

# VOTER

League of Women Voters of  
Indiana County, Pennsylvania  
[www.palwv.org/indiana](http://www.palwv.org/indiana)



Volume XXVII, Issue 4 April, 2008

## ANNUAL MEETING

The League of Women Voters of Indiana County will hold its annual members meeting on Tuesday, April 29 in Blue Spruce Lodge at Blue Spruce Park, starting at 6:00 pm. We will have a business meeting following the speaker, at which time we will :

- (a) elect officers and Board members for the next year
- (b) approve our annual budget
- (c) vote on by-laws changes and
- (d) approve our program for next year

All of these items are in this newsletter for your review.

The speaker will be Dr. Wang Xi from the IUP History Department. He will speak on The Immigrant Experience Today. This should be an interesting and relevant topic after our National consensus study on immigration.

The meal will be a pot luck. Diane Duntley will be supplying a ham and the beverages. Members whose names begin with **B to L** should bring a **salad or side dish**. Members with names beginning with **M through W** should bring a **bread or dessert**. Anyone who wants to can bring a vegetarian entrée. **Please bring your own table settings also.**

### LWVIC Board of Directors, 2007-2008

Sherene Hess, President, 724 465-2595

Nancy Fricke, V. President, 724 465-5036

Sandy Whitson, Treasurer, 724 463-7205

Ann Rea, Secretary, 724-465-5796

Stephanie Chandler

Diane Duntley

JoAnne Ferraro

Jane Lord

Beth Marshall

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee proposes the following members for officer and board positions:

**Vice President:** Beth Marshall

**Board Members for two-year terms:** Diane Duntley, JoAnne Ferraro, Jane Lord, Clarice Reber and Mary Beth Sweeney.

**One year appointment:** Nancy Fricke

By Nominating Committee– Nancy Fricke and Susan McClure

Nominations may also be made from the floor during the Annual Meeting.

## PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR NEXT YEAR

The League of Women Voters of Indiana Co is planning to continue its current program activities.

- The Air Quality Committee will continue its Anti-Bus Idling Campaign and will monitor air quality issues which affect the local community.
- The Diversity/Civic Participation Committee will be planning a major workshop on running for office for School Board and other local candidates in early 2009.
- The Education Committee will continue to monitor education issues and take action on already current positions as the need arises.

The Board is not proposing any new local studies or action for 2008. Members may make proposals from the floor at the Annual Meeting for program items. If those items are adopted by the membership, they will become part of the program efforts for next year.

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

1) Article II, Sec. 1. Purpose,

The purpose of the LWVIC shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation **of citizens** in government, and to act on selected governmental issues.

2) Article III., Sec. 2, Paragraph a.

Voting members shall be citizens at least 18 years of age. **Those who make a lump-sum life membership payment to the League of Women Voters of the United States shall be paid life members and** those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more....

The amendment to be made: **DELETE WORDING IN BOLD**—in both paragraphs above.

The First Three Articles in our By-Laws must be identical to the State and National League of Women Voters By-Laws. These changes will bring our By-Laws into compliance.

3) Student Membership

We have also been informed that in order to qualify for student membership in the LWV the member must be a full-time student (at least 12 credit hours). a student member pays half the regular membership rate. LWVIC does not have to pay Per Member Payments to the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania and just pays one-half the regular payment to the National League of Women Voters for student members.

Our student membership program in our By-Laws allows both full and part-time students to get student memberships. To Board proposes that we eliminate the current wording in the By-Laws and substitute: **“Student members must be full-time students (at least 12 credit hours) and between the ages of 18 and 25.”**

4) The Board also proposes that under Section 6, Financial Administration we add:

**“Scholarships will be made available at the Board’s discretion.”**

This would allow us to offer membership scholarships to part-time students and others.

### LWVPA PHONOTHON

The League of Women Voters of Indiana County will not participate in the phonothon operated by the State League. As in other years, we will be making a substantial contribution from our League to the LWVPA-Citizen Education Fund in lieu of participating.

Funds raised during the phonothon are sent to the Citizen Education Fund and used for education projects throughout the State. These include Candidate Debates for offices at the state and national levels, many state-level Voters Service projects, and many other valuable public policy education activities.

We have found in the past that our members react very negatively to fund raising phone calls. We urge you to consider contributing to the League of Women Voters Citizen Education Fund directly to support these valuable State-wide projects.

### SMART VOTER.ORG. INTERNET VOTERS GUIDE NEW FORMAT FOR THE LWV

The LWV has created a new way for candidates and votes to connect with each other—Smartvoter.org. So many people find the Internet an efficient source of information. The LWV wants to be there with quality, non-partisan information about elections and candidates. Go to [www.Smartvoter.org](http://www.Smartvoter.org) and see this great website.

The Candidates can write their own biographies and explain their positions on issues without having to count their words. This gives them a chance to express their political philosophies and reasons for running for office. This free service is campaign finance reform on a practical level.

The voter is able to type in her address under “find my ballot” and receive the ballot and candidate information for her district. This gives the voter quick access to information about the candidates that she needs for the next election.

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The future of Voter Service is on the Internet. Candidates will want to be there when someone “Googles” their names. The voter wants quick, accurate information, and the LWV wants to be the reliable organization which brings candidates and voters together. Tell your friends about this new service. Be a Smart Voter!

Sherene Hess

<b>Budget LWVIC—July 1, 2008—June 30, 2009</b>
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**I. INCOME**

A. Dues ( 54 members @ \$50)	\$2700.00
B. Contributions:	
1. Member	550.00
2. Non-Member	100.00
3. Projects/ Other Sources	1900.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$5250.00</b>

**II EXPENDITURES**

A. General Administration	
1. President	\$ 20.00
2. Board Tools/Expenses	100.00
3. Administrative Committees	
a. Membership	100.00
b. Publicity	40.00
4. Operating Costs	
a. General Supplies	50.00
b. Insurance	125.00
c. Web Page	450.00
B. Delegates/Travel/Affiliations	
1. State/National conventions	350.00
2. Workshops	100.00
3. Annual Meetings (Local)	30.00
C. Financial Support	
1. National \$26.80/member	1448.00
2. State \$18/member	972.00
D. Program and Activities	
1. Publication Purchases	100.00
2. Bulletin	
a. Supplies	150.00
b. Postage	100.00
3. Voters Service	300.00
4. Action	
a. Legislative Interviews	25.00
b. Action	25.00
E. Committees	
a. Air Quality	100.00
b. Diversity	100.00
c. Education	100.00
d. Human Services Action	100.00
e. Other Programs	100.00
F. Misc/Scholarship	65.00

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$5250.00</b>
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A newsletter of the  
League of Women Voters  
of Indiana County,  
Pennsylvania  
PO Box 672  
Indiana, PA 15701

Phone: 724 465-2595  
Email: lwvic@yourinter.net



### CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 9**— LWV of PA Capitol Day; visit <http://www.palww.org> for info.

**April 10**— Board Meeting at Diane Duntley residence. Doors open at 11:30 am—meeting starts at noon—all welcome

#### April and May Children's Events:

**April 12—10 AM—4 PM**—Health Kids Day, YMCA

**April 26—10 AM—Noon**—Mack Park—Physical activities for kids.

**May 17—9 AM—1 PM**—Bike Rodeo—IRMC—Bike Safety

**April 22** – General Primary. Our legislature did not change the Presidential primary to an earlier date.

**April 29** – League Annual Meeting – Blue Spruce Lodge in Blue Spruce Park. **NOTE NEW DATE!**

**May 3** –League Garage Sale, Susan McClure's Garage. Save your stuff for this spring fundraiser.



Know someone who may be interested in membership? Let Olga Platt know at 724-465-2073 and she will send a brochure & short letter describing LWVIC's activities.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to men and women of voting age.