

VOTER

League of Women
Voters of Indiana
County, Pennsylvania



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

LWVIC Board of Directors, 2010-11

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***Want to make your community a better place to live?
Then don't miss this event:***

RUNNING FOR OFFICE WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2011 9:00 AM - 2 PM

RUSTIC LODGE, ROUTE 286, INDIANA, PA

Registration \$40-(includes morning refreshments, lunch and resource materials)

Scholarships available

Every odd-numbered year Pennsylvania elects people to represent our interests in our home municipalities, on our school boards, in our counties. Come, learn and decide if you will be a candidate. **Encourage others to think about running for local office & attending this valuable workshop.**

What is the role & responsibility of a school board member, mayor, council member, township supervisor, tax collector, etc.? What are the requirements to run?

TWO CUSTOMIZED TRACKS:

SCHOOL BOARD

Ron Cowell, Educational Policy Leadership Center

Pamela Price, Pennsylvania School Boards Association



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

John Turack, Penn State Cooperative Extension-*Intro to PA Local Government*

Susan Hockenberry, Local Government Academy – *8 Pillars of GOOD Government*

Ed Knittel, PA State Assoc. of Boroughs & **Holly Fishel**, PA State Assoc. of Township Officials – *Resources for Boroughs & Townships*

A panel of current serving officials – *Perspectives on Running for and Being Elected to Office and Serving as an Elected Official*

AFTER LUNCH SPEAKER – FOR BOTH TRACKS

Beth Marshall, League of Women Voters of Indiana County - *Getting Started: Filing Papers, Campaign Funds Management and Reporting, Nuts and Bolts of Your Campaign*

**Visit www.palwv.org/indiana or call
724.349.2718 for more information and
to register**



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS®

Great Decisions 2011

Challenge yourself in the new year by learning about eight of today's most pressing global issues. Participate in the Great Decisions Lecture/Discussion Series on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in February and March.

Join with friends to hear expert speakers from IUP in the comfortable setting of St. Andrew's Village Community Room. A briefing book on issues and questions is prepared by the nonpartisan Foreign Policy Association (see www.fpa.org).

This year's eight topics include: **Rebuilding Haiti, U.S. National Security, Horn of Africa, Responding to the Financial Crisis, Sanctions and Nonproliferation, Germany Ascendant, The Caucasus, and Global Governance.**

For further information and/or to register, contact Steve Anspacher at IUP Continuing Education (724-357-2292).

GREAT DECISIONS TOPICS 2011

Feb 1 Rebuilding Haiti -- Dr. Linda Jennings, Music
The January 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti struck a country already suffering from widespread poverty and underdevelopment. Did this natural disaster inadvertently provide an opportunity for reassessment and planning a new Haiti? With presidential elections looming in early 2011, what can new leadership bring to restore the country?

Feb 8 U.S. National Security -- Dr. Mac Fiddner, Political Science
U.S. national security priorities were expanded after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, to include waging war in Iraq and Afghanistan, tightening border security, pursuing cyberthreats, halting nuclear proliferation and attempting to snuff out homegrown terrorism. How has the U.S. national security agenda evolved since 9/11? In what ways will this agenda shape the American way of life in the future?

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2011 PENNSYLVANIA ELECTON DATES

Last day to REGISTER TO VOTE before Primary	April 18
Last day to apply for civilian absentee ballot	May 10
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots	May 13
MUNICIPAL PRIMARY	May 17
Last Day to Register before November election	October 11
Last Day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot	November 1
Last Day for County Boards of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots	November 4
MUNICIPAL ELECTION	November 8

Thank You Diane....

For many years Diane Duntley has hosted our board meetings in her home, providing a pleasant meeting space and a lovely holiday dinner each December. As a board member, Diane has helped shape the look of LWVIC in recent years and our organization is better for it. One of her many contributions has been the development of the Candidates Workshop that now occurs every two years. For those thinking about running for office (especially local government or school board), this workshop has become a valuable source of information about how to get started and what to expect if elected. Diane also catered refreshments to the garage sale crew each year, a much appreciated treat on those workdays.

Diane has been called on to coordinate another very important task and she has made the decision to put her energy into that activity. With appreciation the board of LWVIC has accepted her resignation from the League board effective February 1. We thank her for her efforts these many years and wish her the best!

SAVE THE DATE! MEMBER POTLUCK DINNER & MEETING

Monday, January 31, 2011 Potluck Dinner/Library Presentation

Dinner at 5:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church Community Room, 902 Philadelphia Street

Followed by Mary Lou Repsher, District Library Consultant, speaking on "Future-proofing Libraries with Recognition, Advocacy, and Support"

Bring a guest and a dish to share.

From page 2, Great Decisions Topics

Feb 15 Horn of Africa -- Dr. Calvin Masilela, Geography and Regional Planning

Since the early 1990s, the U.S. has monitored the Horn of Africa due to security concerns. Internal instability, weak governments in some countries, regional rivalries and a lack of development have resulted in an environment conducive to terrorism. Can the U.S. protect its national interests while mitigating the dangerous conditions in the region?

Feb 22 Responding to the Financial Crisis -- Dr. Willard Radell, Economics

As an immediate response to the financial crisis of 2007–08, governments around the world stepped in to bail out troubled private banks deemed "too big to fail," underscoring the interdependence between pri-

vate and public finances. With the recent Eurozone crisis, what have we learned so far, and is it possible to ensure that future crises will not occur?

March 1 Sanctions and Nonproliferation -- Dr. Stephen Jackson, Political Science

Sanctions have been created to curb nations in violation of international law, especially agreements concerning nuclear nonproliferation. How successfully have sanctions been applied against past violators? Is there any chance sanctions can curtail North Korea and Iran from continuing to develop nuclear weapons?

Stay tuned for the remaining sessions to be detailed in our March newsletter!

A year to remember...From Sherene Hess, President

We accomplished so much in 2010. Here's just a few of the activities that took place from January through December during which we educated, informed, advocated, and in the process, gave our community the tools to make informed decisions about their governmental leaders and the issues we face.

- Marcellus Shale **Study Meetings**
- **Interviews** with State legislators
- **Consensus Meeting** on Marcellus Shale & compilation of Consensus Question responses
- Indiana Free Library **Partner of the Month**
- Attendance at **National LWV Convention** in Atlanta GA
- **Family Fun Fest** Spring Fling—Support Clean Water Petition signing by 139 children
- **Presentation** of Marcellus workshop at PA Land Trust Association
- **Testimony to Republican House Policy Committee** on water quality impacts of shale gas extraction (invitation from Representative Reed)
- **10 board meetings, annual meeting and Summer retreat**
- **Testimony for PALWV** on the Department of Environmental Protection's proposed Chapter 78 Oil and Gas Well Regulations
- **Candidates Night** for 60th and 66th state legislative districts & **Online Voters Guide** published
- **Candidates Workshop:** Civic Participation Committee provides tools for success when Running for Local Office
- **LWVIC Observer Corps**
- Redistricting **education**
- Marcellus Shale **Task Force initiated**
- **Local Library issues:** Discussion of Outdated codes and impact of budget cuts
- And more!

Another great year!

THANK YOU for your membership! Let's make it another year of success in 2011. Invite a friend or two to join the League this year.

A newsletter of the
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We're on the
Web!

www.palwv.org/indiana



CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

January 10, 2011, 7:00 pm—Board Meeting, All Members Welcome, Diane Duntley's home (204 Greenview Court, Indiana)

January 22, 2011, 8:30 am—2:00 pm—Running for Office Workshop, Rustic Lodge

January 31, 2011—Member Meeting, Potluck Dinner (5:30 pm), Speaker (7:00 pm), Community Room, Christ Episcopal Church

Also coming up in 2011: Legislative Interviews with PA House and Senate legislators and more. Keep in touch with the League for fact-based discussions and programs on keeping government transparent and accountable.

Know someone who may be interested in membership? Let President Sherene Hess know at 724-762-4162 and she will send a brochure & short letter describing LWVIC's activities.

Our 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.

March 15 Germany Ascendant -- Dr. Werner Lippert, History

Germany has emerged from both the financial crisis and the Eurozone crisis as the dominant economic and political power in Europe, in particular setting the tone for dealings with Russia, Eastern Europe and Iran. How important is it for U.S. interests to enhance relations with Germany, and how should the U.S. react when German and U.S. interests fail to align?

March 22 The Caucasus -- Dr. Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen, History

The countries and regions of the Caucasus all have strong national identities but have long lived in the shadow of their larger neighbors: Russia, Iran and Turkey. How does this influence the Caucasus of today? How do the region's energy resources play into its relations with the outside world?

March 29 Global Governance -- Dr. Sarah Wheeler, Political Science

International cooperation subjects political leaders to an ongoing test: balancing national needs with a commitment to building a durable international order. How has an increasingly interconnected and shrinking world affected the viability of existing agreements and institutions? What economic, social, political and security concerns are currently on the agendas of intergovernmental bodies, and what is the future U.S. role?