

VOTER



A newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Indiana County, Pennsylvania

Volume XXV Issue 30
March 2005

LWVIC Board

of Directors,

2004-2005

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724 465-2595

Nancy Fricke, V. President,
724 465-5036

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724 463-7205

Ann Rea, Secretary,
724 465-5796

Diane Duntley

Joanne Ferraro

Jane Lord

Beth Marshall

Olga Platt

Lori Rittle

Aida Shotts

Edwina Vold

Next Board Meeting of LWVIC:

**Friday, April 15th
12:15 p.m. at Diane
Duntley's home
204 Greenview Ct.
724-349-2718**

**All members and
guests are welcome**

PDE LEADER TO SPEAK ON NCLB IMPLEMENTATION MARCH 31ST

Dr. Gerald L. Zahorchak, Deputy Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), will be the speaker for a Thursday, March 31 program *Pennsylvania's Implementation of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.* This completes an two-part series promoting understanding of the impact of the federal NCLB Act on all facets of public education.

In the first session, three of Indiana County's district superintendents responded to a series of questions to explore the issues and challenges of implementing NCLB. Based on the local concerns, a series of questions has been prepared for this session covering PDE policy, curriculum issues, measurement and assessment issues, staffing issues and related NCLB concerns. Dr. Zahorchak is the primary source from PDE in these matters.

The evening, open to the public, includes a **dessert reception at 7:00 p.m.; the program starts at 7:30 p.m.** with Dr. Zahorchak's initial presentation —with follow-up comments and questions from a panel of educators and from the audience. The meeting will be held in **Oak**



Room West, on the lower level of Foster Dining Hall, Grant and 11th Streets. Free parking is available in the IUP Parking Garage directly across Grant Street.

Sponsoring group is Partners Supporting Public Schools, a cooperative effort of the League of Women Voters of Indiana County, Phi Delta Kappa/IUP chapter, NAACP Indiana Branch, and American Association of University Women. A special invitation is extended to all educators in area school districts and to the IUP education community.

For additional information contact Diane Duntley 724 349-2718.

Primary Election *Voter's Guides* Being Prepared

Pennsylvania has a closed primary in which Democrats and Republicans select their candidates to run in the fall election. This is considered an “off-year” municipal election cycle. Our choices for who serves on our school board, leads our county or borough, or makes judicial decisions have a direct impact on our lives. The League is developing a Voter’s Guide with questions to candidates running for school director and for Magisterial District Judge (cross-filed positions). Nancy Fricke is coordinating this effort. Check on www.pa.lwv.org/indiana after April 18th.

Civic Participation Internship Being Offered

A summer student internship is being offered to assist with the researching, writing, and editing the LWVIC WEB site coverage of the 900 elected and appointed positions in Indiana County. The position is volunteer with an honorarium to cover expenses. For further information contact project supervisor Diane Duntley at 724-349-2718 or dduntley@auxmail.iup.edu. Go to www.pa.lwv.org/indiana

2005 Election Calendar Municipal Primary

April 18—Last day to register before Primary

May 10—Last day to apply for absentee ballots

May 13—Date that absentee ballots must be returned

May 17—Municipal Primary

Vote May 17th



REFRESHING CLEAN AIR NEWS

The administration proposed and industry backed ‘**Clear Skies’ Bill** was locked with a tie vote in the Senate Environmental and Public works committee on March 9th. Thanks Senators Baucus, Boxer, Carper, Chafee, Clinton, Jeffords, Lautenberg, Lieberman & Obama!

The National LWV joined forces with a consortium of other environmental and health organizations to testify in opposition to the Senate Bill 131 which would have repealed, weakened, or delayed Clean Air Act safeguards.

Hope for reducing the sulfur dioxides and nitrogen oxides blowing into PA from the Midwest came with the signing of the **Clean Air Interstate Rule**

(CAIR) by EPA acting director on March 10th.

Highlights from our archives:

Our local League Air Quality group bases any advocacy and educational actions on the National League study and positions. We participated in the national study in the 70’s.

—A “Go-See” tour of the Homer City Power Plant was arranged for LWVPA convention held in Ligonier.

—Kathy Quirk and Lori Rittle testified at a PA hearing over sulfur dioxide standards.

—Our League hosted a state-wide public forum at the Rustic Lodge in 1978 as part of a grant funded study *Coal the Burning Question*.

LWV National Air Quality Position

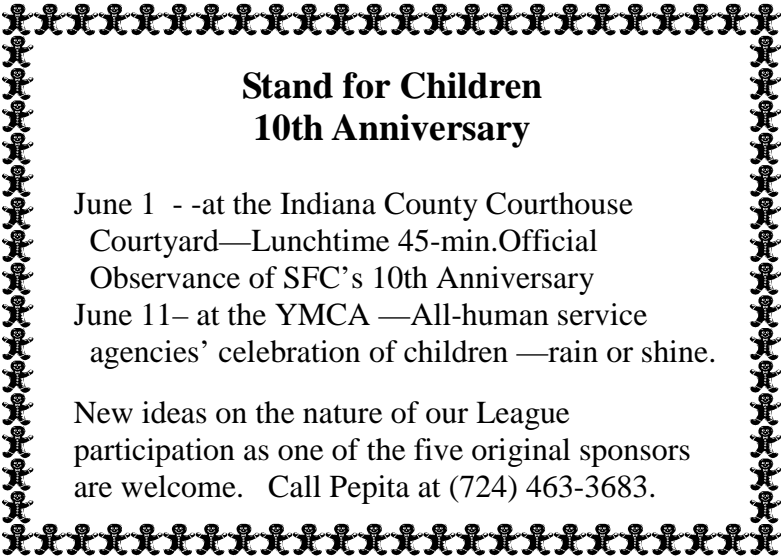
The League supports:

- measures to reduce vehicular pollution,
- including inspection and maintenance of emission controls, changes in engine design and fuel types and development of more energy efficient
- transportation systems;
- regulation and reduction of pollution from stationary sources;
- regulation and reduction of ambient toxic-air pollutants; measures to reduce transboundary air pollutants, such as ozone and those that cause acid deposition.

The National League Web site at www.lwv.org/ (then click to **Clean Air**) includes great background information, League testimony, and the opportunity to sign up for action alerts. *Log in today!*



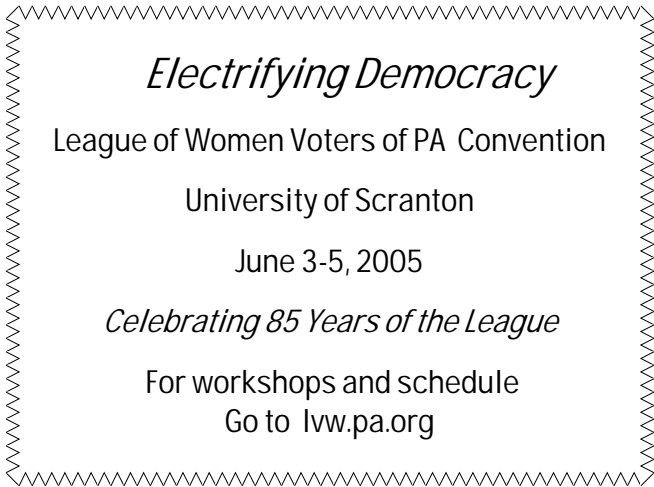
Learn more about environmental toxicants and their impact on our health at the FREE **Health & the Environment Conference** at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute on April 7-9. Check out the WEB site of the sponsor Collaborative on Health and the Environment in PA (CHE-Penn) <http://home.comcast.net/~che-penn> and see what is of interest to you.



**Stand for Children
10th Anniversary**

June 1 - -at the Indiana County Courthouse Courtyard—Lunchtime 45-min. Official Observance of SFC’s 10th Anniversary
June 11– at the YMCA —All-human service agencies’ celebration of children —rain or shine.

New ideas on the nature of our League participation as one of the five original sponsors are welcome. Call Pepita at (724) 463-3683.



Electrifying Democracy

League of Women Voters of PA Convention
University of Scranton
June 3-5, 2005

Celebrating 85 Years of the League

For workshops and schedule
Go to lwv.pa.org

Time for Spring Cleaning

Bring tranquility into your life by recycling your surplus possessions. Offer to collect surpluses from neighbors and friends. Lots of good “stuff” is needed for the annual garage sale—the League’s only fund raiser.

—**Donations can be dropped off** at the McClure garage starting **May 2nd**. Sherene is storing big donations (i.e. furniture) in her garage as items become available. Susan is taking books early.

—**Clothes** will be accepted and sold this year. Please make sure the garments are clean. If they are dry-clean-only, leave the dry cleaner's tags in the garment.

—Volunteer to **take responsibility for a particular section**—children’s clothes, toys, tools, books, glassware, etc. This is an effort to make us better sales people. **Call Susan McClure (724-463-8252)** to reserve your first choice.

Meeting the Challenge: \$ 415.95 in 2000
\$ 607.75 in 2001
\$ 320.00 in 2002
\$1086.55 in 2003
\$ 976.60 in 2004



**Annual Garage Sale
Saturday, May 7,
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**McClure Home
at 527 Shryock Ave
Indiana**

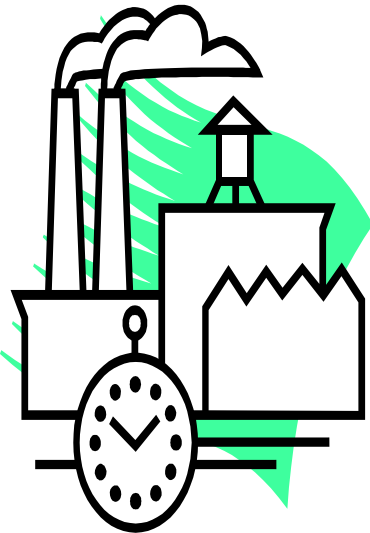
Bag Sale on May 14

Help us into the four digit sphere in 2005!

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

We're on the Web!
[www.pa.lww.org/
Indiana](http://www.pa.lww.org/Indiana)



CHECKING ON THE AIR WE BREATHE

PART II

**MONDAY, APRIL 18TH AT 7 P.M.
AT OAK PLACE, 1055 OAK STREET**

**PANEL DISCUSSION OF TECHNOLOGIES AVAILABLE
TO MEET NEW EMISSION STANDARDS,
THE MONITORING OF AIR QUALITY
AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CONCERNS**

The new emission standards for 28 Eastern states announced by EPA this month target reducing **nitrogen oxides** by more than 60 percent from 2003 levels and **sulfur dioxides** by more than 70 percent when fully implemented in 2015. EPA also issued **mercury** reduction standards for power plants for the first time this month. They require reductions by nearly half within 15 years but allow the purchase of “credits” between higher and lower emitting plants. Is meeting these goals possible? What technologies could be used? How will we know? What are the health risks from current levels? The panel will include **Rachel Fillipini**, Executive Director of Group Against Smog and Pollution (GASP), **Mark Slupek** talking about his work in installing the scrubbers at the Seward and Homer City power plants and **Larry Kruckman** talking about his efforts to raise awareness of air quality issues as a well-informed citizen. For more information, contact Ann Rea at 724-465-5796.

LWV Indiana County Budget
July 1, 2005—June 30, 2006

I. INCOME

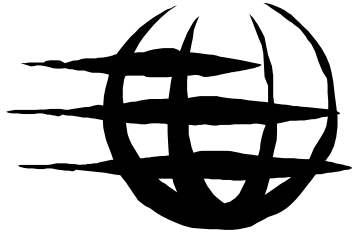
A. Dues (47 members @ \$50)	\$ 2350.00
B. Contributions:	
1. Member	500.00
2. Non-Member	100.00
3. Projects/ Other Sources	1510.00

Total Income:	\$4460.00

II Expenditures

A. General Administration	
1. President	\$ 25.00
2. Board Tools/Expenses	25.00
3. Administrative Committees	
a. Membership	100.00
b. Publicity	40.00
4. Operating Costs	
a. General Supplies	50.00
b. Insurance	125.40
B. Delegates/Travel/Affiliations	
1. State/National conventions	400.00
2. Workshops	100.00
3. Annual Meetings (Local)	30.00
C. Financial Support	
1. National \$23.80/member	1118.60
2. State \$18/member	846.00
D. Program and Activities	
1. Publication Purchases	100.00
2. Bulletin	
a. Supplies	100.00
b. Postage	200.00
3. Voters Service	350.00
4. Web Page	350.00
5. Community Services	
a. Action	100.00
b. Legislative Interviews	25.00
c. Educational Activities	200.00
5. Other Programs/ Support	100.00
6. Misc./Scholarship	75.00

Total Expenses:	\$4460.00
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Don Hopey

Environmental Columnist with
the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette to
speak May 12th on Air
Quality Issues in W PA.

The League of Women Voters of Indiana County
Invites You To Attend

The Annual Meeting
On Thursday May 12th

At the Folger Dining Hall on Pratt Drive

5:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres

6:00 p.m. Meal (\$15)

7:00 p.m. Brief Business Meeting

7:30 p.m. Featured Speaker

LWVIC is very pleased to welcome Don Hopey as speaker for our annual business meeting this May. He will be returning to his Alma Mater at IUP. Mr. Hopey has written features about a wide range of outdoor adventures and environmental concerns. His columns on his experiences hiking the length of the Appalachian Trail are available in a book *An Appalachian Adventure*. His exposes have led to convictions of polluters and to legislative changes. He has written on diverse outdoor and pollution topics and teaches an environmental issues class at the University of Pittsburgh. His current focus has been on issues of air quality. A recent feature was *Pennsylvania power plants called 3rd dirtiest in U.S.* in which he identified Keystone Power Plant as having the highest mercury emissions in the nation. He promises to be a very exciting speaker.

LWVIC Slate of Officers 2005—2007 Recommendations for Annual Meeting

President: Sherene Hess
Secretary: Ann Rea
Board Members: Aida Shotts
Olga Platt



Nominating Committee Chair Susan McClure reports that the above slate of officers have agreed to be renominated for a two year term for the positions currently held. Additional nominations may be forthcoming.

Elected at last Annual Meeting for 2004-2006:

Vice President: Nancy Fricke
Treasurer: Sandy Whitson
Board Members: Jane Lord
Joanne Ferraro
Edwina Vold

Board appointed positions:

Civic Participation: Diane Duntley
Newsletter: Lori Rittle

Welcome to new and
returning members

Mary Beth Kennedy

Marion Sadler

Mary Beth Sweeney