



MOVING FROM ELECTIONS TO THE NEW YEAR...

Wine & Whine Provided for Post-Election Recovery



Portland Area League members and guests gathered on a rainy November 15th evening to unwind after a long and contentious election. With over thirty attendees, it was a lively night. And, it was the League at its best: uniting people to discuss and work for democracy. As shown in the photo, the meeting room at Peloton Labs on Congress Street was bursting at the seams with people, snacks, and drinks.

The purpose of the gathering was to offer people a non-partisan (or multi-partisan) way to debrief or process the election – no matter how they voted or how they feel about the results.

With an eye toward the League's continuing work and the many issues facing our state, guest speakers Meredith Burgess, Cynthia Dill, and John Brautigam led a wide-ranging discussion that included Ranked Choice Voting, the two-party political system, and ways to get involved in the democratic process.

Remember Emily Farley with Your Year-end Donations

The Emily Farley Fund is used by the LWVPA to carry on the work that Emily Farley, an long-time LWVME and Portland area member, pursued during her more than 40 years in Maine. The fund plays an important role in supporting LWVPA voter education and voter registration activities such as those that many of you participated in this past year. Please help us to continue to

honor Emily's work with your tax-deductible donations to the fund. Checks can be made out to the Emily Farley Fund at Maine Community Foundation and mailed to the League of Women Voters of the Portland Area, P. O. Box 7904, Portland, ME 04112. For more information, take a look at the [Emily Farley section of our website](#).

Next LWVPA Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be **Thursday, January 12, 2017 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm** at **DeMillo's Restaurant**, Long Wharf off Commercial St., Portland. All are encouraged to attend.

A Book Discussion in January to Welcome in the New Year

We will be partnering again with the Portland Public Library for a noon, **brown-bag book discussion on January 19, 2017**. The book selected is Elizabeth Kolbert's [The Sixth Extinction](#): An Unnatural History. A New York Times best seller published in 2014, the book combines "scientific analysis and personal narratives providing a clear and comprehensive history of earth's previous mass extinctions--the species we've lost--and an engaging description of the extraordinarily complex nature of life". Although dealing with complex scientific issues, Kolbert's writing is "lucid, accessible, and even entertaining". We expect the book discussion to be lively and well attended given all the **environmental issues** that are likely to be hotly debated in Maine and nationwide during the next several years.

Voter Registration Updates

LWVPA continues to attend US Naturalization Ceremonies throughout the year to register new citizens. These ceremonies are unfailingly moving. If you would like to participate, contact Peg Balano at PBALANO@MAINE.RR.COM.

Are you are looking to get more involved? [*Click here for a list of ways to make a difference.*](#)