



October 2014

**League of Women Voters
New Hampshire**

LWVNH.org

Liz Tentarelli, Co-President
603-763-9296
LWV@kenliz.net

Sally Davis, Co-President
726-3775
sally.davis36@gmail.com

Peg Fargo, Vice-President
226-4574
pfargo@hotmail.com

Joan Flood Ashwell, Communications
868-3775
jfashwell@comcast.net

Mary Davies
228-6312
marbob75@yahoo.com

Sally Embley, President
Kearsarge/Sunapee
456-2315
ssembley@gmail.com

Nancy Marashio
763-4163
nancymarashio@myfairpoint.net

Mary Perry, Treasurer
Greater Capital Area, President
648-2488
marybperry@tds.net

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

Message from the Presidents:

Sally Davis and I, as co-presidents of LWVNH, have the shortest presidents' message we've ever sent you.

Vote. Get your friends and family to vote. Talk about voting. Answer people's questions about how to vote, and if you don't know the answers, refer them to our website for the answers: www.LWVNH.org

Our Elections webpage is chock full of downloadable fliers and brochures on voting, at least one of which is included in this newsletter. Need it in Spanish? It's there, free to copy and distribute. Need information specific to students living at colleges in NH? That's there too. Confused about what you need for voter ID? That answer is easy—if you have one photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport, bring it with you. But if you forget or no longer have such a document, you are still entitled to a ballot by signing an affidavit saying you are who you claim to be.

While some people will say this election is “just an off-year election” because the Presidency is not at stake, that's no excuse to stay home from the polls. Congress is in deadlock; the entire NH government is at stake; counties are facing pressing issues. We need the best people we can find in all those offices, and the way to put them there is to vote.

So our presidents' message is...get out and VOTE on November 4.

Liz Tentarelli, co-president

What You Can Do

- Volunteer to work at the polls
- Drive a friend or neighbor to the polls
- Distribute LWVNH voting information to:
 - your town's library
 - your local grocery store
 - your favorite coffee shop
 - other volunteer organizations in your town

Table of Contents

Presidents Message...p.1

Candidate Forums...p.2

Get Out the Vote Conference...p.3

Domiciled v Resident -- Why We Care...p.3

There is No Planet B...p.4

Human Trafficking...p.4

State and Local League Reports...p.5

LWVNH Education Fund...p.5

Candidate Forums

More than 30 candidate forums have been scheduled across the state between now and the Nov. 4 Election. The whole list can be found on the League's website www.LWVNH.org The State Board and local Leagues in N.H. currently have five scheduled.

Wednesday, October 15, 2014, Warner Town Hall, 7-9 pm

Confirmed attending are the Senate District 5 candidates (Dan Feltes and Lydia Harman); St. Rep. candidates from Merrimack Dist. 7 (Clyde Carson and Patrick Page), and Dist. 25 (David Karrick and James Danforth). Also invited: Executive Council Dist. 2 (Colin VanOstern and Timothy Dillon)--only VanOstern has so far confirmed he will attend.

Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Greater Capital Area and the League of Women Voters of the Kearsarge/Sunapee Area. A League member will moderate the forum.

Wednesday, October 22, 2014, Millbrook Christian Fellowship, Grafton, 7-8:45 pm

Grafton, Alexandria, Ashland, Bristol, Bridgewater NH House candidates. Both candidates for flatorial District 17 have agreed to participate (Stephen Darrow--R and Catherine Mulholland--D), and two of the four candidates for the two seats in Dist. 9 have committed to participating (Jeffrey Shackett--R and Judy Wallick--D). Also invited are Dist. 9 candidates Robert Hull--R and Jeremy Olson--D).

Organized and moderated by the League of Women Voters NH.

Thursday, October 23, 2014, Safety Complex, Canaan, 7-8:30 pm

NH House, Grafton Districts 10 and 11. Candidates representing Enfield (Michael Lorry--R and Wendy Piper--D) and Canaan, Dorchester, and Wentworth (Joseph Frazier--R and Chuck Townsend--D) will participate in this forum. Other invitees are tentative right now.

Hosted and moderated by the League of Women Voters of the Upper Valley.

Friday, October 24, 2014, Lakes Region Community College, CAT auditorium, 7-9 pm

State Senate District 2 Candidates (Jeannie Forrester Republican and Carolyn Mello Democrat) will answer audience questions after brief opening statements. Other candidates on Lakes Region ballots are invited to come at 6:30 to meet and mingle with voters. Candidates will be given an opportunity to introduce themselves before the forum starts at 7 pm.

Hosted by the LRCC student organization SPEEKS; organized and moderated by the League of Women Voters NH.

Tuesday, October 28, 2014, Whipple Hall, New London, 7-9 pm

Candidates invited are Executive Council District 1 (Joe Kenney, Michael Cryans), Senate Dist. 8 (Linda Tanner, Jerry Little), St. Rep. Merrimack Dist. 4 (Tom Schamberg, Douglas Long), Merrimack Dist. 5 (Karen Ebel, David Kidder) and Sullivan Dist. 2 (Sue Gottling, Spec Bowers). Confirmed attending as of Oct. 10 are Ebel, Kidder, and Little.

Hosted and moderated by League of Women Voters of the Kearsarge/Sunapee Area.

Sample Ballots are Now Available on the Secretary of State Website

<http://sos.nh.gov/SampleGE.aspx>

Help us spread the Word about Voting and the Election on November 4

LWVNH gives permission for anyone to copy and distribute these publications from our website: www.LWVNH.org

[What Voters Need to Know about Voter ID Requirements in 2014. Download the pdf](#)

[En Espanol-- Hagase Escuchar en 2014](#)

[Voter Registration Information](#)

[en Espanol Registrarse para votar en NH](#)

[Voter Registration and Voter ID requirements tri-fold brochure](#)

Larger print voter information -- [Download the pdf:](#)

What is the Executive Council? -- [Download the brochure.](#)

Get Out the Vote Conference

Sixteen New Hampshire non-profit agencies whose missions include voter service were represented at a mini-conference on Sept. 22 convened by **Investing in Communities Initiative** in Concord. Joan Flood Ashwell and Liz Tentarelli represented the League.

The goal of the gathering was to share ideas and plans for encouraging voting, particularly among under-represented groups. Liz gave a presentation on our four-pronged voter education efforts this year: improving both town websites and the Secretary of State's webpage to make information on voting more accessible to potential voters; our candidate forums and our webpage listing all the forums we learn about; our efforts to get voting information into the hands of college students and other underserved groups; and our brochures and fliers in English and Spanish about voting rights and procedures, which we encouraged other groups to distribute.

Other presenters telling about their impressive efforts included MaryLou Beaver of Every Child Matters, Kary Jencks of NH Citizens Alliance, and Zandra Rice Hawkins of Granite State Progress Education Fund.

At age 94 years, the League was the grand old lady of voter education there, and the only strictly volunteer organization.

Domiciled v Resident -- Why We Care

In the fall of 2012 when the Legislature passed a law that changed the definition of who lived in New Hampshire for voting purposes, the N.H. Civil Liberties Union sued on behalf of four N.H. college students and a representative of the state League of Women Voters to block the change. Two judges have ruled in our favor, the second issuing a permanent injunction against the change earlier this year. The state has appealed the decisions, and we will continue our arguments in the N.H. Supreme Court.

To vote in N.H., a person must be "domiciled" in the state. That means living here - not just visiting - and conducting one's business, social, cultural and political affairs here even if that person plans to leave the state at some time in the future. Unlike other states, to be a "resident" in N.H., you must plan to live here indefinitely, with no plans to leave.

The domicile standard allows a decades--long resident, like many of us, who plans to retire someday somewhere else, to vote here before leaving permanently. It also allows military personnel to vote while stationed here for three or four years, students to vote during the four or five years they study here and doctors to vote while doing their multi-year internships at N.H. hospitals. These people, who have chosen to pursue their lives wherever it takes them have as much right to vote as people who don't plan to ever move and, like most of us, they probably don't have some other place where they are qualified to vote absentee anyway.

Voting is our most fundamental Constitutional right and we should be encouraging citizens to vote, not hindering them.

There is No Planet B

On Sunday, September 21, over three hundred thousand of us marched through New York City. Mothers and fathers with children in strollers or in backpacks, grandmothers, grandfathers, the young, the old, on foot or in wheelchairs demanded that world leaders recognize the science of climate change and the magnitude of its present and future impact. All of us marching through the heart of Manhattan were there to demand that world leaders take effective action NOW before it is too late because "THERE IS NO PLANET B."

There were no speakers or orchestrated performances by celebrities. Instead we marchers observed two minutes of silence at 12:58. The entire mass of humanity was uniformly quiet. Then, at one P.M., as from one living being, a massive shout erupted. It was a call, hopefully loud enough for world leaders to hear, demanding that they fulfill their legal and moral obligations and recognize the reality of what is happening at this moment in history. It was a call demanding that world leaders bravely take the difficult, politically challenging, but absolutely necessary actions to save our planet.

All of the above sounds dramatic. And it is. Let us be clear. Scientists have been observing and forecasting climate change for decades. The inevitable impact of ever-increasing fossil fuel use since the Industrial Age is now evident all around us and that impact is accelerating at a rate surprising even to the scientists measuring it. Municipalities like Portsmouth, N.H. are presently engaged in adaptation and mitigation planning to prepare for rising sea levels.

To borrow an apt phrase from Eleanor Roosevelt, "This is no ordinary time." It demands extraordinary leadership. It is up to each of us, the citizens of an endangered planet, to see to it that our leaders feel support as well as pressure to take the actions that these extraordinary times demand.

- Janet Ward, LWV Greater Capital Area

Human Trafficking

Slavery still exists. "*Not My Life*," a film narrated by Glen Close, exposed a subdued audience of members from the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire and from Colby Sawyer College to the international reach of those who prey on children and young adults for profit. If the young boy diving into treacherous fishing nets died, the narrator noted, another would be bought or stolen to take his place. The young women forced to serve as keeper of both house and children around the clock and the young girls forced into prostitution by callous controllers were unable to free themselves; fortunately the film also introduced human service experts who spend their lives identifying and rescuing victims.

Reverend Phyllis Evelyn spoke of the New England region, where the interstate highways are routinely used to move victims out from Boston's hub. She warned that sex slaves are everywhere and that if we have suspicions, we should contact police and stay away, as coercers do not hesitate to use violence. She spoke of the years it takes to get each safe house for victims and how safety breaks down when any experienced caregiver leaves and must be replaced. After her speech, several Colby Sawyer College students talked with Reverend Evelyn about how best to plan a project on this issue.

With recent changes which protect juveniles from being prosecuted for being forced to perform illegal acts and which sets a seven-year minimum sentence on those trafficking persons under age 18, New Hampshire's trafficking laws were praised as some of the best in the nation.

A list of sources on this topic is posted at www.LWVNH.org

- Nancy Marashio, Kearsarge/Sunapee Area League

State and Local League Reports

News from the Capital Area League

For those unable to make the Oct. 1 meeting at Colby-Sawyer, the Capital Area League will present a program on Wednesday, October 15, from 10-12 noon, at the Baker Library in Bow with guest speaker Lois Tripodi and the film, "Not My Life," narrated by Glenn Close.

At the national LWVUS convention last June, the delegates, by concurrence, with a study done by the LWV of New Jersey, adopted a position opposing human trafficking. In the last session of the N.H. General Court, a bill was passed which makes changes to the trafficking law and authorizes a person injured as a result of trafficking to initiate a civil action for damages. The bill was signed into law by the Governor.

News from the Kearsarge/Sunapee League

The LWV of the Kearsarge/Sunapee Area is holding its annual potluck supper on Tuesday, October 14 in the Veterans Hall on Route 103 in Newbury. All are welcome to attend the traditional kickoff meeting for the year. Please bring a dish and a \$5.00 donation. Drinks and appetizers will be at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6, with the program at 7.

Guest speaker Mark Fernald's topic is "New Hampshire's Continuing Budget Dilemma -- 25 Years of Disinvestment in Services."

News from the State League

The League is often invited to tell the League story to foreign visitors sponsored by the State Department and hosted in N.H. by the World Affairs Council.

State board members Sally Davis and Mary Davies had an opportunity this summer to meet with Virginie Duby-Muller, a member of the French National Assembly. They shared the League mission and our current activities to involve voters in the democratic process.

A topic of common interest was the challenge to elect more women to public office. While France has a parity system requiring that election slates include an equal number of female candidates, this has not translated into parity in elected bodies. We seem to face the same challenges of balancing family needs, and lack of role models.

League of Women Voters NH Education Fund

The trustees of the Ed Fund are proud to approve the following grants in August and September:

- \$600 to the Capital Area LWV to help support a primary election debate at NHTI
- \$500 to the LWVNH for Voter Education publications
- \$500 to the LWVNH for support of candidate forums
- \$220 to LWVNH for office expenses support
- \$400 to Kearsarge/Sunapee LWV for advertising of pre-election forums

The Ed Fund is financially independent of the other LWV units in New Hampshire. Financial gifts to the Ed Fund are tax exempt and allow for these types of education-related grants to the various levels of League in the state. Occasionally the Ed Fund trustees find that the Fund could use a financial boost. To make a donation, please send checks made out to League of Women Voters NH Education Fund to LWVNH, 4 Park St., Suite 200, Concord, NH 03301.