

Team Activity Reports – October 2021

Updates from the President

Club Express – Analysis and due diligence paused during the run-up to the November election. Hope to have recommendation ready by November Board Meeting.

LWVSMC Legal Status – No progress during October.

We received a notice from PayPal indicating that our Tax ID number isn't valid. Our use of PayPal may be restricted beginning in January 2022 because of new PayPal IRS reporting requirements.

We have learned that LWV of Western Monmouth has the same Legal Status issue that we have. LWV of The Greater Red Bank Area has a valid Tax ID number and is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(4).

Slack – Following up from the September report. As noted in that report, LWVNJ has set up a Slack account for internal (member to member) communications. I attended the introductory training for League Presidents with LWVNJ staff members Assatta Mann and Melissa Marks. I have used Slack in other organizations of which I am a member, so setting up was very straightforward. There is a channel for each Local League and channels being set up for projects. Using Slack isn't a requirement, but it may be effective for some purposes. I will send invitations to LWVSMC Board Members and Team Leaders after the November Board Meeting.

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Membership Team

Team Co-Chairs – Wilma Pfeffer, Diane Hara

Members

Current active members – 109.

Two New Members –

Mary Curtis, Tinton Falls

Anna Marie Parell, Manasquan

Membership Renewals are in process

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LWV of Monmouth County (Interleague Organization – ILO)

Board Members from SMC – Evelyn Murphy (Leadership Team), Peggy Dellinger (Secretary), Susan Sferas (Treasurer), Annette Scott, Sherri West

Next meeting Wednesday, November 3, 1:00-3:00, on zoom. Will have been completed before this report goes out. **Minutes can be viewed** on the Members Only section of our website, under the ILO Room tab.

Meeting Wednesday, January 5, 1:00 – 3:00, on zoom. Here is the link to attend.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82536959146?pwd=NnM4M0NTT3BLZTJhTWx6UG5xRk9nUT09>

There is no preregistration. If you plan to attend, please let Evelyn know, in order to receive an agenda and other materials.

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Re-Enter, Register, Vote (RRV)

Team Chair – Annette Scott

Voter Education and Registration

Team scheduled 19 meetings through 7 partners in 10 municipalities and reached 94 citizens
19 meetings were completed – 8 in person, 6 zoom, 5 teleconference.

Partners were Reentry Passaic Co. (Patterson), Reentry Middlesex Co (New Brunswick), Reentry Bergen Co. (Hackensack), Reentry Monmouth Co. (Neptune City, Asbury Park), GEO Parole (Neptune City), Parole Camden, Parole Newark

Volunteers in addition to Annette were Donna Lembo, Pete Braley, Anne Moore, and Vanessa Merhi (GRBA)

Registrations – Three voter registrations were completed at the in-person meetings and mailed. Three cell numbers were added to our text line.

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Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Team Co-Chairs – Diane Hara and Lois Kiley

Met Saturday, October 23, 2021, in person at Dean's Market. Attendees: Evelyn, Lois, Annette, Wilma, Marie. Zoom attendance was available, but not used by anyone.

Issues Discussed:

- Continuing Impact of slavery on the American culture (including how we deal with slave holding American icons)
- Reenter - Register- Vote Program - see Annette's online report (she meets every Wed. In Neptune for the program)
- Separate graduation for students of color from some Ivy League colleges
- Evelyn recommended webinar about resegregation public schools; Evelyn will share the recording when it is available
- Marie discussed Trenton Academy
- Are school lotteries for charter schools biased - e.g. applications that are not translated
- Wilma will look into Red Bank's charter school
- Annette reported that Bloomfield College, for students of color, is in danger of closing
- Web tab for DEI - page should open with DEI statement followed by a list of relevant web pages, a glossary, etc.

Things to Do:

- read LWV position on Charter Schools
- contact Ted (web master) re: DEI tab on web page

Next meeting – Thursday, December 2, 2:00pm – 3:30pm. Via Zoom.

[Advance Registration Required](#), to receive Meeting Agenda and Documents.

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Observer Corps

Coordinator – Marie Curtis



MORE OBERVERS NEEDED !!! Governing bodies, planning boards and boards of education are all areas of concern for League. If interested, contact Marie at dandmcurt@optonline.net

Ocean Twp Council – Observer: Wilma Pfeffer

Township of Ocean Council meetings this past month were primarily routine business. Members of the public raised issues concerning deer. Council reported that they are awaiting state approval of a plan for deer control.

Ocean County Board of Commissioners – Observer: Anne Ugrovics

Anne is working with Marie to get started.

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Facts & Issues

Host – Marie Curtis

Formerly Incarcerated Citizens. Scheduled for recording first week of November. Notice of the completed show forthcoming soon.

Future Programs:

- Still awaiting a response from the Monmouth County Parks staff. They indicated a desire to do a program after the county fair.
- Thinking of asking Orsted to do a show on what wind power offshore in Europe has meant to their coastal communities and economies.

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Candidates’ Forum Team

Voters Service Co-Chair for Forums – Nancy Sabino

County-wide Team met October 29 to debrief. 16 members attended; 3 who couldn’t attend provided comments in advance. Detailed notes of the debrief meeting available soon.

The team agreed to conduct more in-depth meetings on various aspects of the forum process. Additional volunteers are needed for all volunteer roles.

Season summary:

- 12 forums
- 6 nonprofit sponsors
- 1 media sponsor
- 1361 registrants

Over 3,000 Viewers - 858 viewers for the live events, 1179 viewers on LWVSMC Vimeo
957 viewers on Manalapan TV, additional viewers on LWVGRBA Vimeo

- 29 Active Volunteers
 - 5 Volunteers with Zoom Platform Expertise
- 5 Active moderators
 - They moderated 15 forums (11 for our Leagues and 4 for leagues outside the county)

List of Completed Forums and Sponsors

- Monmouth County Commissioner and Surrogate
- Ocean Twp BoE
- Red Bank Regional Little Silver Rep BoE

Neptune BoE – *Ocean Grove Homeowners Association*
Brick BoE – *PTAs of Veterans Memorial Elementary and Middle Schools*
LD-13 State Senate and Assembly – *Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-NJ)*
Highlands Borough Council – *Highlands Lions Club*
Toms River BoE
Middletown BoE – *Nut Swamp Elementary School PTA*
Manalapan/ Englishtown BoE – *Manalapan-Englishtown School District Parent Orgs*
Belmar Borough Council – *TAPinto Belmar-Lake Como (Media Sponsor)*
Tinton Falls Mayor and Councilmembers

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Voter Engagement and Registration Team

*Voters Service Co-Chair for Voter Engagement and Registration – **open position***



October Tabling Events – *See the September Report.*

Election 2021: What's New? What's Different? Presentations coordinated by Peggy

Webinars:

- **Ocean Township Historical Museum.** 10/13 *Peggy D and Luisa Paster Presented*
- **Shrewsbury Ave. AME Zion Church.** 10/18 *14 attending*

In-Person Presentations:

- **Applewood Estates, Freehold.** 10/13. *Carole Beyer and Elizabeth Bond of LWVWM presenting. 35 attending*
- **Seabrook Village.** 10/15. *Peggy D recorded via Zoom. Shown on internal cable station*
- **Neptune Senior Center.** 10/19. *Evelyn Murphy and Dianna Harris presenting*
- **Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Monmouth County.** 10/19. *Marianne Kligman presented*

GOTV Efforts:

Door Hangers: *Coordinated distribution to 500 homes. 150 to GRBA (Anne Torre) 300 distributed MURC volunteers (Dianna Harris), 50 in Neptune (Evelyn)*

Text Messaging with ThruText: *Susan Sferas, Wilma Pfeffer and Evelyn reached over 24,000 voters.*

Text Messaging with LWVSMC Text Line: *Messages sent to 134 voters.*

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Public Relations, Social Media, and Website

Dallas Grove – Public Relations Chair, Nancy Sabino, Public Relations Co-Chair, Lauren McCaskill – Social Media Chair, Ted Dellinger – Webmaster

Website – Continually updated links for webinars and candidate forums. Captured and posted Forum Videos for “next-day” viewing.

Items Publicized – Sent our notices to news outlets The Coaster, the Coast Star, The Ocean Star, Linknews, area PatchNews, Asbury Park Sun, Tapinto Belmar/Lake Como, Ocean Cares.

We were able to publicize the Toms River BoE Forum, which was added too late for traditional media, through Toms River Patch. Mary Gerard, our member in Toms River, was already signed up as a Neighbor with the Toms River Patch. She gave the details in our release as a narrative and also inserted the flyer in the Calendar section which looked very professional.

FaceBook – 9 Posts Reached 203 people with 18 Post Engagements, 30 Page Visits. 4 new Page Likes; Total 194 (est. 84% women); 8 new Followers; Total 213

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Vote411 Team

Webmaster – Ted Dellinger; Elections Information Coordinator – Nancy Clarke. Working with Anne Torre, GRBA.

Team covered 94 races in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Invited 345 Candidates. 97 Responded.

LWVUS is introducing a major revision to the Vote411 interface. **Members interested in learning to assist with setting up races should contact Ted - ted.dellinger@gmail.com**

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Energizing Young Voters (EYV)

Director – Pat Supplee

EYV Contact List – As a state-level program, EYV now maintains its own contact list to distribute information, newsletters, program invitations, etc. **Any member wishing to be placed on the list should send an email to energizingyoungvoters@gmail.com**

White Paper on Civics Education – Pat participated, as director of EYV, in development of White Paper by LWVNJ Education Committee.

Youth Voting

Molly Garyantes: new local resident from Head Count, a national young voters registration initiative explained their program; looking for how to connect our two programs

High School Ballot Bowl: meeting held to discuss pros and cons of joining forces with **Eric S. Kipnis, Manager, Constituent Relations**, State of New Jersey Department of State, Office of the Secretary of State

EYV Policy – The EYV board is establishing operating procedures designed to maintain the integrity and the effectiveness of a Young Voters Advisory Board

Board membership responsibilities and commitment: Signed document will cover requirements for Board membership, length of term, commitment entailed; communications expectations; attendance; reasons to end the relationship, and other items of importance to future of EYV Board functioning

Diversity New Members Application Process

Curriculum

C4e - Digital lesson design - (\$23,000 in-kind donation); Invitation to attend launch - see how *I AM the change* looks for possible national scale up - Zoom invite; November 9th at 7:30

Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition: Voices and Votes - we have been asked to provide year-long programming as this exhibit visits NJ county colleges; funder for RCBC National Council for the Humanities.

Using our lessons at these exhibits and connecting them with our young presenters who will teach them how-to

Across the Divide: *Speak So You Can Be Heard* - in development; will be piloted in spring '22 in Neptune MS; looking for HS and university level to also pilot.

Fundraising

Grants - needed for

Research study by Walter Rand Institute for Public Policy; Sarah Allred at Rutgers (Camden)

C4e expansion - our other lessons

Normal operating expenses - We need to demonstrate to funders that we have an income stream to support EYV beyond grants for special projects

Need for development person to:

- Make requests for people to make **sustaining monthly contributions** through our website
- Evaluate and implement other ideas generated by the EYV Young Voters Advisory Board:
 - Reach out to alumni organizations especially those that have to do with political science
 - Set up matching funds campaign - some employers offer matching funds
 - Look for people who know wealthy benefactors, who might like their name on our website as a supporter
 - Incentivize with small things as well, donate this much and get something small
 - Get people excited about the organization- maybe an event?
 - Team up with local businesses
 - Reach out to places with bad press to try and partner with them- Middle and Wall Township
 - Reach out to Rotary, Women's clubs, Club's with community involvement
 - Reach out to corporations- look for organizations the match our ideals Record a presentation to give them more info and help them to care about it

Anyone interested in working on fundraising for EYV should email psupplee@gmail.com

Presentations

Led by young members - in planning

- Jessica & Charlotte, - Middletown S
- Cat - Mater Dei
- Katy & Rachel - Rider U

Led by older League members - completed (thank you, Lois Keily and Janice McGowan)

- *Citizenship Classes*: Mercer County; Burlington-Cumberland County
- *Public School classes*: Neptune Twp; Asbury Park; Plainfield

Totals: 264 kids, 96 adults

Upcoming dates - Bergen Co. ILO; Ocean Twp Middle School; Education Club, Rider U

School collaborations - long-term involvement in school curriculum development

- Underway: Plainfield
- In planning stage: Atlantic City & Paterson

Special

- Yearlong collaboration to accompany Smithsonian Exhibit (RCBC - 6 community colleges in southern NJ)
- NJEA Convention

Adult Leadership: Melissa Marks will reach out to League members statewide to elicit interested volunteers to co-direct EYV regional efforts (North, Central, South)