



League Leader Update

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Calendar

Saturday, September 21	LWVMA Field Service Brunch and Training, 10am-1pm Concord
Tuesday, September 24	<u>National Voter Registration Day</u>
Friday, September 27	LWVMA Board Meeting, 11:00am-1:30pm, LWVMA office
Thursday, October 3	Deadline for Daniel Scharfman Citizen Education Grants
Thursday, October 3	Mid-point collection of bottle bill signature pages
Monday, October 7	<u>How Women Become Political</u> , See Details Below
Wednesday, October 16	Deadline to register to vote for November 5 election
Saturday, October 19	League Leaders' Lunch, 11am-3pm, Florence, MA
Friday, October 25	LWVMA Board Meeting, 11:00am-1:30pm, LWVMA office
Sunday, November 3	Final collection of bottle bill signature pages
Tuesday, November 5	Election Day
Friday November 22	LWVMA Board Meeting, 11:00am-1:30pm, LWVMA office

Annual LWVMA Fall Appeal/ Phonathon



We appreciate your help with our annual fundraiser to benefit LWVMA and local Leagues. Letters and emails will be going out in 1-2 weeks to all members asking for donations to LWVMA. To earn more for your local League, please stress in your local bulletins or through other means that members giving before Oct. 11 and over \$100 will have 15% of their donation returned to their local League (and 10% on donations less than \$100). Those who donate before Oct. 11 will not be called during the Phonathon.

The annual LWVMA Phonathon will begin on Oct. 19, with materials available for local Leagues at the League Leaders' Lunch. If your League does not attend the Lunch, materials will be mailed. Calls should be made between Oct. 19 and Jan. 30. If your League has not done the Phonathon in the past, this would be a great year to start! We have extended the calling period this year to allow more Leagues to participate.

Remember, every League member in the state will be called during the Phonathon, either by their own League or another League. The League making the call gets 10% of the donation. Simply by calling your own members, that 10% will go to your own League. By calling other Leagues, your League will earn even more.

Please contact [Natalie](#) if 1) your local League wants to take advantage of this fundraising opportunity and help LWVMA or 2) you are willing to make calls, but your local League has decided not to participate. We will either team you up with a local League (but your own League will get the 10%) or you can make the calls from your home. See the [August League Leader Update](#) for full details.

Help Put the Updated Bottle Bill on the Ballot

A big thank you to all the local Leagues participating in the signature-gathering campaign for the Updated Bottle Bill. We have had a great response to this call to action. Materials are on their way to the League Coordinators and you can begin collecting signatures as soon as you get them.

The "How to Petition in Massachusetts" training video is ready for viewing. It is a must-see for anyone collecting signatures. Click [here](#) to view it. Materials for the signature-gathering campaign are posted under the [Member Resources](#) section of our website.



Learn how to properly obtain signatures on a ballot petition in Massachusetts

Signatures will be collected from now until Nov. 3. If your League has not submitted a response to the call to participate, you can still do so. Register your League by clicking [here](#). If there is any question about whether your League is participating please contact the Steering Committee at updatedbottlebill@lwwma.org.

If you registered as a volunteer but your League did not register, the Steering Committee will be in contact with you.

League Leaders' Lunch Oct. 19: Agenda Available



The League Leaders' Lunch agenda has been set. Click [here](#) for a flyer with full information. Find out about the Worcester League's election observer corps, the Waltham League's Waltham Visions project--and more. Discuss League visibility, membership, the campaign finance study--and more.

Come out to western Massachusetts during leaf-peeping season! Saturday, Oct. 19; 11 am-3 pm, Florence Congregational Church, 130 Pine St., Florence (Northampton), MA.

The cost is \$20 per person to cover lunch and materials, payable at the door. Please RSVP to [Natalie](#) by Oct. 11.

If you have any questions, contact [Natalie](#) or [Jean Cherdack](#).

Busy Days on Beacon Hill

The Massachusetts legislature is back in full swing, and hearings on a huge number of bills are keeping our legislative specialists more than busy.

At the final hearing on gun legislation, LWVMA focused its [testimony](#) on guns and domestic violence. Anne Borg, co-president, spoke of the League's long-standing support of domestic violence prevention programs and the danger guns pose to victims. She was joined by Marilyn Ellsworth of the Sudbury League, a volunteer victim's advocate, who told the story of a Concord woman whose abuser still had his guns and was still a gun dealer, despite seven restraining orders.



Testifying with them were representatives of Jane Doe, Inc., the victims' advocacy organization, and Emerge, an abuser education program.

The Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security is expected to draft gun legislation and bring it to the floor by mid-November.

Lynn Wolbarst, environmental specialist, and Carole Pelchat, legislative director, are attending the joint committee hearing on the updated bottle bill Sept. 17. You can read their testimony [here](#).

Carolyn Lee, good governance specialist, and Nancy Brumback, vice president, program and action, are attending the joint committee hearing on campaign finance reforms Sept. 18. Click [here](#) for their testimony.

Other upcoming hearings include:

Oct. 16-Election-related legislation 2 p.m., hearing room A-2, State House. Joint Committee on Election Laws. Hearing covers a variety of laws, including ones calling for audits of election results.

Nov. 20-Photo ID to vote and other election legislation, 2 p.m., hearing room A-2, State House. Joint Committee on Election Laws.

If you have a special interest in any of these areas, please consider attending the hearing to lend your support to League specialists who are testifying. The schedule listed by the legislature is subject to change, so before you go to Beacon Hill, please confirm the date, time and location by going to the legislature's [website](#).

Plan Your Consensus Meetings for LWVMA and LWVUS Studies

The LWVMA **Campaign Finance Study** and the LWVUS **Agriculture Update Study** will both be ready for local League consensus meetings this year. Leagues should consider partnering with other League(s) to have regional consensus meetings. For example, one League could take the lead on one study and another League the other. Invite smaller Leagues in your area to both. At the end, break out into your League groups to complete the consensus questions.

Key Dates and Contacts

LWVMA Campaign Finance Study

Committee Chair, [Becky Shannon](#), LWV Amherst

Date materials will be available- Phased release of study materials with final study materials for consensus meetings available by January 2014.

Date range to schedule consensus meetings: February and March

Date consensus meeting report is due: May 1, 2014

Website: In progress, stay tuned!

LWVUS Agriculture Update Study

Committee Chair, [Norman Turrill](#), LWV Oregon

Date materials will be available: Phased release beginning in September 2013

Date range to schedule consensus meetings: January, February, March

Date consensus report due: April 4, 2014

Website: <http://lwv.org/content/about-agriculture-update-and-committee>

How Women Become Political-Sold Out!



How Women Become Political, an exciting evening with inspiring women in politics, has "sold out" of all its free tickets.

The program will be streamed live! The organizers only have the capacity to handle 250 individuals watching a live stream, so are urging anyone not planning an event-watching party to view it anytime over the next six months. The website link for both the live stream and the on-demand video will be posted on the [event's website](#) about a week before the program.

The event is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 7, 6 to 8 p.m. in the Back Bay Events Center - John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston.

Expected speakers include Gloria Steinem, feminist, activist, author; Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts (Senate schedule permitting); Ayanna Pressley, Boston City Councilor at-Large; Kerry Healey, President of Babson College and former Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor; and Ambassador Swanee Hunt, Chair, Political Parity.

LWVMA is a partner organization for this event.

Local League Grant Deadline

The next deadline for local Leagues to apply for a Daniel Scharfman Citizen Education Grant is Oct. 3. Before applying, be sure to review the complete [guidelines and requirements](#). For questions or further information, please contact [Karen Price](#).

The Daniel Scharfman Citizens Education Grant Program helps local Leagues carry out events and projects in the areas of citizen education and voter service. Generous contributions to the Lotte E. Scharfman Fund have made this successful grant program possible.

Specialists Needed

The Legislative Action Committee (formerly known as the Program & Action Committee) needs additional specialists to follow legislation in the areas of criminal justice, children's issues, and public safety and homeland security. Our legislative specialists review bills in their area, meet with legislators, testify at hearings and advise the committee on which bills the League should support or oppose. The committee then makes its recommendation to the board. Without a specialist in an area, it is difficult for the League to take a position on proposed legislation in that area. If you are interested in any of those three areas, or feel there are other areas where the League has positions but does not act on specific bills, consider becoming a specialist. For more information on the job or to volunteer, contact [Nancy Brumback](#).

Add Your Events

Local Leagues are encouraged to add all their fall events to the calendar posted on the LWVMA website. Send information-including name of event, time, place, and a brief description-to web@lwvma.org. Since this information is available on our website, please do not include phone numbers or personal email and home addresses.

LWVUS Needs You!

The deadline for recommending members for officers, directors, and nominating committee members for the LWVUS is fast approaching--Sept. 30. The [Nominee Recommendation Form](#) **must** be filled out before the people recommended can proceed with the process. Just submitting a name is not sufficient. The general areas of need include the same areas as local and state Leagues: communications, advocacy,

technology, policy-making, development, elections, and membership. If you are interested in serving, please complete the [nomination form](#), or tell a friend about your interest and ask the friend to fill out the [form](#). The LWWUS needs you!

Idea of the Month

Consider a field trip! The Cape Cod Area League's environment committee is focusing on wastewater this year, so the committee has arranged for interested Cape Cod Area League members to tour the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center in Otis, which tests new pollutant-reduction technologies. How about a field trip to complement a program your League is working on or to gain information on an issue of concern in your town?



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 color logo + League of Women cards/envelopes.
\$6.00/package of 10



LWV Note Cards

Voters on 5"x3-1/2" white folded



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

For an entire list of our wares, click [here](#). 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 clicking [here](#). Please review this Update for articles of interest to your League and include them in your local Bulletin.

Quick Links

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[LWVMA Calendar](#)



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