



The Broome-Tioga Voter

Bulletin of the *League of Women Voters of Broome & Tioga Counties*

www.lwv-broometioga.org

lwvmyers@stny.rr.org

Volume 61, Number 8

July/August 2009

**League of Women Voters of
Broome & Tioga Counties**
P.O. Box 944, Vestal, NY 13851-
0944

President

Clare Simeone 775-0035
csimeone@stny.rr.com

1st Vice-Pres./Ed. Finance

Carol Oestrich 797-0026
coestrich@aol.com

2nd Vice-Pres./Program

Raney Colvill 722-0862
rcolvill@juno.com

Secretary

Joanne Gee 775-4856
raygee@echoes.net

Treasurer

Alice Brooks 754-8277
fbrooksjr@stny.rr.com

Voter Service

Sara Wokan 785-6703
riskalark@yahoo.com

Membership

Eva Anderson 775-2325
daveva345@aol.com

VOTER Editor/Website Mgr.

Sue Garing 775-5041
rgrajewski@verizon.net

Tioga Liaison

Jane Ebert 785-0323
wsebert@yahoo.com

Public Relations

Isi Trapper 723-3410
isitrap@hotmail.com

Carol Carpenter 748-3810
cbc7773@yahoo.com

Election Reform

Jane Park 748-4192
janepark@stny.rr.com



Fran Garside Award Winner, Rachel Cornick (second left) stands next to Fran Garside's daughter (left first) and Carol Carpenter, LWV Fran Garside Award Committee Chair. Front row: Eva Anderson and Ruth Levy.



(left) Brenda Cave-James, Guest Speaker, The Underground Rail Road in the Southern Tier at the 2009 Annual Meeting

President's Message

Sara and Karl Wokan, Joanne Gee, and Clare Simeone attended the Convention as delegates representing Broome and Tioga Counties; Anne Taft served as a delegate for Oneonta. We enjoyed the hotel, the food, a one woman show and the humor of Jay Gallagher.

The PMP was not raised but the State Board is seeking other ways to finance its budget. The Silent Auction and Raffle brought in \$5,000.

The 3 changes in the NYS League's by-laws were all in grammar and not in content.

We now have a regional director to help answer our questions or calls for help. Instead of calling Stephanie we call JoAnn Ross at 716-631-9351 or email jross18@roadrunner.com.

The delegates voted to adapt the study of Local Government Consolidation and decided that two years were necessary because they believe that more time will be needed to explore all the aspects of this complex issue as it relates to the needs of Broome and Tioga Counties. Time is needed to also formulate clear and specific questions and the opportunity to discuss them.

We heard John Clarkson, Executive Director of the Commission of Local Government and Competitiveness, also known as the Lundine commission, speak on local government consolidation, modernization and shared services. Most of his Power Point presentation featured topics were covered in the presentation made by members of our local state comptrollers office in 2006 along with some new topics. We did not get copies of the Lundine Report but a copy may be obtained from the State Comptrollers website – osc.state.ny.us.

All five of us attended a caucus on Local Government Consolidation Proposal, presented by Mr. Vito Sciscioli, Executive Director of Syracuse 20/20. His dynamic presentation covered issues very similar to what we have in Broome County. He shared his website address www.Syracuse.20/20.org; email Syracuse20/20@yahoo.com; phone 315-423-7832. He showed a great deal of knowledge and personal experience on the topic and checking this website will be well worth the

time for anyone doing the study.

An action motion was made on a position that LWVUS and LWVNYS already support, but the wording of the HealthCare Reform position was changed when the words "single payer" was dropped from the Legislative Priorities Brochure of both Leagues. The action motion requested that the term "single payer" be kept in our position statement in both the National and State Positions levels. After the motion was read, and after some deliberation between Barbara Bartolletti and Betsey Swan, the motion was voted on and approved.

Clare Simeone, President

NPV National Results

Two criteria were established for a successful consensus study. The requirement for participation by 1/3 of local Leagues was met with participation by 390 of 766 Leagues (51% of local Leagues). While the second criterion, requiring 2/3 of participating Leagues to achieve consensus on the use of the National Popular Vote (NPV) Compact, was not achieved, the consensus elicited very strong support for the NPV Compact (about 50% of responding Leagues in favor). However the remaining 50% were split almost equally between not favoring the NPV Compact or not being able to reach consensus. Comments from many Leagues reflected: (1) concerns about bias in the questions (about half the Leagues complained about the questions or bias, primarily bias against the NPV Compact), (2) the misunderstanding that a choice had to be made between advocating for abolition of the electoral college OR supporting the NPV Compact, and (3) statements which seemed to contradict a given League's responses to the questions.

Based on an analysis of the responses to the questions and the comments offered, the NPV Compact Committee and Program Planning Committee recommend that the LWVUS continue to examine opportunities to achieve the goal of direct election of the president in addition to the unlikely opportunity of abolishing the Electoral College by constitutional amendment. Options could include examination of other plans similar to the NPV Compact, proposing a concurrence at Convention 2010 on the NPV Compact, or continued examination of the NPV Compact itself. The committees also discussed an option for an extension to the study to take a direct online sur-

vey of members who attended consensus meetings with a question up or down on the NPV Compact.

In considering the experience of this "quick" study, the committees recommend that:

1. If we do a "quick" study again, then we should carefully reconsider the process to achieve maximum member understanding of the issue(s).
2. Any consensus questions for any study be tested, before approval by the Board, for understandability, suitability and non-bias by League members who are not part of the study committee, the staff, or the Board.
3. A task force be formed to examine the study and consensus process.

In conclusion, the committees recommend a statement of our position based on the consensus reports from local Leagues: "The LWVUS affirms its support for the direct election of the president and abolition of the Electoral College, but the LWVUS has no position on the National Popular Vote Compact as currently proposed."

The National Board amended the recommendation as follows: "The LWVUS affirms its support of the direct election of the president and abolition of the Electoral College, but the LWVUS has no position on the National Popular Vote Compact as studied in 2008-2009."

From the LWVUS Website and the President's Message of May 21.

Jane Park

Voter Registration/ Membership Report

A special thank you to Doris Lawton for spending the day reviewing the material available for use with Voter Registration and League Membership recruitment. She also cleared the files and helped me to organize the information. We assembled appropriate materials for our Juneteenth Booth.

Thank you to Richard Paden for volunteering to be our League contact for this event. The event celebrates diversity and community unity. It is an annual festival, held on June 12 and 13, and commemorates the end of slavery.

Dick has attended several planning meetings and lined up coverage for the event. The League's outreach and inclusion was very positive and well received at the event.

I have made preliminary contact with Sam's Club hoping to work a Saturday in August to register voters.

I attended the NYS LWV convention in Syracuse in May and have several ideas. Several programs are available and many are ready to be presented with very little "tweaking". One is "Take me to Vote" a program targeting 5th graders (and their parents) to encourage the parents to register and take the child into the voting booth with them to watch them vote. We're looking for committee volunteers. Interest?? Please call 785-6703.

Sara Wokan

Member News

A sincere welcome to the following new members who joined the LWV of Broome and Tioga Counties this year:

Karen Bromley, Vestal
Glenna Wickline, Candor
Mary Carter, Endicott
Claire Horn, Endwell
Barry Klipsch, Vestal
Evalyn Howell, Johnson City

As a way to get acquainted with other members, we encourage you to join a committee that deals with a League issue of interest to you. This is a wonderful way to make new friends and takes very little of your time. We also hope that you attend our meetings - another good way to become acquainted with other League members.

Eva Anderson, Membership

Natural Resources Committee

The Natural Resources acommittee of the League of Women Voters of Broome and Tioga Counties has been inactive for a few years. Considering what is going on in our community and the world in the environmental area, it seems a good time to reactivate the committee. If you would be interested in serving, please contact: Mary Johnson

607.797.3225 or mjohnson23@stny.rr.com

**OFFICIAL 2009 POLITICAL CALENDAR
COMPILED BY THE NYS BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

- Sept. 18 Last day to decline, after acceptance, if independent nominee loses party primary. Certificate of substitution shall be filed as soon as practicable. Sec. 6-158(11)
- Sept. 22 Last day to file a certificate of nomination made at a town or village caucus or by a party committee. Sec. 6-158(6)
- Sept. 22 Last day to file certificates of party nomination to fill vacancies created pursuant to Sec. 6-116, 6-158(6)
- Sept. 22-28 Dates for holding judicial district nominating conventions. Sec. 6-158(5)
- Sept. 25 Last day to accept or decline a party nomination. Sec. 6-158(7)
- Sept. 25 Last day to file 10 day post-primary financial disclosure report. 9 NYCRR 6200.2(a)
- Sept. 25 Last day to initiate court proceedings challenging primary election results. Sec. 16-102
- Sept. 28 Last day to file authorization of nomination. Sec. 6-120, 1-106
- Sept. 28 **Last day for State Board of Elections to certify general election ballot.** Sec. 4-112(1)
- Sept. 29 Last day to file Supreme Court certificates of nomination. Sec. 6-158(6)
- Sept. 29 Last day to fill a vacancy after a declination. Sec. 6-158(8)
- Oct. 2 Last day to decline a Supreme Court nomination. Sec. 6-158(7)
- Oct. 2 Last day to file 32 day pre-general election financial disclosure report. 9 NYCRR 6200.2(a)
- Oct. 6 Last day to fill vacancy created by declination of a Supreme Court nominee. Sec. 6-158(8)
- Oct. 9 **Last day to register in person except, if you have been honorably discharged from military or became a naturalized citizen since Oct. 9 you have until Oct. 23.** Sec. 5-210(4)
- Oct. 9 **Last day to register by mail for the November 3 general election. Form must be received by the board of elections no later than Oct. 14.** Sec. 5-210(3)
- Oct. 14 Any change of address received by this date must be received, processed and entered into records in time for general election. Sec. 5-208(3)
- Oct. 23 Last day to file 11 day pre-general election financial disclosure report. 9 NYCRR 6200.2(a)
- Oct. 23 Last day to receive application for military ballot from those not previously registered. Sec. 10-106(5)
- Oct. 27 Last day for board of elections to receive application for military ballot if previously registered. Sec. 10-106(5)
- Oct. 27 Last day to postmark application for an absentee ballot. Sec. 8-400(2)(c)
- Nov. 2 Last day to apply in person at the board of elections for an absentee ballot. Sec. 8-400(2)(c)
- Nov. 2 Last day to postmark absentee or military ballot. Non-military ballots received by Nov. 10 and military ballots received by Nov. 16 shall be cast and counted. Sec. 8-412(1), 10-114(1)
- Nov. 2 Last day to apply in person for military ballot if previously registered. Sec. 10-106(5)
- Nov. 3 Last day to deliver absentee ballot in person to the board of elections. Sec. 8-412(1)
- Nov. 3 **GENERAL ELECTION. All Polls are open from 6 AM until 9 PM.** Sec. 8-100(2)
- Nov. 3 Last day for county board of elections to receive absentee ballot. Sec. 8-412(1)
- Nov. 10 Last day for county board of elections to receive military ballot. Sec. 10-114(1)
- Nov. 16 Last day for county board of elections to receive military ballot. Sec. 10-114(1)
- Nov. 30 Last day to file 27 day post-general election financial disclosure report. 9 NYCRR 6200.2(a)
- Dec. 15 Last day for State Board of Canvassers to certify general election results. Sec. 9-216



**NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
2009 POLITICAL CALENDAR
For Primary and General Elections**

- May 19- June 9 Dates for holding state committee meeting to nominate candidates for statewide office. Sec. 6-104(6)
- May 26 Last day for State, County and Town party chairs to file a statement of party positions to be filed at the Primary Election. Sec. 2-120
- June 9 First day for holding a town caucus. Sec. 6-108
- June 9 First day for signing designating petitions. Sec. 6-134(4)
- June 30 First day for signing Opportunity To Ballot petitions. Sec. 6-164
- July 7 First day to sign independent nominating petitions. Sec. 6-130(4)
- July 13-16 Dates for filing designating petitions. Sec. 6-130(1)
- July 15 Last day to file periodic financial reports. Sec. 14-102, 14-104 & 9 NYCRR 6200.2(b,c)
- July 20 Last day to authorize designations. Sec. 6-120(3)
- July 20 Last day to accept or decline designation. Sec. 6-158(2)
- July 23 Last day to file Opportunity To Ballot petitions. Sec. 6-158(4)
- July 24 Last day to file certificate of substitution to fill a vacancy created by a declination of a designated candidate. Sec. 6-158(3)
- July 28 Last day to authorize substitution. Sec. 6-120(3)
- July 30 Last day to file an Opportunity To Ballot petition when a substitution has been filed to fill a vacancy created by a declination of a designated candidate. Sec. 6-158(4)
- July 30 Last day to file Article 16 proceeding involving a designating petition, 14 days after the last day to file the petition (an additional 3 business day extension from invalidation date is granted to candidates). Sec. 16-102
- Aug. 10 Last day for State Board of Elections to certify the primary ballot of candidates filing petitions in its office. Sec. 4-110
- Aug. 14 Last day to file 32 day pre-primary financial disclosure report. 9 NYCRR 6200.2(a)
- Aug. 11-18 Dates for filing independent nominating petitions. Sec. 6-158(9)
- Aug. 21 Last day to register in person. Sec. 5-210(3)
- Aug. 21 Last day for a board of elections to receive military application for primary ballot if not previously registered. Sec. 10-106(5)
- Aug. 21 **Last day to postmark applications for primary. Must be received by a board of elections not later than Aug. 26 to be eligible to vote in the Primary Election.** Sec. 5-210(3)
- Aug. 21 Last day to accept / decline independent nomination. Sec. 6-158(11)
- Aug. 24 Last day to fill a vacancy created by a declination of an independent nomination. Sec. 6-158(12)
- Aug. 26 Notices of change of address from registered voters received by August 26 by a county board of elections must be processed and entered in the records in time for the primary. Sec. 5-208(3)
- Sept. 1 Last day to file Article 16 proceeding involving an independent nominating petition, 14 days after the last day to file (an additional 3 business day extension from invalidation date is granted to candidates). Sec. 16-102
- Sept. 4 Last day to file 11 day pre-primary financial disclosure report. 9 NYCRR 6200.2(a)
- Sept. 8 Last day for board of elections to receive military application for primary if previously registered. Sec. 10-106(5)
- Sept. 8 Last day to postmark application for primary absentee ballot. Sec. 8-400(2)(c)
- Sept. 14 Last day for military to apply personally for primary if previously registered. Sec. 10-106(5)
- Sept. 14 Last day to apply in person at the board of elections for an absentee ballot for the primary election. Sec. 8-400(2)(c)
- Sept. 14 Last day to postmark absentee or military ballot for primary. Ballot must be received by board no later than Sept. 22. Sec. 8-412(1)
- Sept. 15 Last day to deliver absentee ballot in person to the board of elections. Sec. 8-412(1)
- Sept. 15 **PRIMARY ELECTION. In New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, and Erie County, polls are open from 6 AM until 9 PM. In remainder of state, polls are open from NOON until 9 PM.** Sec. 8-100(2)

Compliments of
Broome County Board of Elections
Commissioners: Eugene D. Faughnan (R) • John L. Perticone (D)
44 Hawley Street • PO Box 1766 • Binghamton, N.Y. 13902
(607) 778-2172

Identification Statement

The Broome-Tioga Voter is published 9 times a year (January, February, March, April, May, July/August, September, October, and November/December) by the League of Women Voters of Broome & Tioga Counties, 38 Oakridge Drive, Binghamton, NY 13903.

MORE ANNUAL MEETING MEMORIES....



left to right Elsie Wager, LWV member and past LWWNYS President; Clare Simeone, newly elected president; Anne Taft, outgoing co-president and past president

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The League of Women Voters of Broome & Tioga Counties
P.O. Box 944
Vestal, NY 13851-0944
(607)772-4936

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Contents

Presidents Message	2
NPV National Results	2
Voter Registration/Membership Report	3
Member News	3
Natural Resources Committee	3
Political Calendar	4