



# The League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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LWVWV website: [www.LWVWV.ORG](http://www.LWVWV.ORG)

LWVUS website: [www.LWV.ORG](http://www.LWV.ORG)

## HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ELECTION PROCESS?

Phyllis Smith, Cabell County Clerk, will be the speaker at our November 20 meeting at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, 469 Norway Avenue. The meeting will be co-sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Ms. Smith will speak about election laws and other duties of the office of the county clerk.

With the 2018 primary election approaching we need to know as much as possible about election laws and ways to promote voting. In today's election scene we face many issues -- how to protect our election processes from hacking, the pro-con of voter ID requirements, the interference of elections by foreign governments, how to sift through the accuracy of political ads and even news items about candidates, how to reach voters with accurate information about the candidates, and how to energize them to go to the polls.

Here are some of the items we asked Ms. Smith to cover in her presentation -- WV's new Voter ID law, the process of purging the registration rolls, early voting suggestions, assistance to voters who need help at the polls. (handicapped; others), absentee voting, election day workers, voter registration, and elections infractions.

After Phyllis Smith's presentation and Q and A's we will talk about ideas for the League's voter service activities in the 2018 elections. The meeting is open to the public.

## Natural Resources.

The LWVWV signed on with other WV organizations to letters asking WV Senators to support adequate funds for WV's EPA programs; asking the WV DEP to require gas companies to build their pipelines to standards that will not impair our water resources; commenting on the WVDEP's review of rules and policies that are more stringent than their federal counterparts; and commenting on the Impaired Streams program.

## WELCOME!

New member, Rhonda Smalley.

## SUPPORT THE LEAGUE

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan organization, believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote. Thus one of our missions is to provide the public with accurate information on candidates and the elections process. The League also studies and comes to consensus on issues with the aim of achieving those goals through education and advocacy. Some examples are listed later in this bulletin.

We have included in this mailing an envelope addressed to Ann Speer, our Treasurer, and a box indicating how much you would like to donate.

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It is important to me to have effective and representative local, state and national government. I want to help the League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area educate and inform voters about issues and candidates. Enclosed is a contribution of: \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions are not deductible unless made to the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Please make your check payable to the LWV Huntington Area or LWVEF and mail it to Ann Speer, Treasurer, 706 Ridgewood Rd. Huntington, WV 25701. Your information is not shared with other organizations. If you would like to receive information from the League, please check here \_\_\_\_\_.

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### **Health Care.**

The LWVUS opposes the executive order issued by President Trump that will end health care subsidies for insurance companies. Ending the subsidies will raise premiums and leave more Americans without meaningful health insurance. The LWVUS also opposes the administration's decision to allow employers to opt out of birth control coverage required by the Affordable Care Act. "Nine out of 10 women use birth control at some point in their lives for family planning or other medical reasons. Birth control is critical for effective family planning and preventing unwanted pregnancies, which we know opens up more opportunities for women and increases lifetime earnings."

### **WV's Voter ID Law.**

The WV Secretary of State called a group together to start developing a plan to inform West Virginians about the new Voter ID law. Kathy Stoltz represented the League at the meeting.

### **Appalachian Power and AEP Energy Efficiency Programs at Risk.**

Every two years, Appalachian Power and Wheeling Power (AEP) submit to the Public Service Commission their plans for new energy efficiency programs. In March 2017, they proposed a fairly large increase and expansion of their program for 2018-19. However, in a surprise move, the PSC staff recommended that AEP discontinue its energy efficiency programs.

The LWVWV sent a letter to the PSC urging them to keep and expand these important programs.

Energy Efficient WV is circulating a petition to help save these energy efficiency programs. To sign the petition, go to:  
<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/save-aeps-ee>

### **ADVOCACY - Clean Power Plan**

The US EPA scheduled a public hearing in Charleston on November 28 and 29 on its plan to nullify the CPP. The WV League will either make a public presentation or send in comments to the EPA on why we oppose repealing the Clean Power Plan. The LWVUS president Chris Carson issued the following statement. "By repealing the Clean Power Plan, the White House is putting the interests of corporate polluters ahead of the health and safety of the American public. This decision will have a devastating impact on the planet at a time when we are seeing the powerful climate change effects with rising temperatures, deadly hurricanes and destructive wildfires. The League is appalled at this irresponsible decision that will have a long-term devastating impact on our planet and health of the American people."

For more information on how to voice your comments at the hearing or send them to the EPA, contact Helen Gibbins, 304-736-3287.

*The LWV is a nonpartisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to women and men of voting age. Annual dues, not tax deductible, are \$45 individual, \$60 for two in one household and \$24 for students. To join, send your check to: Ann Spear, Treasure, 706 Ridgewood Road, Huntington, WV 25701. Check is to be made out to the League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area.*