



The League of Women Voters
of Buffalo/Niagara

VOTER

Volume 22 Number 9

June, 2017

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The VOTER is published
10 times per year. Items
for the Summer issue
are due
Wednesday, June 28, 2017

You're invited!

*2017 Annual Meeting of the
League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara*

Hyatt Place Restaurant
5020 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226
Saturday, June 3, 2017

The annual meeting begins with coffee, tea and pastries at 10:00 a.m.
Luncheon will be served at noon.

Annual Meeting Luncheon Program
The Power of Citizen Activism



Paul McQuillen

The Work of Gun Violence Prevention

Guest speaker: Paul McQuillen, upstate coordinator,
New Yorkers Against Gun Violence

Highlights of Students
Inside Albany Program: Genavieve Koyne

Special Awards
Joan K. Bozer Leadership Award: Kathleen McCarthy
LEE Award: Joanne Hameister
Making Democracy Work Award: Roger Cook

The reservation form is in the annual meeting booklet.
We can accept reservations until May 30.

Mission of the League of Women Voters:

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.

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Co-President's Report



We look forward to this year's annual meeting and celebration of our League activity for the year. We hope you will join us and receive your new magnet-backed League pin to wear with pride whenever you attend a League activity or work for the League. We are such a fine organization and have such special members doing important work!

We'll also take time to thank the board members who are retiring from the board for now: Dorothy Tao, Sue Stievater, Joan LoCurto, and especially Judy Metzger, whose service to the board has been both long and exemplary.

At the May board meeting, we received a report from Ramona Gallagher that Janet Massaro and Sara Vernon have both agreed to be on the slate for next year's board of directors. Janet has agreed to be the membership chair.

After the Bylaws Committee submitted suggested changes, we realized that there were two more changes that need to be made to accommodate a leadership team for board management in the event that no one accepts the presidency. The board approved presenting the following additional changes to the membership at the annual meeting:

Article IV Officers

Sec. 2 The president or one of the co-presidents *or members of the leadership team* shall have such powers of supervision and management as customarily pertain to the office ...

Rationale: The addition is needed to insure that the functions of the president are extended to the leadership team when it is operating.

Article V Board of Directors

Sec. 9 (New section) In the event that the nominating committee is unable to recruit two (2) members to fill the president and co-president or first vice president offices, the nominating committee shall recruit two additional members for the board of directors.

Rationale: We need sufficient numbers to properly carry on the work of the League.

Terri Parks, Co-President

Great Decisions

Conflict in the South China Sea

One of the newest participants in our Great Decisions program, Toni Cudney, has volunteered to lead our third 2017 topic, Conflict in the South China Sea, on Thursday, June 1 (be sure to turn your calendar), from 10:00 a.m. till noon at 1272 Delaware. "The South China Sea is a locus of competing territorial claims, and China its most vocal claimant. Beijing's interest has intensified disputes with other countries in the region in recent years, especially since China has increased its naval presence. Despite rising international pressure including an unfavorable ruling by the international Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, China staunchly defends its policies in the region. Preventing tensions from boiling over is a matter of careful diplomacy." Do you even know exactly where the South China Sea is? Join us to find out why it is so significant in today's foreign policy landscape.

Bernice Baeumler, Great Decisions Chair

Election Services Committee

Providing Essential Services

During this month, the Election Services Committee will be conducting four nominations at these Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority sites: Lower West Side Homes, Villa Carolina, Marine Drive, and Jasper Parrish.

I personally want to thank committee volunteers Mike Egan, Judy Capodicasa, Judith Clarke, Kathleen Macaluso, Sue Stievater, Lee Tetkowski and Terri Parks, who participated in a huge project which involved folding, sealing, placing mailing labels and stamping close to 1,000 pieces of mail involving four different sites last month. In addition, thank you to the members who will be assisting with nominations at this month's sites.

Alan Dozoretz, Election Services Chair

Summer Potluck Picnic

Join us at the League's annual Picnic Potluck Luncheon at noon on Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at the Chelsea Clubhouse at Canterbury Woods, on Downing Lane (off Renaissance Drive), Williamsville, NY 14221. Bring a dish to pass. The camaraderie and cuisine are guaranteed to please everyone!

Dave Spiering, conservation project manager for the Western New York Land Conservancy, will join us for lunch and make a 20-minute PowerPoint presentation about the Restore the [Niagara] Gorge project. The Land Conservancy has received funding for the project in this year's state budget.

We'd appreciate it if you'd let us know you plan to attend by clicking the link at www.lwvbn.org.

Volunteer Coordinator

Our Work is Valuable and Varied

April was a busy month for our representatives, with four additional naturalization ceremonies following the one on April 6. Ellen Moomaw represented the League on April 13. Janet Goodsell and Deborah Shiffner attended the ceremony on April 20. Ann Converso and Patricia Wille were at the U.S. Courthouse on April 25, followed by Pauline Dyson and Judy Weidemann on April 27. Jayne Murray and Deborah Shiffner kicked off May, attending the ceremony on May 4.

Requests for moderators and timekeepers have come in for school board elections around Buffalo. Terri Parks and Carolyn Koelmel moderated and kept time at the Williamsville Candidates Night on May 4.

I encourage all our members to volunteer with some of these activities. They are very rewarding experiences and bring much satisfaction to our members.

Judith Clarke, Volunteer Coordinator

Happy Hour

Join us for "fourth Thursdays" Happy Hour

Would you like to know more about League work and committees? Catch up with old friends or make new ones, all in a casual and calm atmosphere where even the most remarkable current events can be discussed in a friendly and non-partisan manner? We hope you will accept our invitation to join in the fun.

LWVBN Happy Hour
Thursday, June 22, 5:30 p.m.
Providence Social, 490 Rhode Island
Street, Buffalo 14213





OF BUFFALO/NIAGARA
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



June Meetings & Events

Visit lwvbn.org for the latest event details

Thurs., 6/1, 10:00 a.m. - noon
Great Decisions, League office

Sat., 6/3, 10:00 a.m.
2017 LWVB/N Annual Meeting
Hyatt Place Restaurant
5020 Main St., Amherst

Tues., 6/6, 4:00 p.m.
Issues Committee, Harlem Road Com. Cntr

Fri.-Sun., 6/9-6/11
LWVNY 57th State League Convention
Holiday Inn Express, Liverpool

Wed., 6/14, 1:30 p.m.
Local Government Committee, League office

Thurs., 6/22, 1:30 p.m.
Education Committee, League office

Thurs., 6/22, 5:30 p.m.
Happy Hour, Providence Social
490 Rhode Island St., Buffalo

Thurs., 7/6, 10:00 a.m. - noon
Great Decisions, League office

Mon., 7/10, 4:00 p.m.
Board meeting, League office

Wed., 7/12, 1:30 p.m.
Local Government Committee, League office

Tues., 7/18, 12:00 noon
Annual Potluck Luncheon
Chelsea Clubhouse at Canterbury Woods,
Williamsville

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

The deadline for the next Voter is **Wednesday, June 28, 2017**. Please send copy, photos, meeting notices, and other submissions by email to Nancy DeTine at nancy@nancydetine.com; phone 716-207-7374.