

VOTER

League of Women Voters of Clarion County

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Calendar



March 21

[T u e s d a y]
--- Members meeting to view the film "Suffragette".

6 pm at the home of Elizabeth Fulmer, 132 South 7th Ave in Clarion.



Welcome to New Member

Barrie A. Brancato

Barrie is a former faculty member of the Education Department at Clarion University. Now that she's retired and lives in Venango County she is active with the Cranberry Township Planning Commission. She said "The reason I joined was to meet with other women involved in the politics of our country and to work to address those issues that are of concern to women voters."



March 29 [Wednesday!!]---Clarion LWV Board Meeting 5 pm, office of Brenda Haws.

April 17 [Monday]--Last day to register before the primary.

Vice President's Message

March is National Women's History month. In honor of that, our program is a private screening of the movie *Suffragette*. It is not just a chance to remember our history but also an opportunity to evaluate the tactics of an earlier political fight. In another nod to our times, this Saturday, a couple of our Board members attended a webinar on Resistance Training, presented by the ACLU and locally sponsored by Indivisible We Rise.

A question that has come up frequently in recent months is how does the League's nonpartisan policy fit with political opposition to many of the new policies, laws, and regulations coming out of our nation's capital. The quick answer is just focus on the issues. (In practice it can be tempting to ridicule a politician or dismiss a political party. We need to help remind each other not to go low.) The League has many positions developed using the League's consensus method over the past decades that will be very useful in fighting some of the proposed changes.

Health care and environmental protection are two areas where the League has strong positions. LWVUS President Chris Carson reminds members and interested non-members

to "Stand with the League today and tell Congress that their plan to "replace" the Affordable Care Act is unacceptable." We need to act quickly on this. Congress hopes to have a finished bill to the President by April. LWVPA has supported an alternative to the ACA - a single payer plan.

On the issue of environmental protection, the national League supports the Clean Power Plan. They also recently sponsored a webinar on carbon pricing. I found the webinar informative. You may want to watch this hour-long webinar for additional information on this issue.

In the debate about whether leaders are born or created, I have always favored the view that difficult times create leaders. If this theory is correct, people of talent should feel a compulsion to step forward and do something. Our local League's nominating committee for Board members has been activated. If you feel like you need to do something, please contact our Nominating Chair, Donna Poljanec to discuss whether the League is the right place to spend your time and energy, to find people who share your concerns, and to amplify your concerns into concerted action.

Catherine

Suffragette Film for March 21 Meeting



"Suffragette," the 2015 film spotlighting the fight for woman suffrage in Great Britain, will be shown at the March 21 LWV meeting in honor of Women's History Month. Sometimes we just want to have fun! The film, while not a comprehensive history of the movement, provides insight into the struggle within the classes of British society. Two well-known women, Helena Bonham Carter and Meryl Streep, along with a cast of less famous but very talented actors, bring the story to life. Today we can protest and march with little reason to fear retribution, but that was not always the case. And hard decisions had to be made about how best to get the attention of voting men.

The meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Elisabeth Fulmer's home at 132 S. 7th Avenue in Clarion. Parking is available on Maronee Street. Popcorn and wine will be served. See you there!

League Conducts Interview with State Rep Oberlander

On February 22nd Catherine Holt and Donna Poljanec conducted the annual Legislative Interview with State Representative Donna Oberlander. The PA League of Women Voters provided questions covering redistricting reform, voter access reforms, education funding reform, and environmental protection. Oberlander discussed answers with us for over 45 minutes in a congenial session.

Representative Oberlander seemed quite interested in the all-mail voting we told her about in the state of Oregon. Catherine copied her with our all-mail study materials. Oberlander also stated that she is committed to a portfolio of all energy sources including coal and natural gas.

She requested that we send her additional information showing that "clean" energy sources like solar, wind and water are financially viable.

We continue to appreciate her willingness to meet with us in person and her openness to information that we provide.

Recording of Pricing Carbon Webinar Now Available Online

Carbon pricing is said to be the simplest and fairest way to reduce emissions. On February 21, the [Price on Carbon Steering Committee](#) hosted its first webinar, The Case for Pricing Carbon, featuring internationally renowned science historian and author, [Dr. Naomi Oreskes](#). Dr. Oreskes explained the economics of

carbon pricing and fielded a range of questions. A recording of the webinar, together with Dr. Oreske's slides and several handouts, is now available on the Price on Carbon website at <https://priceoncarbon.org/general/oreskes-nails-it/>

If you would like to join the Price on Carbon network and receive news about future webinars, please contact Eleanor Revelle, Chair, LWVUS Climate Change Task Force, at er@revelle.net.

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First Class