



Elections are right around the corner – are you ready?

Voter Registration Drives Celebrate NVRD

During September and October, the LWVPA collaborated on National Voter Registration Day (NVRD) efforts with Maine Campus Compact, Greater Portland Health, Portland Public Library's Choose Civility Program and the LWVME. The 15 attendees at the September 8th Voter Registration Training have now joined previously trained League members forming a dedicated and expert team. In addition to the LWVPA's regular coverage of Portland high schools, colleges and naturalization ceremonies, 25 League affiliated voter registration tables served new locations such as farmers' markets, senior centers, soup kitchens and health providers.

We remind voters that anyone can register in person at their city or town clerk's office up to Election Day and then at the polls on Election Day. First time voters or those with a change of address need to bring proof of residency; however, no voter can legally be turned away.

By the end of September 2016, we had registered **338 new citizens** at **28 naturalization ceremonies**. We will report the count (over 250 so far) for voters registered at other locations in the next newsletter. The LWVPA will continue to attend US Naturalization Ceremonies throughout the year to register new citizens. These ceremonies are unfailingly moving. Contact Peg Balano pbalano@maine.rr.com if you would like to participate.



Voter Information is Also a Priority

The 8th nonpartisan *Maine Easy-to-Read Voter Guide for the 2016 Election* became available online September 30th at <http://www.lwvme.org/VoterGuide.html>. Starting October 7th **50,000 free paper copies** will be distributed to citizens throughout Maine in a cooperative effort with Maine Adult Education, the Maine Library System and many League volunteers.

Making Your Vote Count is another LWVME publication available to all voters but particularly useful for new voters. Individuals may download copies [here](#); and organizations can request

assistance with bulk orders [here](#).

The national website WWW.VOTE411.ORG has been up and running with 2016 voter information since Friday September 30, 2016. At this site you can enter your address to find your polling place, learn where candidates running for office in your community stand on the issues, and print out a sample ballot indicating your preferences as a reminder to take with you to the polls on Election Day. The site also has resources for military and overseas voters! [Check them out](#) .

The **University of Southern Maine** Women & Gender Studies Program is conducting a panel discussion called "**Women, Gender & Presidential Politics**" on the Portland campus (Glickman 423) on October 20th from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. LWVPA will attend and be distributing voter information materials at this event.

The Emily Farley Fund Needs Our Support

The Emily Farley Fund was established in 1996 to honor Emily Farley, a long-time member of the League of Women Voters of Maine and of the Portland area. Emily Farley was well-known for her work on behalf of good government and making democracy work on the local, state and national levels. The fund is used to carry on the work that Emily Farley pursued during her more than 40 years in Maine and plays an important role in supporting LWVPA voter education and voter registration activities. For more information, click [here](#).

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.

Ballot Question 5 on Ranked Choice Voting

The LWVME is actively supporting a "YES" vote on Question 5 concerning Ranked Choice Voting. [Click here](#) to learn more about this important ballot initiative.

Open Board Meeting

The next meeting will be **Thursday, November 10, 2016 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm** at **DiMillo's Restaurant**, Long Wharf off Commercial St., Portland. Open Board Meetings take place every other month. All are encouraged to attend.

Post-Election Whine and Wine Event – Tuesday, November 15, 6–8 pm

Come for a social hour recap of local, state and national election results with guest speakers

Cynthia Dill and Meredith Burgess. We'll be at the awesome PelotonLabs, a co-working community at 795 Congress Street in Portland.

Welcome to New and Renewing Members for Jul, Aug, and Sep

Marsha Bingler, Joanna Bowers, Janice Carpenter, Joan Greene, Alicia Harding, Jaclyn Jacobson, Barbara and David Kaufman, Marguerite MacDonald, Nancy Miles, Carolyn Murray, Karlene Osborne, Elizabeth Ruff, Kim Simmons, Moira Simonds and Mark Nordenson, Colleen Tucker, Deborah Van Hoewyk, Karla Wight and Sarah Woodard.

If you have newly joined and don't see your name listed, please be patient with our all volunteer processes! We'll get you next time and are very glad you're a member of our League.

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

[Join Us!](#) If you are not already a member of the League, we need your help now to carry out our mission and to strengthen our democracy. [Please join us.](#)

