are attached here. These forms **MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE STATE OFFICE BY MARCH 1**. If the forms are not received by March 1, we cannot ensure that your student will be able to attend. Please remember, also, that the local League is responsible for arranging and paying for the student's transportation to and from Albany; the local League should talk with the student/parents as soon as the student is selected to make these arrangements.

Regional Training Workshops (Registration form attached)

The League of Women Voters of NYS invites **all** members to come to training workshops being held throughout the state on **Saturdays from 10:00-4:00 in March and April**. All members are invited to attend any or all of the workshops. All local Leagues board members are **strongly** encouraged to

attend at least part of the day. Lunch will be provided and will allow for informal networking among the attendees (no program). There is a \$5 charge to cover other expenses.

- **March 5, NYC** (4 West 43rd Street, NYC)
- **March 12, Capital Region** (Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 2001 Route 9, Exit 10 on Rte 87, Round Lake)
- **April 2, Syracuse Area** (Liverpool Public Library, 310 Tulip St, Liverpool – near intersection of Rtes 90 and 81)
- **April 9, Buffalo Area** (Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Harlem Rd, Amherst)

Tentative Discussions at Workshops

Outside Experts/Academicians Discuss Constitutional Convention – Process, Timing and Potential Issues

Best Practices for Candidate Forums – Process, Policies and Organization

Programs, Issues and Activism – Local Programs that Have Had Influence in Our Communities

Creative Fundraising – and How to Use Women’s Suffrage and League Centennials to Raise Visibility and Money

Coordination with Organ Donor Organizations to Increase Voter and Organ Donor Registrations

Vote 411 Troubleshooting – Shared Advice and Learning Together

Get Out the Vote – Ways to Increase Voter Participation

Visibility, Diversity, Membership, Program and Money – All are Connected

LWVUS

LWVUS Database is finally active again! Contact Katrina at 518-465-4162 or katrina@lwvny.org for help, questions, and advice!

All local Leagues MUST update the LWVUS database **by January 31, 2016**, as the PMP charged for 2016-17 will be based on the members listed as “active” on January 31. Anyone have difficulty should call Katrina at the state office (518-465-4162) now.

For more training, LWVUS is offering three webinars on how to use the new database. They are being offered:

- January 14th 11am- 12PM,
- January 21st 3PM-4PM,
- January 26th 3PM-4PM

To sign up please visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/2467047178749026818> . Once you have signed up they will send you an email on how to access the webinar.

Money in Politics Materials – Consensus Due by Feb. 1.

The [official MIP Consensus form](#) is posted for Leagues to use to report their consensus reports. All materials for this consensus can be found on the [Money in Politics page](#). For additional information, please contact Barbara Zia, MIP Committee Chair at MIPCommitteeChair@lwv.org.

Participate in LWVUS Program Planning 2016

Local Leagues now have an opportunity to offer input for the LWVUS program for the 2016-2018 biennium. This important League process will culminate with adoption of a program of education and action at the LWVUS Convention in Washington, DC, in June 2016. Program planning materials are posted at <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/guide-program-planning-2016-2018> in the [Convention section](#). For additional information or questions contact Program Outreach Committee Chair Barbara Zia at progplan@lwv.org. Plan a meeting or board agenda item to discuss this in your local League and respond to LWVUS requests.