

LEAGUE LEADER UPDATE

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MASSACHUSETTS

April 2016

CALENDAR

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| Friday, April 29 | Last day to order a Mother's Day Card |
| Saturday, April 30 | Council, Clark University, Worcester, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Friday, May 20 | LWVMA Board Meeting, Forbes Library, Northampton, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, June 16 to Sunday, June 20 | LWV Convention, Washington, DC |

HAPPENING NOW

Join Us at Council at Clark University on April 30

If you're pulling your hair out over campaign shenanigans...

Come to LWVMA Council 2016 from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 30 at Clark University in Worcester** and learn first-hand how your League can make a difference as part of the state League's 2016 voter engagement campaign - **MOVE 2016**.



Hear experts share research and hands-on experience identifying and mobilizing underrepresented voters in Massachusetts in our keynote panel: **"The Massachusetts Electorate: Who's Not Participating and**

What Will It Take to Reach Them?" Participants will be Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, Director, CIRCLE (The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement), Tufts University, a research center that focuses on young people; Eva Millona, Executive Director, Massachusetts Immigration and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA); and Nathaniel Stinnett, Founder and CEO, Environmental Voter Project, working to identify and mobilize non-voting environmentalists.

That's not all! Two workshops are planned: **An update on our Charter Schools in Massachusetts Study and From Climate Talk to Climate Action.** Enjoy a light breakfast and lunch, and a chance to connect with other Leaguers for a stimulating day.

Registration fee is \$45 (financial assistance available). To register and for more information, please click [here](#). We hope to see at least one or two members from every local League; there's no limit on how many people a League can send. Please check with your membership to see who else would like to attend.

Salute a Mother, Help the League

For a \$25 donation, we will send a card to a special woman in your life, wishing her a Happy Mother's Day and letting her know that you have made a donation to the League in her name.

This is a great opportunity to recognize a mother, grandmother, sister, daughter, aunt, niece, cousin, friend...or anyone else! You can also let your own family know this is a gift you would like for Mother's Day!



Donations will go to our Citizen Education Fund to support our voter service and education programs and are tax-deductible.

To order by check or credit card, [please click here](#). Orders must be received by April 29 to ensure delivery by Mother's Day, May 8.

Help LWVMA Win Boston Globe GRANT

The *Boston Globe* is awarding grants of free advertising space to non-profit organizations. If you are a Boston Globe or bostonglobe.com subscriber, you can help LWVMA win ad space that we can use for a Get Out the Vote ad this fall. We are currently #25 on the [Leader Board](#)-the more votes we receive, the higher we move, and the larger our ad space!



Globe subscribers may have received a paper voucher in the mail to cast your vote for the nonprofit of your choice; if you didn't receive a voucher, you can vote online [here](#). Either way, please "vote" for the **League of Women Voters Lotte E. Scharfman Memorial Fund**.

The deadline is Saturday, April 30. Visit the [Boston Globe](#) if you have questions or call LWVMA at 617-523-2999.

LWWVUS Convention June 16-19 in Washington, D.C.

We hope to have an impressive Massachusetts presence at the LWWVUS Convention in Washington, D.C. June 16-19. You can find information about Convention and [register here](#).

AROUND THE LEAGUE

Update on Per Member Payments (PMPs)

As you work on your budgets, LWVMA is pleased to announce that there will be no increase in state PMPs (per member payments) for the coming fiscal year. State PMPs will remain at these rates: individual, \$23; second in household, \$5.75; and student, \$2.30.

A LWWVUS PMP rate of \$32 was voted by Convention 2014 for fiscal years 2015-2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016). The PMP rates for the next two fiscal years (FY2016-17) will be determined at the National Convention in June 2016.

The national PMP rate for student League members is one half of the rate of other members. (A student is defined as an individual who is enrolled either full or part-time in an accredited institution.) This rate is intended as an

incentive to encourage students to join the League.

No PMP is required at the state or national levels for 50-year-plus members.

What's Happening with League Easy Web?

About half of our local Leagues use League Easy Web (LEW), a platform created by LWV California, to host and maintain their websites. Several weeks ago, LWV California notified Leagues that use LEW that LEW might be terminated later this year. In response to feedback, the LWV California Board recently voted to accept the following proposals:

Short-Term Proposal: To guarantee service for all LEW users (and accept new users) on the reliable current LEW system through December 2016.

Long-Term Proposal: To work with LEW users and stakeholders between now and the end of June 2016 to identify how best to continue and expand LEW in 2017 and beyond.

LWV California will be sending out updates as they become available. If your League uses LEW, please make sure that the correct person from your League is signed up to receive official LEW messages. Instructions to confirm your LEW email are [here](#).

LWVMA Revises Policy on Candidate Debates and Forums

The state League has revised slightly its policy on candidate debates and forums. While this policy applies only to events sponsored by the state League, local Leagues may find it a useful guide in arranging their own candidate events. The policy is available [here](#) or go to the state League website, www.lwvma.org. Click on "About" and then on "Policies."

Voter Registration Alert -- Be Clear about "Independent"

As you register high school students to vote this spring and hold other voter registration drives leading up to the November elections, please make sure your voter registration volunteers are aware of an issue that has come up when people want to register as "independents."

The voter registration forms, both paper and online versions, now include the United Independent Party as an option in the Party Enrollment or Designation

section. The United Independent Party is a separate political party. It is NOT the way people can register as "independent." If people do not want to be enrolled in a political party, they need to check the No Party (unenrolled) option. Please be sure new voters understand that choice when they fill out the forms.

Honor Your 50-Year Members

Does your League have any newly-designated life members, people who have been members of the League for 50 years or more? You can honor them at your annual meeting with a certificate of appreciation from the national League. Send an email to Membership@lww.org with the name of the member(s), the date of presentation, and an address where you'd like the certificates sent.

The League Leader Update is distributed to local League board members and LWVMA leaders. Anyone can request the Update by [clicking here](#). Please review this Update for articles of interest to your League and include them in your local Bulletin.

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STAY CONNECTED:

