# League of

Women Voters

Of Wood County WV

President: Nancy Novak 295-8215 nnovakwv@gmail.com

Local *Voter:* Kathy Stoltz, 295-7880, ksstoltz@suddenlink.net

LWVWV [www.lwvwv.org](http://www.lwvwv.org) LWVUS [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

Mark Your Calendar

Mon. Feb. 25 7 p.m. Membership Meeting

 Vienna Library – see below

Mon. March 11 7 p.m. LWVWC Board Meeting

 Wood County Library

Thurs. March 21 Annual Dinner Meeting

 Parkersburg Country Club

Membership Meeting – Feb. 25

**What Does the League Stand For?**

 League members know the League has positions on a wide variety of issues on which it advocates – election laws, environmental issues, health care, education, and others – but may not always know where those positions came from.

Some are positions adopted at national LWV conventions and apply to all leagues across the country. Some were adopted at state conventions and apply to all WV leagues. Some are local and apply only to the LWVWC. We call then consensus positions because that’s how they were arrived at, through study, discussion, and coming together around a consensus position.

 The February meeting will be a review on the positions adopted for WV that are the basis for advocacy on state issues. Board members will give brief reviews of the various topics covered and we’ll talk about how we use those positions.

 If members want to do homework, LWVWV positions are available at [www.lwvwv.org](http://www.lwvwv.org). Click on About Us at the top of the home page and you’ll find a link to consensus positions.

Voter

 February 2013

 Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 21

 Parkersburg Country Club

 6:00 p.m., Social time, 6:30 p.m.Dinner

 Our guest speaker will be Jill Parsons, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of the Mid-Ohio Valley. The Chamber describes itself as “a coalition of area businesses, industries, organizations, and professionals who pool their talents and resources to improve the economic, civic, and cultural climate of their community.” ([www.movchamber.org](http://www.movchamber.org))

 The Chamber engages in advocacy with government officials to “help ensure a prosperous future for our region and its citizens.”

 We’ve asked Ms. Parsons to talk about the role of the Chamber in our area, the issues on which it is active, and her priorities as the CEO, a position she has held for two years after an earlier career in hospital administration and marketing.

 A brief business meeting will follow Ms. Parsons’ remarks to elect officers, adopt a budget, and adopt local program items. See pages 2 & 3.

 The menu will include a choice of Chicken Milano (with broccoli, crumbled bacon and Hollandaise), Chef’s Choice Fish, or Vegetarian Pasta, all served with twice-baked potato, house salad, hot rolls, and chocolate mousse cake for dessert. Cost will be $25 per person. Reservations are due by March 18.

A reservation form is included on page 3 of the Voter. Spouses and guests are welcome’

Invite your friends to the annual meeting and encourage them to join. Through March there is a $10 reduction in dues, $30 for one member, $50 for two at one address.

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**Nominating Committee Report**

 (Teresa Kimmel (Chair), Terri Santiago, Jean Grapes )

*To be voted on at annual meeting*

President 2013-2015 Charmaine Dotson

1st V. President 2013-2015 Kathy Stoltz

Secretary 2013-2015 Mary Ann Layne

Director 2013-2015 Lydia Cobranchi

Director 2013-2015 Kathe Dietzler

Director 2013-2015 Emily Grafton

Nominating Committee Chair 2013-2014, Karen Campbell

Nominating Committee Member 2013-2014, Teresa Kimmel

Nominations can be made from the floor, provided you have the consent of the person nominated.

The following will be appointed by the board in April:

Directors 2013-14: Else Lamba (to fill Charmaine Dotson’s unexpired term), Margaret Spransy,

Nancy Novak, Nancy Taylor.

These positions continue for another year:

2nd Vice-president 2012-14 Barbara Buckmaster

Treasurer 2012-14 Marion Weiser

Director 2012-14 Jean Grapes

Director 2012-14 Judy Peascoe

**Proposed Local Program for 2013-14**

*To be voted on at annual meeting*

1. **ZONING**  Support sound zoning.
2. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

 A. Oppose primaries in municipal elections, with certain exceptions.

 B. Support measures to facilitate annexation, upgrade city services, and improve the area’s appearance

 C. Support full implementation and continuation of the strong-mayor charter for the city of Parkersburg.

 D. Support clarification of mayoral appointive powers, creation of office of Mayoral Administrative Assistant, and an independent audit of city finances for the city of Parkersburg.

3. **EDUCATION**

 A. Support re-evaluation of the Wood County School System.

 B. Support measures to improve the financial structure of the Wood County School System.

Continued →

4. **HEALTH SERVICES**

 A. Support adequate financing for mental health programs

 B. Support the idea that mental health services be delivered on a community level.

*Note: These are locally adopted positions, which apply only in Wood County. Our local League is bound by and operates under all state and national League positions as well.*

**Proposed 2013 – 2014 Budget**

*To be voted on at annual meeting*

Budget  **Proposed**

 FY 12-13 **FY 13-14**

INCOME

 Dues, members 1300 1200

 Contributions, members 100 100

 Contributions, non-members 0 0

 Annual meeting 500 500

 Miscellaneous 10 10

 From Reserves 460 695

 2370 2505

EXPENDITURES

Administrative Expense

 President 50 50

 Speaker gifts 0 20

 Secretary of State fee 25 25

 Other 0 0

Program and Activities

 Publications, Voter, roster, copier 300 300

 Voter Service 200 20

 Membership meetings, travel 20 20

 Annual Meeting 500 500

Delegates

 LWVWV Convention/Council 50 50

LWV Dues

 Per member payment, LWV US 900 1120

 Per member payment, LWV WV 325 400

Miscellaneous 0 0

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 2370 2505

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**WV Legislature**

 With Feb. 13 convening of the 3013 Regular session of the Legislature, the LWVWV will be watching the progress of legislation on several topics, among them election laws. You may want to watch the following election law bills:

**Voter ID**: SB 13, HB 2215, and HB 2350 all require voters to show photo ID at the polling place, The League **opposes** all Voter ID bills as an impediment to voter access and unnecessary in view of procedures already in place for WV elections.

**Public Financing**: Bill not yet introduced, but expected. The League **supports** extending the public financing for candidates for the WV Supreme Court of Appeals pilot project.

**Voter Registration**: SB 130 would extend the deadline for voter registration to the end of the early voting period (the Sat. before a Tues. election) instead of 21 days before the election. Registration would have to take place at the county courthouse. Bill would allow registration and voting on the same day and would allow voters to update registration information throughout early voting period.

**Nonpartisan Election of Supreme Court Justices:** HB 2479 and SB 7 would provide for nonpartisan election of justices of the Supreme Court of Appeals. HB 2027 would change election of all state-wide offices to nonpartisan.

*All have been referred to the Judiciary Committee in the chamber where introduced.*

**Keeping Up with the Legislature**

► WV Public Television is broadcasting *The Legislature Today* reports nightly at 6:30 p.m., repeated at 11:30 p.m. each weeknight.

► The Legislature’s website has updates “Today in the Legislature” (daily) and “Wrap-Up”, the ability to live stream sessions, ability to find bills on specific topics, track progress of bills, and members’ profiles with links to send them email, committee rosters, district maps, and more. Spend a few minutes learning how to navigate around the site and it will be easy to follow the action. [www.legis.state.wv.us](http://www.legis.state.wv.us)

► Check the LWVWV’s website for action alerts or other information about timely topics. [www.lwvwv.org](http://www.lwvwv.org)

►Use the information in the enclosed government officials roster to contact your legislators and tell them what you think.

**E-Voter???** As postage rates rise, the cost of mailing the Voter takes a bigger bite out of the league’s budget. The board has been subsidizing the budget from savings. We can’t do that forever. If you would prefer to receive your Voter via email, send an email to ksstoltz@suddenlink.net. Put E Voter on the subject line.



to new member Kathryn Worthington and returning member Emily Grafton.

#### Reservations for March 21, 2013 Annual Meeting

*Name(s)* *Please include a phone number Entrées: Chicken Milano, Chef’s Choice of Fish, or*

 *Vegetarian Pasta.*

 *Served with twice-baked potato, salad, rolls, chocolate mousse cake*

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Cost: $25.00 per person. Make check payable to **LWVWC** and mail to:

**Marion Weiser, 1 Fox Hill Dr., Parkersburg WV 26104 to arrive by March 18.**