



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TOMPKINS COUNTY

MAY 2010

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lwvtompkins.org/

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**ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 10**

Two Views of the Future: Energy Alternatives for Tompkins County

**PANEL: Katy Payne, Francis Vanek,
Jason Hamilton, Martha Robinson**

THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME

**SALVATION ARMY SERVICE CENTER
150 NORTH ALBANY ST., ITHACA**

Dinner (\$15, reservation required) at 6:00;
Business meeting at 6:40; Program at 7:00

(more information on page 2)

about gas drilling threats to our environment: we want to consider what can be better ways to deal with the threats from the drilling industry.

Meanwhile, the state budget woes and other state government malfunctions continue. Some of us will be going to Albany on May 5th for a LWV-NYS sponsored day to hear from officials and to register our dismay and promote reform. Energy for major cleaning-up and renewal is needed there too!

Stay tuned, ...

Marnie Johnson



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Planting gardens, spring cleaning, dropping off books at the library book sale (so you can go there in a few weeks and get some "new" ones for your summer reading!) — however you're acknowledging and enjoying this change of seasons now, there is a feeling of new energy.

In the League we ask what have we been doing this year? Where do we want to go next? I hope we feel reinvigorated for this too.

At our annual meeting, May 10th, we will be electing officers, passing a budget, and voting on the local program for the next year — a new beginning.

Then, a very special panel of speakers will expand, in a positive direction, on our study

CONTENTS

President's Message	1
Annual Dinner Meeting	2
Voter Service	2
Drilling Waste: Disposal	2
Natural Resources Committee	3
Local Government Committee	3
Conference Fund	3
Community Foundation	4
Budgets	4-9
Calendar	7
Board Membership	7
Our Representatives in Congress	10

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The future of Tompkins County is hanging in the balance. Will our next decade be dominated by the major industrial activity associated with slickwater hydrofracturing for gas extraction, or will county residents refuse this agenda and turn their attention toward sustainability? Our dinner meeting will feature a panel discussion, "Two Views of the Future: Energy Alternatives for Tompkins County," led by four speakers: Katy Payne, a conservation biologist at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Dr. Francis Vanek, a civil engineer at Cornell specializing in alternative energy; Dr. Jason Hamilton, an Ithaca College and New Roots School leader in sustainability; and Martha Robertson, Chair of the Tompkins County Legislature.

The **general public** is **invited** to attend any or all parts of the evening program.

The meeting will be on **Monday, May 10** at the Salvation Army Service Center, **150 North Albany St.**

Dinner will be at **6:00 pm**;
Business meeting at **6:40 pm**;
Panel and Discussion at **7:00 pm**.

There will be a **\$15 charge** for those who attend the dinner; **reservations must be made by Wednesday, May 5** by calling or e-mailing to 273-6147 or FloSmith42@aol.com

VOTER SERVICE

There will be a Candidates Forum for Ithaca City School District Board election on Thursday, May 6, in the Ithaca High School Cafeteria beginning at 7:00 pm. Candidate petitions are due on Wednesday, so we do not know who the candidates will be, but we hear there will be about eight. And remember the election date, May 18.

Debbie Levin

DISPOSAL WELLS: A SOLUTION FOR MARCELLUS WASTE?

PANEL AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Tony Ingraffea, Cornell University, Engineering Department

Mr. William Kappel, U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division

Rachel Treichler, Esq., Attorney from Hammondspport

MONDAY, MAY 3 AT 7:00PM
WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING
100 WEST SENECA ST.

Co-sponsored by LWV-TC

(More information below)

DRILLING WASTES: DISPOSAL

Shaleshock, a group focused on informing the public regarding the exploitation of the natural gas resources in the Marcellus shale, together with a number of co-sponsors including our League, has organized this informational meeting. It will be at the Women's Community Building at 7:00 PM on Monday, May 3.

One of the major problems for the gas drilling industry, in using the new technique of slackwater horizontal hydrofracturing (fracking for short) is the disposal of very large amounts of contaminated waste water. One proposed solution is to dispose of this waste water in abandoned gas and oil wells. Does this really solve the problem or simply replace one problem with another. Shaleshock has gathered a panel with expertise in three critical areas to address the issues involved.

Bob Silsbee

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

In addition to arranging for the two meetings concerned with the local issues of drilling for gas in the Marcellus shale, the committee has continued its work in developing material to support its position at the June convention of the National League.

In consultation with League leaders in Washington and with suggestions from other Local Leagues we have decided to change our proposal at the convention from a Concurrence to a Resolution. A Resolution, by League rules and convention, is apparently more appropriate to our aims than is a Concurrence. (An additional advantage is that the Resolution requires only a simple instead of a 2/3 majority in order to be adopted.)

The work for the committee is not substantially changed: a mailing to all local Leagues supporting our position, preparation of a program to present at a convention caucus, and the development of written material to be distributed at the convention.

Bob Silsbee

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Our Local Government Committee, with members Beverly Livesay, Florence Smith, Maria Eisner, Marnie Johnson, and Alene Wyatt, have been working hard this spring discussing material related to the consolidation of local governments and the sharing of services. At the April 26 meeting of the League the committee presented a summary of this material in preparation for discussion and conclusions, by the members at the meeting, on a set of "consensus questions."

There were two sets questions to be answered. First, what standards should the League apply when evaluating statewide legislation or constitutional amendments concerning the implementation of local government dissolution/consolidation/major shared service proposals? The second, what standards should

apply for evaluating a specific local proposal for the dissolution or consolidation of a local governmental entity or major shared service?

The discussion was lively: we took exception to the wording of some of the questions, but the dozen or so participants were able to reach consensus on most of the questions and agreed to disagree on a few.

Watch for Part II of the study coming next year!

Alene Wyatt

HELP OUR CONFERENCE FUND

Every two years, the LWV holds its national convention. The convention is an exciting opportunity to participate in charting the course of the National League of Women Voters along with League members from around the nation. This year, the Tompkins County League is sending two delegates to the National Convention. Kay Wagner, for the Natural Resources Committee, will be working for a Resolution for League efforts to work for safe mining and drilling, while Rebecca Elgie, for the Health Committee will be continuing efforts with a coalition of many local Leagues in support of better healthcare legislation.

The National Convention takes place from June 11 - 15 in Atlanta. As you can imagine, with airfare, hotel, and conference fees, it's very expensive to send 2 delegates to the Convention. So this year we're asking for your help in supporting this important task by making a special donation to our Conference Fund. Our goal is to raise \$2000 by June 6, 2010, a little more than a month away. That's a lot of money to raise in a short time, but we think we can do it, with your help.

You can send donations (*not* tax deductible) to the Conference Fund to the address below. Please note that you are donating to the Conference Fund. Thank you for your support!

Bo Lipari
3991 Rt. 228
Alpine, NY 14805

THE EDUCATION FUND

As an advocacy organization, the League of Women Voters must fund many activities that are not considered tax exempt under Federal Law. However, we also perform many services that are purely educational, and subsequently tax exempt. To help resolve this, local Leagues may set up so-called "Education Funds," which can be used to help pay a portion of our "per member payments," or PMP, to the state and national Leagues.

Our Tompkins County LWV has been fortunate to have had a robust Education Fund, administered by the Community Foundation of

Tompkins County. Each year, 1/ 2 of our PMPs to state and national are covered from this fund, a huge benefit to our local League's bottom line.

Our thanks go to Maria Eisner, long-time Tompkins Leaguer, who has championed our Education fund, originating the idea, coordinating it from inception to realization, and making it the successful and valuable resource it is for our Tompkins County LWV today.

Donations to the LWV through the Community Foundation of Tompkins County are tax deductible.

Bo Lipari, Treasurer

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2010-11

This is a detailed version of the summary budget published in the March bulletin, corrected to include a contribution to the New York State PMP from the Community Foundation. (Your editor got some files

INCOME	AMOUNT	COMMENTS
DUES		
Individual/supporting (\$58)	2,262	58 members paid from 7/1/09-3/23/10
Individual/regular (\$48)	1,246	26 members paid from 7/1/09-3/23/10
Household/supporting (\$87)	783	11 members paid from 7/1/09-3/23/10
Household/regular (\$72)	144	11 members paid from 7/1/09-3/23/10
Dues Received in 1st half of 2009, Ind.	766	16 members regular
Dues Received in 1st half of 2009, Household	72	1 Household
<i>DUES Sub-Total</i>	<i>5,277</i>	
FEES		
<i>Fee for Mailed Hard Copy Bulletins</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>Estimated</i>
<i>FEES Sub-Total</i>	<i>350</i>	
CONTRIBUTIONS		
Grants		
General Contributions	400	
<i>CONTRIBUTIONS Sub-Total</i>	<i>400</i>	
PROJECTS		
Election Report (from LWV-NY)	50	
<i>PROJECTS Sub-Total</i>	<i>50</i>	
OTHER INCOME		
Interest Income		
Winter Lunch	100	Estimate 20 attendees @\$5 each
Annual meeting	450	Estimate 30 attendees @\$15 each
<i>OTHER INCOME Sub-Total</i>	<i>550</i>	
TOTAL INCOME	6,627.00	

EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT	COMMENTS
BOARD and ADMINISTRATION		
President	100	
Secretary	0	
Treasurer	0	
<i>BOARD and ADMINISTRATION Sub-Total</i>	100	
DUES and MEMBERSHIPS		
CFWO Membership	158	<i>Won't have this expense if WC Building is sold.</i>
<i>Other ?</i>		
<i>DUES and MEMBERSHIPS Sub-Total</i>	158	
PROJECTS		
Election Night Report		
Publications		
<i>PROJECTS Sub-Total</i>	0	
MEETINGS		
Fall Dinner		
<i>Room Rental</i>	90	<i>Salvation Army Room</i>
<i>Miscellaneous (Food, etc.)</i>	25	<i>Estimate</i>
Winter Lunch		
<i>Room Rental</i>	100	<i>UU Church cost in 2009</i>
<i>Miscellaneous (Food, etc.)</i>	25	<i>Estimate</i>
Annual Meeting		
<i>Room Rental</i>	90	<i>Estimate</i>
<i>Miscellaneous (Food, etc.)</i>	250	<i>Estimate</i>
Membership Meetings		
<i>Room Rental</i>	100	<i>5 Mtgs - Oct; Nov; Jan; Mar; Apr; Estimate average \$ 20/meeting</i>
<i>Miscellaneous (Food, etc.)</i>	100	
<i>Meetings - Room Rentals Sub-Total</i>	380	
<i>Meetings - Miscellaneous Sub-Total</i>	400	
<i>MEETINGS Sub-Total</i>	780	
INTERNET SERVICES		
Domain Name Registration - lwwtc.org	0	<i>Next renewal due in 2014.</i>
Website Hosting	0	<i>Donated this year.</i>
Website Maintenance	0	<i>Linda and Michael D. currently providing maintenance.</i>
Email services	0	<i>Not required this year.</i>
<i>INTERNET SERVICES Sub-Total</i>	0	<i>All internet costs are donated this year</i>
BULLETIN		
Production	0	<i>Average WordPro Cost \$58.35/issue; Estimate \$60/issue this year</i>
Postage	0	<i>Average Postal Costs per Issue- \$33.68; Estimate \$40/issue this year</i>
Projected Cost of Mailed Bulletins	350	<i>Balanced by \$ 350 Bulletin income in expenses section</i>
<i>BULLETIN Sub-Total</i>	350	
NATIONAL AND STATE CONVENTIONS		
State Convention		<i>Costs are estimated only!</i>
Travel	50	
Hotel	350	
Meals	200	
Registration Fee	200	
<i>NATIONAL AND STATE CONVENTIONS Sub-Total</i>	800	
OTHER TRAVEL		
Student		
National Convention		
Women's Community Meeting	50	
<i>NATIONAL AND STATE CONVENTIONS Sub-Total</i>	50	

EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT	COMMENTS
LWV PMP - NY/US		
LWV-US roster is 81 Individual, 12 Household for 2010-11		
<i>NY State Individual @ \$18</i>	1,458	<i>\$18 x 81</i>
<i>NY State Household @ \$27</i>	324	<i>\$27 x 12</i>
<i>US Individual @ \$29.80</i>	2,414	<i>\$29.80 x 81</i>
<i>US Household @ \$44.70</i>	536	<i>\$44.70 x 12</i>
<i>CEF Adjustment For US PMP</i>	-1,475	<i>1/2 of US PMP is paid by Community Education Fund</i>
<i>CEF Adjustment For NY PMP</i>	-891	<i>1/2 of NY PMP is paid by Community Education Fund</i>
LWV-US - PMP Total 2010-11	2,950	
LWV-NY - PMP Total 2010-11	1,782	
<i>LWV PMP - NY/US Sub-Total</i>	2,366	
Voter Services		
Meetings		
School board Candidates Meeting	25	
November Candidates Meeting	50	
Voter's Guide, Local	60	
Facts for Voters	175	
Voter Registration Activities		
New Awning System	150	
Students Inside Albany	100	<i>Travel Costs</i>
Materials & Supplies		
Postage		
Miscellaneous Expenses	18	<i>Stopwatch</i>
<i>Voter Services Sub-Total</i>	578	
COMMITTEES		
Programs		
Materials & Supplies	100	
Postage		
Miscellaneous Expenses		
<i>Programs Committee Sub-Total</i>	100	
Membership & Development		
Materials & Supplies	25	
Postage	100	
Miscellaneous Expenses		
<i>Membership & Development Committee Sub-Total</i>	125	
Healthcare		
Materials & Supplies	50	
Postage		
Miscellaneous Expenses		
<i>Healthcare Committee Sub-Total</i>	50	
Natural Resources		
Materials & Supplies	100	
Postage		
Miscellaneous Expenses		
<i>Natural Resources Committee Sub-Total</i>	100	
Consolidation Study		
Materials & Supplies	50	
Postage		
Miscellaneous Expenses		
<i>Consolidation Study Committee Sub-Total</i>	50	
All Committees Total	425	

EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT	COMMENTS
CHARGES AND FEES		
SALES TAX	0	
Bank Charges	0	
<i>CHARGES AND FEES Sub-Total</i>	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	5,607	
TOTALS		
INCOME	6,627	
EXPENDITURE	5,607	
DIFFERENCE	1,020	

LWV-TC CALENDAR—2009-2010

7:00	Mon	May 3	DISPOSAL OF GAS-DRILLING WASTES—TONY INGRAFFEA, WILLIAM KAPPEL, RACHEL TREICHLER	Women's Comm. Bldg.
	Wed	May 5	ALBANY ON THE RECORD (LWV-NYS EVENT)	Albany
7:00	Thu	May 6	ICSD SCHOOL BOARD—CANDIDATES' FORUM	High School Cafeteria
6:00	Mon	May 10	ANNUAL DINNER MEETING — TWO VIEWS OF THE FUTURE: ENERGY ALTERNATIVES FOR TOMPKINS COUNTY	Salvation Army
7:00	Mon	June 7	Board Meeting	Kathy Burlitch

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TOMPKINS COUNTY: BOARD 2009-10

LWV NYS website www.lwvny.org
 LWV US website www.lwv.org
 LWV-Tompkins County leave message at 273-1436 lwvtc@twcny.rr.com
lwvtompkins.org/

Officers

President	Marnie Johnson	257-2948	
V.P. Program	Florence Smith	273-6147	FloSmith42@aol.com
V.P Co-Membership	Maria Eisner	277-4404	mle3@cornell.edu
Secretary	Kathleen Yen	257-8199	kyen@twcny.rr.com
Treasurer	Bo Lipari	387-9308	bolipari@nyvv.org

Directors:

Bulletin	Robert Silsbee	273-1436	rhs1@cornell.edu
Director-at-large	Libby deProsse	257-6678	deprosse@lightlink.com
Publications/Public Relations	Kathy Burlitch	539-7316	klburlitch@frontiernet.net
Web	Linda Duttweiler	277-0006	ldutt@twcny.rr.com
Co-Voter Services	Debbie Levin	273-7746	dlevin01@twcny.rr.com
Co-Voter Services	Sally Grubb	257-6017	sally_grubb@gmail.com
Co-Membership	Lucia Armstrong	257-2748	larmstro@twcny.rr.com

Off-Board Members:

Webmaster	Michael Duttweiler	277-0006	mduttweiler@twcny.rr.com
Health Care—Chair	Rebecca Elgie	272-0621	healthylink@earthlink.net
Natural Resources—Chair	Kay Wagner	539-3322	cmw18@cornell.edu
NYS Consolidation—Chair	Alene Wyatt	257-1894	alene@lightlink.com

Changes in budget categories and in formatting prevent a direct comparison of current and past years' budgets. The budgets for the preceding two years are presented in the following two pages.

BUDGETS FOR 2008-09 AND 2009-10

	2008-09 Budget	2009-2010 Budget
INCOME		
DUES		
Individual/regular (\$48/58)	5,194.00	4,664.00
Friends (\$10)	50.00	50.00
Household (\$72/87)	1,272.00	945.00
Sub-Total	<u>6,516.00</u>	<u>5,659.00</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS		
General	700.00	200.00
Sub-Total	<u>700.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>
PROJECTS		
Know Your Schools		50.00
Election Night Report	50.00	50.00
Sub-Total	<u>50.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
OTHER - Misc.		
Interest	10.00	2.00
Winter Lunch	75.00	75.00
Annual meeting	500.00	500.00
Subtotal	<u>585.00</u>	<u>697.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>7,851.00</u>	<u>6,656.00</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Board and Admin.		
President	50.00	50.00
Secretary	50.00	50.00
Treasurer	50.00	50.00
Board Tools	50.00	50.00
Committees		
Finance		
Membership		
Materials & Supplies	100.00	100.00
Programs	100.00	100.00
Winter Lunch	75.00	75.00
Annual Meeting	500.00	500.00
PR		
Sub-Total	<u>975.00</u>	<u>975.00</u>

(continued)

BUDGETS FOR 2008-09 AND 2009-10 (continued)

EXPENDITURES (continued)	2008-09 Budget	2009-2010 Budget
DELEGATES/TRAVEL		
State convention	800.00	500.00
National Convention	1,000.00	500.00
WCB	175.00	175.00
Students Inside Albany		50.00
	<hr/> 1,975.00	<hr/> 1,225.00
FINANCIAL SUPPORT		
State Individual.@ \$18	1,764.00	1,584.00
State Household @ \$27	432.00	324.00
National Individual .@ \$28	2,744.00	2,464.00
Nat. Household @ \$42	672.00	504.00
	<hr/> 5,612.00	<hr/> 4,876.00
BULLETIN		
Production	375.00	375.00
Postage	400.00	400.00
Sub-Total	<hr/> 775.00	<hr/> 775.00
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES		
Know Your Schools		100.00
Study	25.00	25.00
Sub-Total	<hr/> 25.00	<hr/> 125.00
VOTERS SERVICE		
Meetings		
School board	25.00	25.00
November	150.00	150.00
Facts for Voters	200.00	150.00
Sub-Total	<hr/> 375.00	<hr/> 325.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<hr/> 9,737.00	<hr/> 8,301.00
INCOME	7,851.00	6,656.00
EXPENDITURE	9,737.00	8,301.00
I-E (From Education Fund)	-1,886.00	-1,645.00

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS

SENATORS:

Kirsten E. Gillibrand US Senate, 531 Dirksen Senate Building, Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4451 web-site: gillibrand.senate.gov

Charles E. Schumer US Senate, 313 Hart Senate Building, Washington, DC 20510
202-224-6542; Binghamton Office: 607-772-6792
e-mail: senator@schumer.senate.gov web-site: schumer.senate.gov

REPRESENTATIVES;

Michael Arcuri 327 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-3224
202-225-3665; Cortland Office: 607-756-2470
e-mail: send from web-site web-site: arcuri.house.gov

Maurice Hinchey 2431 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
202-225-6335; Ithaca Office: 607-273-1388; 123 S. Cayuga St. #201
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League of Women Voters of Tompkins County
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