



LWVGL Voter

Quarterly Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette, Indiana

Jan—Feb—Mar, 2019

Quarterly Calendar



January 2019

New Year's Day	Tuesday, January 1
Board Meeting	Tuesday, January 8, 6 p.m., West Lafayette Public Library, Elm Room
League Lunch	Thursday, January 10, noon, Lafayette Brewing Co.
League Day at the Statehouse	Wednesday, January 16, Indianapolis
Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Monday, January 21
Mix & Mingle	Wednesday, January 23, 5:30- 6:30 p.m., Sgt. Preston's
Environmental issues in IN Gen- eral Assembly	Thursday, January 31, 5:15-7 p.m., West Lafayette Public Library (See Voter p.6)

February

Board Meeting	Tuesday, February 5, 6p.m., West Lafayette Public Library, Board Room
League Lunch	Thursday, February 14, noon, Lafayette Brewing Co.
Valentine's Day	Thursday, February 14
Annual Legislative Breakfast	Saturday, February 16, 9a.m. Judi's Catering & Banquet Facil- ities, 101 Plaza Lane, Lafayette (See Voter p.3)
President's Day	Monday, February 18
Mix & Mingle	Wednesday, February 27, 5:30- 6:30 p.m., Sgt. Preston's

March

Kick off to 100th anniversary of the League	Sunday, March 3, 4-6:00 p.m. Purdue Black Cultural Center (See Voter p.3)
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Board Meeting	Tuesday, March 5, 6 p.m., West Lafayette Public Library, Board Room
Daylight Savings Time begins	Sunday, March 10
League Lunch	Thursday, March 14, noon, Lafayette Brewing Co.
St. Patrick's Day	Sunday, March 17
Mix & Mingle	Wednesday, March 27, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Sgt. Preston's



Welcome to the League: Success and Agreement

On December 8, 2018, thirteen members of the League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette met to discuss the LWVUS Value Statement. Those in attendance were Margaret Brender, Sheryl Singleton, Sharon White, Ginny Webb, Margaret Hass, Deanna McMullan, Liz Solberg, Joyce Field, Sallie Fahey, Ilana Stonebraker, Barb Clark, Oscar Anderson, and Sheila Klinker. The discussion was facilitated by Christopher Munt.

The LWVUS Value Statement reads: "The League believes in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy." This statement has been controversial on the national, state, and local levels. At the



Continued on p.3...

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

2018-2019 Board of Directors

Executive-Advocacy	Margaret Hass
Executive-Events	Deanna McMillan
Executive-Business	Barb Clark
Treasurer	Denise Ottinger
Secretary	Barbara Kerkhoff
Environmental Sustainability	Sallie Fahey
Membership	Candace Walters
Voter Service	Ken Jones

2018-2019 Committee Chairs

Environmental Sustainability:	Sallie Fahey, Cathy Potter, & Liz Solberg
Membership:	Nancy Clement
Women's Health:	Nancy Clement
Redistricting:	Joyce Field
Nominating Committee:	Denise Ottinger, Ginny Webb, Teena Flook, & Carolyn Percifield

2018-2019 Event Chairs

Annual Meeting:	Teena Flook & Candace Walters
League Link Lunch:	Cathy Potter
Mix & Mingle:	Deborah Silva
Legislative Breakfast:	Denise Ottinger & Ken Jones

2018-2019 Project Managers and Other Leaders

Database Manger	Donna Giroux
Diversity Roundtable	Adelia Sorge
Officials Directory	Sallie Fahey & Peggy Hoover
Twitter Administrator	Zachary Baiel
Wabash River Coordinator	Liz Solberg
Webmaster	Alice Pawley
Voter Editor	Deb Schwarte
Voter Designer	Marlee Posto

NOTE: There are leadership positions still open for the 2018-2019 League year (Communications Director, Finance Drive, Fund Development Director, HAPA Representative, Summer Pitch-In 2019, Social Media Administrator). **If you are interested in filling one of these slots please be in touch with Ginny Webb**, (765-463-5300 or Ginny.webb@frontier.com) **or Teena Flook** (765-448-6170 or Xsphawk55@yahoo.com). **Thank you!**



A New Editor for the Voter: Let Me Introduce Myself

Hi there! My name is Deb Schwarte. I've been a member of the LWVGL for over 15 years, initially working on the Board as the Secretary. I was informed that the League would need a new editor for the LWVGL Voter, and with my double Master's in English and experience as an editor for foreign students working towards their Advanced Degrees, I have been happy to take on the job.

Not only am I interested in political and social issues; I am also a woman who enjoys biking, sailing, animals, painting, and poetry.

With regards to my role as The Voter editor, if anyone has additional information which he or she would like to have evaluated for entrance into the quarterly website, feel free to advance that information to me. I can be reached at both deb.schwarte@mindspring.com and 765-490-2091. Thanks!

LWVUS

- The LWVUS is currently urging the Trump administration to acknowledge the impact of climate change.
- The LWVUS is celebrating 2018 mid-terms voting rights victories in Florida, Maryland, and Michigan. When it came to issues of elections, voters overwhelmingly selected to expand voting rights.
- The LWVUS is also celebrating the record number of women elected in 2018, on local, state, and national levels.

Welcome, continued from p.1...

LWVGL retreat, entitled **Forward, Part 2**, held on October 21, 2018, the Executive Team decided that the local chapter would have an all-members discussion about this statement. All members were invited to this discussion.

Everyone in attendance agreed that the Value Statement could have been phrased in better wording; however the bulk of the discussion revolved around the use of the word “women” in the Statement. There were some strong feelings, both for and against, the use of the word “women”. The method used for discussion, *The Circle Way*, allowed each individual to hold an individual emotional response while remaining respectful of one another’s views. After considerable discussion all individuals felt that they better understood those viewpoints which differed from the one which they had when the discussion began.

Once the statement had been unpacked and a shared understanding about alternative points of view was developed, the group reached a consensus. The entire group came to see that important work remains to be accomplished by the League, but it was time to avoid arguing about the Value Statement. As a result, the group decided not to pursue discussing the Value Statement with the LWVUS, in part because it does not even appear on the LWVUS website. Those in attendance also agreed not to advertise it on our website or in any other LWVGL material. And in the end, all individuals in attendance found they were comfortable with this decision, and the group proceeded to have an amiable pot luck dinner.

Barb Clark, Executive for Business

SAVE THE DATE!

* 2019 LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Farm Bureau Tippecanoe County and the League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette will once again be sponsoring the Annual Legislative Breakfast and forum on Saturday, February 16. This annual event gives the community the opportunity to meet over breakfast and to learn first-hand about the 2019 Indiana legislative session.

We have invited all of the representatives from the Indiana Senate and House who represent any portion of Tippecanoe County to this important event.

The breakfast will take place on February 16 at Judi’s Catering and Banquet Facilities, located on 101 Plaza Lane, Lafayette. Breakfast shall start at 9:00, followed by a one-hour legislative forum at 10:00. Each legislator will have the opportunity to present their summary of the session and then respond to questions from the audience.

Please make plans to attend the breakfast now. The cost is \$15 for League members and \$20 for the general public. Reservations are required and must be made by Wednesday, February 6, with payment by check or credit card. Look for an invitation in the mail. You can obtain a reservation form from the League’s website or by contacting Ken Jones at voterservices@leaguelafayette.org.

* **League’s 100th Anniversary.** Kick off the 100th anniversary of the League and the women’s right to vote, both occurring in 1920. Dr. Kim Gallon, assistant professor of history at Purdue, will be talking about the women’s suffrage movement in the 1920’s. The lecture will be on Sunday, March 3rd from 4 - 6 PM at the Purdue Black Cultural Center. Please save the date and more information will follow.

* LWV ANNUAL MEETING

YWCA, Fauber Room

June 4, 2019 5:30 p.m. \$15.00

Time To Celebrate: 100th Anniversary of the League

In 2020, we will be celebrating the founding of The League of Women Voters in anticipation of passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the long strived for right to vote. The vote was won in 1920! Some super ideas are already being floated for how to celebrate. At the last Annual Meeting 8 people signed up willing to help in some way. However, others are still needed to make this a fun time, an educational time, and a promotion of the League's mission time. We are going to continue in our plans to create a memorable celebration for League and the community. If you have interests, please contact Ginny Webb by emailing or phoning: Ginny.webb@frontier.com or 765-463-5300. Thanks so much!



First Time Lifetime Voter Increases High School Student Turnout

From Ken Jones, Chair, Voter Service,
joneskp0124@gmail.com, 765-423-2442



The First Time Lifetime Voter program was established with the premise that students who learn to vote and cast a vote at an early age will likely become lifetime voters. Building on our already successful high school voter registration program, we established a partnership with teachers, school administrators and the county election board to:

- Register high school students to vote
- Encourage students to become informed voters by learning about their government and their elected officials
- Teach students how to vote
- Increase the number of high school students casting a first vote in a high school vote center
- Develop voting as a habit / behavior that will be repeated throughout the student's life

This effort led up to voting in the Indiana primary on May 8 and the students proved that they are more than

ready to be active and informed voters. By analyzing county election data, student survey responses and our own registration information we can report the following:

- * A total of 308 students cast votes at the four public high schools (West Lafayette, Harrison, Jefferson, and McCutcheon). Student turnout was 40% of the registered student vote and 1.5% of the entire county turnout.
- * Students reported that they were moderately to very well prepared to vote. Very few reported not thinking much about voting. They voted for a variety of reasons including that it was a duty, was important, interested in politics, teacher encouragement, and family.

Perhaps our most important question was, "How likely are you to vote again in the future?" Overwhelmingly, students reported that they are almost certain to vote again!

A full report analyzing the results from the election is available on the League's website.

First Time Lifetime Voter will continue in the 2018/2019 school year. Working with all of our partners we expect to continue building on this strong start and make our program a model for other counties in Indiana to follow.

In addition to the vote centers in the high schools and the great response of the student voters, League members took advantage of the situation to conduct poll observations of these four vote centers. The observations are compiled and ready to present to the Board of Elections and Registration. Biggest takeaway: UPDATE TECHNOLOGY.



Update on Redistricting

From Joyce Field, Chair, jfield@nlci.com, 765-463-1746

Long Legislative Session Starts January 3rd

The New Year will be barely underway when the General Assembly has returned to work on January 3rd for a long, budget-writing session. Members of the Indiana Coalition for Independent Redistricting will – hopefully – have been there to welcome legislators and to remind them that time is running out to pass real redistricting reform. One of the messages we will be emphasizing this year is that the clock is ticking on this issue, since redistricting will happen in 2021, no matter what the General Assembly does, or doesn't do, on redistricting reform.

Rep. Tim Wesco New Chair of House Elections Committee

One of the youngest members of the Indiana House of Representatives, Rep. Tim Wesco of Osceola, has been appointed chairman of the House Elections and Apportionment Committee. Rep. Wesco has been a member of the Elections Committee since his election in 2010, but his views on redistricting reform aren't well known. He represents HD 21, an area which includes the rural parts of Saint Joseph and Elkhart counties. We are working on strategies to get his attention on redistricting reform and to convince him to give reform a hearing and vote in 2019. You can view the entire committee membership list at:

http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2019/committees/elections_and_apportionment_0500

Three Redistricting Bills Introduced, So Far

It is still early, but three bills have already been introduced into the Senate on redistricting reform. One bill which holds the full support of the All IN for Democracy coalition is SB 91; this bill was introduced by Senator Ruckelshaus, with Senators Bohacek and Jon Ford as co-sponsors. This is the same bill that Senator Ruckelshaus introduced in 2018, which was drafted with our input. Senator Lanane has introduced SB37, which is the study committee draft recommendation (he introduced the same bill in 2018), and Senator Walker has re-introduced the redistricting criteria bill that passed the Senate with a strong bipartisan vote earlier this year. Since Senator Walker will be returning as the Senate Elections Committee Chairman, it's a good bet that his bill will get a hearing. We'll have to work hard to get a hearing for SB91, but working together as a team, we feel this can be achieved. The members of the Senate Elections Committee can be found at the following web-

site: http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2019/committees/elections_3500

Needed Now: "Letters to the Editor"

Thanks to Joanne Durbin of Indianapolis for her recent "Letter to the Editor", which was published in the Indianapolis Star. You can look up the letter at the following link:

<https://www.indystar.com/story/opinion/2018/12/13/letters-indiana-legislature-should-approve-redistricting-reform/2288580002/?fbclid=IwAR1HrLqS5mcFSRvrjSTSnacDIEPzObXxj09vFKuqcPcWwNeIOH5KFZfx8Pk>

We all need to remember that "Letters to the Editor" are a powerful manner to obtain the legislators' attention. Can you help the League by sending one out to your hometown paper? Any personal efforts are always appreciated!

Looking Forward to a New Year, with Fair Districts for All!

Thanks to everyone for all of the hard work they've taken to advance redistricting reform. We made a lot of progress in 2018, but we still have a long way to go. It's fair to take some time to celebrate with our families over the New Year and into 2019. But we also must begin looking toward the long way we have yet to go. So don't hesitate to contact Joyce if you have ideas for the future or are willing to volunteer to assist regarding this issue yourself!



The Women's Health Committee is still taking shape, and the committee chair Nancy Clement would like to know if you are interested in being involved with this important area for the LWVGL. In addition, a representative to the Health Access & Privacy Alliance is needed. This involves receiving news and alerts from HAPA and sharing this information with LWVGL members via The Voter and emails. Contact Nancy Clement at clement.nancy@gmail.com or 765-447-3847 if you wish to be involved. We truly appreciate any assistance.

Third House to Tackle Upcoming Issues in the Indiana General Assembly

As the 2019 legislative session gets underway in the Indiana General Assembly, the members of Third House will again begin to tackle the big issues in state government. Third House, organized by Greater Lafayette Commerce, is comprised of local community leaders and functions as a “third chamber” of the legislature, or, as GLC calls it, “the house of public opinion.” The event takes place on a series of Saturdays during the legislative session. Members gather early each Saturday morning to share breakfast and hear from legislators about what is going on in the Statehouse. Members also present their views on particular bills and vote on whether to support or reject the proposed legislation. This year, Margaret Hass, the LWVGL Executive for Advocacy, will again be attending on behalf of the local League. Liz Solberg, in her role as the advocate on natural resources issues for the state League, will also attend. With the long legislative ses-

sion in which the budget is to be determined, we are expecting to see discussions on a number of key issues, including funding the overburdened Department of Child Services, establishing punishment for bias crimes, protecting natural resources, and improving addiction and mental health services in the state. Chief among the League's concerns, of course, is redistricting. Bills have been filed in both the House and Senate to establish a redistricting commission and to specify standards for redistricting. With continued support from both League and Third House members, as well as from advocates across the state, we hope to leave the 2019 session with a new, fairer process for drawing districts and a stronger democracy in Indiana.

—Margaret Hass

Environmental Issues in the 2019 Indiana General Assembly

On Thursday, January 31, the LWVGL Environmental & Sustainability Committee will present a timely update by Amanda Shepherd of the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC). This program, free and open to the public, will take place from 5:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the West Lafayette Public Library.

The agenda for this program is:

- 5:15 – 5:30: Refreshments
- 5:30 – 6:30: Issue Presentation and Your Questions
- 6:30 – 6:35: Break
- 6:35 – 7:00: How to Voice Your Opinion Effectively



Diversity Calendar January-March 2019



- December 14 – March 3, 2019 Art Exhibition “**Southern Roots**” by Sandra Bridges at the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette; also sponsored by Black Cultural Center (BCC)
- January 10 from 11:30- 1pm **Diversity Round Table** at the YWCA
- January 6 from 4pm-5:30pm **Greater Lafayette Immigrant Allies** (GLIA) at MatchBox
- January 17 from 7:30-9pm **Kinky Boots** at Elliott Hall of Music. Tickets required, see below. **Kinky Boots** is a Broadway musical with music and lyrics by Cyndi Lauper and a book by Harvey Fierstein. Based on the 2005 British film *Kinky Boots*, written by Geoff Deane and Tim Firth and inspired by true events, the musical tells the story of Charlie Price. Ticket prices are \$28-\$60, with \$5 off if you use the code “LGBTQ” during checkout. You can purchase [tickets online](#) or at the Stewart Center box office. Sponsors: Purdue Convocations, Purdue LGBTQ Center
- January 18 at 7:30 pm Interfaith MLK Sabbath, a sermon by Pastor Rodney Lynch at Temple Israel, sponsored by Interfaith Leaders of Greater Lafayette
- January 21 at 11am **Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration** –Keynote speaker: Will Thompson at Tippecanoe County Public Library (downtown)
- January 21 at 6pm **Showing Up for Racial Justice** (SURJ) at MatchBox
- January 21 at 7pm **Greater Lafayette Indiana Black Expo** (GLIBE) at 522 Columbia St., Lafayette
- January 22 at 7pm **Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration** with Washington Post writer and author Wil Haygood delivering the keynote. He wrote the 2008 article, “A Butler Well Served by This Election” and has written several additional books. In Loeb Playhouse in Stewart Center
- January 23 at 5:30pm **Kinfolk Dinner: A Reflection on Servant Leadership** at the Black Cultural Center (BCC) This dinner gathering is to engage in a moment of mindfulness, community building, and transformation. All are invited for a sit-down affair over a common dish and soup. Bring a friend, meet new friends and learn something new about yourself and others.
- January 29 from 2:30- 5pm **Race, Gender, and Human Natures**, speaker is Joshua Marshack, an Honors College Visiting Scholar- check place at Diversity calendar at www.leaguelafayette.org as available
- February 3 from 4pm-5:30pm **GLIA** at MatchBox
- February 5 at 2pm **Safe Zone Training for Allies of the LBGTQ Community** - Visit purdue.edu/LGBTQ/training to register for a training session.
- February 6 at 6:30pm **Racial Reconciliation Group** at Congress Street Methodist Church (COSUMC)
- February 7 from 11:30- 1pm **Diversity Round Table** at the YWCA
- February 9 at 7pm “**The Colored Museum**” in the North Ballroom of Purdue Memorial Union This is a dramatic stage exploration of African-American culture and experience in a satirical trip through time. It features 11 “exhibits” that undermine black stereotypes old and new, and reinforce truths about what it means to be black.
- February 13 from 4:30- 6pm **Automating Inequality: How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police, and Punish the Poor** with Virginia Eubanks The presentation will explain how technology can contribute to the marginalization of poor people and people of color. In Fowler Hall in Stewart Center
- February 13 at 7:30pm **Black Excellence in Scholarship** - Panel discussion A celebration of the 50th anniversary of the field of Black Studies, in which a panel of African American Purdue alumni who work in the field will discuss current scholarship and Black Studies in the 21st century at the BCC.
- February 18 at 6:00 **Showing Up for Racial Justice** (SURJ) at MatchBox
- February 18 at 7pm **Greater Lafayette Indiana Black Expo** (GLIBE) at 522 Columbia St.
- February 18 -22 **Lobyn Hamilton Exhibition** at Rueff Gallery in Pao Hall – A self- taught artist and former DJ, music is at the cornerstone of his magnificent pieces. He spins us back to nostalgic times using records, LP spins, and covers to recreate iconic imagery and abstract portraits. Sponsored by the BCC
- February 20 6pm **Food Justice: At the Intersection of Food, Politics, Poverty and Public Health** in the Demo Kitchen of Marriot Hall – By fusing food justice and personal history Chef Terry Bryant will reveal how to improve access to fresh food in our community. Visit purdue.edu/LGBTQ/training to register for a training session.munities.
- February 21 at 2pm **A Safe Zone Training for Allies of the LBGTQ Community**
- February 22 and 23 at 7pm **BCC Coffee House** – performances by the Black Cultural Center’s performing arts ensembles in Multipurpose Room 1 (MP1) in the BCC
- February 23 from 8am – 1pm **AALOT Conference** for area high school students at New Hanna Center in the Northend Community Center (use Hanna Center entrance) sponsored by GLIBE
- February 26 from 10 am to 11:30 am **The First Step: Honoring Purdue’s First Black Graduate: David Robert Lewis, Civil Engineering, 1894**, to be held in Armstrong Hall
- February 28 at 7:30pm **Black Violin** in LOEB Playhouse – with Kevin Sylvester on violin and Wilner Baptiste on viola, their latest album, Stereotypes, topped Billboard’s Classical Crossover charts. Tickets \$22 - \$28 at Purdue Convocations

Continued on p.8...

Diversity, continued from p.7...

Ticket Office. Since 2004 they have collaborated with Tom Petty, WuTang Clan, Wyclef Jean, Kanye West and Alicia Keys.

March 3 from 4 –5:30 **GLIA** at MatchBox

March 4 – 30 **African Prints in Conversation: Reflections from a Global Synergy Grant** with Kadari Taylor -Watson who explores the significance of African textiles from Ghana, West Africa. MP3 room at BCC

March 6 at 6:30pm **Racial Reconciliation Group** at COSUMC

March 7 from 11:30- 1pm **Diversity Round Table** at YWCA

March 18 at 6:00pm **SURJ** meets at MatchBox

March 18 at 7pm **GLIBE** meets at 522 Columbia St., Lafayette

March 26 at 6pm **Ruth Carter, Costume Designer** – designed costumes for Black Panther and has earned two nominations for Academy Awards for best costume design for the films Malcolm X and Amistad. In Loeb Playhouse, Stewart Center

March 27-28 **Yosimar Reyes - Performance of PRIETO and Writing Workshops** Yosimar Reyes is a nationally acclaimed poet, educator, performance artist and public speaker. Born in Guerrero, Mexico and raised in Eastside San Jose Reyes explores the themes of migration and sexuality in his work. His first collection of poetry, “For Colored Boys Who Speak Softly...” was self published after a collaboration with the legendary Carlos Santana. Reyes has toured and presented in University campuses all over the United States. He will host a presentation over lunch on 3/27, perform his one man show **Prieto** on the evening of 3/27, and host a small workshop about poetry/writing and activism the morning of 3/28. More details and location will be announced soon! See Diversity Calendar at www.leaguelafayette.org for times and places as they are available. Sponsored by: LGBTQ Center, Latino Cultural Center

March 30 from 9am -4pm **Women of Color Design Summit** – the inaugural Women of Color Design Summit features inspiring women in the design industry. It will provide women of color a platform to discuss women’s rights and identity, as well as how design can create sustainable solutions. At the BCC

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization dedicated to the active and informed participation of citizens in government.

Diversity shall be integrated into every aspect of the League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette with the outcome to be the inclusion of all women and men, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or gender identity in its entire operation.

Board of Directors, 2018-19

Executive Team: Barb Clark, Business

Margaret Hass, Advocacy

Deanna McMillan, Events

Other Officers: Denise Ottinger, Treasurer

Barbara Kerkhoff, Secretary

Directors: Ken Jones, Voter Services

Sallie Fahey, Environmental Sustainability

Candace Walters, Membership



The LWVGL Voter is published quarterly. The editor is Deborah Schwarte; the designer is Marlee Posto, and Donna Giroux is copyeditor. Please send your articles and/or suggestions to the LWVGL at league@leaguelafayette.org. Deadline for the next Voter is February 8th for the April-May-June issue.