

## NH Voter, the newsletter of the League of Women Voters New Hampshire

March 2023

*We're dedicating this newsletter to several save the date notices plus registration information for our state convention.*

### **Saturday, May 6: League of Women Voters NH biennial convention.**

Who: all League members and friends

Where: Hopkinton Town Library (just a few miles off Rte 89)

When: 9:30 am sign in, socialize with friends old and new, coffee and pastries

10 am Guest speakers on “The Role of NH’s Public Schools in our Democracy.” Rep. Mel Myler (D-Hopkinton) and Rep. Rick Ladd (R-Haverhill), both of whom have served multiple terms on the NH House Education Committee and have extensive professional experience in education.

10:45 Q&A with guest speakers, then coffee break

11:20 Guest speaker Conval Superintendent of Schools Kimberly Rizzo-Saunders: “The View from a NH Public School Superintendent’s Office” followed by Q&A (Conval is one of the school districts suing the state of NH over unconstitutional school funding inadequacies)

Noon Lunch (catered sandwiches and fixings, fruit, homemade desserts)

12:30 LWVNH business and membership input meeting: membership and treasurer’s report, election of board and officers, adoption of budget, local League reports, discussion of a possible new statewide study of housing issues in NH, direction to the board from members. We will end by 2 pm.

Cost: \$15, payable at the door in cash or check, to cover lunch and related expenses.

**Registration in Advance is required:** There is limited space and we need to order lunch in advance. Please—before April 24—tell us if you plan to attend. Email [LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com](mailto:LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com). We will create a waiting list if necessary.

### **Monday, April 3: Learn more about the non-partisan League of Women Voters**

When: 6:30 to 8 pm

Who: Current, past, and potential League members and the general public are invited

Where: Wolfeboro Public Library, 259 South Main St.

The public is invited to come learn more about the non-partisan League of Women Voters and our work to empower all voters. State League president Liz Tentarelli will explain the public's role in legislation. We'll also discuss the possibility of forming a local unit in the Wolfeboro/Tuftonboro/Ossipee area to encourage more active participation of residents in local and state government. No commitment to joining is needed; come and learn more. Membership is open to people of all genders over the age of 16.

If possible RSVP via email so we can prepare seating.

[LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com](mailto:LWVnewhampshire@gmail.com)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, April 19: New Hampshire's Constitution</b> <b>a League program open to the public.</b></p>
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What rights does our venerable state constitution protect? Why are some bills challenged as “unconstitutional”? What happens then? How has the constitution been amended in the past? What amendments might we look for in the future? And more...

Who: All League members, friends, and the public

Where: Lethbridge Lodge at Colby-Sawyer College in New London

When: 5 to 6 pm

Guest speaker: Henry Klementowicz, Esq. is a Senior Staff Attorney at the ACLU-NH. His work focuses on litigation and statehouse advocacy in support of civil rights and civil liberties, particularly in the areas of voting rights, governmental records, due process, and freedom of speech. The American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization dedicated to preserving the individual rights and liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution.

Registration: No cost or advance registration, but seating is limited in the AIL classroom.

*(We will attempt to offer this program as a live-stream event on our [state League facebook page](#).)*

Organized by the League of Women Voters of the Kearsarge/Sunapee Area.

**Tuesday, April 25: First in a series on public schools**

**The Role of Public Education in a Democracy**

Speakers to be announced.

When: April 25, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Where: Peterborough (specific place to be announced)

Who: open to the public

Cost: free

Hosted by the League of Women Voters Peterborough Plus unit.

*For more information, check the [LWVNH.org](http://LWVNH.org) events page as the date gets closer.*

**Wednesday, June 14: LWV Kearsarge/Sunapee annual meeting and luncheon.**

Save the date. Formal notice will be sent to local League members in May.

Where: Lake Sunapee Country Club, in New London.

When: Lunch served at noon, followed by guest speaker and business meeting.

Guest speaker: Lisa Hall, Medical Services Coordinator for Equality Health Center, Concord

Cost: *Advance payment of \$45 is required. All League members and interested members of the public are invited.*

**Tuesday, March 14 is town meeting day in most of NH's towns.**

Go to the polls to elect your municipal officials and school board. Town warrants may include planning board articles, capital improvement articles, and of course the town and school budgets. Your local taxes and quality of life hinge on the decisions of voters in local elections. Make your voice heard and your vote count. Check your own town's website to confirm date of town election and town meeting. *(Note: some towns hold town meeting in May. Cities hold municipal elections in the fall.)*

*Thanks to a bill passed several years ago, **you may vote at your town clerk's office the day before an election** when a storm or natural disaster is pending for election day.*

*How to do it:* if you believe getting to the polls on Tuesday may be too dangerous, you can go to your town clerk's office on Monday, fill out an absentee ballot application, turn it in and get the ballot right

then. Immediately fill out the ballot, put it in the envelope, sign the back of the envelope, and hand it back to the clerk. Bring ID with you, please.

This is not only legal, it is a good solution for voters who otherwise might miss their chance to vote for town and school officials. Do it! Town elections matter!

All you lucky folks with four-wheel drive and courage, you can still go to the polls on Tuesday and vote as you usually do.