# League of

Women Voters

Of Wood County WV

President: Charmaine Dotson 304-428-1076, cdye62@suddenlink.net

Local *Voter:* Kathy Stoltz, 304-295-7880, ksstoltz@suddenlink.net

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

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, April 19 Voter’s Guide published in

 Parkersburg News & Sentinel

Thursday, April 21 7:00 pm Pksbg City Building

 Meet the Candidates for Board of Education

Tuesday May 10 Primary Election Day

**Meet the Candidates**

**For Wood County Board of Education**



The League will host a Meet the Candidate event for candidates for Wood County Board of Education on Thursday, **April 21** at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of the Parkersburg City Building.

**Please help us spread the word by telling your friends, mentioning it on Facebook, and telling other groups to which you belong.**

All ten candidates have been invited to participate. This is the final election for the Board of Education, and is nonpartisan. Two seats will be on the ballot. Voters may elect one from each of districts A and B, or two from District B.

Help Wanted

If you are willing to help out on April 21 by acting as a time-keeper or handing out pencils and cards to attendees, please call Kathy Stoltz at 304-295-7880 or email ksstoltz@suddenlink.net .

 Voter April 2016

The League’s **Voter’s Guide** will be published in The Parkersburg News & Sentinel on **Tuesday, April 19.** (NOT April 17 as previously noted) Candidates for all local and state offices on the primary ballot have been invited to submit a brief biography and replies to League questions.

The Voter’s Guide will also be posted on [www.lwvwv.org](http://www.lwvwv.org).

 One person, one vote

It seems obvious, when drawing up districts from which representatives will be elected, you’d count the people divide by the number of districts, and draw districts with as equal a population as possible. After all, elected officials represent all the people in their districts. The U.S. Constitution requires that districts for the U.S. House of Representatives be based on total population.

A recent Supreme Court case was a review of a US District Court decision that had denied a TX group’s contention that their state senate districts should be required to draw up districts based on the number of citizens age 18 or over or a similar measure of the number of potential voters.

The Supreme Court let the District Court’s decision stand. The decision does not mandate that states use total population for state and local office districts, although all U.S. jurisdictions currently do. Reversing the decision would have opened the door for plans that would adversely affect population centers that have large populations of children, minorities, or non-citizens.

LWVUS filed an amicus brief in the case, supporting counting total population in redistricting.

(The case is *Evenwel v. Abbott* Information from The Brennan Center for Justice, [www.brennancenter.org](http://www.brennancenter.org) and LWVUS [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

Thank you to those who paid their dues at the annual meeting. If you haven’t yet paid……

The League’s budget year runs from April 1 to March 31. Thus dues for the coming year became payable on April 1. Dues are $45 for one member, $25 more for each additional member at the same address, checks payable to LWVWC. Mail to LWVWC Treasurer, 1 Fox Hill Drive, Parkersburg WV 26104.

Who are Wood Countians voting for

on May 10?

 If you’re not registered with either the Republican or Democratic party, you’ll get a ballot to vote for:

* Wood County Board of Education
* WV Supreme Court of Appeals
* Local Circuit Court Judges, Family Court Judges, and Magistrates
* Renewal of Mass Transit levy (Easy Rider) for residents of Parkersburg and Vienna only
* A levy for the Parkersburg & Wood County Public Library

If you are a registered Democrat, your ballot will include all of the above plus:

* US President
* US House of Representatives First District
* WV state offices, including WV Legislature
* County offices
* City offices (if appropriate in your location)

If you are a registered Republican, your ballot will include all of the above plus:

* At-large delegates to the Republican national convention (vote for 22 of 220 listed)
* Delegates to Republican national convention from First Congressional District (vote for 3 of 47 listed)

Given the length of the ballot, especially for Republicans, voters would be wise to look at the sample ballots on the county clerk’s web site before voting. (<https://woodcountywv.com/2016election/SampleBallot.htm>) or watch for the sample ballot when it is printed in *The Parkersburg News & Sentinel.*



LWV of Wood County

25 Lynnwood Dr.

Vienna WV 26105

**Meet the Candidates for Bd. Of Ed. April 21**

**April 2016 Voter**

Membership in the LWV is open to all citizens of

voting age. To join the LWVWC, send a check

payable to LWVWC for $45 (plus $25 for each additional

member at the same address) to the LWVWC Treasurer,

1 Fox Hill Dr., Parkersburg WV 26104

Write “dues” on the memo line.

Page 2, LWVWC Voter

Party Delegate Selection

 The Democratic Party sends 37 delegates to its national convention. In addition to the eight super delegates already mentioned, the other 29 will be chosen at the state Democratic convention in June. The super delegates are unpledged. The other 29 are apportioned to candidates according to the popular vote in the Primary Election.

 The eight super delegates go to the convention uncommitted. The other 29 go committed to a candidate.

 Republicans will send 34 delegates to their national convention. The party does not have super delegates. They elect 22 at-large delegates in the Primary, three more from each Congressional District, and the other three are the state party chair and the two national committee members from WV.

 According to the state Republican chair, delegates to convention are not actually committed to any one candidate, but traditionally they vote for their announced preference. If there’s no nominee after the first ballot, delegates are free to vote for anyone still in the race.

(With appreciation to WV MetroNews, where Hoppy Kercheval’s commentaries on April 11 & 12 explain the delegate selection process in more detail.) See:

<http://wvmetronews.com/category/hoppys-commentary/>



What’s a super delegate

 and who gets to be one?

Short answer: In WV in 2016 you’d have to be a Democrat and be one of: a state party leader, a national committee member, a US Senator, or the WV Governor, Treasurer, or Secretary of State. You go to the national convention uncommitted to a candidate.