



In This Issue

CALENDAR HAPPENING NOW

- [Program Planning is Starting](#)
- [Don't Forget the Phonathon](#)
- [January League Forum on Inequality](#)

THE TO-DO LIST

- [New Members? Please Let Us Know](#)
- [January 31 Deadline for Updating LWVUS Database](#)
- [Committee Members Wanted!](#)
- [Nominations for Board due December 15](#)
- [PMP Task Force Seeks Members](#)

AROUND THE LEAGUE

- [October Scharfman Grant Winners](#)
- [Online Voters' Guide a Hit](#)
- [Mass. League Members on LWVUS Committee](#)
- [League Leader Lunch Brings Members Together](#)
- [Day on the Hill Set for April 28](#)
- [Still Time To Weigh in on Civic Discourse](#)
- [WEBPAGE OF THE MONTH: Shop LWVMA](#)

CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Friday, November 21 | LWVMA Board Meeting, Wellesley Community Center, Wellesley, MA from 11:00 a.m. until 2 p.m. |
| Monday, December 15 | Nominations for Board due |
| Friday, December 19 | LWVMA and LESF Joint Board Meeting, Wellesley Community Center, Wellesley, MA from 10:45 a.m. until 2 p.m. |
| Monday, January 12 | Scharfman Grant applications due |

Wednesday, January 28	"Politics of Economic Inequality", Bentley University, Waltham, MA from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.
Saturday, March 7	League Leader Lunch, location TBD
Tuesday, April 28	Day on the Hill, the State House, Boston
Friday, May 15- Saturday, May 16	LWVMA 2015 Convention, location TBD

HAPPENING NOW

Program Planning is Starting

Program planning materials will be sent to all local Leagues the first week in December, so please schedule a program planning meeting for your League before the February 9 deadline to submit recommendations. We hope all local Leagues will participate so LWVMA can know the topics and actions our members are most interested in.

Leagues will be asked to recommend topics for new studies, for review and update of our existing positions, for action priorities and for action items. This year we are also asking local Leagues if you have done a local study and arrived at a position that might be applicable to other local Leagues or as a state position, to indicate on the form what that position is, so we know the possibilities that are out there for concurrences with local positions.

The materials will include suggestions we have already received from local Leagues, the Legislative Action Committee and the board, again to gauge interest. If your League already has a recommendation, please send it to [Nancy Brumback](#) so it can be included in the materials being distributed in December.

Don't Forget the Phonathon



This is a 'gentle reminder' that the Phonathon has started. Several Leagues are currently calling their members, and others are planning their get-togethers to call during November and December. (The deadline is early February.) How about your League?

Do keep in mind that your League will earn 10% of the contributions solicited by your team. This is a great way to stay connected with fellow Leaguers, help support the state League AND earn some \$\$\$\$. If your League would like to participate, please contact [Brynne Gorman](#) or you can call her. Brynne's number is 617-523-2999 and she's waiting for your call. (The person in the photo is NOT Brynne!)

January League Forum on Inequality

Please mark your calendars for a panel discussion on the "Politics of Economic Inequality," co-sponsored by LWVMA and Bentley University's Valente Center for the Arts and Sciences on Wednesday, January 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Bentley University

in Waltham.

This forum, which will be open to the general public, is designed to explore the relationship between growing economic inequality and political power in the United States. Our speakers will examine the question of what rising economic inequality means for political and civic participation -- not only for the current generation, but for future generations as well. More details will be coming soon.

THE TO DO LIST

New Members? Please Let Us Know

We love when you recruit new members, and we don't want them to miss any important news from either the state or national League. Please remember to update the U.S. database promptly with new members' information. The state League office checks the national database for additions and subtractions at least quarterly (and more frequently, if time allows). We then update our database so your new members start getting the Mass. League Voter, action alerts, and announcements about events.

But -- to make sure your new members get added to our distribution list as quickly as possible -- please also email the state office with the names and email addresses of new members. This way, your new members won't miss out on anything. Please send their contact information to [Brynne](#). Thank you!

Jan. 31 Deadline for Updating LWWUS Database

The deadline to update your local League's membership roster on the LWWUS website is Friday, January 31, at midnight. After that, your League's roster is "frozen" and LWWUS and LWWMA 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, contact [Brynne Gorman](#) at the LWWMA office, 617-523-2999; or [Karen Price](#), LWWMA Vice President.

LWWUS has started a series of "Roster Update Challenges" that will appear in its Thursday "League Update." For the first challenge, if you update all of your active League members' expire dates by January 31, you will be entered for a chance to win a \$40 gift card.

Committee Members Wanted!

We need a few good League members for pre-Convention committees!

Besides program planning and electing a new board, members will approve a new two-year budget and review the bylaws. If you are interested in being a member of either the Budget Committee or Bylaws Committee or for more information, please email [Anne Borg](#) by December 14. Both committees will meet during January and February, and both committees will do most of their work via telephone conferences. Thank you!

Nominations for Board due December 15

You can access the LWWMA Nomination Application from a [link](#) on the LWWMA

website under member resources or just click on the 2015 LWVMA Nominating quick link on the home page. You still have time to nominate a League colleague -- or yourself -- for service on the 2015-2017 LWVMA Board or the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee would like to receive all nominations by December 15.

Organizations like ours are successful when leaders are encouraged to expand their horizons for the organization and their own professional growth. As we approach the 2016 election season, consider the leadership that we will need for the next term, and please respond to the call for nominations.

The Nominating Committee is chaired by Shelia Martin, and includes Lee Bona, Cynthia Brubaker, Jean Cherdack and Andrea Kozinetz.

PMP Task Force Seeks Members

A new task force was approved by the LWVMA board at its October meeting. The PMP Task Force is charged with investigating alternate ways for local Leagues to fulfill their PMP obligations to LWVMA. The board recognizes the difficulty some Leagues have meeting this obligation without relying on other sources of funding. Additionally, even minimal dues can be a barrier to membership in less-advantaged communities. The task force will present its findings to Convention in May.

If you are interested in joining the task force or learning more about it, contact [Marilyn Peterson](#).

AROUND THE LEAGUE

October Scharfman Grant Winners



Congratulations to the five Leagues awarded Daniel Scharfman Citizen Education Grants in October. The total amount dispersed in this cycle for the five grants was \$1,246. Receiving the grants were: **LWV Arlington** for its Candidates' Night and Voters' Guide; **LWV Westwood-Walpole** for a Representative Town Meeting Handbook; **LWV Sudbury** for its Historic Scavenger Hunt; **LWV Westford** for Town Meeting signs; and **LWV Plymouth Area** for a Civics Bee. To read more about these wonderful projects go to the

Daniel Scharfman Citizen Education Grant Program [page](#) on our website.

Grant applications are due January 12 to be considered for the next funding cycle and information and the application are also on that [page](#).

Online Voters' Guide a Hit

Our online voters' guide to the candidates for the six statewide offices got 8,308 hits over the weekend through Election Day Nov. 4!

Here's the breakdown: Saturday, 502; Sunday, 839; Monday, 3,118; and Election Day 3,849.

That follows the 6,541 hits our primary election guide got the weekend into the Sept. 9 primary election day.

Mass. League Members on LWVUS Committee

Launa Zimmario of the Concord-Carlisle League and Corlette Moore McCoy of the Needham League have been named to the 10-member LWVUS Money in Politics Committee to review and update of the LWVUS campaign finance position, part of the three-part program addressing key structures of democracy adopted at June's national convention. Both Launa and Corlette are members of the LWVMA campaign finance study committee.

In announcing the appointments, LWVUS described the work that committee will be doing: The campaign finance position will be updated through a study and consensus process to consider: (1) the rights of individuals and organizations, under the First Amendment, to express their political views through independent expenditures and the finance of election campaign activities; and (2) how those rights, if any, should be protected and reconciled with the interests set out in the current position.

A second committee, LWV Constitutional Amendment Committee, was named to study the process by which the U.S. Constitution can be amended, including the constitutional convention method, and identifying the gaps and challenges in those methods. The third part of the project, a task force to examine Congressional redistricting, was appointed last April.

League Leader Lunch Brings Members Together



On October 25, 50 League members from 24 local Leagues, members-at-large and the LWVMA board met in Marlborough for a League Leader Lunch focusing on membership and leadership development. It was great to see so many League members come together to work toward the common goal of League sustainability.

Our state Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) program coaches led three interactive workshops: Making the ASK, Developing Leaders, and Event Planning. MLD planning tools were used to encourage local Leagues to work together or with other Leagues to share ideas and develop plans.

If you missed the lunch, the planning tools, photos and other information are available on the state League website at [this link](#).

Day on the Hill Set for April 28

Save the date for LWVMA's annual lobbying day on Beacon Hill: Tuesday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to noon at the State House.

Day on the Hill is later than usual, not to avoid another snow cancellation, but because, in this first year of the two-year legislative session, the Legislative Action Committee needs time to review all the bills that have been introduced and to recommend to the board which bills LWVMA should support.

Still Time to Weigh in on Civic Discourse

Massachusetts League members have been invited to participate in a statewide survey of municipal conflict resolution needs, conducted under the direction of the Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration (MOPC). MOPC Executive Director, Susan Jeghelian, spoke about her office's work promoting municipal conflict resolution at Council in May.

The deadline for participation in the survey has been **extended until November 21**. If you'd like to share your experiences with dysfunctional government, please click [here](#) to complete the survey. You can also read the invitation from MOPC and find more information about the survey [here](#). (Please note that November 7 was the original deadline, which is now extended.)

WEBPAGE OF THE MONTH: Shop LWVMA



LWVMA is now selling a big variety of League logo items, just in time for holiday gift-giving. In addition to old favorites like the rhinestone LWV and VOTE pins, you'll find shirts, tote bags, mugs, thermoses, note cards and other LWV items. Perfect for the League member on your list. [Shop LWVMA](#) and start browsing.

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

[Donate Now](#)
[LWVMA / LWVUS](#)
[LWVMA Board](#)
[LWVMA Calendar](#)



133 Portland St, Boston, MA 02114 · 617.523.2999

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to bgorman@lwmva.org by lwmva@lwmva.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Try it FREE today.