

VOTER

League of Women
Voters of Indiana
County, Pennsylvania



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

LWVIC Board of Directors, 2013-14

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League of Women Voters of Indiana County Annual Meeting—Program Announcement

The following program for 2014-15 will be presented to the membership for approval during the business portion of the annual meeting to be held on **Wednesday, May 14:**

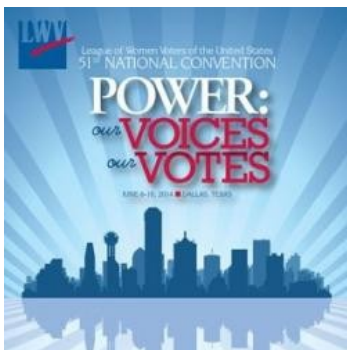
Environmental Issues Committee: Continue to monitor new legislation and studies on the effects of drilling for unconventional natural gas in the region, with special emphasis on health effects, both to individuals living near drilling operations, and to overall community health. The committee will also continue outreach and education about the Indiana County Comprehensive Plan's Land Use and Natural Resources sections and will work with the County and other organizations to implement recommendations of the plan.

Voter Services: Publish Voters' Guides, coordinate non-partisan voter registration events, hold candidates nights, and provide membership updates on legislation related to voting and elections

Child Advocacy Committee: Monitor emerging issues, activities, and policies related to welfare of children in Indiana County, especially early childhood education; Advocate for public policy based on established positions; Promote annual events designed to educate and improve quality of life for children

Civic Participation Committee: Work to increase diversity in elected and appointed officials and raise awareness of the duties of elected officials to those considering public service

Observer Corps: Encourage attendance at public meetings to let officials know that someone is watching to ensure that government agencies are fulfilling their responsibility to be transparent and accountable to the citizenry



See page 2 for more details about the annual meeting, and see the April issue of the Voter for information about the budget and election of board members.

Please join us for the League of Women Voters of Indiana County Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

Oak Place Community Center, 1055 Oak St, Indiana, PA

(Ample parking across the street)

Dinner: 5:30 pm (Buffet style, catered by Roseann's of Indiana)

**Presentation of Peggy Clark Grassroots
Environmental Leadership Award: 6:15 pm**

(Individual and Organization Categories)

Business Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors: 6:30 pm

(See [Voter Newsletter](http://palwv.org/Indiana) at palwv.org/Indiana for 2014-15 Budget Details and Slate of Nominees)

Program/Speaker: 7:00 pm

Dr. Amanda Poole, *Environmental Anthropologist*

Department of Anthropology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Poole is a member of the League and lives in Indiana with her husband Gerald Smith and their young children. She teaches courses on Africa, applied and ecological anthropology, and cultural theory. Her past work includes field research with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Alaska Fisheries Science Center. Dr. Poole specializes in political ecology, ethnoecology, community based resource management, rural and post conflict development, food sovereignty, forced migration and refugee studies, and anthropology of the state. Most recently, she has researched the social dynamics around hydraulic fracturing in northern Appalachia.

Cost: \$15 per person

(Send check to Treasurer Sandy Whitson, 402 Elm St., Indiana, PA 15701 or pay at the door)

GUESTS ARE WELCOME

(\$15 per person if attending dinner)

RSVP if joining us for dinner; not necessary if attending program only

RSVP by May 10 to Sandy Whitson

by e-mail swhitson8@comcast.net, phone 724 463-7205, or

with payment to address above

Door Prize! Attendees will have the chance to win A Prairie Home Companion Radio Collection of Heartwarming Stories and Songs....

We hope to see YOU and a guest!

Voters Guide Available

The 2014 Primary Election Voters Guide for statewide candidates is now available on the LWVPA website at the following address:

http://www.palwv.org/files/587_2014VOTERSGUIDEPRIMARYELECTIONwithPHOTOS.pdf

Pennsylvania's primary election will be held on Tuesday, May 20, and citizens will be electing candidates to run in the general election this fall for the offices of both governor and lieutenant governor. The LWVPA provides profiles of each of the candidates as well as their answers to the question, "You are in the midst of an expensive election campaign. What are your thoughts on campaign finance reform?"

The information on this site is nonpartisan and includes facts about the powers and the duties of both the governor and lieutenant governor as well as general information about the Pennsylvania primary election.

In addition, information about candidates for the United States and PA State legislatures can be found under the Quick Link for Smart Voter (<http://www.smartvoter.org/sv/pa/state/>) on the LWVPA website.

Agriculture Consensus Meeting Successfully Held

On the morning of April 5, 13 members of the LWVIC came together both literally and figuratively to contribute to the national debate on the state of agriculture in our country. Such issues as commodity crop programs, crop insurance, anti-trust legislation, animal management, research and development, sustainable agricultural systems, crop management practices, animal management practices, food safety, food labeling, and other important agricultural issues were discussed.

Our local consensus results have been submitted to the LWVUS where they will be added to the results of other local Leagues. In May, the consensus result or a new position statement will be announced and then presented at the national convention in June.

Thanks go out to Beth Marshall for chairing the agriculture update committee and to Laurie LaFontaine, Jim Resh, Vicki Stelma, and Carolyn Trimarchi for serving on the committee. A special thank you also goes out to Cindy Rogers for keeping the notes at the meeting and submitting our results to the LVWUS.

This grassroots work is what the League is all about, so thank you to those of you who participated and made your voices heard. Stayed tuned to lwv.org for updates to our agriculture position and any action that the League undertakes regarding these issues.

A newsletter of the
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CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

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 LWWIC's activities.

Saturday, May 3, 8:00 am—1:00 pm — LWWIC Annual Garage Sale (527 Shryock Avenue, Indiana)

Saturday, May 10, 8:00 am—1:00 pm —LWWIC Bag Sale (527 Shryock Avenue, Indiana)

Wednesday, May 14—LWWIC Annual Meeting (5:30 pm dinner, 7:00 pm program; Oak Place Community Center, 1055 Oak Street, Indiana)

Tuesday, May 20—Primary Election

June 6-10—LWVUS Convention, Dallas, Texas

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.