



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TOMPKINS COUNTY

MARCH 2007

PRESIDENT: TEE-ANN HUNTER 256-7249
MEMBERSHIP: MARIA EISNER 277-4404

EDITOR: ROBERT SILSBEE 273-1436
www.lwvtompkins.14850.com

NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD

The nominating committee presented the following slate of nominees to the Board of the League of Women Voters of Tompkins County on Monday, March 5, 2007.

Officers:

President: Kay Sharp
Vice President and Program Chair: Martha Hamblin
Treasurer: Alene Wyatt
Secretary: Jane McGonigal

Directors:

Action: Mary Berkelman
Co-Voter Service: Debbie Levin
Barbara Thorp
Director-at-Large: Libby deProse
Telephone: Linda Duttweiler
Webmaster: Michael Duttweiler

Nominating Committee:

Marnie Johnson, chair
Lucia Armstrong
Fran Helmstadter

This report will be presented to the annual meeting on Monday, April 24, 2007. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured. A majority vote of those present and qualified to vote is required for election, a quorum being present.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Caldwell, chair, Rebecca Elgie, Sally McMillin, Maria Eisner.

LWV MARCH MEETING

READING A MUNICIPAL BUDGET

**Presentation by the NYS
Comptroller's Office**

(More on page 2)

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 7:00 PM

**ITHACA TOWN HALL
(The Old Post Office)**

REFRESHMENTS

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REMEMBERING PAT WHITE

With regret we note the passing of Pat White, former member of the Board, serving in the capacity of Legislative Chair. She was an ardent believer of political advocacy. Pat worked in the Library at Ithaca College and the Tompkins County Public Library. This January she lost her two and a half year fight against lung cancer, a victim of second hand smoke.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

On Tuesday, March 27th the League is hosting a presentation from the New York State Comptroller’s Office on reading a municipal budget. We are waiting to hear who the presenter will be but the evening should be both informative and entertaining. I hope you’ll take this opportunity to better understand school, county, town and village budgets as we all strive to become informed voters. The presentation will be at the Ithaca Town Hall, 215 North Tioga Street, Ithaca (the old post office) and begins at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served in the lobby following the presentation. I hope you’ll join us.

Tee-Ann Hunter

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Meeting cancellations: The Board would like to apologize to all members for the cancellation without notice of the January meeting. Unfortunately the decision to cancel was made too late to be communicated to you. We are developing a list of e-mail addresses of all members who would like to receive notice of any such cancellation in the future and plan to post any cancellations on our web site. (The e-mail list will NOT be used for any routine mailings.)

Bulletin delivery: Delivery of the monthly bulletin to you by regular mail costs over six dollars per year for each member. If a number of you would like to receive the bulletin by e-mail as a Word attachment it would be a significant help in balancing our budget.

If interested: please send an e-mail to

rhs1@cornell.edu

with a message clearly indicating that you would like to:

- A) receive cancellation notices;
and/or
- B) receive the bulletin via e-mail

Bob Silsbee

LWVTC CALENDAR—SPRING 2007

March 27	GENERAL MEETING	Ithaca Town Hall	7:00
	Presentation by the NYS Comptroller’s Office:		
	“READING A MUNICIPAL BUDGET”		
April 9	Board Meeting (Kathy Burlitch)		7:30
April 24	ANNUAL DINNER MEETING	Human Services Building	6:30
	JESSICA WISNESKI from Citizen Action of New York:		
	“CLEAN MONEY, CLEAN ELECTIONS”		
May 7	Board Meeting (Charlotte Coffman)		7:30
May 10	ICSD BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES’ FORUM		TBA
May 15	SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION		noon-9:00
June 4	Board Meeting (Tee-Ann Hunter)		7:30
August 9	NATURALIZATION DAY		

MEMBERSHIP

We have a new member this month,

Merry Jo Bauer
921 Coddington Road
Ithaca, NY 14850
273-0268

Welcome back, Merry Jo!!!

Maria Eisner

CHANGE IN BY-LAWS

Two articles of the by-laws of the Tompkins County chapter of the LWV have been modified as follows. Brackets denote deletions and underlines denote additions.

Article II. Purposes and Policy

Section 1. Purposes. The purposes of the LWVTC are to promote political responsibility {of citizens} in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Article III. Membership

Section 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the LWVTC shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

a) Voting Members. Citizens {who are} at least 18 years of age {and} who join the League shall {also} be voting members of {the LWNYS} local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS; (1) individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League; (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state member -at-large; (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TOMPKINS COUNTY: BOARD 200607

LWV NYS website

LWV US website

LWV-Tompkins County

leave message at 273-8350

www.lwvny.org

www.lwv.org

lwvtc@twcnny.rr.com

www.lwvtompkins.14850.com

Officers:

President	Tee-Ann Hunter	256-7249	thlwv@hotmail.com
VP Program	Debbie Levin	273-7746	dlevin01@twcnny.rr.com
VP Membership	Maria Eisner	277-4404	mle3@cornell.edu
VP Finance	Sunny Gooding	277-3598	shgooding@clarityconnect.com
Secretary	Kay Sharp	272-4748	
Treasurer	Alene Wyatt	257-1894	alene@lightlink.com

Directors:

Past President/Action	Mary Berkelman	257-6450	mberkelman@twcnny.rr.com
Director-at-large	Libby deProsse	257-6678	deprosse@lightlink.com
Voter Service	Charlotte Coffman	272-7551	cwc4@cornell.edu
Co-chair, Programs	Charlotte Greenspan	257-0035	jm63@cornell.edu
Publications/PR	Kathy Burlitch	539-7316	klburlitch@frontiernet.net
Phone	Linda Duttweiler	277-0006	ldutt@twcnny.rr.com
Bulletin	Robert Silsbee	273-1436	rhs1@cornell.edu

Off-Board Members

Events Coordinator	Germaine Colvin	257-5446	gcolvin111@aol.com
Web Master	Michael Duttweiler	277-0006	mdutt@twcnny.rr.com
Co-chair, Voter Service	Bette Winkler	256-1927	bwinkler@twcnny.rr.com

NEWS FROM THE STATE CHAPTER

Makeover for LWWNY

The League of Women Voters of New York State has undergone a virtual makeover! We have a brand new website. Please take some time to browse the new website. You will see a new and less complicated home page that is more esthetically pleasing. The purpose in revamping was to create a site that was easier to use for League members as well as visitors. We found that the old site, particularly the homepage, was too League centric and was loaded with acronyms. It was neither welcoming to non-League visitors nor helpful in providing an immediate synopsis of the LWWNY. Additionally, from a technical perspective, it was cumbersome and difficult to maintain. The new site will be technically easier to maintain. We thank our Web Mistress, Debra Drake, for all of her work. She put in many, many hours of design time beyond what she the hours for which she was paid. Thank you, Deb!

LWWNYS Convention 2007:

To Westchester We Go

The 2007 Biennial Convention of the League of Women Voters of New York State, called "Reaching Out/Reaching In", will be held May 18-20 at the Crowne Plaza in White Plains, New York. Convention is a time for camaraderie, rejuvenation and growth for members and for the League as a whole. Your participation is key to achieving those objectives. Look for registration kits to be mailed to local Leagues at the end of March.

Volunteer support is a key factor in holding a successful and effective Convention. If you are interested in volunteering during Convention, particularly if you live within commuting distance to White Plains, please contact Edna Vincenti at edna.vincenti@vincenti.com. If you have never been to Convention this may be a great introduction!

Another highlight of Convention, serving to recognize excellence, is the **Awards Banquet** held on Saturday evening during Convention. Take the time to bring recognition to your League's outstanding accomplishments by submitting an award nomination form for the appropriate category. Nomination forms can be found in the January State Board Report available from the state League office or website at www.lwvny.org

Convention 2007 will continue the tradition of holding a **Silent Auction** as part of the festivities. Please consider donating a new item or making a few phone calls in your area to request a donation from individuals or businesses. Popular auction items include merchandise, gift certificates, hospitality baskets, sports memorabilia/equipment, getaway weekends, and tickets to cultural and sporting events. An introductory cover letter to potential Silent Auction donors and an item submission form are on the state League website at www.lwvny.org under the link on the homepage for Convention News.

Hearts for LWWNY

The LWWNY appeal for 501(c)4 funds reached members the week of February 14. Valentine's Day is the anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters. If you have not, please consider a gift as part of this appeal. A majority of the peripheral costs of the very effective advocacy work being done in Albany is financed with funds raised as part of the League annual appeal. The hard work of the last decade is showing signs of coming to fruition through various measures being proposed and implemented in Albany. We need to keep up the pressure in on our elected officials. This requires funds to support infrastructure and administrative support. Thank you for helping us keep the momentum going!

REPORT FROM THE CHILDREN AND POVERTY COMMITTEE

We want to alert the community to the upcoming reauthorization of the State Children Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The SCHIP needs renewal! Please call 1-800-828-0498, which is the Capital operator, or call your representative.

The American Academy of Pediatrics, The Governors Conference, and other leading child health organizations have identified key issues that should be addressed in the reauthorizing of SCHIP:

Providing needed SCHIP funding,
Protecting and strengthening Medicaid,
Eliminating enrollment barriers, and
Promoting quality initiatives.

Congress must ensure that SCHIP has funding needed to cover more children, eliminate red-tape barriers to child health coverage, and address quality and accountability of child health coverage.

We expect that action will occur this spring; watch for it!

Libby deProse
Committee on Children and Poverty in
Tompkins County

BUDGET FOR 2007-2008

We give here a tentative proposed budget for the year 2007-2008, to be considered at the annual meeting on April 24.

	2006-07 Budget	2006-07 YTD (to Feb.21)	Proposed 2007 -08
INCOME			
DUES			
Individual/regular (\$50 x 103)	4,320.00	4,320.00	5,150.00
Friends (\$7.50 x 10)	67.50	72.50	75.00
Household (\$75 x 15)	1,080.00	877.50	1,125.00
Students		25.00	25.00
Sub-Total	5,467.50	5,295.00	6,375.00
CONTRIBUTIONS			
Ed. Foundation	1,500.00	Directed to Community Foundation	
General	100.00	319.77	300.00
Sub-Total	1,600.00	319.77	300.00
PUBLICATION SALES	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROJECTS			
Know Your Schools	0.00	0.00	0.00
Local Govt. in TC	0.00	0.00	0.00
Election Night Report	50.00	130.00	50.00
Sub-Total	50.00	130.00	50.00
OTHER - MISC.			
Interest	50.00	76.00	30.00
Winter Lunch	75.00	2.42	75.00
Annual meeting	600.00	.	600.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	76.00	0.00
Subtotal	725.00	154.42	705.00
TOTAL INCOME	7,842.50	5,899.19	7,430.00
EXPENDITURES			
BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION			
President	50.00		50.00
Secretary	50.00		50.00
Treasurer	50.00	109.61	50.00
Board Tools			50.00
Committees			
Membership			
Materials & Supplies	110.00	114.27	120.00
Programs	50.00	80.00	100.00
Fall Dinner	75.00		
Winter Lunch	75.00		75.00
Annual Meeting	600.00		600.00
PR			
Sub-Total	1,060.00	303.88	1,095.00
DELEGATES/TRAVEL	2006-07 Budget	2006-07 YTD	Proposed 2007 -08

State convention	800.00		800.00
National Convention	1,000.00	343.52	500.00
WCB/CFWO	175.00		175.00
Sub-Total	1,975.00	343.52	1,475.00
FINANCIAL SUPPORT			
State Individual @ \$18 x 103	1,728.00	2,160.00	1,854.00
State Household @ \$27 x 15	432.00	.	405.00
National Individual @ \$26.30 x 103	2,284.80	3,066.00	2,708.90
National Household @ \$39.45 x 15	555.20		591.75
Sub-Total	5,000.00	5,226.00	5,559.65
BULLETIN			
Production	600.00	233.15	500.00
Postage	425.00	238.68	400.00
Sub-Total	1,025.00	471.83	900.00
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES			
Local Study (children)	25.00		25.00
NYS Study (education)	50.00		50.00
Nat. study (health)	25.00	34.02	25.00
Sub-Total	100.00	34.02	100.00
VOTERS SERVICE			
Meetings			
School board	25.00		25.00
November	100.00		100.00
Facts for Voters	150.00	213.71	150.00
Telephone	360.00	241.53	360.00
Sub-Total	635.00	455.24	635.00
SALES TAX	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges	0.00	10.50	0.00
TOTAL	9,795.00	6,844.99	9,764.65
INCOME	7,842.50	5,899.19	7,430.00
To/From Reserves	-1,952.50	-945.80	-579.65
To/From Ed.Fd. (\$15/member)			1,755.00
EXPENDITURE	9,795.00	6,844.99	9,764.65
Balances	<i>2/28/2006</i>	<i>2/22/2007</i>	
Checking	3,230.58	1,820.56	
Savings	1,425.40	1,430.92	
CD (6/21/06)	4,085.12		
	8,741.10	3,251.48	
Community Foundation	5,400.00	35,831.00	

SWOT ANALYSIS—SOME PLANING HELP FOR THE STATE LEAGUE

SWOT is an acronym for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. In general, strengths and weaknesses are internal to an organization, while opportunities and threats are external to an organization. Please use this SWOT Analysis form to assist you. Consider your local League 's unique situation as well as your League's relationship with the LWVNYS. Completion of this tool will greatly assist us in formulating a Development Plan that will benefit your League directly. Please consider the following questions as you complete the SWOT Analysis.

How can the state League do a better job meeting the needs of local Leagues?

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing your local League? Please think short -term (one year) and long-term (five-ten years).

In what directions do you think that the state League should move? What ideas do you have for implementation of those directions?

How can the mission of the LWV be better supported through technology?

SWOT ANALYSIS FORM(a model—expand to accommodate your input)

Local League _____ **Submitted by** _____

Date _____

Strengths—Internal to the League. Examples: board of directors, membership, finances, visibility, community relations

Weaknesses—Internal to the League. Examples: board of directors, membership, finances, visibility, community relations

Opportunities—External to the League. Examples: allies, social forces, economic resources, political climate, technology

Threats— External to the League. Examples: allies, social forces, economic r esources, political climate, technology

Please return to the state office by April 30, 2007

LWVNYS
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Albany, New York 12207
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E-mail: lwwny@lwwny.org

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS

SENATORS:

Hillary Rodham Clinton US Senate, 476 Russell Senate Building, Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4451 Syracuse Office: 315-448-0470
e-mail: senator@clinton.senate.gov website: clinton.senate.gov

Charles E. Schumer US Senate, 313 Hart Senate Building, Washington, DC 20510
202-224-6542 Syracuse Office: 315-423-5471
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REPRESENTATIVES;

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