



January 2023

lwvccpa.org

A Message from the President

“Political candidates can say some outrageous things. They even can lie.”

That egregious behavior appears to be a tradition for many, amusing to some, and still appalling to many. Just watch the news.

Yet, there clearly are truthful, honorable candidates. The question is, how do we know truth vs exaggerations vs utter untruth. How do we know what we need to know? How do we recognize when a candidate is out to serve his/her own best interest or the community's best interest. Determining the truth in this regard is not easy.

Voters have a right to the truth.

How can we as League members encourage citizens to vote when frequently the information about who the candidates are is lacking in depth.

And yes, we try to believe that our party of choice will help us with candidate information, candidate background experience and future intentions. But we personally and individually need to understand the truth of and intentions of our chosen political party as well as their selected candidates. Frequently, we discover that candidate information can be deliberately vague and at times questionable.

What is a voter to do? No question that we must not cease from voting. No easy escape routes from our right that was long fought for and defended.

We must question for truth, research for facts, discuss with others and meet candidates in person if possible. Making choices to select candidates is work!

Be well, stay safe and keep on doing what you do best... supporting our voters!

Happy New Year!

Susan Carty, President, LWVCC

Notices

LWV CHESTER COUNTY Cordially Invites you to Attend the

LWVCC ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

WHERE: 1020 Kennett Way, West Chester, PA 19380

WHEN: Saturday, January 21 10:00AM - 1:00

RSVP: Susan Carty cartysusan@gmail.com or call at 484-356-5568

**This will be a hybrid meeting. Please contact Susan Carty for the
Zoom numbers**



Upcoming Dates:

LWVCC Board Meeting, Saturday January 21, 10:00AM

Planning Meeting, Saturday January 21, 10:00, home of Susan Carty

LWVCC Board Meeting, Saturday February 18, 10:00AM East Goshen Twp. Building, 1580 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380

Environmental Policy News

Kathy Cook is the LWVPA Environmental Policy Director. As a start to keeping us all informed she has organized Focus Groups whose members are interested in a specific topic and would receive and disseminate information on their topics as she receives updates.

Focus Groups are: Water, Zero Waste Initiative/recycling/landfill, Plastics, Environmental Health, Environmental Justice, Air/RGGI/Methane, Agricultural/pesticides and Pipelines/fracking/LNG transport.

The League is working in coordination with many other environmental groups and there are many offerings of Zoom meetings and videos on the above topics. You can educate yourselves and bring the information to our local League as well.

She also needs local newspaper readers to send links to Letters to the Editor and OP/EDS. No meetings would be involved with this group.

Kathy has started monthly meetings for environmental representatives from local Leagues around the state. So far she has presented a speaker from NE PA who is concerned about the transportation of LNG from the Marcellus Shale area down to Marcus Hook and beyond via truck and train and its safety implications for the Delaware River Basin.

There was a speaker from the Pittsburgh area concerned about a new large Shell ethane cracker plant producing 1.6 million metric tons of plastic a year and the incoming raw materials for it being transported through the city of Pittsburgh.

This month's speakers were concerned with the proliferation of plastics both in production and waste and supporting organizations such as Move Past Plastics and Beyond Plastics.

Let me know if you are interested in any of the focus group topics for help in monitoring. I have information I can forward on the LNG transportation issues in NE PA, possible small projects we can help with on plastics and a link below to a video on "How Green is Blue Hydrogen?" by Robert Howarth of Cornell University.

<https://vimeo.com/752623478>

Carole Mackrell, 610-942-9476

From Fair Districts PA

Despite fog and rain, the Fix Harrisburg Rally on January 3 went well, with good attendance and a strong message of support for better legislative rules. Thank you to all who attended, all who came to hand-deliver postcards, and all who participated in the virtual rally by watching on livestream, making calls, sending emails and sharing information through social media.

The House vote on rules did NOT take place as expected on January 3 due to the divided dynamics and an unexpected vote for Democrat Mark Rozzi as House Speaker late in the day. As of late Friday, GOP Leader Bryan Cutler had provided proposed rule changes to Democratic Leader Joanna McClinton and negotiation continues. [Spotlight PA provides more detail on the Speaker vote and discussion of rules.](#)

A vote on any rules proposal is likely postponed due to Governor Wolf's call for a Special Session to consider a constitutional amendment allowing adult victims of child sexual abuse a window of time to sue perpetrators and institutions that shielded them. While GOP leaders quickly pushed back on the need for a Special Session, Speaker Rozzi announced three days of House Special Session, January 9, 10, and 11. From what we can tell, no other legislative work is permitted until the Special Session is completed. Spotlight PA also provides [more detail on that story.](#)

As representatives wait for a vote on rules, [consider contacting your own representative](#) with a message of support for rules that enhance bipartisan discussion and include a promise of a vote for bills with bipartisan support. Also remind them to ask for at least 24 hours to review any rules proposal. We know representatives on both sides of the aisle are not happy at how quickly the Speaker vote unfolded. Ask them to insist on time for consideration before the vote on rules takes place.

This will be a legislative session like no other. In Harrisburg, as in Washington, divided government could open the door to more collaboration or could set the stage for greater gridlock. Solutions are possible, but they won't happen without strong public pressure for a functional legislative process that allows for the broad majority of voters' voices to be heard.

Carol Kuniholm

Membership

We need your support to continue the work of the League of Women Voters. You are welcome to send in your \$75 annual dues for fiscal year 2022/2023 by using PayPal on our website www.lwvccpa.org or mail your check to LWVCC, PO Box 62, Exton PA 19341. Thank you if your dues are up to date.

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 user, find us, like us, comment, like and share posts! Thanks for your help!

The Voter Needs You Too!

I have been putting the Voter together for a few months now. Most of what you see is sent to me by members or is information I have picked up from trusted sites that are connected with the League. If you are on a committee, please send me a report of your activities. Or, if you happen to find information that is pertinent to our mission, send it along. Also, everyone can attend board meetings and I have been making them available virtually to encourage the general membership to attend and be aware of League activities and decisions. Please consider attending the upcoming planning meeting either in person or on Zoom. Your input and energy would be greatly appreciated.

Elaine Friedlander