



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

# The Leaguer

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July - August, 2010

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

[www.lwvchautauqua.org](http://www.lwvchautauqua.org) 413-9595



**Save  
The Date!**

Join Us on September 15th at the See-Zurh House in Bemus Point  
for a presentation by John Jablonski, Executive Director of the  
Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy

Inside This Issue	
2	Convention Highlights
3	From Your Board
3	Welcome to New Members
3	Annual Meeting Photos
4	Farm Festival Schedule
4	Reservation Form
5-6	Political Calendar
7	Calendar
8	Membership Renewal Form

LWV Chautauqua County  
PO Box 224  
Dunkirk, NY, 14048

## Report from the LWVUS CONVENTION June 15-18 in Atlanta, Georgia

### Please take a moment to how active YOUR League is!

#### **Program Convention delegates adopted:**

- A study of the federal role in public education. The study will focus on the role of the federal government in education policy-making, with possible consideration of funding, common standards and/or governance relationships among all levels of the government. The scope will be dependent on available resources, including committee and LWVUS staff time.
- A study on privatization: the policy agenda to transfer government functions, services and assets to the private sector.

#### **Convention also adopted the following positions by concurrence on the convention floor:**

- An updated Arms Control Position.
- An addition to the LWVUS position on selection of the president: "We support the use of the National Popular Vote Compact as one acceptable way to achieve the goal of the direct popular vote for election of the president until the abolition of the Electoral College is accomplished.
- An addition to the LWVUS Equality of Opportunity position: "The League of Women Voters of the United States supports equal rights for all under state and federal law. The LWVUS supports legislation to equalize the legal rights, obligations, and benefits available to same-gender couples with those available to heterosexual couples. LWVUS supports legislation to permit same-gender couples to marry under civil law. The League believes that the civil status of marriage is already clearly distinguished from the religious institution of marriage and that religious rights will be preserved.

#### **Convention also supported the following resolutions:**

- To support lifting the travel restrictions for Americans going to Cuba.
- To call upon the Board to use the resources of the League to support and lobby for significant strengthening of appropriate regulation, oversight, inspection, and penalties associated with the development of fossil fuel resources. This strengthening should include elimination from national legislation of the exemptions for drilling and mining, as well as additional legislation requiring the federal agencies to regulate drilling and mining in a manner consistent with the preservation of a healthy environment. We also call on the Board to communicate with the President and the Congress putting them on notice that Leagues across the country are deeply concerned about this issue.
- To call upon the Senate to change its rules to limit the use of the filibuster.
- To add the principle of TRANSPARENCY to the SARA Resolution, as adopted by the LWVUS Convention Of 2005. Revised to include the following Principles: Security; Accuracy; Recountability; Accessibility; and Transparency.
- To call upon the LWVUS Board to advocate strongly for bills that legislate for improved Medicare for all.
- To call upon the LWVUS to highlight the need for those responsible for the oil spill to be held accountable. Further, the LWVUS demands that our government hold those responsible for the environmental disaster accountable for the clean-up. The LWVUS further urges the legislative and executive branches of the federal government to immediately take all necessary steps to maximize to the extent practicable the ability and efforts of all relevant federal agencies and departments to take action, and to work with the U.S. coastal states and communities most directly and immediately affected, to respond creatively, efficiently and effectively to the environmental, health and economic crisis created by the oil flowing from the out of control BP oil well in the Gulf of Mexico and by the efforts to contain and disperse it.

#### **Bylaws**

- Article III, Sec. 2 A (3), Membership, was amended by striking out the word HONORARY before the words life members. The bylaw will then read "those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues. **(Note: All Leagues must conform their bylaws to this change.)**
- Article IX, Sec. 4, Convention Powers, Article X, Sec. 4, Council, Powers, Article XIII, Sec. 3 and 4, Financial Administration were amended to provide that a biennial budget would be adopted at Convention, starting in 2012. ([See updated bylaws at this link.](#))
- Article X, Sec. 1. Place, Date and Call of Council was amended to provide that council shall be held at a time and place or in a manner determined by the national board.

#### **Budget**

See the [2010-2011 budget adopted at Convention](#). **Note, the proposed PMP rate of \$29.60 was increased to \$29.70 for 2010-2011 by a motion on the convention floor. The PMP rate of \$30.00 for 2011-2012 was adopted as proposed.**

# From Your Team...

Summer finds most of us busy with family visits and excursions, and your League Board is no exception. But we're also thinking about this fall, when New Yorkers will be electing a governor and two senators (!), and we in Chautauqua County will additionally be choosing a congressman, New York State assemblymen, a New York State senator, and a sheriff. As we always say, democracy is not a spectator sport, and in this time of intemperate and even vituperative political speech and campaigning, Leaguers have an important role to play through civil discourse, studied positions on issues, and good will.

So come out and help. Volunteer to greet attendees at our Meet the Candidates events, to register voters at local colleges and youth centers, to distribute Voters' Guides, or to follow issues in political campaigns. Perhaps you have an idea of something we ought to do to promote good government in our County: if so, please tell a Board member, or, better yet, come to a Board meeting and discuss your idea with us all. Ideas for future monthly programs? Topics to research? Let us know!

Remember, the Program Committee is chaired by Gloria Garretson (gloriag543@roadrunner.com) and the Voter Service Committee by Minda Rae Amiran (amiran@fredonia.edu).

*Minda Rae Amiran Claudia Ansell Perce Bernatz Gloria Garretson  
Janet Jankowski George Reggie Komar Gen Ludema Marcia Merrins  
Shirley Pulawski Judy Reynolds Tillie Solomonson*

**Health Care Reform Update**  
**A new federal website was launched on July 1, 2010. The website is designed to provide individuals with information on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and how it will impact consumers.**

**Can You Help?**  
**If your email address has changed or you just "got connected" can you please send it to me (mmerrins@netsync.net) so I can update our database.**

## Photos from a very enjoyable annual meeting at Shorewood Country Club on June 20, 2010.



**BETSEY SWAN**



**MARGE WEIST**



**MARGE LARSON**



**INEZ KROHN**



**GLORIA GARRETSON**

**We Welcome Our Newest Member!**  
**Dianne Dowd**  
37 Central Ave.  
Fredonia  
  
679-1050  
[ddowd59@yahoo.com](mailto:ddowd59@yahoo.com)

<u>AUGUST 20</u>		<u>AUGUST 21</u>	
<u>10-12</u>		<u>10-12</u>	
CAROL DOINO 679-7481	679-7481	MARGE LARSON 366-7488	366-7488
LAURA SAREK 672-7390	672-7390	KRIS BEAL 679-3548	679-3548
<u>12-2</u>		<u>12-2</u>	
JEAN MORSE 672-5072	672-5072	SHIRLEY COON 672-6631	672-6631
ROSEMARY HAYES 792-9243	792-9243	REBECCA WHITE 673-1567	673-1567
<u>2-4</u>		<u>2-4</u>	
NANCY BLECK 672-7363	672-7363	PAT CHRISTINA 679-1508	679-1508
DICK MIGA		ESTHER LANFORD 672-4029	672-4029
<u>4-6</u>		<u>4-6</u>	
MARTI BURDICK 672-5546	672-5546	LORETTA SAGE 366-2518	366-2518
ESTHER LANFORD 672-4029	672-4029	ESTHER LANFORD 672-4029	672-4029



LWV Chautauqua  
Booth  
Near Gazebo  
With Voting Machine!

**WORKERS: Thank You!**

**Please call co-worker, or replacement who doesn't show up and me.**

**Carol Doino 679-7481**

Questions to ask people who stop by:

Have you used the new voting machines? Would you like a demonstration? Are you registered to vote?

Are you interested in issues that are important to us in Chautauqua County like Coal Ash? Watershed Issues? Our schools?

Then you should join the League of Women Voters. Here's some information.

**September 15th at noon**

at See-zurh House, 14 Main Street, in Bemus Point

*Home of the "Endless Summer"*



*A Bemus Tradition!*

Lunch will cost \$12 dollars which includes an entry, coffee, dessert, tax and tip.

\_\_\_\_\_ Jumbo Beef on Weck served with chips

\_\_\_\_\_ Shaggy Salad, mixed greens with chilled charbroiled chicken, feta cheese, black olives, tomatoes, red onion tossed with vinaigrette

\_\_\_\_\_ See-zurh House Club, ham, turkey, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo

\_\_\_\_\_ Veggie Wrap, cucumbers, roasted peppers, mushrooms in a wrap with crumbly bleu cheese

Make check payable to LWVCC, and send to Gloria Garretson, 4932 Shorewood Drive, Dunkirk, 14048, by Sept. 10th.


**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

<b>August 18</b>	9:30 am—Board of Directors Meeting at Noon at Marcia Merrins' 42 Rosalyn Court in Fredonia mmerrins@netsync.net 672-4275
<b>August 20, 21, 22</b>	Fredonia Farm Festival Carol Doino, Coordinator 679-7481
<b>September 15</b>	NOON with John Jablonski "Update on Chautauqua Lake" See-zurh House, 14 Main Street, in Bemus Point RESERVATIONS: Gloria Garretson, 4932 Shorewood Drive, Dunkirk, 14048, by Sept. 10th.
<b>October 21</b>	Meet the Candidates at the Fredonia Opera House
<b>October 25</b>	Meet the Candidates at the Jackson Center in Jamestown.

**THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS**

**RANDY'S ANTIQUES**  
41 East Main Street  
Fredonia, NY 14063  
(716) 679-9587  
Buy and Sell  
Estate Sales Conducted

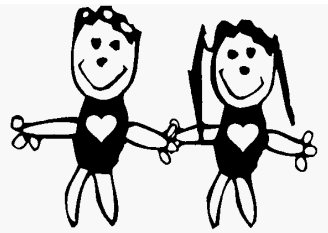
Box Office 716.679.1891 [www.fredopera.org](http://www.fredopera.org)

 **The 1891  
Fredonia  
Opera House**


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DFT Communications Spotlight Series *Special Rental Events*  
**Finley/Star Great Performers Series** FREDONIA STORYTELLING FESTIVAL  
 Folk in Fredonia Music Series Bach & Beyond Baroque Music Festival  
**Carousez Family Series** D.R. BARKER LIBRARY COMMUNITY SERIES  
 OPERA HOUSE CINEMA SERIES *Children's Cinema Series*

Chautauqua County Association for the Education of  
Young Children



**VILLAGE ELDERS YOGA**  
*Carolyn Kieber Grady, RYT*  
Tuesdays 2:30-3:30 p.m.  
Fredonia-Pomfret Senior Center  
Cushing Street, Fredonia  
Call to register: 672-2891  
Donation: \$4.00 \*\*\*\*\*For ages 50+

  
**DARWIN'S**  
HEALTH CLUB, INC.

679-1591  
47-53 Water St.  
Fredonia, NY 14063

Open  
Mon. - Fri.  
4:30 am-10 pm  
Sat. 7 am-6 pm  
Sun. 7 am-5 pm

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PO BOX 1035  
CHAUTAUQUA, NY 14722

**Karen & Roy Harvey**  
The most powerful weapon in the hands of the  
oppressor is the mind of the oppressed – *Steven Biko*

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

The League of Women Voters of Chautauqua County is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

Invite a Friend to Join or Give the Gift Of League Membership!!

Make Your Voice Heard Join Us Today!

League of Women Voters of Chautauqua County

Management Team

Minda Rae Amiran

Claudia Ansell

Priscilla Bernatz

Gloria Garretson

Janet Jankowski-George

Reggie Komar

Gen Ludemann

Marcia Merrins

Shirley Pulawski

Judy Reynolds

Tillie Solomonson

2010 Membership

Mail to: Perce Bernatz,

68 Lambert Ave, Fredonia, NY 14063

Membership Dues: through December 31, 2010

Individual: \$60; Family: \$90; Student: \$25

(Check payable to LWV Chautauqua County)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to get involved with:

Local Issues Voter Service State/National Issues Local Newsletter

Assisting with minor tasks occasionally Other: \_\_\_\_\_