League Leader Update

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Calendar
Wednesday January 23 - LESF Trustee Meeting: 12pm - 2pm LWVMA Office
Monday January 28 - LWVMA Board Meeting, 11:30am-2:30pm LWVMA Office
Thursday January 31 - LWVUS Database Update Deadline
Friday February 1 - LWVMA Program Planning Deadline
Saturday March 2 - LWVMA League Leader Lunch-West
Wednesday March 13 - LWVMA Day on the Hill
Friday May 17 - Saturday May 18 - LWVMA Convention

Plan Now to Attend Day on the Hill
The League's annual lobbying day at the State House is set for Wednesday, March 13.

We'll focus on learning how to effectively work with your League's State Senators and Representatives. Look for more details on specific speakers in the February Update.

Please encourage your members to participate. The more people who visit their legislators, the more influence the League has in such upcoming legislative areas as election reform and environmental issues.

Consider organizing a carpool of interested members from your League and then contact your state legislators for an appointment to discuss League-supported legislation after the morning's program. Details on the bills, including specific talking points, will be distributed to local Leagues before Day on the Hill, so you will have the information you need to make the case with your legislators.

Deadline Looms for Program Planning
Don't miss the chance for your League to have a say in LWVMA's programs for the coming two years.

The deadline for submitting your League's Recommendation Form to the LWVMA Program and Action Committee is **Friday, Feb. 1**, so the Committee and then the Board can determine the projects to present at the state convention in May.

Email [Natalie](mailto:Natalie) for original email describing the program planning process and to access the program planning guide and recommendation form. If you have any questions, please contact [Carole Pelchat](mailto:Carole Pelchat), chair of the Program and Action Committee.

LWVMA's program is based on local League interests. The state League cannot know your League's interests unless you fill out the form and tell us. Please help keep LWVMA a grassroots organization and send us the results of your program planning meeting by Feb. 1!

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**Thanks for Completing the Convention Survey!**

The LWVMA 2013 convention will be May 17-18 at the **Boston Marriott Peabody Hotel** in Peabody. Thank you to all who completed the convention planning survey. We received 41 responses from 21 local Leagues. Sixteen of the Leagues responded that they attended Convention 2011, and 20 said they will be attending in 2013 (and one unsure).

The three most popular workshop topics were:

- How to retain and grow your membership
- Election legislation/election protection issues
- Making an impact: how to use LWV positions to advocate

The convention planning committee will use the survey results to recommend to the LWVMA board the Convention theme and to plan the workshops and speakers. See the next League Leader Update for details.

We welcome additional members of the planning committee. Email [Karen Price](mailto:Karen Price) if you want to join.

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**Reminder! - LWVUS National Database Update Deadline**

The deadline to update your local League's membership roster on the LWVUS website is **Thursday, Jan. 31, at midnight**. After that, your League's roster is “frozen” and can't be updated. LWVUS and LWVMA will calculate your League's PMP assessment based on the number of members on February 1.

If you have questions, or need help with the updating, please contact Anne Borg, LWVMA Vice President, [aborg@lwvma.org](mailto:aborg@lwvma.org) 617-807-0238; she can answer questions or “walk” you through the process as you do it. (Anne will be at her computer the evening of January 31; if needed, you can call her up until 11:00pm!)

LWVUS has some membership incentives for January. In case you didn't receive their email, here it is the information:

Update ALL the expiration dates on member records in the national database by Jan. 25 for your League and be eligible to win a $25 Staples card!

Show a net growth in membership numbers from January 2012 to January 2013 by the deadline of Jan.
31 to be eligible to win a free registration to the LWVUS Convention in 2014 in Dallas, TX.

We will publicly celebrate the winning Leagues in the Leaders' Update in the coming weeks. For questions or support, email membership@lwv.org.

And Save the Date for the League Leader Lunch-West

The League Leaders' Lunch in western Massachusetts will be Saturday, March 2. Details on location and program will be in the February Update.

All Leagues are welcome to send representatives, and we especially hope to see representatives from all the local Leagues in the western two-thirds of the state.

Make Sure You're Getting All of Our Facebook Updates

Facebook recently altered its algorithm limiting fans ability to see updates from the pages they like. Currently only 15-20 percent of a page's fans see any given post. In order to get all of the updates from us, follow these simple steps: Go to the Fan Page. Hover over the "Liked" box and select "Get Notifications" and "Show in News Feed." Please make sure to share this information with your members and supporters and repost on your own Facebook pages.

New Items in Stock!

We are now offering bumper stickers with the slogan "Democracy is not a spectator sport". They make great, inexpensive gifts to members and friends or items to sell or distribute at your League events. They are $15 for 10 stickers or 1 for $2.

Other items newly in stock:

LWV Buttons
red/blue logo (approximately 2 inches round)
$3.00 each; 5+ buttons at $2.00 each

LWV Note Cards
LWV color logo + League of Women Voters on 5"x3-1/2" white folded
cards/envelopes.
$6.00/package of 10

**LWV Ceramic Mugs**
LWV logo + red, white and blue design with quote, "Give Democracy a Wake Up Call" on a white porcelain mug.
$8 each

To make an order, call the LWMVA office at (617)523-2999.

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

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