



VOTER

League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County

May-June 2019

LWV-CDC Officers 2019-2020

- Barbara Amstutz President
(215) 764-0468
- Marita Green 1st V. Pres.
(610) 724-1376
- Jane Brennan 2nd V.Pres.
(610) 353-4757
- Becky Caracappa Secretary
(610) 353-1677
- Carol Smallwood Treasurer
(610) 565-2512

Board Members

- Patricia Cimino
(610) 328-1375
- Viola Crawford
(610) 497-1551
- Kate deRiel
(610) 446-8383
- Joyce Ellis
(610) 566-8674
- Rose Marie Lord
(610) 544-7648
- Denyse McCurdy
(610) 529-6128
- Anne Mosakowski
(610) 558-4924
- Joanna Nealon
(610) 543-6647
- Dora Preston
(610) 348-6347
- Gloria Rabinowitz
(610) 565-0146
- Olivia Thorne
(610) 566-5474
- Cathy Yungmann
(610) 853-2765

Voter Editor

- Jodine Mayberry
(610) 299-2838

County Holds Voting Machine Expo June 6

If you want to see the five certified paper ballot machines Delaware County is considering buying to replace the touchscreen machines we now use, come out to the voting machine expo sponsored by the Delaware County Election Bureau being held at the Aston Community Center, 3270 Concord Rd. Aston from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 6.



Paper ballot fed into a scanner

It's free and open to the public. The county is buying new machines that will count and save paper ballots as well as a smaller number of ballot marking devices that will allow disabled people to mark their ballots on a screen and

print them out for scanning and counting.

These low-tech systems should not be hackable at any point and should

allow for recounts and audits of ballots in the event of a dispute or tie.

Vendors will have the machines set up and will be ready to demonstrate their versions and answer questions.

The LWV-CDC has been advocating for a paper ballot system for two years. The League would like to see it up and running for the November election, but we are told it likely will not be operational until the May 2020 primary election.

See a report on the LWV-CDC annual meeting, P. 4



President's Message

With the summer approaching, the League's Centennial and the National elections in 2020, it's exciting to look ahead towards the future with LWV-CDC. We are already beginning to work on the 2019-2020 event planning and your ideas for speakers and topics are always welcome.

Currently, Pennsylvania is starting the process of replacing its voting machines pursuant to a mandate from Governor Tom Wolfe. Delaware County's current equipment is aging, totally electronic and susceptible to hacking. Recently, at the Election Board meeting on March 20, election board officials, employees and the public had an opportunity to discuss the upcoming upgrade in voting equipment. LWV-CDC provided testimony on the importance of selecting a paper ballot counted by an optical scanner plus one ballot marking device per precinct for accessibility needs.

On June 6, 2019, 4 p.m.-7 p.m., at the Aston Community Center, Delaware County is holding an exposition for the public to evaluate the different equipment technologies being considered by the Election Board. We encourage you to attend for a first-hand look at the different types of equipment. We are continuing to work closely with the Election Board and County Council to voice our position on the best voting system, training for poll workers and timing of implementation. It is unclear whether new machines will be ready for November 2019 elections or whether the new machines will be implemented in 2020.

We held our last Hot Topic Luncheon of the season on Friday, May 10. Our speaker was Kevin Skoglund from Citizens for Better Elections. He is an excellent speaker who provides thoughtful, evidence-based arguments for selection of the best voting system. His testimony along with that of LWV-CDC has a major impact on both Delaware County Council and the Election Board's thinking about choice of the preferred voting technology.

Stay tuned for further information about our 100th Birthday of the LWV throughout the remainder of this year and into 2020. There are exciting centennial events being planned locally and throughout the state. I hope you will join us to celebrate the League's impressive legacy and its vibrant future.

Have a fabulous summer. We'll see you in September.

Barbara Amstutz

LWV-CDC Gets an Award for Community Service



Congregation Beth Israel awarded LWV-CDC its "Friend of the Community" award for 2019 at a ceremony at the synagogue April 12.

The award is given each year to a person or organization that best meets the congregation's standards for positive, non-partisan contributions to the Delaware County community.

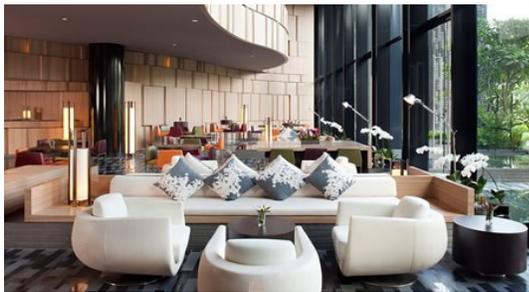
Pictured at left are (from left to right): LWV-CDC Board Member Joanna Nealon, Rabbi Linda Potemken, LWV-CDC President Barbara Amstutz, Beth Israel members Carol Briselli, Reisa Mukamal and LWV-CDC 2nd Vice President Jane Brennan.

State League Biennial Convention June 21-23

The Pennsylvania League of Women Voters 2019 Biennial Convention will be held June 21-23 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Reading, Pa.

If you would like to go and would like to sign up to be a voting delegate please email Barbara Amstutz at swhmdi53bwa@outlook.com or call her at 215-764-0468

LWV-CDC can have up to eight voting delegates



Crowne Plaza Hotel in Reading

who will vote on officers and resolutions presented at the convention, while non-voting attendees can attend plenary sessions, workshops, receptions and dinner.

Attendees will have to opportunity to hear experts in the area of election security, fair funding for schools, climate change, gerrymandering and juvenile justice.

On Friday night Acting Secretary of State Kathy Boockvar will deliver the keynote address at our opening reception.

On Saturday, LWVPA will honor Marjorie Marjories, the first woman elected to Congress in her own right from Pennsylvania, with the Justice Bell Award. Auditor General Eugene DePasquale will address the gathering to discuss election security.

Visit LWVPA to register.

Don't forget to vote in the May 21 Primary Election

Visit Vote411.pa, the LWV online voter guide to learn about statewide candidates in the May 21 Primary Election.

Go to the Delaware County Election Bureau for a list of all candidates in the local, judicial and school board races on each party ballot and to apply for an absentee ballot.

May 14 is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot and

May 17 is the last day to return absentee ballots.

To find your polling place, go to the Pennsylvania Voters Services site. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

There are four seats up for election on the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, three on the Delaware County Council and a race for district attorney, as well as many municipal and school board seats. All registered voters in Middletown, Aldan, Marple and Lansdowne may vote for referenda on the ballots there.

May-June Events Calendar

May 19 (Sunday): Look for the League table at the Swarthmore Rotary Fun Fair. Park Ave., Swarthmore, 12 p.m.— 4 p.m. Volunteers needed. Contact Barbara Amstutz at swhmdi53bwa@outlook.com.

June 6 (Thursday): LWV-CDC Reorganization Meeting: — 10 a.m. Parlor Room, Media Borough Hall 301 N. Jackson St., Media. We are forming new committees and planning local events, including the LWV Centennial next year. All members are welcome.

June 6 (Thursday): Delaware County Voting Machine Expo — 4-7 p.m., Aston Community Center, 3270 Concord Rd. Aston.

June 9 (Sunday): Look for our table at the Media Arts and Crafts Show, State St., Media, 11 a.m.— 4 p.m. Volunteers needed. Contact Anne Mosakowski at amosakowski@gmail.com

June 21-23 (Friday-Sunday): Pennsylvania Biennial Convention, Crown Plaza, Reading, Pa. See article above.

LWV-CDC Annual Meeting

Jill Greene, executive director of the Pennsylvania LWV, was our guest speaker at the 2019 LWV-CDC annual meeting May 8.

The members present unanimously re-elected Jane Brennan 2nd vice president in charge of events and Carol Smallwood as treasurer for two-year terms.

Viola Crawford, Rose Marie Lord, Denyse McCurdy and Gloria Rabinowitz were elected as directors.

In addition, the membership voted unanimously to merge with Haverford LWV and two of their members, Kate DeRiel and Cathy Yungmann, were appointed to the board, along with Joyce Ellis and Olivia Thorne.

No changes were made to the bylaws, but one change and one addition was made to the 2019-2020 local program (which represents LWV-CDC's positions on issues).

By motion of Lora Lavin, the word "reapportionment" was changed to "redistricting" because, as she explained it, reapportionment deals with changes in political subdivisions due to shifting population totals, while redistricting deals with changing geographical boundaries of political districts.

The sentence, "Support election methods at each level of government that encourage participation, are verifiable and auditable and enhance representation of all voters" was added to the program under "voting rights and participation." Lora Lavin explained that this change enables the League to support alternative methods of voting, such as ranked voting, that promote competitive elections, promote access to

voting and maximize effective voting while minimizing wasted votes. Both changes were approved unanimously after much discussion.

Jill Greene reviewed the redistricting litigation that the PALWV joined two years ago that resulted in the state Supreme Court drawing congressional district lines for the 2018 and

2020 elections. That change resulted in the state going from 13 Republican and five Democrat congressmen to nine of each, and from zero women to four women

in the Pennsylvania congressional delegation.

"I tell people, we didn't do that for Democrats, we did that for voters, for the people who had checked out of the system because they felt their vote didn't count," she told the gathering.

Annual meeting booklets are available for anyone who missed the meeting. Contact Barbara Amstutz at swhmdi53bwa@outlook.com.



PALWV Executive Director Jill Greene,

LWV-CDC New Members

The League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County is very pleased to welcome the following new members who joined in 2018-2019:

Jerilyn Young, Alexis Wolson, Blanche White, Judy Wertheimer, Deborah Truscello, Richard Stanton, Karla Schuette Read, Amy Podlesnik, Kathleen Peterson, Mary Peraria-Heinrich, Mary Miller, Rebecca Michael, Barbara

Lappen, Carol Jacobs, Stacey Hogge, Stuart G. Hibben, Catherine Grodzki, Tiffany T. Griffin, June (Ralf) Graves, Marilyn Gilroy, Mary Jo Gilsdorf, Anna M. Everetts, Lois Deutsch, Shelly Chauncey, Mary Carroll, Carol Butler, Cynthia Boyd, Henrietta (Ricki) Biedrzycki, Alexis Beshara, Marilyn Berberich, Wendy Barnes.

With the merger with Haverford LWV, LWV-CDC now has 173 members.