

VOTER

League of Women
Voters of Indiana
County, Pennsylvania



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LWVIC Board of Directors, 2016-17

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LWVIC Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 9

5:00 pm Dinner & Presentation of Peggy Clark
Environmental Awards

6:00 Business Meeting & Election of Officers & Directors

7:00 pm Program—Stanley Chepaitis & Sid Reger, Fair Districts
Park Inn, 1395 Wayne Avenue, Indiana

Cost: \$30

Guests are welcome; **RSVP is required for both the dinner and the program**

RSVP by May 1 to Sandy Whitson

email to swhitson8@comcast.net; phone 724-463-7205; or with payment (check made out to LWVIC) to 402 Elm Street, Indiana, PA 15701 or pay at the door

Following is the local program which will be voted on at the business meeting:

The **Voter Services Committee** will publish Voters' Guides, coordinate nonpartisan voter registration events, hold candidate's nights, provide membership updates on legislation related to voting and elections, and provide education on redistricting.

The **Environmental Issues Committee** will continue to explore resources relating to energy, economics, ethics, and public health. They will continue to partner with the County and other organizations to do outreach and education, with the goal of implementing recommendations to develop local jobs using sustainable energy sources. The committee will learn more about plastics, their health and environmental impact, strategies for dealing with plastic disposal, and environmentally safer alternatives to plastic through public education programs and materials. The group continues to benefit from collaboration with the Straight Scoop on Shale project, a Pittsburgh-based League initiative which monitors new legislation and research on the effects of drilling for unconventional natural gas, with special emphasis on health effects.

The **Child Advocacy Committee on Education** will monitor emerging issues, activities, and policies related to the welfare of children in Indiana County. This committee will advocate for public policy based on established positions and will promote annual events designed to educate and improve the quality of life for children.

The **Civic Participation Committee** will continue working through education and advocacy to increase diversity in elected and appointed officials, raise awareness of the duties of elected officials to those considering public service, and encourage attendance at public meetings to ensure that government agencies are fulfilling their responsibility to be transparent and accountable to the citizenry.

Additional program items can be suggested from the floor.

**League of Women Voters of Indiana County Budget
July 1, 2018 — June 30, 2019**

I. INCOME	
A. Dues 61 members @ \$55	\$ 3355.00
9 family memberships	247.50
B. Contributions	462.50
C. Projects/ Other Sources	2500.00
 TOTAL INCOME	 \$6565.00
 II. EXPENDITURES	
A. General Administration	
1. President	\$ 20.00
2. Board Tools/Expenses	100.00
3. Administrative Committees	
a. Membership/Activities	100.00
b. Publicity/External Communications	200.00
4. Operating Costs	
a. General Supplies	50.00
b. Insurance	75.00
c. Web Page	150.00
B. Delegates/Travel/Affiliations	
1. State/National Conventions	500.00
2. Workshops	100.00
3. Annual Meeting (Local)	200.00
4. Board Planning	100.00
C. Financial Support	
1. National \$31/ member	2170.00
2. State \$20/member	1400.00
D. Program and Activities	
1. LWVIC Activities	100.00
2. Bulletin	100.00
3. Action/Legislative Interviews	50.00
E. Committees	
1. Environmental Issues	200.00
2. Education	400.00
3. Voter Services	200.00
F. Misc.	50.00
G. Awards	150.00
H. Fundraising	150.00
 TOTAL EXPENSES	 \$6565.00

**Report from the
2017-18
Nominating Committee**

The slate of nominees for two year terms beginning July 1, 2018:

Vice President: Cindy Rogers

Treasurer: Ellen Chinn

Board Member: Laurie LaFontaine, Kay Smith, Sandy Whitson

Additional nominations will be taken from the floor. Please consider nominating yourself or a League friend for a board position this year.

Attention LWVIC members—If you are interested in becoming a board member or running for an officer position, please contact the nominating committee (Beth Marshall, Susan McClure, Kay Snyder). In addition, 1 year appointments to the board are available for interested members who would like to become more involved on a short term basis.

Serving on the board is a rewarding experience and a great way to contribute to the creation of a fair, vibrant, and strong community. League is an ever-present and trusted source of nonbiased, highly researched information and an organization that brings civility and respect to the political process. Help us keep it strong and effective.

GARAGE SALE TO BE HELD MAY 5 & 6

We are once again holding our Annual Garage Sale fundraiser at Mack Park this year. We are sharing space and resources with the Humane Society's *Dawg Gone Flea Market*. The dates are **Saturday, May 5 from 8:00 am-4:00 pm** and **Sunday, May 6 from 12:00-4:00 pm** (which will be the \$5 bag sale).

We will need to borrow tables and clothes racks, which will be returned after the sale (or not if you want to donate them), so if you have card tables or any other kind of folding tables, or clothes racks, please bring them to the Mack Park location on April 27 or contact Ellen Chinn at ellenchinn371@hotmail.com or 724-388-1412 and pick up will be arranged.

We will be accepting donations **April 27 & 28 and May 1, 2, & 3 from 9:00 am-noon** at the Mack Park location near the grandstands. We will accept almost anything: nicer, gently used clothes, books, CDs, DVDs, tools, household items, sheets, blankets, towels, curtains, shoes, small electronics and appliances (if they work and have all necessary cables/cords), baskets, craft supplies, jewelry, stationery, toys, children's stuff, and whatever else you have that you think might sell. If you have trouble getting to the fairgrounds during these times, please let Ellen Chinn know, and she will arrange for pick up.

During the drop-off times, we will need volunteers to help sort and price items. We also need people to work the sale on Saturday and Sunday. Please contact Olga Platt at 724-465-2073 or epop325@comcast.net to volunteer.

Please help in whatever way you can. This is our only major fundraiser of the year, so go through your belongings, spring clean, downsize, organize, and donate. Don't forget to hit up friends and neighbors, relatives and organizations. And, of course, volunteer if you are able. Thank you in advance for making this a successful cooperative venture.

Revive Civility—Join the League for an Evening of Conversation

On **Wednesday, April 25**, people in Indiana County will sit down together to help bridge the divides that are threatening the fabric of our country. We hope you'll be a part of that conversation.

In partnership with the National Institute of Civil Discourse (<https://nicd.arizona.edu/>) and in conjunction with the National Week of Conversation, the League of Women Voters of Indiana County is holding an evening of conversation that is free and open to the public. Our conversations will focus on bridging the gaps that divide us from one another and hamper the functioning of democracy.

Our goal is to revive civility (#ReviveCivility) by engaging in respectful conversation about the future of our nation. We seek to learn from each other, build relationships, and look for ways to reduce the growing polarization in our public life by both talking and, perhaps more importantly, listening.

On **April 25, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm** at **Oak Place Community Center** (1055 Oak Street), **interested individuals will gather in small groups of three or four people and discuss not only what we appreciate about living in the United States but what we can do to revive civility and respect in our public lives.**

For more information and to RSVP, please contact lwvindianacounty@gmail.com.

This is a unique opportunity, and we hope that you will take this chance to take a stand for civility and respect in public discourse. In good conversation, there is hope for bridging the divides that threaten the fabric of America.

A newsletter of the
League of Women Voters
of Indiana County,
Pennsylvania

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CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, April 16—Last day to register for the Primary

Monday, April 16—Reclaiming Our Democracy: Rally to End Gerrymandering, Fair Districts PA, (for more information see <https://www.fairdistrictspa.com/events/2018/04/16/reclaiming-our-democracy-rally>)

Wednesday, May 25—An Evening of Conversation in conjunction with #ReviveCivility (see page 3 for details)

Saturday, May 5 & Sunday, May 6—Annual Garage Sale, Mack Park (see page 3 for details)

Tuesday, May 8—Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot

Wednesday, May 9, 5:00 pm dinner, 7:00 pm program—Annual Meeting, Park Inn (1395 Wayne Avenue, Indiana) (see page 1 for details)

Tuesday, May 15—Primary Election

Know someone who may be interested in membership? Let President Vicki Stelma know at 724-599-9225, and she will send a brochure & short letter describing LWVIC's activities.

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.