



The League of Women Voters of Scarsdale (LWVS) is a volunteer nonpartisan political organization which promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is nonpartisan in that it does not support or oppose any candidate for public office; it is political in that it takes positions on selected governmental issues after serious member study and consensus.

President's Message

If part of our excitement with a new year is reflection of the year just past, the League has cause for celebration. In addition to our annual reviews of local elections and budgets, we've successfully launched studies of several potentially hot-button issues- modern roundabouts, a Fair and Affordable Housing settlement between the County and HUD and a broad-view assessment of the current state of Scarsdale's non-partisan system for electing local trustees and mayor.

Beginning with the Village's adoption of the Non-Partisan Resolution in 1930, the League has been an active supporter and monitor of Scarsdale's unique non-partisan systems. This continues to be a vital interest to us, as evidenced by our recent study of this November's Citizens Nominating Committee election. After hearing an informative report from the Procedures Committee, our general membership considered the successes and shortfalls of the election process, which this year included a proposal of amendments to the Resolution By-Laws. Sara Werder skillfully guided us in addressing the details as well as the larger policy considerations. Be on the look out for the release of our consensus statement in early January.

All League members are encouraged to join us on January 9th, on the eve of the new legislative session, when NY Assemblywoman Amy Paulin joins us with a candid report from Albany. A past President of our League Amy knows how keen we are to be "in the know" of happenings in the State Capital and how we appreciate this opportunity to speak with her.

One of my favorite League events, our festive cocktail fundraiser, is upcoming on January 28th. No fan of winter, I look forward to this opportunity for lively conversation and savory refreshments on a cold night. Please join us as Janice Starr graciously opens her beautiful home to us once again this year.

Another notable development for 2012 is our League's sponsorship of a local high school student at the Students Inside Albany four-day conference in March. In order to apply a student must live in Scarsdale, but does not need to attend Scarsdale schools. It has been many years since the LWVS participated in this comprehensive program for students. We thank Janet Korins for rekindling support of this LWV of New York State program.

We are gratified and inspired by the positive response to our annual finance drive, which is underway. We operate on a thin margin and this additional outreach to the community for support, beyond our annual membership drive, is key to the strength of our programs. We thank all of the generous donors, members and non-members alike, who make it possible for us to fulfill our mission. Anne

Lyons has organized this campaign, once again, and we thank her.

I toast you all as 2012 commences. The League and civic calendars are already busy. I hope this newsletter serves as a clear guide for navigating the meetings, elections and studies that are open to you. And I hope you find yourself re-energized by the possibilities.

Rest assured that your League is fully charged with enthusiasm, commitment and open minds for the challenges of this new year.

Best Regards,

Marylou Green

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE: Location for all meetings,
is Scarsdale Village Hall, 3rd floor,
unless otherwise noted

JANUARY

Monday	9	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Board Meeting General Membership Meeting: Amy Paulin
Tuesday	17	7 - 10 AM, 2 - 9 PM	SBNC Election (SMS)
Wednesday	18		LWVNYS Lobby Day (ALBANY)
Monday	23	10:00 AM	General Membership Meeting: BOE: Pre-Budget
Saturday	28	5 - 7 PM	Winter Fundraiser (65 Church Lane)

FEBRUARY

Monday	6	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Board Meeting General Membership Meeting: School Election System
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MARCH

Monday	12	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Board Meeting General Membership Meeting: Local & County Program
Monday	19	9:00 AM	General Membership Meeting: School Budget

		11:30 AM	Board Meeting
Tuesday	20		Village Elections (Village Hall)
Monday	26	9:00 AM	General Membership Meeting: Village Budget
		11:30 AM	Board Meeting

LWV of Scarsdale
Annual Finance Drive
We need your support!!!

Please make checks payable to the LWV of Scarsdale.
If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution, please make your check out to the LWVNYS Education Fund.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Please send your check to:
Scarsdale League of Women Voters
Box 495
Scarsdale, NY 10583

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thank you to **Mary Blum, Bette Landes** and the **Charles S. Raizen Foundation**
for their generosity as LWVS Supporters

And our gratitude also to **Arlene and Jerry Levine** for their contribution
as Supporters of the Education Foundation

Both categories of support indicate donations of at least \$100

TIME FOR CELEBRATIONS

ANNUAL LWVS COCKTAIL FUNDRAISER

There's no better way to face the winter's cold than with good food, drink and spirited conversation. Join us as we reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

Saturday, January 28, 5 to 7 p.m.
at the home of Janice and Ira Starr, 65 Church Lane

Tickets are \$30 per person.
Please RSVP now and make checks payable to LWVS and remit to:
Janice Starr, 65 Church Lane, Scarsdale, NY 10583
914-472-8851, irajanice@aol.com

UPCOMING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Scarsdale Village Hall, 3rd Floor

Scarsdale Board of Education to Meet with LWVS

January 23, 10:00 AM

Scarsdale Schools Superintendent Michael McGill and members of the Scarsdale Board of Education will attend our January 23 general membership meeting to discuss the current issues facing the Scarsdale school district. Dr. McGill and the BOE will also talk about the 2012-13 school budget and how the tax cap might affect the budget and the budget process. Questions from the audience will be welcome. For more information, please contact Amy Scharf at 472-2710 or amyescharf@gmail.com.

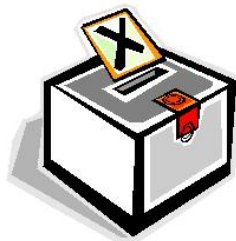
Discussion of School Board Nominating Committee Election

February 6, 10:30 AM

Nan Berke, Co-Chair of the SBNC Administrative Committee, will attend to answer questions concerning the January 17th election. We invite your participation in an evaluation of the election process. For more information, please contact Elisabeth Bassin at 725-9840 or eabassin@gmail.com.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO 2012 SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 17th
Scarsdale Middle School
Polls are open from 7 AM - 10 AM and from 2 pm - 9 PM



The SBNC nominates candidates for the Scarsdale Board of Education.
Remember to Vote!!!

Update on LWVS Planning and Zoning Committee

Adoption by the Village of the Model Ordinance for Fair and Affordable Housing

At a Village Trustee's meeting on October 25 the League reiterated its long-standing position in support of measures to increase the supply of affordable housing in Scarsdale. Please click here to access our statement and our studies on this issue: [LWVS Affordable Housing consensus statement and studies](#)

Roundabout

Working through the summer the committee, at the direction of the League Board, conducted a study regarding the possible construction of a modern roundabout at Heathcote Five Corners. A public information forum for the community was held on September 20, followed by a consensus meeting on October 3. At the Village Trustees

meeting on November 22 our consensus statement in support of a modern roundabout at Heathcote Five Corners, with certain considerations, was presented. To read the full statement, as well as related studies and materials, please click here: [LWVS Roundabout consensus statement](#)

Keeping up with School and Village Budget Discussions

The League encourages all residents to participate in our local budget discussions. The following links will provide you access to the timelines/benchmarks for the Scarsdale School budget process and for the Village budget process, respectively:

- [Scarsdale Schools Budget Timeline 2011-2012](#)
- [Scarsdale Village Budget Timeline 2011-2012](#)

STUDY OF THE NONPARTISAN VILLAGE ELECTION SYSTEM IN SCARSDALE PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

The League has established an ad hoc committee to study the Nonpartisan Village Election System in Scarsdale. The goal of the study is to determine whether or not the LWVS continues to affirm its position of supporting the current nonpartisan election system for the selection of the village board and mayoral candidates. The study will provide information on the history, structure, functioning and efficacy of Scarsdale's nonpartisan system, including consideration of alternative systems. The committee will hold a consensus meeting on the evening of April 23rd at the Scarsdale Public Library. Please save the date!

For more information contact Jackie Irwin at 472-2311 or jirwin7464@aol.com or Kim Meyers at 725-2017 or kimschles@aol.com

Nominations Sought for Village Trustees and Justice

The Citizens Nominating Committee (CNC) is now accepting nominations to the Village Board of Trustees. Please consider running; this is a unique opportunity for affecting the quality of life in Scarsdale. If not you this year, perhaps you might suggest a neighbor who has much to offer in service of the Village.

The deadline for submission of all biographical information for nominees is January 17th at 5pm. For further information on the nomination process and access to the necessary forms go to: <http://www.scarsdaleprocedurecommittee.org/forms.php> or contact CNC Chair Dan Hochvert at 725-5040 or dan.hochvert@verizon.net

In addition, the Judicial Qualifications Advisory Committee is seeking candidates for Village Justice. For further information contact Jim O'Connor at 723-7101 or jpojnoc@aol.com

Students Inside Albany Conference

LWVS will sponsor one student to send to the annual Students Inside Albany conference, to be held March 25-28. All Scarsdale residents in their Junior or Senior year at any high school are eligible to apply.

Janet Korins and Pam Fuehrer, as part of the League's youth outreach program, are spearheading the effort. They are working with the support of Scarsdale High School Co-Principal Kelly Hamm and Social Studies Department Chair John Harrison. The cost of the conference, including hotel and meals, will be covered by the League of Women Voters New York State Education Foundation, Inc. Transportation to and from Albany will be paid for by our Scarsdale League. Applications can

found at: [Students Inside Albany](#) and are due by January 11, 2012.

Students Inside Albany is an intensive four-day conference designed to immerse students in the process by which public policy is proposed, revised and enacted in New York State and to educate them as to how they can influence and affect this process.

Please contact Janet Korins at 725-0859 or janet.korins@verizon.net, or Pam Fuehrer at 472-9440 or pfuehrer@optonline.net for more information or if you know someone who would like to apply for this opportunity.

LWV WESTCHESTER

COUNTY LEAGUE LOOKING FOR DEBATE MODERATORS

What do Scarsdale League members Susie Rush, Laura Fratt, Beverley Sved and Carolyn Stevens have in common? They each assisted in moderating candidate forums in this past fall's election cycle. Their services fulfill a significant aspect of the League's mission to promote an informed public and was a hands-on way for them to give back to the County.



Lindsay Feinberg

Becoming a moderator requires: 1) membership in the League; and 2) the desire to run meetings in a fair and non partisan manner. The County League provides training and assigns moderators for local League debates.

Laura Fratt, who assists with training moderators states, " it is very interesting to learn about the issues facing neighboring communities, and we [the County League] match your comfort level with the tenor of the different races." In addition, skills gained can certainly be used in many roles, both professional and personal.

Lindsay Feinberg of the River Towns League has skillfully moderated our last two debates and we owe her a debt of gratitude for her service. Why not follow in her footsteps and step forward by calling Laura Fratt at fratt@verizon.net or 723-5108?

LWV Westchester Statement on Fair and Affordable Housing

Our County League has issued a statement "urgently" expressing its concern at the "seemingly increasing polarization among the parties to the settlement." It deems these developments unconstructive and not in the interest of maintaining affordable housing in the County.

Observing that the representatives of HUD and the County are speaking "to the media and not to one another", the League urges the parties to "find a mutually respectful and cooperative route to resolving any outstanding issues."

To read the full statement and an assessment of developments since the signing of the agreement, click here: [LWV Westchester statement on Fair and Affordable Housing.](#)

COUNTY BUDGET

Following an informative hearing on the proposed County budget, LWV Westchester came to consensus and issued a statement to the Board of Legislators and the County Executive. The statement applauded holding the County tax levy flat, calling it "an appropriate measure in light of our residents' and businesses' current economic stress." It called the proposed layoff of 210 employees regrettable but necessary. Despite its support of the budget, however, the League noted three significant areas that were not addressed: 1) unfunded State mandates; 2) a County-wide property revaluation; and 3) most importantly, an appropriation of funds in support of County-wide flood mitigation programs. To read the entire statement, click here:

[LWV Westchester consensus statement on County Budget.](#)

The League of Women Voters of NYS will hold its annual **Lobby Day** on January 18, 2012. All members are invited to join us in Albany to hear an update of the State League's positions, tour the Capitol, watch the Assembly or Senate in action, and meet key legislative staffers. For full details, please click here: [Annual Lobby Day in Albany](#)

SNAPSHOTS OF LWVS ACTIVITIES

CITIZENS NOMINATING COMMITTEE ELECTION
CONSENSUS MEETING



l. to r.: LWVS President **Marylou Green** ,
Sara Werder (chair of LWVS Election
Study Committee), and **Michelle
Lichtenberg** and **David Brodsky** (Chair
and Vice Chair of CNC Procedure
Committee)

VILLAGE BUDGET MEETING



l. to r.: **John Goodwin** (Asst. to Village
Manager), **Marylou McClure** (Village
Treasurer), LWVS President **Marylou Green**,
Nan Berke (Chair of LWVS Village Budget
Study), **Al Gatta** (Village Manager) and

Elise Flagg (member, LWVS Budget Study
committee)

THEY REPRESENT YOU!
(as of July, 2011)
VILLAGE OF SCARSDALE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jill Spieler, President
2nd term ends June 2013
Elizabeth Guggenheimer, V.P.
2nd term ends June 2013
Mary Beth Gose
1st term ends June 2012
Lewis Leone
1st term ends June 2012
Jonathan Lewis

Suzanne Seiden
1st term end June 2013
Sunil Subbkrishna
1st term ends June 2014

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Mirian Levitt Flisser, Mayor
term ends April 2013
Stacey Brodsky
1st term ends April 2013
Katherine Eisenman
1st term ends April 2012
Robert H. Harrison
1st term ends April 2013
Jonathan Mark
1st term ends June 2014
Robert J. Steves
2nd term ends April 2013
Richard S. Toder
2nd term ends April 2012

Quick Links

[League of Women Voters of Scarsdale
2011-2012 LWVS Board of Directors](#)