



VOTER IMPACT

January, 2020 Vol. XXXII Issue 4

Lunch with the League

"The Fight for Women's Suffrage:

What We Can learn from Women's Civic Engagement"

**Speakers: Carol Ghorsi Hart, Director of the Greensboro History Museum
And**

Dr. Wayne Journell, Professor, School of Education, UNCG

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Holy Trinity Haywood Duke Room

607 N. Greene Street, Greensboro, NC 27401

Doors open at 11:30

The program is free and a buffet Lunch is \$12.00.

Make reservations with Bonnie Kristoff by phone (336-547-0824) or send email to

Reservations@lwwpt.org by January 15. Contact Bonnie for special needs.

Lunch is to be prepaid. To make reservations by mail, send your check made out to the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad with the date of the lunch on the memo line. Mail to LWVPT, PO Box 9721,

<http://lwwpt.org>

Greensboro, NC 27429. You may also use our website and PayPal or your credit card to make reservations. To attend the program without lunch, please let Bonnie know by phone (336-547-0824), email (bbklunch@gmail.com), or via the website (lwpvt.org). If you need the form to send in your reservation, contact Bonnie with that request.

Speakers for January LWL

Carol Hart, Director of the Greensboro History Museum, will be the first speaker. She will discuss the history of the efforts to succeed in the passage of the 19th Amendment. Specifically, the actions the activists took to reach their goals.

Dr. Wayne Journell, Professor of Social Studies and Civic Education, School of Education at UNCG, will explore how the women's actions allowed them to succeed, with a focus on what we can learn from them in our own advocacy as we work to sustain and expand democratic principles.

Message from the President – January 2020

Happy New Year! It promises to be a very exciting year with the League of Women Voters. We are celebrating the 100th year of women finally winning the right to vote. We also are celebrating the 100th birthday of the League here in North Carolina. The North Carolina League of Women Voters was started right here in Greensboro. And, of course, this is an important election year. There will be lots of opportunities this year to register new voters, exercise our vote, and commemorate the many courageous women and men who have gone before us.

This year, one of the things that seems particularly important to me, is to work toward being respectful of all. The attitude of our culture has taken on an air of divisiveness. An aspect of the League that I find important is our non-partisan policy. We do not support any particular party or candidate. We do take stands on issues after much study and thought. We believe that education is important and that everyone has a right to study and form their own opinion. In short, we believe in being respectful to all. That's something that we also can celebrate.

I invite you to join with me in celebrating with the League of Women Voters this year.

Co-president Ann Proescholdt-Shaw

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT VOTER IMPACT

Voter Impact will be formatted in this simpler format for the foreseeable future. We need someone to edit and format Voter Impact. If you can use Word or another word processor you can do this. Please consider it and send email to lwpvtmail@gmail.com and volunteer. If two or more persons volunteer, no one will need to do all issues.

Voter Service – North Carolina Primaries are Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020!

The Voter Service VOTE411 Team met December 15th in anticipation of the December 20th deadline for candidate filing. Candidate questions were drafted and members volunteered for the many tasks required to meet the Vote411 deadlines. A letter was drafted and mailed December 31st to all 212 candidates who filed, introducing them to VOTE411 and requesting they confirm/provide their email addresses. Team members are currently calling candidates participating in the Primaries to obtain any missing emails. Sara White is leading the effort to get all of the information into the VOTE411 database.

Next on the agenda is finalizing the invitation to participate and the candidate questions. Invitations to participate will be emailed to candidates in the next few days. Follow up calls to candidates who do not respond to the invitation will begin mid-January. The VOTER GUIDE is planned to go live on FEBRUARY 4th.

If you are interested in joining the team contacting candidates to urge them to participate please email voterservice@lwpvt.org.

IMPORTANCE OF THE 2020 CENSUS

It is very important that all households answer the census questions. A postal worker or a census worker will deliver an invitation to participate. Households may respond one of three ways: online, regular mail or telephone.

95% of households will receive their census invitations in the mail. The invitations will be sent in 2020.

5% of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off.

1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker. These households are located in remote areas such as remote Alaska, northern Maine and in select American Indian (Native Americans) that ask to be counted in person.

Most people are likely to respond online so many households will receive a letter asking them to go online and complete the census questions. You will be able to get help over the phone if needed.

Other people will receive a paper questionnaire.

WHEN DOES THE CENSUS START?

March 12-20 Invitation to respond online and maybe on paper.

March 16-24 Reminder letters.

Then if you have not responded yet:

March 26-April 3 Reminder postcards

April 8-16 Reminder letter and paper questionnaire

April 20-27 Final reminder postcard before you will be contacted in person.

This information is from the City of Greensboro website, but is applicable to all.

<https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=43803>

Reminder from the November Voter Impact: U.S. Census Bureau Kicks Off National Recruitment Campaign

The Census Bureau needs to hire about 500,000 census takers across the country in 2020.

Project 2020 is Now!

A few weeks ago, LWVPT Members received a letter introducing and requesting support for Project 2020, our initiative to commemorate and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the U. S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote.

Plans have been underway since last February and, working with many other organizations, there will be a full slate of events, programs, and speakers at various venues around the Piedmont Triad. We invite you to participate as a volunteer, an observer and attendee, and with your financial support.

Due to the timing of this letter, you may have overlooked or forgotten about it, so we wanted to bring it to your attention. Should you wish to make a contribution to offset the costs of this project, please go to our website homepage and click on the yellow rose. Or, you can make your tax-deductible donation to LWVPT Education Fund, Inc. with the memo line “Project 2020” and mail your check to: LWVPT, P.O. Box 9721, Greensboro, NC 27429. For additional information about our project, click on the line above the yellow rose: “1920- 2020: Women Voting – America Changing”. Thank you.

Tracy Nash

Member, LWVPT Board of Directors 2019-2020



Membership Committee Report January

The major task before us this past month was to contact by phone all those members who have not renewed their membership. The committee made over 75 phone calls which resulted in 7 renewed memberships. To keep our membership roll up to date, 70 non-renewing members were removed from our membership list. The result is 267 members in good standing. We are discussing ways to make renewing membership less labor intensive for our committee. And as we have done in prior years, we are discussing ways to diversify our membership.

Jean Alsup

Environment Roundtable, November

The Roundtable met on November 7, 2019. Our guest speaker was Eddie Raynard, Environmental Compliance Coordinator in the Field Operations Group the City of Greensboro. Mr. Raynard has been with the City of Greensboro for 15 years. Greensboro contracts with the local firm, EcoFlo located on Patterson Street.

The Patterson Street hazardous waste center is open six days a week. The facility accepts waste from residents of both Greensboro and Guilford County. Operation cost is shared with the City paying 75% and the county paying 25%.

Hazardous wastes are accepted only from private residents. There is no direct charge for citizens using the waste disposal facility, but city residents pay a sixty cents monthly charge on their water bill to fund the city's cost of the contract with EcoFlo. In 2005 the city began accepting electronic waste which is approximately 50% of what is collected.

Mr. Raynard provided a lot of specific information about the hazardous waste collection program. Some of these are presented below:

- The largest generator of hazardous waste is homeowners
- Over 28,000 people used the hazardous waste facility in 2018
- Less than 10% of residents are using the facility

<http://lwwpt.org>

- The annual program cost is approximately \$800,000
- Over 1,800,000 pounds of waste were collected in 2018
- Waste disposal costs approximately ten cents/pound

Judy Hoag and Dick Feulner, co-chairs

Welcome

We would like to welcome the following new members who joined in November and December: Maribeth Weinman, Marion Dansby-Byrd, Constance Duling, Patricia Posser, DeAuszio Swift, Eman Carter, Ruth Kalume, Jenea Holbert, Ashley Powers, Kayla Jystach, Rebecca Holt and Sharon Burkett. We are pleased you have decided to join us and support our programs. We hope to see you at future activities.

Get Well Wishes

We extend our positive thoughts and get well wishes to long term League member Sue Jezorek, Scott Lawrence, husband of Vicki White-Lawrence, and Caroline Tomlinson-Pemberton as she recovers from a recent accident.

How to Give to the LWVPT

Donations to all LWVPT funds can be made via the website, http://www.lwvpt.org/donate_form.html or by mail to: LWVPT , P O Box 9721. Greensboro, NC 27429

A tax hint for 2020.

Have you lost your charitable tax deductions because of the new tax laws passed by the Trump administration? Are you 70 ½ years old or older? Do you have an IRA?

If so, consider making Qualified Charitable Distributions directly from your IRA to your charities instead of making all your Required Minimum Distribution to yourself. You'll get those tax benefits back.

For example, suppose you are required to withdraw \$15,000 from your IRA, are 70 ½ years or older, and your tax rates are 5.5% for NC and 12% for USA (typical), and you normally donate \$2,000 to 10 different charities or 501 c 3 organizations. Normally, the amount taxable to you would be \$15,000, with no deduction because of the new tax law. By requesting your IRA holder to send the donations directly from your IRA (Qualified Contribution Distribution), you would be taxed only on \$13,000, and you would save \$350 in taxes. Not a bad return for a few minutes online.

Vanguard, my broker, lets the account holder fill in the names of the charitable organizations and amounts online. The checks are sent to the account holder, and the account holder sends the checks to the charitable organizations. It took about 10 minutes of time.

Just a thought. Check with your tax person, and have a great 2020!

Contributors 2019

So many members contributed in 2019! And this list doesn't include those who gave so generously of their time! The League of Women Voters thanks all of you!

Major Donors: Led Austin, Cone Health Foundation, Claire and Larry Morse, Ann Proescholdt-Shaw, Laurey Solomon, Paula Stober and Bill Bucklen, and an Anonymous Donor.

Other Donors: Teresa Bratton, Barbara Carter, Patricia Chamings, Diana Clark, The Coltrane Foundation, Frances Doost, Peggy Ferebee, Anna Fesmire, Heidi Fleshman, Joan Gould, Lynn Grigni, Guilford Battle NSDAR, Wayne Hale, Betsy & Jack Harrington, Jane Harris, Judith Hyman, Jack and Sue Jezorek, Gary Kenton, Bonnie Kristoff, Jean Malone, Elizabeth Moser, Molly Mullin, Tracy Nash, Marlene Pratto, Sylvia Samet, Martha Shafer, Janice Siebert, Mary Nelle Smith, Sue Stinson, Paula Swonguer, Willie Taylor, Carol Thompson, Vicki White-Lawrence and those anonymous donors who put cash in our Red Box.

Officers or the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad

Co-President: Vicki White-Lawrence (2018-2020), 336-643-7676/ 336-324-7267, President@lwwpt.org

Co-President: Ann Shaw (2019-2021), 765-520-5939, President@lwwpt.org

Vice-President: Anna Fesmire (2019-2020), (Chair, Social Justice RT), 336-457-7165, vicepresident@lwwpt.org

Secretary: Cynthia Schaub (2019-2021), 336-908-7697, sec@lwwpt.org

Treasurer: Sandra Colyer (2018-2020), 336-991-1173, treasurer@lwwpt.org

The co-presidents have the same email address. A message sent to President@lwwpt.org will go to both Vicki and Ann.

Submissions to Voter Impact

If you have something to share with other members of the LWVPT, please send your information to webvi@lwwpt.org on or before the first Tuesday of the month.

Volunteering to register people to vote and urging them to be informed voters is one of the most important things you can do to make democracy work! Please volunteer by contacting the coordinator via email

VoterRegistration@lwwpt.org or phone 336-210-7763.