



League of Women Voters of Clarion County

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Clarion, Pennsylvania

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Calendar



October 11--Last day to register to vote before November Election.

October 27 [Tuesday]--**Board Meeting**, 5 pm, office of Brenda Haws.

October 18 [Tuesday] --**US Representatives for the 5th District of Pennsylvania Candidates Forum** in Warren PA. Glenn Thompson and Kerith Strano Taylor. More info inside.

November 1--Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot.

November 4--Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballot.

October 20 [Thursday]-- **63rd District, PA House of Representatives Candidates Debate**. Donna Oberlander and Joe Billotte, 7 pm at the Clarion Main Street Center.

November 8 [Tuesday] -- **Election Day!** See our [Voters Guide](#) on our website.

From the Vice President

It's fall. As trees go dormant, it is time to grow involvement in League activities again. The September program, a Wine and Cheese reception with get-to-know activities organized by Donna Poljanec was a success. One of the activities was a Truth-or-Fib game. Besides finding out the number of board members that have had run-ins with law enforcement, one statement caught my attention and sent me scurrying down the Google tubes.

The statement was that, "The League has always welcomed men." On its face, this is false. The League didn't allow men to be voting members until 1974. However the history of the suffrage movement and men is more complicated than that. In 1848, 32 men as well as 68 women signed the Declaration of Sentiments at the Seneca Falls Convention. In 1912, 20,000 men belonged to the Men's Leagues for Woman Suffrage. In 1919, an all-male Congress passed the 19th amendment with 304-89 votes in the House and 56-25 votes in the Senate. In the US, the word "suffragist" was used to describe a person who believed women should have the right and responsibility to vote because it was more gender neutral than the word "suffragette". We should remember and honor the women who marched, went to jail, and went on hunger strikes to help earn women the right to vote. We should also remember the men who encouraged and supported those women.



The League of Women Voters was born from the suffrage movement. Voting was never enough though. The League wants full participation in the democratic process for all citizens. Yet a look at the data shows that women are not yet there. Twenty percent of the US Senate is female, 19.3% in the US House, 18.2% in the Pennsylvania legislature. This year, a major political party nominated a woman for their Presidential candidate. This is a historical milestone. In Clarion County, we also have women running for the State House of Representatives, for the US House (5th district) and for a US Senate seat. The League does not endorse, support or oppose any of these candidates. Please research these candidates carefully. The League's own Vote411.org resource is available to help. Bring your questions for candidates to one of the debates listed in our announcements. I hope to see you at our debate on Oct 20th.

Besides October's candidate's debate, we are gestating a pair of twin programs that will look at making democracy work better. In November, we are planning a discussion of Money in Politics. After the New Year, we have a state study on election law. The study materials for this are on the state website. <http://www.palwv.org/election-laws-review-and-update/> Take a peek. It looks interesting. If you are new to the League or have just never participated in a study before, this might be the one to start with. If you are interested in being on the study committee, please email the board at lwvcco@gmail.com. Remember democracy is not a spectator sport.

Catherine

Don't Miss it--- Candidates Debate in Clarion October 20

The League of Women Voters of Clarion County in conjunction with Clarion University's College Democrats and College Republicans will host an election debate for Pennsylvania House of Representatives 63rd District seat on Thursday, October 20th at 7pm at the Clarion Main Street Center. The building is handicapped accessible. Both candidates, Donna Oberlander, incumbent Republican, and Joe Billotte, Democrat, have confirmed their participation. The public is invited and encouraged to participate in this event.

The debate format will provide the candidates with an opportunity for an opening statement and a closing statement. The remainder of the time will be devoted to questions and answers. The first question for the debate will come from the League, with the rest of the questions from the audience. The League's question was submitted to the candidates in advance. The questions from the audience will be submitted in writing that night and screened by the League for clarity and to eliminate duplicates. This

live debate provides an opportunity to ask the candidates questions that are important to you.

Please join us for this important event!



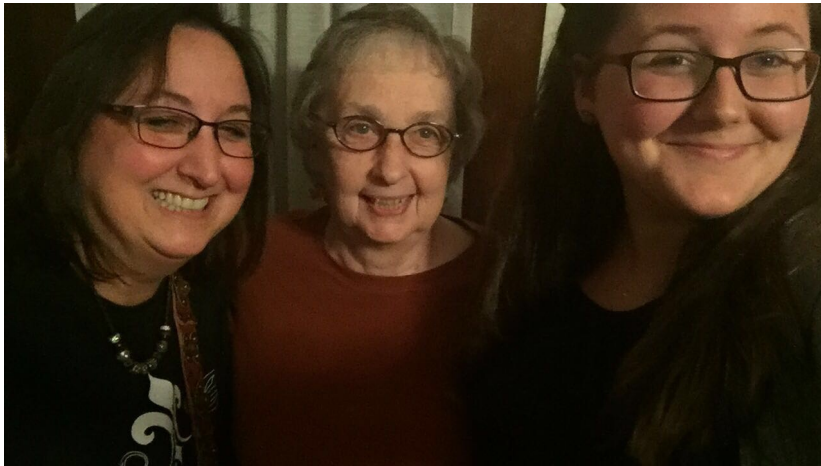
Warren County LWV Offers Thompson/Strano Taylor Candidates Forum Oct 18

Schedules prevented Clarion LWV from arranging a local program with candidates for US Representatives for the 5th District of Pennsylvania, but you may be interested in attending the forum in Warren, PA.

Incumbent Glenn Thompson and Candidate Kerith Strano Taylor will answer questions posed by the league and the audience pertaining to their qualifications to serve as the US Representatives for the 5th District of Pennsylvania and their views on national legislative issues.

The program is Tuesday, October 18, 2016, from 6 to 7:30 PM at the Warren Public Library, Slater Room, 205 Market Street, Warren, Pa. All are welcome to attend.

Read the League's [Voters Guide](#)
for statements from
National and State-wide candidates.



Three Generations of Clarion League Members

Here we have long-time Clarion LWV member Jennifer Vinson with her mother Elisabeth Fulmer, Clarion LWV board member and former Chapter President . On the right is Jennifer's daughter 16 -year-old Kiera Vinson, a brand new member. A change in national LWV bylaws this spring opened League membership to persons 16 and older. Welcome Kiera!



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First Class