



The LOCAL VOTER
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA

MAY 2007

Syracuse Metro LWV
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 Syracuse NY 13218
 (507 Plum St -2nd Fl. Syr. 13204)
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Web Sites:
 Local: www.lwvsyr.org
 State: www.lwvny.org
 National: www.lwv.org

Memorial Day - May 28th



Flag Day - June 14th

UPCOMING LEAGUE EVENTS
May 18 -20
 LWVNY Convention
June 9th
 Duck Race
June 14th
 LWV Annual Meeting
Sept. 6
 Onondaga Lake Partnership Mtg.

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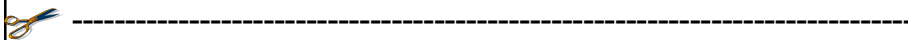
SYRACUSE METRO LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2007
Dinner starts at 6:00 PM
Registration 5:45 PM
JUSTIN'S GRILL
6400 YORKTOWNE CIRCLE, EAST SYRACUSE



Guest Speakers: County Legislator Jim Farrell
Citizen Activist Sarah McIlvain

What does the future hold for our community ? How can we build on our strengths and develop our potential for a sustainable 21st Century? Is government modernization part of the process?

Call 448-7199 or mail this form with your check to:
Syracuse Metro LWV, PO Box 11866, Syracuse NY 13218



Name _____

Address _____ **Phone** _____

___ **Number of Reservations at \$24.00 -Entrée Choices:**

___ **Angus Top Round of Beef** ___ **Chicken Breast Florentine**
 ___ **Vegetarian Lasagna**

Dinner includes salad, vegetable, starch, dessert, coffee/tea
The dinner and program are open to the public. Bring a friend.

Reservation deadline: June 7

BOARD NOTES

We welcome new members

Dale Sweetland –Fabius
Donald Goulet– Syracuse
Mary Lucas - Syracuse
Kimberly Scott-Lafayette

We say good-bye to **Barbara Balisado**, who is moving to North Carolina.

Reception in Memory of Jean Hoefer

Friends of former League Member, **Jean Hoefer** are invited to attend a reception at May Memorial Unitarian Society, 3800 East Genesee St. Syracuse, on Sunday, May 20th at 1:30 pm. The reception will follow the interment of her ashes in the Memorial Garden at May Memorial.

A REMINDER - Membership renewal letters will soon be in the mail. Please continue to support the League by renewing your membership promptly.

Patterns of Government in Onondaga County, Structure and Services of County, City, Town and Village Government is now available in hard copy. Limited copies are available. To receive your free copy, please send a check for \$2.50 to handle shipping charges. For more information call the League office at 448-7199.



Naturalization Ceremonies

Volunteers are still needed to register new citizens. If you have not participated in this League activity, please consider offering a few hours of your time to help us out. The new citizen ceremonies are held at the Federal and State Court Houses. You will find the ceremony inspiring as new citizens from around the world are grateful to call the United States their new home.

For more details please contact **Susan Bush** at the YWCA - 424-0040.

- June 28 - 2pm County Court House, Room 400
- Aug. 16 - 2pm County Court House, Room 400
- Sept. 20 - 11am Federal Bldg. Ceremonial Court
- Sept. 20 - 2pm County Court House, Room 400
- Oct. 18 - 2pm County Court House, Room 400
- Oct. 25 - 11am Federal Bldg. Ceremonial Court
- Nov. 8 - 11am Federal Bldg. Court Room 5
- Dec. 13 - 2pm County Court House, Room 400

Officers

President....	Roberta Millert
Vice-President	Janet Mallan
Treasurer....	J. Arthur Johnson
Secretary....	Mary Lou Green

Directors

Advocacy....	Joan Johnson
Fund-Raising...	Open
Membership....	Janet Mallan
Public Relations...	Holly Hoehner
Local Advocacy	Lenore Rapalski
Voter Service....	Joan Durant
At-Large	Adam Bushey
At-Large.....	Elizabeth Nicoletti
Program....	Open

Off-Board Positions

Budget Director....	Rhonda Hungerford
Nominating Committee.....	Debra Merryweather
	Mary Lou Green
	Barbara Olum
	Joan Johnson
	Eleanor Feitler

Lake Partnership....	Reginald Durant
Optical Scan Liaison...	Lenore Rapalski
Newsletter.....	Roberta Millert
	Joan Johnson

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information please call the League office at (315) 448-7199 or e-mail to info@lwvsyr.org

Diversity Statement

The Syracuse Metropolitan League of Women Voters is committed to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any League activity on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, or national origin.

We look forward to reader participation and invite your questions regarding issues and columns. Kindly mail your queries to the office or e-mail to info@lwvsyr.org

Please let us know your email address.

- It is the most efficient way to communicate
 - You will be notified of upcoming local events
 - LWV National & State Action Alerts
- Your e-mail address will not be shared or sold.
sold.ganization. Please respond to info@lwvsyr.org

Message from the President

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It has been my privilege to serve as President and represent the League these last two years. My term will soon be ending and I would like to thank the Board of Directors, and Committee members for all your help and support. Your hard work and commitment to the League made my term a rewarding experience.

Our annual meeting will be June 14th at Justin's Restaurant. We will be voting on a new budget, officers, directors, program and amending our by-laws. Details on each of these items are in this issue. The guest speakers for the Program portion of our meeting will be County Legislator Jim Farrell and Citizen Activist Sarah McIlvain. They will be speaking on our community's future in the 21st Century and if government modernization can play a roll in our development. I hope you can join us. It will be an enjoyable evening with good food, and conversation.

As a member of the League of Women Voters you should be proud of belonging to a highly respected organization. Whenever I am out in our community, I am always encouraged by the high praise people have for the League and its work. For those members who have not been active in the League but would like to be, the new President and Board of Directors would like to hear from you. Your involvement is needed to help the League achieve its goal to Make Democracy Work!

Sincerely,

Roberta Millert

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 18th - 20th	LWVNY Convention - White Plains
May 18th - 19th	Onondaga Citizens League - Downtown Living Tour & Preview Party - Information (315)443-4846
June 9th - 12 Noon - 4:00PM Syracuse Inner Harbor	Duck Race to End Racism Information: (315)449-3552
June 14th - 6:00 PM Justin's Grill	Annual Business Meeting & Election of League Officers - Program: What the Future Holds for Onondaga County
Sept 6th - 5:00 PM Location- TBA	Fall Kick-off Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner Onondaga Lake Partnership

NOTICE
WE NOW HAVE LEAGUE T-SHIRTS
HELP US PROMOTE THE LEAGUE AND ENCOURAGE CITIZENS TO VOTE
CALL THE OFFICE AT 448-7199 FOR DETAILS

Syracuse LWV 2007-2008 Proposed Budget

INCOME		Amended 2006-2007	Actual (Est.) 2006-2007	Proposed 2007-2008
A. Dues	1. Individuals(\$50)	\$2,700	\$2,400	\$2,650
	2. Household(\$65)	\$975	\$1,040	\$1,690
	3. Friend/Sustainer	<u>\$550</u>	<u>\$520</u>	<u>\$520</u>
	Subtotal	\$4,225	\$3,960	\$4,860
B. Contributions	1. Member	\$2,260	\$1,440	\$1,700
	2. Nonmember	\$480	\$170	\$380
	3. Business	<u>\$1,150</u>	<u>\$700</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
	Subtotal	\$3,890	\$2,310	\$3,080
C. Elections	1. Election Reporting	\$250	\$360	\$360
	2. Individuals	\$0	\$0	\$0
	3. Monitoring Elections	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$350</u>	<u>\$350</u>
	Subtotal	\$750	\$710	\$710
D. Fundraising		\$2,495	\$1,400	\$1,400
E. Reimbursements		\$300	\$300	\$0
F. Fair Campaign Practice Committee		\$300	\$200	\$0
G. From Reserve	1. NY Education Fund	\$1,000	\$1,780	\$580
	2. JMS Savings	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$500</u>
	Subtotal	\$1,000	\$1,780	\$1,080
H. Grants		\$750	\$1,810	\$1,000
TOTAL INCOME		\$13,710	\$12,470	\$12,130

EXPENSES		Amended 2006-2007	Actual (Est.) 2006-2007	Proposed 2007-2008
A. Operating Costs	1. Equipment Maintenance	\$200	\$0	\$0
	2. General Supplies	\$620	\$605	\$420
	3. Postage	\$430	\$160	\$150
	4. Telephone	\$240	\$250	\$0
	5. Rent	\$2,050	\$2,350	\$600
	6. Capital Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
	7. Insurance Liability	\$330	\$350	\$350
	8. Moving	<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
	Subtotal	\$3,970	\$3,715	\$1,520
B. Board and Admin.	1. President	\$100	\$100	\$100
	2. Board Tools	\$50	\$0	\$50
	3. Finance Drive & Fundraiser	\$500	\$40	\$400
	4. Membership	\$200	\$0	\$1,000
	5. Public Relations	<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$400</u>
	Subtotal	\$950	\$140	\$1,950
C. Delegates - State/Natl. Conventions		\$500	\$500	\$500
D. Per Member Payment	1. National LWV	\$2,570	\$2,570	\$2,115
	2. State LWV	<u>\$1,860</u>	<u>\$1,860</u>	<u>\$1,655</u>
	Subtotal	\$4,430	\$4,430	\$3,770
E. Local Voter	1. Supplies	\$930	\$860	\$790
	2. Postage	<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$460</u>	<u>\$450</u>
	Subtotal	\$1,330	\$1,320	\$1,240
F. Educational Activities	1. Publications	\$100	\$50	\$150
	2. Program	\$300	\$225	\$1,000
	3. Who'sWho	\$200	\$160	\$180
	4. Election Guide	\$200	\$100	\$120
	5. Law Day	\$630	\$930	\$900
	6. Fair Campaign Practices	\$300	\$90	\$300
	7. Other	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$500</u>
	Subtotal	\$1,730	\$1,555	\$3,150
G. To Reserves		\$800	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$13,710	\$11,660	\$12,130

BYLAWS

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA

(Proposed Bylaw Amendments)*

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League, (four elected Directors and not more than four appointed Directors) ***up to four but not less than three elected directors and up to four appointed directors. The number of elected directors shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee.*** (Two) The elected Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint, such additional Directors, not exceeding four, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 3 Enumeration and Election of Officers The officers of the LWVSMA shall be a President, (a Vice President), ***a first vice-president, with up to but no more than three additional vice-presidents, and a treasurer, and a secretary or a combined position of treasurer/secretary. The number of vice-presidents, and whether the offices of a secretary and treasurer shall be combined shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee.*** (who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately) The officers shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately. The President and Secretary shall be elected in the same year. The Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected in the same year.

*Deletions in parenthesis, additions bold and italicized

Justification: proposed changes correspond with LWVNYs Bylaws

LOCAL PROGRAM – 2007 -2008 (proposed)

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK.

- Promote greater citizen participation in the political process by encouraging citizens to become knowledgeable about the issues and to actively lobby elected officials.
- Encourage participation in campaigns and running for office.
- Encourage individuals to exercise their right to vote.
- Continue the project to increase voter participation in low-turnout neighborhoods within the city of Syracuse.
- Continue the project to increase voter participation among youth.
- Establish action projects for members to accompany monthly themes at meetings.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT. Program item:

- Study and support, where appropriate, legislation which promotes the sharing of government services among *villages*,* towns, public schools, the city of Syracuse and Onondaga County.

SOCIAL POLICY. Program items:

- Monitor the settlement of the CFE lawsuit and its implications for upstate school districts and the Big 5 Districts.
- Promote educational efforts dealing with domestic violence and the Integrated Domestic Violence Court in Onondaga County.
- Promote opposition to the Death Penalty in support of the new LWVNY position.
- *Promote measures to meet housing needs for citizens of all income levels, with incentives to localities as necessary.**

NATURAL RESOURCES.

- Support efforts of the Onondaga Partnership to facilitate improvement projects for the lake and its watershed *including the development of the inner harbor**
- *Support efforts to contain sprawl with planned growth throughout Onondaga County**

LOCAL ASPECTS OF STATEWIDE ISSUES/STUDIES.

- Promote HAVA reforms; including elimination of the full face ballot; improved training for poll workers; advocacy for optical scan machines; and citizen education and training for replacement machines.
- Promote meaningful lobby reform.
- Promote and encourage further NYS budget process reform.
- Promote and encourage meaningful campaign finance reform.
- Promote the creation of an independent redistricting commission
- Promote the creation of an independent ethics commission.
- Promote meaningful reform of public authorities.
- Promote additional legislative rules reform
- Promote changes to the selection process for constitutional convention delegates.

* *Proposed additions*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
2007-2008**

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING:

President	Joan Johnson	2 year term
2 nd Vice President	Mary Lou Green	2 year term (Membership)
3 rd Vice President	Gwen Grant	1 year term (Public Relations)
Secretary	Vacant*	2 year term

CONTINUING OFFICERS:

1st Vice President	Janet Mallan	1 year term
Treasurer	J. Arthur Johnson	1 year term

DIRECTORS TO BE ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING:

Advocacy & Issues	Lenore Rapalski	2 year term
Fundraising	Elizabeth Nicoletti	1 year term (to fill vacancy)
Voter Service	Susan Bush	2 year term

DIRECTORS RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT:

Publications	Vacant*
Program	Vacant*

OFF BOARD POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING:

Budget Director	Rhonda Hungerford	2 year term
Onondaga Lake Partnership	Reg Durant	2 year term
Nominating Committee:	Barbara Olum	1 year term
	Eleanor Feitler	2 year term
	Roberta Millert, Chair	3 year term

(Two sitting board members will be appointed by the President to the Nominations Committee)

*There are several positions that have not been filled. Many have offered to help but do not want to head these committees. Please consider what you can do to ensure the League continues to be a voice for citizens as it has for the past 87 years.

Respectfully submitted by Nominating Committee:

Debra Merryweather, Barbara Olum, Mary Lou Green, Eleanor Feitler, Joan Johnson

League of Women Voters
Membership Application
Democracy is not a spectator sport
It's efficient activism

It is a way to make your voice count
It is a way to make politics a process for the people

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Work Phone _____ E-mail _____

___ *Individual Level....\$50*

___ *Household Level*...\$65*

___ *Student Level **....\$25*

Please make check payable to:
Syracuse Metro Area League of Women Voters
P O Box 11866
Syracuse, NY 13218

* *Two members in the same household*

** *Full time student under 25*

For more information call us at (315) 448-7199 or visit us at www.lwvsyr.org



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SYRACUSE METRO AREA
PO Box 11866
SYRACUSE, NY 13218

**Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
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MAY 2007

*Annual Meeting
June 14, 2007*