



October 2022

lwvccpa.org

A Message from the President

I wish you well during this upcoming Election Day. We always have work to do, people to help and concerns that “all goes well” in these unprecedented times. Certainly, it is of the utmost importance that you remain safe and secure in whatever election endeavor you have chosen to fulfill.

Many of our members have committed to taking on the role of poll watcher and some will act as Judge of Elections in their polling places. We are grateful to everyone willing to take on those responsibilities and to give their time and energy to the cause. In addition to the election day work so many individuals perform, we in the League understand clearly there is much more work to be done regarding the processes that take place when the ballot counting begins. The time is dictated by the PA Election Code.

Ballots may not be opened prior to 8:00PM election evening. That time limit causes our state to lag behind the majority of states who are able to begin preclearance earlier, sometimes by hours and other times by days. The last election is a good example of how obviously we were hampered in providing a speedier count down. That situation positions Pennsylvania to be identified as slow and awkward at best. Most states permit the preclearance process.

I propose that upon the beginning of the new year, we begin our League process of investigating the options and actions we can take to strongly encourage our State Legislators to modernize the vote counting process in the future. We need to permit the preclearance process in PA, and we need to have it done without the unnecessary political dances that attempt to throw false accusations of vote tampering into the mix. We are better than that!

Happy Voting!

Susan Carty

Notices

Boscov's Community Support Day

On October 19 anyone with a special pass can shop at the Boscov's store in Exton and receive 25% off on most merchandise. There are usually discounts of much of the merchandise in the store already that day so you get even more off. Tickets can be purchased for \$5.00 each from the League by sending a check made out to LWVCC to: LWVCC, P.O. Box 62, Exton, PA 19341. Or you can pick some up at the board meeting September 17. The League gets to keep the \$5.00 and you get great discounts at Boscov's.

Naturalization Day

The next Naturalization Ceremony will take place on November 18 at the Justice Center in West Chester. It is always an exciting experience to welcome the new citizens and help them register to vote. Please let me know if you can help. Mary Lou Dondero (610) 692-3299.

Membership

Thank you if your dues are up to date. You are welcome to send in your \$75 annual dues today for fiscal year 2022/2023. PayPal on our website www.lwvccpa.org or mail your check to LWVCC, PO box 62, Exton, PA 19341

Upcoming Dates:

October 15, **LWVCC Board Meeting**, in person, at the E. Goshen Twp. Building, 1580 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380-6199, 10:00 and on Zoom. If you do not receive the Zoom number and password, contact Susan Carty

Voter Registration Deadlines: Online must be done by October 24, 2022; by mail must be received by October 24, 2022; In person by October 24, 2022

November 1 last day to request mail-in or absentee ballot

General Election: Tuesday November 8, 2022

Restaurant Festival in West Chester

The League of Women Voters of Chester County had a table at the Restaurant Festival on September 18. Sandy Schaal and Elaine Friedlander answered questions, gave out voter registration forms and many post cards with information. We were very well received from many folks passing by.



FACEBOOK NEEDS YOU!

Our Facebook page is a way to keep members and the general public informed about our offerings and activities and to deliver voter education. I need all the help I can get to stay on track with nonpartisan voter information, photos of recent activity, and information about upcoming events! Email everything to gretchen.cole@gmail.com, and if you are a Facebook

AAUW website has voter information concerning candidate platforms. Go to https://wccc-pa.aauw.net/files/2022/10/AAUW_Newsletter_2022_October_final.pdf and scroll down.

National Voter Registration Day

The League of Women Voters of Chester County commemorated National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 20th at the Chester County library in Exton. Linda Westphal tended the table inside, answering questions, handing out registration forms, brochures and other non-partisan voting information, while Sue Habgood stood outside to encourage library visitors to visit the LWVCC information table. Thanks to these and other League volunteers for helping get out the vote in the upcoming critical elections!



Criminal Justice Committee

Mark your calendars. We have a great speaker for October. K. Celeste Trusty is Secretary of the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons. She will present an overview of the past, present, and future of the criminal justice system.

The presentation will be at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 27th. She will speak for 45 minutes and you will have 15-20 minutes to ask questions. This will be a zoom meeting. You'll receive the zoom link 10 days before the 27th.

The members of the Committee are looking forward to hearing more about the criminal justice system.

Kay Sharp, Anton Andrew, and Robin Garrett

DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion)

The PA League of Women Voters Equity Initiative is offering several opportunities for involvement and education on Diversity Equity and Inclusions.

On September 19, at 6:00pm, the monthly **Equity Initiative Webinar** via Zoom, will focus on **Microaggressions**. "A microaggression is a subtle behavior, conscious or unconscious, generally directed at members of marginalized groups with hostile and harmful effects. Bias towards others is at the root of microaggressions. These careless daily assaults target and cause harm to a person's identity, wellbeing and sense of belonging in society." The webinar will help us to understand, identify, and interrupt microaggressions, and learn to communicate in a more inclusive way. [Register here](#) to attend.

For the past year, the Chester County League of Women Voters has been represented on the **PA LWV Equity Team** by Sandy Schaal and Susan Carty. If you would like to join us on the Equity Team, please come to our next monthly meeting on **Thursday, October 6 at 7:00pm**. Register [here](#) for the October meeting.

Finally, in November, a series of **DEI Learning Modules** that will provide local Leagues with basic training in DEI will be available. Watch for more information about these modules and how we will implement them as a Chester County LWV as we come closer to the release date.