



**The LOCAL VOTER**  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
**SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA**

MAY 2011

Syracuse Metro LWV  
 PO Box 11866  
 Syracuse NY 13218  
 (507 Plum St -2nd Fl. Syr. 13204)  
 Phone: (315) 448-7199  
 Fax: (315) 448-7299  
 Email: [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org)  
 Web Sites:  
 Local: [www.lwvsyr.org](http://www.lwvsyr.org)  
 State: [www.lwvny.org](http://www.lwvny.org)  
 National: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
May 20-22  
 LWVNYS Convention  
June 9  
 LWVSYR Dinner and  
 Annual Meeting

To receive your *Local Voter* by email, please contact us at [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org). You will help the environment as well as save us printing and postage costs.  
 Thank You!

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**STAYING INFORMED ON THE ISSUES AND EVENTS**  
 Local: [www.lwvsyr.org](http://www.lwvsyr.org)  
 State: [www.lwvny.org](http://www.lwvny.org)  
 National: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)



**SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
 2011 ANNUAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2011  
 ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO  
 ONE CONSERVATION PLACE, SYRACUSE NY 13204**

**CONVERSATION: 5:30 PM  
 BUFFET DINNER 6:00 PM**

**PROGRAM: 7:00 PM  
 DR. TINA NABATCHI  
 ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
 MAXWELL SCHOOL—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**

**"ENGAGING CITIZENS IN THE WORK OF GOVERNMENT -  
 THE VALUE AND VALUES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION"**

**BUSINESS MEETING: 8:15 PM**

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To make your reservation call us at 448-7199; email us at [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org) or return this form with your remittance to Syracuse Metro LWV, PO Box 11866, Syracuse NY 13218

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of guests @ \$28.00 per person — Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to: LWVSYR, PO Box 11866, Syracuse NY 13218

**RESERVATIONS BY JUNE 2, 2011**

The event is open to the public, feel free to bring a friend.

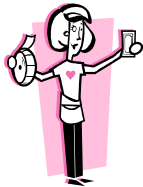
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# BOARD NOTES

## LWVNY CONVENTION

### BIG LEAGUE RAFFLE

Tickets for the annual Big League Raffle have been sent to all members. Sell tickets to family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. You could win up to \$5,000 and your local League shares in the profit based on the number of tickets your members sell.



Last year's winning ticket was sold by a Syracuse league member.

**HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW!  
PLEASE PARTICIPATE**

### LWVNY SILENT AUCTION

The items available for bidding are now on the state league website. Anyone can place a bid by completing the form online or sending it to the state League office—you don't even have to be a league member to bid or be present at Convention. So, get your friends to look at the list—there is something there for everyone's taste and price! Go to [www.lwvny.org](http://www.lwvny.org) to view the items.

## CORRECTION

*Who's Who, A Guide to Your Elected Officials*—  
Representative Ann Marie Burkle should read Ann Marie Buerkle

## NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

Thanks to all who have helped out this year with this very important Voter Service activity. A very special thank you to member **Lois Meyer** who has participated in most of these ceremonies for the past several years.

If you have not participated in this League activity in the past, you will find it a very rewarding and moving experience.

Please contact Voter Service Director  
Joan Durant to volunteer.

[jdurantywca@cnyemail.com](mailto:jdurantywca@cnyemail.com)



### Officers

President...	Susan Bush
Vice-President...	Mary Clare Hatch-Pennello
Secretary...	Karen Smith
Treasurer....	Donald MacLaughlin

### Directors

Advocacy...	Mary Clare Hatch-Pennello
Fund-Raising...	Open
Membership...	Mary Lou Green
Program....	Rae Rohfeld
Publications...	Joan Johnson
Public Relations...	Joan Johnson
Voter Service...	Joan Durant

### Off-Board Positions

Budget Director....	Rhonda Hungerford
Nominating Committee.....	Minna Buck
	Gwen Grant
	Mary Lou Green
	Joan Johnson
	Barbara Olum
Election Law Specialist....	Lenore Rapalski
Technical Support...	Roberta Millert

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information please call the League office at (315) 448-7199 or e-mail to [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org)

### Diversity Statement

The Syracuse Metropolitan League of Women Voters is committed to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any League activity on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, or national origin.

Please let us know your email address.

- It is the most efficient way to communicate
  - You will be notified of upcoming local events
  - LWV National & State Action Alerts
- Your e-mail address will not be shared or sold. Please respond to [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org)

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

## MORE ON OUR ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKER

Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, our annual meeting will be at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo (see page one for details). We are featuring guest speaker Dr. Tina Nabatchi, Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Faculty Research Associate at the Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration (PARCC).

Dr. Nabatchi's presentation for the evening is "Engaging Citizens in the Work of Government: The Value and Values of Public Participation." She goes into depth regarding why it is important to engage citizens (beyond voting) in the work of government. Dr Nabatchi will present trends that have led some to conclude that we are facing both a "citizenship deficit" and a "democratic deficit" in the United States. She will also present research about how participation can address these problems, while creating value for government, public policy, and public action and values that must be present in participatory processes for them to work well.

Dr. Nabatchi is currently engaged in research about deliberative democracy and citizen engagement. Specifically she is interested in roles that citizens can and do play in the work of government. She is developing theoretical and conceptual work about the relationships between participatory design choices and outcomes. She is also empirically evaluating the effects of participation on the civic skills and dispositions of citizens, as well as how participatory outcomes are integrated into public action and policy decisions.

I urge all of our members to attend the annual meeting. It promises to be very enlightening as this is our mission - encouragement of informed and active participation of citizens in government. This event is open to all members of the community not just league members so bring a friend. It is my hope that this presentation will be a jumping off point for the coming year. As I leave the post of president to go back to Voter services, I leave the position knowing that the work of the league is moving in a positive direction. I look forward to the continued momentum begun by the League of Women Voters of the Syracuse Metropolitan Area this year and to seeing you at the Zoo, June 9, 2011 at 5:30pm!

Respectfully,

Susan Bush

For more information about Dr Nabatchi go to <http://faculty.maxwell.syr.edu/tnabatch/>

## CALENDAR

May 20—22, 2011  
Albany NY

LWVNYS Convention

Thursday, June 9, 2011, 5:30 PM  
Rosamond Gifford Zoo



LWVSyr Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 14

Flag Day

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
2011 – 2012**

**Officers to be elected at annual meeting:**

Co-presidents	Joan Durant Joan Johnson	1 year term 1 year term
Treasurer	Rhonda Hungerford	2 year term
Secretary	Audrey Benenati	2 year term

**Directors to be elected at annual meeting:**

Advocacy	Lenore Rapalski	2 year term
Fund Raising**	Vacant	2 year term
Membership***	Minna Buck	2 year term
Voter Service	Susan Bush	2 year term
Public Relations	Janet Mallan	1 year term to fill vacancy

**Continuing Officers and Directors:**

Program	Rae Rohfeld	2nd year of 2 year term
Publications	Joan Johnson	2nd year of 2 year term

**Off Board Continuing:**

Nominating Committee	Minna Buck	2nd year of a 3 year term*
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**Off Board Positions to be elected at annual meeting:**

Budget Director	Roberta Millert	2 year term
Onondaga Lake Partnership	<b>Vacant</b>	
Nominating Committee*	Two Vacancies: One Member One member	3 year term 1 year term

\*Remaining two members of the Nominating Committee will be appointed from the Board of Directors by the co-presidents

\*\*Nina Tamrowski is willing to work with a Fundraising Director on fundraising activities.

\*\* \*We would like to find another member to serve on the Board and assist with membership administrative duties.

***Thanks to Board Members and Committee Members Past and Present***

***Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:***

Minna Buck, Gwen Grant, Mary Lou Green, Joan Johnson, Barbara Olum

## SYRACUSE LWV 2010 – 2011 PROPOSED BUDGET

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>2010-2011 Budget</b>	<b>Estimated Actual</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>
A. Dues	1. Individuals (\$55)	\$3,630	\$3,355	\$3,355
	2. Household (\$80)	\$800	\$640	\$640
	3. Friend/Sustainer	\$600	\$825	\$795
	Subtotal	<b>\$5,030</b>	<b>\$4,820</b>	<b>\$4,820</b>
B. Contributions	1. Member	\$950	\$280	\$280
	2. Nonmember	\$200	\$460	\$460
	3. Business	\$720	\$0	\$0
	Subtotal	<b>\$1,870</b>	<b>\$740</b>	<b>\$740</b>
C. Elections	1. Election Reporting	\$260	\$290	\$290
	2. Monitoring Elections	\$500	\$200	\$250
	Subtotal	<b>\$760</b>	<b>\$490</b>	<b>\$540</b>
D. Fundraising		<b>\$640</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$250</b>
E. From Reserve	1. NY Education Fund	\$700	\$1,160	\$1,180
	2. JMS Savings	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Subtotal	<b>\$700</b>	<b>\$1,160</b>	<b>\$1,180</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$7,210</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>2010-2011 Budget</b>	<b>Estimated Actual</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>
A. Operating Costs	1. General Supplies	\$150	\$120	\$140
	2. Postage and PO Box	\$200	\$250	\$250
	3. Rent	\$600	\$600	\$600
	4. Business property Liability	\$360	\$340	\$340
	Subtotal	<b>\$1,310</b>	<b>\$1,310</b>	<b>\$1,330</b>
B. Board and Admin.	1. President	\$100	\$100	\$100
	2. Board Tools (Web site)	\$200	\$200	\$200
	3. Finance Drive & Fundraiser	\$350	\$120	\$150
	4. Membership	\$100	\$70	\$80
	5. Public Relations	\$250	\$0	\$70
	Subtotal	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$490</b>	<b>\$600</b>
C. Delegates: State/Natl. Conventions		<b>\$700</b>	<b>\$670</b>	<b>\$600</b>
D. Per Member Payment	1. National LWV	\$2,320	\$2,820	\$2,360
	2. State LWV	\$1,410	\$1,400	\$1,070
	Subtotal	<b>\$3,730</b>	<b>\$4,220</b>	<b>\$3,430</b>
E. Local Voter	1. Supplies & Printing	\$700	\$630	\$640
	2. Postage	\$500	\$170	\$200
	Subtotal	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$840</b>
F. Educational Activities	1. Publications	\$40	\$10	\$40
	2. Program	\$470	\$370	\$470
	3. Who's Who	\$200	\$150	\$150
	4. Election Guide	\$200	\$0	\$0
	5. Voters Guide	\$150	\$30	\$40
	Subtotal	<b>\$1,060</b>	<b>\$560</b>	<b>\$700</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$8,050</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>

# **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN AREA**

## **PROPOSED 2011-2012 LOCAL ISSUES/POSITIONS**

### **MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK**

- Promote greater citizen participation in the political process by encouraging citizens to become knowledgeable about the issues and to actively lobby elected official
- Encourage individuals to exercise their right to vote especially among under represented populations

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

- Study and support where appropriate legislation, which promotes proposals to modernize local government by sharing services among villages, towns, public schools, the city of Syracuse, and Onondaga County
- Support efforts to contain sprawl with planned growth throughout Onondaga County

### **SOCIAL POLICY**

- Monitor the state school aid formula and its implications for upstate school districts and the Big 5 city districts
- Promote educational efforts dealing with domestic violence and the Integrated Domestic Violence Court in Onondaga County
- Promote opposition to the Death Penalty in support of the new LWVNY position

### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

- Support efforts of the Onondaga Partnership to facilitate improvement projects for Onondaga Lake and its watershed

### **LOCAL SUPPORT FOR STATEWIDE ISSUES/STUDIES**

- Promote improved reforms for HAVA: including improved training for poll workers, adequate staffing at polling places, the use of split shifts for election workers and citizen education and training for Replacement machines
- Promote improved election processes which extend and encourage voting, including no-excuse absentee balloting and Election Day registration
- Promote and encourage meaningful campaign finance reform
- Promote the creation of an independent redistricting commission
- Promote the creation of an independent ethics commission
- Promote meaningful reform of public authorities
- Promote additional legislative rules reform
- Promote and encourage meaningful property tax reform.

*Note: No changes have been suggested by the Board of Directors or the general membership*

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

The following changes to the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the Syracuse Metropolitan Area have been proposed by the Board of Directors. Any changes will be approved (disapproved) at the Annual Meeting.

### Article IV Board of Directors:

Add a new section: Section 7 – Limitations of Liability A Director of the League shall not be personally liable for monetary damages as such for any action taken, or any failure to take action, unless the Director has breached or failed to perform the duties of his or her office.

### Article V Officers:

\*Section 4 The Treasurer The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. (She) The treasurer shall be custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. (She) The treasurer shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and at the Annual Meeting. The treasurer's records shall be examined and reconciled prior to the Annual Meeting. This may be done by a professional accountant outside the League, by a League member who has had relevant experience, or by a committee appointed by the Board.

### Article X Program:

\*\*Section (4) 5 Member Action (No one may speak for the League of Women Voters except the President or a member so designated by the President of the Board. She may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the LWVNYS or the LWVUUS.) No one may speak for the League of Women Voters except the President or a member so designated by the President of the Board who may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the LWVNYS or the LWVUS.

\*Changes to the section deletes the pronoun "she" so that both female and male are implied.

\*\* Section 4 Member Action should be changed to Section 5

Changes to the section deletes the pronoun "she" so that both female and male are implied.



*With our annual meeting we mark the end of our fiscal year and the beginning of a new league year. It is the time we get to look back at the year that was and plan for the year ahead by electing new league officers and directors, approving a new budget, reviewing our local program and our bylaws, enjoying dinner and meeting league friends.*

*We will also have renewal forms available to renew your membership for the new league year. Dues will remain the same as last year.*

*Please join us at the Zoo on June 9th.*

## LWVNYS CONVENTION

Joan Durant and Joan Johnson will serve as delegates to the State League Convention in Albany May 20-22, 2011. The Convention offers leagues from across the state the opportunity to network with league members and, learn from their experiences.

In addition the convention offers a wonderful exercise in grassroots democracy where delegates representing the local Leagues come together to make the important decisions that will guide us through the next two years.

The Convention also offers numerous workshops including the use of technology, advocacy and lobbying, membership recruitment, and how to make your league more visible in the community.

**Any League member may attend the convention as a visitor or observer. For more information check out the lwvny website, or call us at 448-7199 or email us at [league@lwvsyr.org](mailto:league@lwvsyr.org)**



SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
PO BOX 11866  
SYRACUSE NY 13218

MAY 2011

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Syracuse, NY  
Permit no. 372

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual Meeting  
June 9th

**League of Women Voters  
Membership Application**

*Democracy is not a spectator sport  
It's efficient activism*

*It is a way to make your voice count  
It is a way to make politics a process for the people*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Individual Level....\$55**

\_\_\_ **Household Level\*....\$80**

\_\_\_ **Student Level \*\*....\$25**

**Please make check payable to:  
Syracuse Metro Area League of Women Voters  
P O Box 11866  
Syracuse, NY 13218**

\* Two members in the same household

\*\* Full time student under 25

\_\_\_ **I would like to support the League with a donation.**

For more information call us at (315) 448-7199 or visit us at [www.lwvsyr.org](http://www.lwvsyr.org)