

Morgantown-Monongalia County League of Women Voters Newsletter

November - December 2011

Legislator's Forum - December 7th!

We encourage members and the public to come and learn about the activities of our legislators and their priorities. Anthony Barill, Charlene Marshall, Amanda Pasdon, Bob Beach, Roman Prezioso, and Barbara Fleischauer are expected to be in attendance. After a question/answer period, we will have time to talk individually with them (also lots of goodies). See you there!

Calendar

December 7 Legislator's Forum, **7:30 pm**, at
Wednesday Suncrest United Methodist Church,
479 Van Voorhis Road.

Every month *IMPORTANT: The next Board*
1st Wednesday *Meeting for the Morgantown LWV*
Board Meeting *will be held Wednesday, January 4.*
We will meet at Panera's at 5:30
p.m. to plan our Spring Calendar.

when it comes time to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Updated Guide to Government Officials

...is now available, thanks to Clay Pytlik and Nancy Treat !
If anyone wants copies to distribute to businesses, individuals, public agencies, contact Nancy Treat, (304) 594-2229.

LWV National Study and Consensus Results

The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education

We had an excellent turnout for our Education Consensus on November 16th, and the informal format of enjoying Pizza/snacks while discussing the questions worked well. Everyone was intent on understanding the issues, and we were able to reach agreement on most of the 15 questions. We really appreciate Jonathan projecting the information and the questions on Power Point slides. Now it will be up to the National Board of the LWV to put together the responses from the Leagues all over the US, and come up with a Consensus that can be used to lobby Legislators

Natural Resources Report

The West Virginia Joint Select Committee on Marcellus Legislation finished their work on Wednesday, November 16, adding 33 amendments to last years SB 424 bill on Marcellus Shale regulations. The hope is that Governor Tomblin will ask for a special session of the Legislature, perhaps during the Interim Session December 12-14.

As members of the League, we can write to the Governor encouraging him to have a special session to approve the regulations. We feel that the session needs to be focused in order to work through the amendments and hopefully keep, or improve, the bill to be as strong as possible to protect homeowners and the environment.

Sign this Online Petition

<http://www.change.org/petitions/petition-to-demand-a-special-session-on-marcellus>

Contact the Governor (wv.gov)

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin State Capitol 1900
Kananwha Blvd., East Charleston, WV 23505
Phone: 304-558-2000 Toll Free 1-888-438-2731

Good sites to visit

<http://wv4mom.org> (WV for Moratorium on Marcellus)
<http://marcellus-wv.com> (educational)
<http://news.marcellus-wv.com> (news from the media)

Social Sites

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/marcelluswv>
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/stopthefracking>

Zoning Shale Gas Development in Morgantown

On November 22nd, the Natural Resource Committee met with Heather Dingman, Principal Planner for Morgantown. She discussed how the City hopes to handle Shale Gas drilling now that the City cannot enforce the Horizontal Hydraulic drilling ban.

Coming Soon! Check our website for an article about the meeting with Mrs. Dingman.

Our Website

Point your web browser to <http://lwvww.org> and find Morgantown in Categories.

Make sure to submit your Storybank stories to Jonathan Rosenbaum at <http://lwvww.org/contact>. Examples: <http://www.lwvww.org/category/league-of-women-voters-of-wv/my-story/>

LWVWV has a Facebook page. Do a google search for "League of Women Voters of West Virginia Facebook".

Membership and Dues

Reminders have been sent to members who still owe their dues. A list of members with addresses and other contact information will be published in a newsletter after January 1. Dues are \$44 for an individual and \$66 for a household. Dues must be received by the end of December to meet the LWV-US membership deadline for this year. **Contributions are always welcome!** Checks should be made to **LWV Morgantown-Mon County** and should be mailed to:

Lyndell Millecchia
476 Lawnview Drive
Morgantown, WV 26505

We welcome new members **John and Gloria Sofranko** and **Emily Jewson** to the League.

P.S. If you are a National LWV member and live in Monongalia County, you may want to join our local League. You will be a member at all three levels, and will receive the state and local newsletters. You do not need to pay national dues if you join at the local level.

January Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting for the Morgantown LWV will be held Wednesday, January 4. We will meet at Panera's at 5:30 p.m. to plan our Spring Calendar. Everyone is welcome to join us! Please call President Phyllis Marshall, 304-599-9309 for further information.