



# VOTER IMPACT

LWV OF THE PIEDMONT TRIAD  
PO BOX 9721 GREENSBORO, NC 27429  
PHONE: 336-274-0202  
EMAIL: LWVPTMAIL@GMAIL.COM  
HTTP://LWVPT.ORG  
VOLUME XXX ISSUE 6 MARCH 2018

## Lunch with the League

### Report from the Frontlines:

## LWVNC's and Other National Court Battles to End Racial and Partisan Gerrymandering.

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 11:45  
Holy Trinity Church, Haywood Duke Room  
607 N. Greene St.  
Greensboro

Lunch (optional) is \$11.00. See payment protocol on page 3.

Make reservations with Bonnie Kristoff (336-547-0824) or send email to [Reservations@lwvpt.org](mailto:Reservations@lwvpt.org) by March 14. Let her know if you want a vegetarian meal.



**J**aclyn Maffetore, staff attorney in the voting rights section at the *Southern Coalition for Social Justice*, will make a presentation on Voting Rights/Gerrymandering Issues in the Courts: a look at modern day redistricting efforts in North Carolina and beyond.

Her focus will be on several of the redistricting cases in Federal and State courts dealing with the issues of racial and partisan gerrymandering, arguments regarding partisan gerrymandering and how it violates the First and/or Fourteenth Amendments, and what the current cases may mean for the 2018 and 2020 elections.

*Gerrymandering is the process of re-drawing district voting lines to give an advantage to one political party over another.*

Please refer to this page when you need to contact a board member. When emails are shared by two people, each will get the message.

**Board of Directors (2017-2018)**

Tracy Nash, President (2016-2018)

[president@lwwpt.org](mailto:president@lwwpt.org)

Vicki White-Lawrence, Vice-President (2017-2018)

[vicepresident@lwwpt.org](mailto:vicepresident@lwwpt.org)

Open Position, Secretary (2017-2019)

[sec@lwwpt.org](mailto:sec@lwwpt.org)

Margaret Flannery, Treasurer (2017-2018)

[treasurer@lwwpt.org](mailto:treasurer@lwwpt.org)

Janice Siebert, Co-President Emeritus (2017-2018),  
Co-Chair, Membership Committee

[membership@lwwpt.org](mailto:membership@lwwpt.org), [presemeritus@lwwpt.org](mailto:presemeritus@lwwpt.org)

Kay Brandon, Nominating Committee (2016-2018)

[kaybrandon@lwwpt.org](mailto:kaybrandon@lwwpt.org)

Andy Stern (2016-2018), Co-chair,

Fair Elections Roundtable

[fer@lwwpt.org](mailto:fer@lwwpt.org)

Catherine Magid (2017-2019), Chair, Voter Services  
Committee

[voterservice@lwwpt.org](mailto:voterservice@lwwpt.org)

Ann Shaw (2017-2019)

[annshaw@lwwpt.org](mailto:annshaw@lwwpt.org)

Tyler Daye, Twitter Master (2018-2019)

[TylerDaye@lwwpt.org](mailto:TylerDaye@lwwpt.org)

Heidi Fleshman, Email Manager (2018-2019)

[HeidiFleshman@lwwpt.org](mailto:HeidiFleshman@lwwpt.org)

**Appointed one-year board members**

Gary Kenton, Chair Sally Austin Project Committee

[SallyAustinProject@lwwpt.org](mailto:SallyAustinProject@lwwpt.org)

Addy Jeffrey, Chair, Social Media

[SocialMedia@lwwpt.org](mailto:SocialMedia@lwwpt.org)

Whitney Vanderwerff, Chair, Immigration Reform  
Roundtable

[irt@lwwpt.org](mailto:irt@lwwpt.org)

Marlene Pratto, Webmaster / Voter Impact Editor

[MarlenePratto@lwwpt.org](mailto:MarlenePratto@lwwpt.org)



Spring is on the way.....

Peggy Ferebee, Co-Chair, Membership  
Committee [membership@lwwpt.org](mailto:membership@lwwpt.org)

Walter Salinger, Co-chair, Fair Elections RT,  
LWVNC Board Liaison [fer@lwwpt.org](mailto:fer@lwwpt.org)

**Adjuncts to the Board**

Anna Fesmire, Chair, Social Justice Roundtable  
[SocialJustice@lwwpt.org](mailto:SocialJustice@lwwpt.org)

Dick Feulner, Co-Chair, Environment Roundtable  
[ert2@lwwpt.org](mailto:ert2@lwwpt.org)

Judith Hoag, Lunch with the League Coordinator,  
Co-Chair, Environment Roundtable

[lunchcoordinator@lwwpt.org](mailto:lunchcoordinator@lwwpt.org), [ert2@lwwpt.org](mailto:ert2@lwwpt.org)

Dot Kearns, Co-chair, Public Education RT  
[per@lwwpt.org](mailto:per@lwwpt.org)

Bonnie Kristoff, Lunch w/the League Reserva-  
tions [Reservations@lwwpt.org](mailto:Reservations@lwwpt.org)

Ellen Weiner, Chair, Publicity & Chair, Nominat-  
ing Committee [Publicity@lwwpt.org](mailto:Publicity@lwwpt.org),

[nominate@lwwpt.org](mailto:nominate@lwwpt.org)

Willie Taylor, Co-Chair, Public Education RT  
[per@lwwpt.org](mailto:per@lwwpt.org)

Gloria Harris, Chair, Voter Registration For Natu-  
ralization Ceremonies

[NewCitizenVoterRegistration@lwwpt.org](mailto:NewCitizenVoterRegistration@lwwpt.org)

Bob Kollar (2017-19), LWVPT Correspondent

[bobkollar@peoplepc.com](mailto:bobkollar@peoplepc.com)

Message from the President

Happy Spring!

The candidates have all filed and the race is on! Our Voter Services committee are meeting regularly to create the questions that will be asked of the candidates. Our partnership with the News & Record continues. For the primary election, they will feature candidate profiles and responses for contested races in Guilford County. In addition, we will have LWVPT's Voter Survival Kit (vsk.org) with election information for Alamance, Forsyth, Guilford and Rockingham Counties.

I am sure that the more than 100 of you who attended our February Lunch with the League (LWL) at Penn-Griffin School for the Arts will agree that it was a truly unique and rewarding LWL experience. We are grateful to Dot Kearns and Willie Taylor, co-chairs of our Public Education roundtable, for their inspiration to get us out of our comfort zone and to Mary Lou Blakeney, Commissioner Carlvena Foster, Principal Howard Stimpson, the students who performed and the students who so warmly welcomed us and helped make the event such a success.

The March LWL is back at Holy Trinity and will be hosted by our Fair Elections roundtable, with a presentation on Voting Rights/Gerrymandering Issues in the Courts. You won't want to miss this important event.

The reports from our Nominating Committee are very exciting. They are lining up some excellent, well-qualified candidates to serve on our Board of Directors for the next two years. However, not every position has been filled, so it's not too late to throw your own hat into the ring or recommend another person. Just give Ellen Weiner, chair of the nominating committee a call: 336-317-3423 or email her at: weiner.ellen@gmail.com.

At the February LWL, we collected \$33 in donations in the Red Box that will go toward our operating fund. Thank you to all who gave.



Tracy Nash, President

✂

**Reservations for: Lunch With the League on March 20, 2018**

To pay by check, please print out and complete this form and mail to:  
 The League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad  
 PO Box 9721  
 Greensboro, NC 27429

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Reservations @ \$11.00 each \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

LWVPT members and guests are asked to prepay for lunch at our Lunch with the League meetings by mailing a check to LWVPT for \$11.00 or paying online with a credit card or via Pay Pal. Those not having lunch simply preregister as usual by calling or emailing Bonnie Kristoff, 336-547-0824 or bbklunch@gmail.com or following the instructions sent with the email message. These procedures expedite the check-in process and make certain payment is made for a reserved lunch.

# BROKEN POLITICS

## SAVING DEMOCRACY IN A POLARIZED COUNTRY

with

**Dr. Norman Ornstein**

Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute

Presented by



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE PIEDMONT TRIAD**

with a grant from the LWVPT Education Fund in memory of Sally Austin

Hosted by the Department of Political Science



**UNCG**



Save the date

**When:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**Where:** UNCG's Elliot University Center Auditorium

507 Stirling Street  
Greensboro, NC 27412

Program & Parking are Free, But Space Is Limited!

Please RSVP By Going To: [lwvpt.org](http://lwvpt.org)

For Questions, Use This Email Address: [Questions@lwvpt.org](mailto:Questions@lwvpt.org)

## A Shower

Showers bring spring flowers! At our March Lunch with the League we will be having a shower for those who have been homeless, but have recently moved inside. We are collecting laundry detergent, hand soap, toilet paper, paper towels, and dishwashing detergent (for hand washing of dishes). League member Ann Shaw co-ordinates this project which is beginning its third year of providing supplies that food stamps will not buy. Supplies are stored at First Lutheran and then distributed by social workers for Partners Ending Homelessness. If you would prefer to make a cash or check donation, there will be a box to collect these. Checks can be made out to First Lutheran with TPS in the memo line. Contributions written in this way are tax deductible.

### New members

We would like to welcome new members:

**Debra Asante-McClain,  
Sharon Contreras,  
Bree Hendrickson and  
Lorraine Portalla**

to the LWVPT. We hope you will enjoy the programs and activities that our League offers.

### Spring Marches in Greensboro

Organizer: March For Our Lives, Greensboro

Event Website:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1575095649278464/>

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2018

Time: 2 PM-6 PM EDT

Where: LeBauer Park, 208 N. Davie St. Greensboro, NC

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Organizer: March for Science, *Science for Justice*

Event Website:

<https://www.facebook.com/marchforscience/>

Date: Saturday, April 14, 2018

Time: 10AM—Noon

Where: Mc Donald Governmental Plaza followed by march to Center City Park, Greensboro, NC

### ***So the League is nonpartisan. Does that mean we're not political?***

No. We're nonpartisan in that we do not support or oppose any party or candidate. Via our Voter Guides and forums we bring the issues to ALL candidates with neutral questions that do not suggest a right or wrong answer. Voters, after hearing or reading their responses, decide who gets their vote. We are political in that, after study and consensus, we take positions on issues, we educate people and we advocate on behalf of those issues.

## Immigration Policy Reform

On Saturday, January 27 at LeBauer Park in downtown Greensboro, an enthusiastic and successful event noted the 1-year anniversary of the new administration's first refugee and travel ban. The event, planned to coincide with the passing of the Executive Order on immigration enforcement, was called "*Together for All of Us, A Solidarity Rally for Refugees and Immigrants: Impacted Communities Reflect on ONE YEAR of Refugee and Muslim Bans, Immigrant Enforcement, Separation of Families, and Uncertainty for Millions.*"

The anti-immigrant NC Senate Bill 145 was passed in 2017 by the Senate but not by the House. It is likely to come up during the legislative short session. It directs state police to enforce federal immigration law, punishes local governments who enact their own immigration policies, and defunds UNC institutions that limit its role in enforcing immigration law. UNC would have to disclose to law enforcement the immigration status of students (which violates privacy protections in the Federal Family Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)).

On February 8, an interfaith press conference at Guilford Park Presbyterian Church in support of DACA attracted widespread media coverage.

A "Friends of Detainees Group" has visited the for-profit Stewart Detention Center, the notorious private prison operating under contract with ICE to house immigrant detainees in Lumpkin, Georgia. They will facilitate four trips to Stewart during 2018. Three are now scheduled: June 23-24; September 8-9; Nov. 10-11. For information, contact the trip organizer, Ann Cahill, [cahilla@elon.edu](mailto:cahilla@elon.edu).

On February 20, "The State of Things" on WUNC 91.5 FM with Frank Stasio focused on immigration with "*The Price of Sanctuary.*" The program featured among others the Rev. Julie Peebles of Greensboro's Congregational UCC where Oscar Canales is now in Sanctuary, and Congolese Refugee Women in the Triad. The program was broadcast state-wide from Triad Stage in downtown Greensboro.

Juana Luz Tobar Ortega has been in sanctuary at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church since this past May 29. This small congregation needs people to be with Juana (shifts 9am-5pm; 1pm-5pm, and overnight 9:30 pm-9am) and asks that we contact Rev. Leslie Bland (336-662-3902) for information. [The church has established a fund for Juana.]

On February 26, the Supreme Court declined to bypass appellate court rulings for DACA, which means a reprieve for current DACA enrollees. President Trump had set a March 5 date for terminating the program. Now, Dreamers remain protected and can continue renewing their DACA protections because the case must move back to the lower courts. No new applications are possible, but if a person allowed his or her DACA protection to expire, she or he can apply to renew. As Senator Dick Durbin stated, this is by no means a permanent solution.

The Supreme Court ruling on February 27 is causing confusion. The court's opinion by Justice Samuel Alito reversed a federal appeals court ruling that had read a six-month limit into a federal law that allows for detention of immigrants without bail while their status is reviewed. Justice Stephen Breyer wrote a strong dissent, joined by Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor. Ann Marie Dooley recommends the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Quicktake at <http://www.aila.org/publications/videos/quicktakes/quicktake-236-jennings-v-rodriquez-ruling>.

Addy Jeffrey and Ashley Nissler were panelists at the "Lunch with the League Immigration Forum" in Elizabeth City on February 24. NC NE League president Terra Fox and her team worked for months on this program, which included the Chief of Police and an immigration attorney. Members of the highly engaged audience asked meaningful questions, often emphasizing children's and families' fears. Once again, we express appreciation to LWFNC Co-President Margaret Salinger who asked, at the September 19 Lunch with the League program on immigration, "Can we take this on the road?" This is our first "road trip," with gratitude to Margaret for the idea and for arranging LWFNC funding support.

*Continued on p. 7*

## LWVPT Statement for 2018 Convention

In preparation for the LWVUS Convention in Chicago this summer, Leagues across the country were invited to offer program planning input for the 2018-2020 biennium. LWVUS is asking Leagues to focus programmatic efforts around the Campaign for Making Democracy Work, which was adopted by LWVUS at convention 2016 and is focused on: Voting Rights, Improving elections, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, and Redistricting. At the same time, Leagues were given the opportunity to recommend items of focus in lieu of or in addition to this program. At the meeting of the LWVPT Board of Directors on February 6, it was decided that we would make a strong statement in favor of a focus on public education. Following is the statement that was entered into the record on February 28:

The LWVPT believes that because public education is an essential pillar of our democracy, a "Campaign for Making Democracy Work" that does not include the vital role of public education is fatally flawed. In North Carolina, as well as many other states across our nation, we are struggling against great odds to maintain a viable public education system. We believe public schools in America are under attack and their future is in jeopardy. Scholarships, vouchers and other public dollars are flowing into private and for profit charter schools while our increasingly segregated public schools are struggling to educate more poor students with extensive needs. At the same time, counselors, school nurses, social workers and other essential services to meet these needs are being minimized and underfunded. We urge the LWVUS to remove Education from the SOCIAL POLICY section of "Impact on Issues" and reclassify it as a separate category entitled PUBLIC EDUCATION.

We further urge the LWVUS to support a study of the status of public schools in America including the impact of charter schools and the effect of vouchers on traditional public schools; the effect of inadequate teacher salaries and benefits, the effects of inadequate support services, the demands that high levels of student poverty place on public schools; the effect on society of re-segregation of schools and the potential consequence of segregating communities, the dangers of aging school infrastructure, and the challenges inherent in making schools safe.

Submitted by:

*Dot Kearns and Willie Taylor*  
Co-Chairs, Public Education Roundtable

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A collection of recycling columns from the City of Greensboro: [www.greensboro-nc.gov/wonder](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/wonder) .

This is a very nice site answering many recycling questions. These columns are frequently included in neighborhood newsletters or *NextDoor*.

*Continued from page 6*

On February 28, immigration attorney and League member Ann Marie Dooley, who serves as Vice Chair of AILA of the Carolinas, addressed the Latino Coalition of Guilford County. She stated that this is a dark time, noting a 50% increase in ICE arrests, lack of due process at detention centers, immigration judges in Charlotte who have provoked a lawsuit because they're not having *bond hearings*, *the pressure on courts to clear the docket*, the increasing frequency of arrests of immigrants with no criminal record, and ICE going into courthouses to make arrests.

DACA was the focus of a broadcast on NPR's "1A," 88.5 FM or 91.5 FM, 10:00am.

*Whitney Vanderwerff*

### LWVPT Education Fund

Thank you for your contributions to the LWVPT Education Fund for use in the Sally Austin Citizen Education Project. This year's project is a lecture by noted congressional scholar and author Norman Ornstein on extremism in politics, scheduled for the evening of Thursday April 12, 2018.

Just some interesting facts about the Sally Austin Project. Since the start of the campaign on January 1, 2017, we are just \$40 short of reaching \$10,000 in contributions, almost all of it from members. There were 56 contributors, many donating more than one time. The funds raised covered the presentation on gerrymandering and will cover the expenditures of the lecture by Norman Ornstein, and hopefully will also add to the generous gift from Led Austin for future projects.

These truly ambitious projects are FREE to League members and to the public. If you have not donated towards this project, please do it! The amount of the donation, \$20, \$10, \$5, is much less important than your show of support by making a donation. I've listed alphabetically those who contributed in February.

Mary Davis    Peggy and Charles Ferebee    Molly Mullin    Marie Poteat  
Marion Ross    Evalyn Ryan    Jennifer Schaal

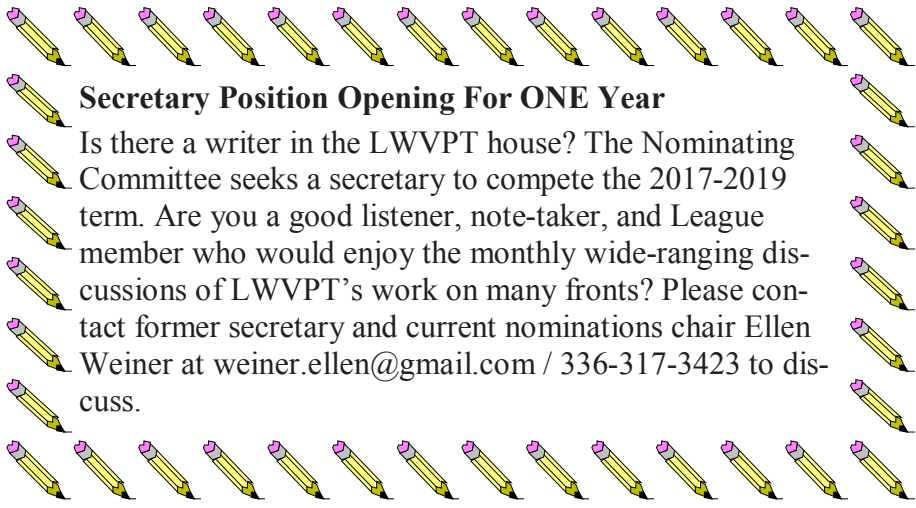
You can designate your tax deductible contributions to the LWVPT Education Fund for general projects rather than to the Sally Austin projects. These are projects the League does every year: this year \$2,500 of your contributions were allocated for Voter Services, Voter Registration, equipment used at Lunch with the League and other events, the Voter Survival Kit and videos for League events.

Non tax deductible contributions are also important: we're always grateful for contributions to the LWVPT, rather than to the LWVPT Education Fund. These contributions are not tax deductible, but they allow **advocacy** as well as education, and since our membership dues barely cover our payments to the LWV of NC and the LWV of the US, they are so helpful. We thank you all! And we hope that many more of you will support this work.

Please see the call out above for information on how to donate, and again, thank you for your support!

*Lynn Grigni, Treasurer, LWVPT Education Fund and Margaret Flannery, Treasurer, LWVPT.*

Make **tax deductible** donations to the "LWVPT Education Fund, Inc." online at [http://www.lwvpt.org/donate\\_form.html](http://www.lwvpt.org/donate_form.html)  
or by mail to:  
LWVPT Education Fund  
P O Box 9721  
Greensboro, NC 27429  
Using the same information, you may also make **non-deductible** donations to "LWVPT" (operating fund), used for advocacy on issues.



### Secretary Position Opening For ONE Year

Is there a writer in the LWVPT house? The Nominating Committee seeks a secretary to compete the 2017-2019 term. Are you a good listener, note-taker, and League member who would enjoy the monthly wide-ranging discussions of LWVPT's work on many fronts? Please contact former secretary and current nominations chair Ellen Weiner at [weiner.ellen@gmail.com](mailto:weiner.ellen@gmail.com) / 336-317-3423 to discuss.

**Remember the  
shower at  
LWL on  
March 20.  
See p. 5.**



## Suggested Guidelines for Letter Writing Offered to the LWVPT by Bob Kollar

Identify a current topic that is important to the electorate (ex: childhood hunger), then research facts on the subject and present those facts in a favorable light.

### Elements of Writing

Be succinct by using short sentences and perhaps bullet points.

Keep vocabulary simple.

Always take the high road by avoiding negative statements and by being objective and unemotional.

Avoid generalizations and clichés.

Write with the idea of informing readers and not changing minds. Readers need accurate, thought-provoking information.

### Submit letters electronically to

*News and Record* at [edpage@news-record.com](mailto:edpage@news-record.com) being aware of a 200 word limit and that an individual can submit two letters every 30 days.

*High Point Enterprise* at [letterbox@hpe.com](mailto:letterbox@hpe.com) knowing the word limit is 300 and submissions can be made every two weeks.

*Rhinoceros Times* at [letters@rhinotimes.net](mailto:letters@rhinotimes.net) As far as can be determined, letters have no maximum-word limit and can be submitted as often as desired to this weekly paper.

#### Events and Dates of Interest from the Immigration Roundtable

International Women's Day, YWCA High Point, **March 14, 6:00 pm**

International Festival at UNCG. Saturday **April 14, 12:00-5:00 pm**, Elliott University Center Lawn, 507 Stirling St. Greensboro

Witness for Peace Southeast, **last week of April**, Sanctuary Churches. Walk together from one of Greensboro's 2 Sanctuary Churches to the other. We will specify the date in an alert.

El Dia de los Ninos, El dia de los Libros, **Saturday April 28**, Greensboro Public Library, downtown Greensboro (Day of the children and of the books)



**@LWVPT is now on Twitter!**

LWVPT now has a Twitter account. Please follow us and tell your friends to do so, too.

Questions? Contact our Twitter Master, Tyler Daye: [TylerCDaye@gmail.com](mailto:TylerCDaye@gmail.com)

League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad  
PO Box 9721 Greensboro, NC 27429  
Phone: 336-274-0202  
Email: [lwvptmail@gmail.com](mailto:lwvptmail@gmail.com)  
<http://lwvpt.org>

Time-Sensitive material

**Lunch with the League**  
**March 20, 2018**  
**Please make a reservation**  
**by**  
**March 14**

President *Tracy Nash*  
Vice-president *Vicki White-Lawrence*  
Secretary *Open Position*  
Treasurer *Margaret Flannery*

***“The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose political parties or candidates.”***