



The Broome-Tioga Voter

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

www.lww-broometioga.org

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Program Meeting

"The Dynamics of the Marcellus Gas Play Past, Present and Future - From a Reporter's Perspective"

by

Tom Wilber



Tuesday, September 28, 2010

7:00 p.m. refreshments

7:30 Program

Vestal Public Library

Vestal Parkway E., Vestal, NY

Public Welcome

(The library is accessible to people with disabilities.)

President's Message Convention Report

The very first National Convention which Sara Wokan and I attended began with a soul stirring speech by John Lewis, US Congressman of Atlanta and the last survivor of the those who led the Civil Rights movement. Grandson of a sharecropper and son of a farmer, as a boy on trips to the city, he found himself asking why he had to use the restroom that was a long walk away from the one he was standing near. He was told this is the way things are, so don't ask questions, be quiet and don't make "trouble."

As a young man, he chose not to heed the warnings of his family but rather to march with Martin Luther King in the non-violent Civil Rights Movement. He recalled how they endured vicious police dogs, fire hoses, the beatings from police and prison just because they asked questions, spoke up and made "trouble." He reminded us, that before the League existed there were suffragists who did exactly the same thing for about seventy-two years, as they led the first successful, non-violent movement in our country. Many women, through many years, won the vote. His advice to us was to continue asking the controversial questions, be sure they are heard and make "trouble." I am not surprised that Nancy Pelosi calls him the conscience of Congress.

Mary Wilson's speech may have been shorter and a bit calmer, but her parting words left an indelible mark on my memory. Though she is leaving the presidency of the LWVUS, she stated, her commitment to the League will last to the end of her life. The League's values are America's values and the fight for Improved Medicare for All, keeping corporation money out of our elections, safe energy practices as well as others, must go on!

During the 5 days we amended some by-laws (mostly in grammar only). The word Honorary was deleted from the by-law concerning 50-year members. The present day connotation of Honorary means that the person hadn't put in any work or time for the degree being given him (her), but to honor the other accomplishments in his(her) life. Our 50 year members worked hard, in the service of the League, for theirs.

Concurrences which were approved: Marriage Equality to be included within the position on equalities. The National Compact for electing a president was approved in hopes to eventually eliminate the need of an electoral college and represent the choice of the people.

Resolutions approved:

- To lift the travel restrictions for Americans going to Cuba.
- Safe drilling and mining for energy resources (passed without debate).
- Advocate strongly for improved Medicare for All.
- Urged the LWVUS to require emergency action, clean-up, and accountability concerning the Gulf of Mexico disaster.

Resolutions are stronger than directions to the Board, for LWV lobbyists to advocate in Congress.

Sara and I thank our local League for the opportunity to experience a LWV National Convention. We learned a lot and saw an effective president handle a Plenary and enabled over 600 delegates the opportunity to express themselves. We got a flavor of how all the Leagues are the same yet different in their expectations and focus on important issues. Most likely it is because they are listening to the needs of the citizens around them.

Clare Simeone, President

MEMBER NEWS

Please join me in welcoming new member Margaret Goodfellow of Windsor.

Also, William Night of Binghamton and Irma Fattal of Vestal, both of whom came to our League through the League of Women Voters of the United States. We hope that they will join us at our local programs - it is a great way to become acquainted with other members and the mission of the League.

~ Eva Anderson, Membership

September Program

September 28, 2010

Vestal Library Meeting room: 7 p.m.

Yes, We did a program on gas drilling last year. And yes, there has been a lot in the paper about it. ALSO YES, it is one of the most crucial issues for NEW York State and Pennsylvania for the next 100 years. The environment, money, health issues, infrastructure, child welfare, and more are involved. The September presentation will be: "The dynamics of the Marcellus gas play-past, present and future-from a reporter's perspective." Tom Wilber, our speaker, was a newspaper reporter for 20 years, covered the Marcellus rush for the Press & Sun-Bulletin. He is now working on a book on the subject.

~ Raney Colvill, Programs

SCHEDULE CHANGE

PLEASE NOTE: The September Board meeting will take place in the downstairs meeting room at the Endicott Library on Tuesday, September 7th. This is a change for September only, as the Vestal Library is unavailable that evening.

VOTER SERVICE REPORT

The Voter Service Committee met on May 22 to discuss the schedule for this year's voter registration drives, candidate debate and distribution of the Voters Guide Part I and II.

Hickory Smoked Blues will be at Hickories Park in Owego on July 31. The music begins at 1:00 p.m.. The LWV voter registration table will be at the entry gate and available to register voters, distribute information, and applications for absentee ballots. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact me.

The first Saturday in August we plan to hold another registration drive at Sam's Club. Volunteers are welcome!

This will be a busy election year. A debate is schedule for the October meeting, more information after the September 15th Primary!

~ Sara Wokan, Voter Service Chair 607 785-6703



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**Men and women of voting age
are welcome to join.**

Be Part of the Action – Join Today!

Membership Application

Individual membership \$50/yr.

Household membership \$75/yr. (2 people)

Student membership \$20/yr.

Send me information about the League.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Make checks payable to LWVBTC and mail with this coupon to LWVBTC, PO Box 944, Vestal, NY 13851-0944.

 I would like to support the League with a tax-deductible contribution to the LWVNYS Education Foundation \$ _____

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters and mail with this coupon to LWVBTC, PO Box 944, Vestal, NY 13851-0944.

LWV Broome and Tioga Counties Board and Off-Board Officers 2010 - 2011

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2nd Vice President - Raney Colvill
Program

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Treasurer - Alice Brooks
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Public Relations - Isi Trapper

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Local Government - Richard Paden

Director - Anne Kalayjian

New Election Process - Jane Park

Finance Drive

They Represent You

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Membership Outreach - Eva Anderson
Status of Women Council

Nominating Com. Chair - Linda Biemer

Products - MaryBelle Mitten

Tioga Liason - Jane Ebert

Public Relations - Carol Carpenter

Webmaster - Susan Garing

Voter Editor contact: sgaring@verizon.net

AP Reporting NYS

Natural Resources - Mary Johnson

LWVBTC 2010-2011 Proposed Schedule

Board of Directors Meeting Date (Vestal Library)	Program Meeting Date	"Voter" Submission Date & Mail Date
August 10		September Edition: Articles Due: August 10 Mail Date: September 1
September 7 (Endicott Library)	September 28	October Edition: Articles Due: September 7 Mail Date: October 1
October 12	October 26	Nov./Dec. Edition: Articles Due: October 12 Mail Date: November 1
November 9	No Program Mtg.	No "Voter" in December
December 14	December 4 (Brunch)	January Edition: Articles Due: December 14 Mail Date: January 3
January 11	January 25	February Edition: Articles Due: January 11 Mail Date: February 1
February 8	February 26 (Legislative Bkft)	March Edition: Articles Due: February 8 Mail Date: March 1
March 8	March 22	April/Call Edition: Articles Due: March 8 Mail Date: April 1
April 12	April 26	No "Voter" in May/June
	May 10 (Annual Meeting)	No "Voter" in May/June
June Old/New Board Member Meeting		July/August Edition: Articles Due: June 7 Mail Date: July 1



Former and Present Presidents of the LWVBTC: Clare Simeone, Carol Carpenter, Vivian Carlip, Anne Taft, Marilyn Myers. Center: Louise Vanderkulk



Raney Colvill and guest speaker John D. Montgomery



Julianna Rozryadov, recipient of the Fran Garside Award, and guest.



Carol Carpenter, Chair of the Fran Garside Award Committee; Julianna Rozryadov, recipient of the Fran Garside Award and Clare Simeone

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Calendar

August 10	Board of Directors meeting at the Vestal Library
September 7	Board of Directors meeting at the Endicott Library
September 14	Primary Election
September 28	Program Meeting - Gas Drilling
November 2	General Election

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