



NH Voter

**League of Women Voters
New Hampshire**

LWVNH.org

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-of-the-Upper-Valley/187569014624799>

MAY 2015

LWVNH Convention 2015

Thursday, June 11

9:30 a.m.

Hopkinton Library

61 Houston Drive, Contoocook, NH

**Members, potential members, spouses and guests
are all welcome.**

9:30 a.m.: Coffee, registration, socializing

10:00 a.m.: Guest Speaker Dan Weeks, Exec. Director of Open Democracy

"Poor (in) Democracy: How America is Defaulting on Democracy, and the Long Walk to Get it Back"

(See more on page 2.)

11:15 a.m.: Update on League work: election law, women's prison, gambling expansion, etc.

Noonish: Lunch and conversation (always a highlight)

Dessert and business meeting: Election of officers, budget, membership plan and direction to the board

1:15 p.m.: Presentation on Marilla Marks Young Ricker, NH's own suffragist, lawyer, and first female candidate for NH Governor. Short documentary film and highlights of research done by League in preparation for the installation of a portrait of Marilla in the State House.

\$15 payable at the door, but **please let us know by June 6** if you intend to come so we can plan food and seating. Email LWV@kenliz.net or leave a phone message at the League office: 225-5534

(See driving directions on page 2.)

***Poor (in) Democracy: How America is Defaulting on Democracy,
and the Long Walk to Get it Back**

Democracy is in default. Citizens of all stripes agree that American government no longer works for the American people because special interest money has infected the political process. On issue after issue of national concern, ordinary people are paying the price for systemic corruption in Washington. Nowhere are the effects of America's democracy deficit more strongly felt than among the 50 million people living below the poverty line. From voting to lobbying to funding political campaigns, these "second-class citizens" are systematically excluded from politics. Nevertheless, a burgeoning "citizens rebellion" against big money in politics suggests that Americans are willing to fight for representative democracy.

Political reformer Daniel Weeks saw poverty and political exclusion up close when he traveled 10,000 miles through 30 states by Greyhound bus interviewing Americans in need. His "Poor (in) Democracy" series for Harvard and *The Atlantic* put a human face on poverty and political inequality in 21st century America. Inspired to join the democracy movement by legendary reformer Doris "Granny D" Haddock when he was still a high school student, Dan is now Executive Director of the nonpartisan nonprofit Open Democracy, whose NH Rebellion campaign is striving to "walk the talk" for true democracy in the footsteps of Granny D.

Driving directions to **Hopkinton Library, 61 Houston Drive, Contoocook NH 03229**

From the north and west:

South on Rte. 89 to exit 7. At end of exit ramp, go left toward Contoocook. You will be on Rte. 103 East. Go 3 miles on Rte. 103.

Just past a small strip mall on the left, you will turn **right**, just before a grassy triangle, onto Pine St. Pine St. goes past the fire station on the left corner.

Go 0.2 mile on Pine St.

Turn right onto a small road (more like a driveway) serving the library and the senior center. Parking is just after the library (please don't take spaces directly in front of the library).

From the south and east:

Go North on Rte. 89 to exit 6. Turn right at end of exit ramp onto Rte. 127 North.

Follow Rte. 127 north into Contoocook (about 1.3 miles). Bear left at the gas station to stay on Rte. 127.

Almost immediately bear left again at a small grassy triangle in the middle of the road (leaving Rte. 127).

Almost immediately turn left onto Pine St. (fire station will be on the corner, left side).

Go 0.2 mile on Pine St.

Turn right onto a small road (more like a driveway) serving the library and the senior center. Parking is just after the library (please don't take spaces directly in front of the library).

Local League meetings

Monday, May 18, 9:30 a.m.: LWV Greater Capital Area, "Breakfast with the League," at the Corner View Restaurant, 80 So. St., Concord. Informal get together for members and potential members.

Thursday, May 28, 4:00 p.m.: LWV Greater Capital Area Annual Meeting at the Baker Library, 509 So. St., Bow. Potluck supper, business meeting and guest speaker, Devon Chafee, executive director of the NH Civil Liberties Union.

Tuesday, June 9, 10:00 a.m.: LWV Kearsarge/Sunapee, "2nd Tuesdays Coffee," at Tucker's Restaurant, 207 Main St., New London. Informal discussion for members and potential members.

Tuesday, June 16: LWVK/S Annual Meeting. Luncheon, business meeting and guest speaker Aarne Vesilind who will reprise his Bucknell University talk, "The Morality of Dr. Seuss."

Please check the Calendar page of www.LWVNH.org for information about local League meetings.

Member News

The League extends congratulations to LWV Greater Capital Area member Janet Ward, who has been selected as one of the "40 Over 40," influential people to be honored **June 16** by the NH Humanities Council.

"On the occasion of its 40th anniversary, the NH Humanities Council will celebrate 40 New Hampshire-based people who over the past 40 years have demonstrated what it means to create, teach, lead, assist, and encourage human understanding."

Janet joins the ranks of people like Donald Hall, Ken Burns, John Harrigan, and Laura Kroy among others.

We note with sadness the passing of Barbara Taylor, a member of LWV Upper Valley on May 10. Barbara was active on the state League's study of incarceration 2009-2012 and was always a "live-wire" as one League member describes her. Barbara accomplished much for her fellow residents at Kendal. Her four children were with her as she passed: Peter, Robert, Josh and Jennifer.

She will be missed.

Check out the [Member News page of LWVNH.org](http://www.LWVNH.org) website for timely information on our members.

A Voice for Citizens

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person 18 or older, male or female, may become a League member.