



your
VOTER



The League of Women Voters: Who We Are

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy. That's been our vision since 1920, when the League of Women Voters was founded by leaders of the women's suffrage movement. For 100 years, we have been a non-partisan, activist, grassroots organization that believes voters should play a critical role in democracy. The League works to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. For more information, and membership information, visit:

League of Women Voters of Rockland County:

<https://lwvrocklandcounty.org/>

League of Women Voters of NY:

<https://www.lwvny.org/>

League of Women Voters (National):

<https://www.lwv.org/>

President's Message

Greetings to our members in Rockland County LWV. I am very excited to be part of the Team Management triad of RCLWV with Doria Hillsman and Gayle Struble. As a team we have set some very ambitious goals for ourselves and our chapter.

Goal #1: Increase Membership After getting 2nd place honorable mention for chapters under 50 people for most increased membership at the 2023 NY State LWV convention, we will continue to focus on growing. We've got some exciting initiatives including forming a Youth Corps of high school and college-aged young adults to build on the future of our organization. You can help by encouraging family, friends, spouses/partners and neighbors to join!

Goal #2: Community Activity

In addition to growing membership, we will be increasing our interactions with community organizations and public officials. We want to make known RCLWV's intentions to promote voter registration and getting out the vote!

Goal #3: Continue the Legacy

Voter registration, voter education, and protecting democracy are the principles the League was built on, and we are committed to continuing that legacy.

Goal #4: Up Volunteer Involvement

To attain these goals, we need your help! If each of us volunteers a little when we can, we will accomplish our goals of growth and community awareness. We look forward to your active engagement in the League.

Be sure to check out the Calendar of Events on pages 4 and 5, and plan to join us for a year of exciting activities, opportunities, and new commitments.

Yours in league,
Gail Wanger, Co-President

LWV News: The latest updates from Chapter, State, and National

Chapter Activities

Youth Corps: The future lies with the youth of our nation being active, informed citizens. It's vitally important for the sustainability of the LWV to encourage participation, support and involvement of our country's youth, and through the building of the Youth Corps, we'll have plenty of opportunity to do just that. This initiative is designed to encourage Rockland County youth to become more connected with their civic and government activities and responsibilities ... beginning with registering and voting.

National Voter Registration Day, September 19: 11:00am – 2:00pm, we'll be meeting with students at Rockland Community College, St. Thomas Aquinas College, and Dominican University. If you'd like to help, contact Gayle Struble at struble64@gmail.com. Training will be provided.



Voting While Incarcerated in Rockland County

In June, 2023, the LWV of NY released a report entitled, "Voting in New York State Jails: A Qualitative Analysis of Access," ([LWVNYS-Voting-in-Jails-Report-1.pdf](#)) providing a compilation of surveys to 57 County Jail facilities throughout New York. As a follow-up to the report, RCLWV members Doria Hillsman, Monica Ferguson, and Gayle Struble met with Sheriff Falco and Undersheriff Barbera to learn more about Rockland County's efforts and initiatives.

The delegation learned that since 2013, the Sheriff has instituted policies and procedures to make voter registration and participation more accessible to incarcerated individuals, and they were one of the first facilities in the State to do so. The discussion led to several ways that the Rockland League can work with and support the Sheriff's office, including providing resources and information to ensure that all eligible detainees have access to casting informed, private, and secure ballots. The State League will meet with the NYS Sheriff's Association to discuss compliance with upcoming and existing legislation regarding voting while incarcerated. Stay tuned for updates on this important initiative!

State/National Focus Activities

Multiple voting rights bills have been introduced in Congress and in state legislatures that include provisions the League supports. LWVUS advocates for reforms in Congress to improve elections and facilitate equal access. State and local Leagues advocate for reforms in state legislatures and at the local level that do the same. Equal access for our diverse electorate requires offering voters options to cast their ballots in a way that is accessible and addresses the number of unique barriers voters may face.

Some of the specific topics include: Same-Day Voter Registration; Early Voting; Online Voter Registration; Mail Voting and No-Excuse Absentee Voting; Disabled Voter Accessibility; Native Voter Protections; Non-English Election Information; and more. Check the state and national websites for details.

Spotlight Issue: Vote411

How often have you wished there was a resource that:

- Provides personalized voting information
- Show you who and what are on your ballot
- Checks your voter registration
- Helps find your polling place
- Tells you about upcoming debates in your area
- Shows candidate answers to common issues
- And much more?

Well that place is **Vote411** and you can access it at:

<https://www.vote411.org/>

Brought to you by the League of Women Voters Education Fund, **VOTE411** is committed to ensuring voters have the information they need to successfully participate in every election. Whether it's local, state or federal, every election is important to ensuring our laws and policies reflect the values and beliefs of our communities.

Be sure to refer **Vote411** to your friends, families, neighbors, and co-workers!



Your Leadership Team

Doria Hillsman: doria.hillsman@gmail.com

Gayle Struble: struble64@gmail.com

Gail Wanger: gailwanger@gmail.com

To Join: <https://lwvrocklandcounty.org/join-our-league/>

To Donate:

<https://lwvrocklandcounty.org/donate-to-the-league/>

More Ways to Reach Us:

Email: rocklandlwv@gmail.com

Website: <https://lwvrocklandcounty.org/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVRockland>

Newsletter: Susan Reif: sbreif@gmail.com

Member Challenge

Since growing the membership is our #1 goal, we thought a friendly challenge might be a fun way to get that started. Think about all the people you know outside your immediate circle ... businesses you frequent; groups you participate in; school and community events you attend. You likely meet with many people throughout the week.

Here's the challenge from our leadership team: provide us with the names and contact information of two people you think might be interested in joining RCLWV. With those contacts, our membership team can reach out, familiarize your referrals with all the good RCLWV does, and encourage them to join. Easy, right?

Join us in growing the Chapter. Send your referrals to: rocklandlwv@gmail.com. (It can't be a challenge without some incentive, right?! Special prize available for the member who provides the most referrals between now and the end of the year.)

Calendar of Events: Mark the Dates!




SEPTEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September 19: National Voter Registration Day (RCC, STAC, Dominican)

September 30: General Meeting (in-person). Check your email for time and location.

OCTOBER 2023



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October 15, 7:00pm Zoom: Board Meeting


October 22: Candidate's Forum (see email for details)

October 23: Deadline to apply for absentee ballot by mail or online

October 28: In-person and mail in registration deadline

October 28 – November 5: Early voting days

Calendar of Events (cont'd): Mark the Dates!



NOVEMBER 2023

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
October 28 – November 5: Early voting days							
November 5: Indian Heritage Celebration, Voter Registration Table, Palisades Center				1	2	3	4
November 6: Deadline to apply for absentee ballot in-person	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
November 7: Election Day	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
November 7: Mail-in ballot must be postmarked by today, or must be received by November 14	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
November 12: General Meeting	26	27	28	29	30		
November 19, 11:00am: Rockland County Youthfest, Rockland Community College							

DECEMBER 2023



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December 10: Holiday Party!
Bring a guest. Details and invitation to follow via email.