



Moving into a busy 2018...

Upcoming Dates to Note on Your Calendar

Date	Time	Details
1/11	5:30-7:30	Open Board Meeting Martin's Point, Veranda St., Jewell Room Bring your dinner and join us in our planning of upcoming events
1/20	TBD	Citizens United Anniversary Discussion LWVPA/MCCE joint activity
2/20	5:30-6:30	Book Discussion: <i>Evicted</i> by Desmond Portland Public Library
3/6	TBD	Shauna Shames talk: <i>The Great (Political) Divide: Why Women and Millennials are Underrepresented in Politics</i> USM

Additional information about LWVPA and LWVME activities is available on the Maine LWV [website](#) calendar.

Getting Ready for the Next Book Discussion

LWVPA and Portland Public Library will partner on a book group discussion of Matthew Desmond's *Evicted*. The Library has multiple copies, but you may need to [put one on hold](#) so act soon! The book—about 8 Milwaukee families—is sure to generate important conversations about poverty, housing and other issues in our own cities. *Evicted* also made Barack Obama's favorite books of 2017 list! If you want more information about *Evicted*, check out this [website](#).

Shauna Shames

The LWVME, the Maine Scholars Strategy Network and the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center are working together to bring to Maine [Dr. Shauna Shames](#), Assistant Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, for 3 different speaking engagements. On March 6 at 5:30, she will be at USM to talk and answer questions on *The Great (Political) Divide: Why Women and Millennials are Underrepresented in Politics*. Stay tuned for more information.

If you are interested in helping to plan this event or host our guest on the night

of March 6, please [contact Barbara](#).

LWVPA Civility Discussions Continue

As a continuation of earlier training and facilitation efforts mentioned in previous newsletters, the LWVPA is facilitating a 2-hour session on Respectful Communications at Scarborough Adult Education on March 14th from 6–8 pm. The discussion is open to the public; advanced registration can be made by contacting [Scarborough Adult Education](#). LWVME is willing to do other workshops for any groups that would like our facilitators to work with them on the topic of civility in public discourse and respectful communications. Please contact [Anne Schink](#) for information.

Rank Choice Voting Needs Your Help

In case you missed the message from Maine Citizens for Clean Elections and the LWVME, we have copied the essentials below. Volunteers are needed, so if you have time during the next two weeks, please contact the Committee for RCV using the link below.

To place the People's Veto to restore ranked choice voting on the June 2018 ballot, organizers must submit 61,123 valid signatures to Maine's Secretary of State by 5pm on Friday, February 2, 2018. So far 1,103 active volunteer circulators have collected and turned in more than 70 percent of the total number of valid signatures needed to qualify for the ballot. **The people's veto effort must collect an additional 25,000 signatures no later than Friday, January 26, 2018. Please sign up [here](#) with the Committee for Ranked Choice Voting to collect signatures from friends, neighbors, and members of your community.**

Voter Registration

Voter Registration events for 2017

- 25 Naturalization Ceremonies statewide registered 437 new citizens to vote

- 14 Portland Area voter drives at schools and farmers markets registered 105 new voters.

Good News Announcement!

We were accepted by LWVUS for a statewide **2018 Youth Registration grant**, which runs through 6/30/2018. We will be scheduling voter registration activities and classroom presentations with eligible students, especially at-risk, special/inclusive education, or alternative students. *If you want to help in any way* to engage with high school, community college, and/or vocational school students at 1 or 2 Portland area schools this spring, or for more information, contact [Jackie Jacobson](#).

Naturalization Ceremonies 2018

We have ceremonies scheduled for most months this coming year. Come help register new citizens to vote following their ceremony. Next event is Wed. Jan. 31st at Biddeford Middle School. *Volunteers needed for this event!* Contact [Peg Balano](#) .

Membership Update

During the past quarter, the 19 members listed below have renewed their memberships or become new members of the LWVPA.

Julianne Baroody, Marsha Bingler, Susan Cabot, Catherine Coughlin, Rosie DeQuattro, Mimi Dunn, Betts Gorsky, Susan Loguidice, Karlene Osborne, Sarah Russell, Ann Schink, Barbara Sellers, Stephen Simonds, Janet Slivers, Alison Smith, Rachel Talbot-Ross, Kim True, Colleen Tucker and Judith Whiting.

Thank you for your interest and support of the League. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events.

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