The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government. The league works to increase and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Any person 16 years and older, male or female, may become a League member.

lwvtompkins.org
lwvtompkins@gmail.com

Election Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General election</td>
<td>November 6, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>*October 12, 2018 – the last day to postmark voter registration form (must be received by October 17, 2018) or register in person at the Board of Election.</td>
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<tr>
<td>*October 17, 2018 – if you have moved and want to re-register at your new address, this is the last day by which change of address must be received by the Board of Election.</td>
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<tr>
<td>*October 30, 2018 – Last day to postmark application for an absentee ballot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>*November 5, 2018 – Last day to apply in person for an absentee ballot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>*November 5, 2018 – Last day to postmark ballot for the general election (must be received by November 13, 2018).</td>
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<tr>
<td>*November 6, 2018 – Last day to deliver an absentee ballot in person to the Board of Elections.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The state League's electronic voter guide will be live by Monday, Oct. 8, with race and candidate information. Go to www.votingnewyork.org, enter your address to find out who will be on your ballot and what their stances are on issues important to you.
President
Kay Sharp 272-4748
phylliskaysharp@gmail.com

Co-Treasurer
Connie Stirling-Engman
607-342-0252.
cstirlingengman@gmail.com

VP1 & Program
Charlotte Coffman 272-7551
cwc4@cornell.edu

VP2 & Membership
Lory Saltzman 257-7240
lorysaltz@gmail.com

Voter Services
Mandy Qualls 405-210-6598
mandyqualls@gmail.com

Natural Resources & Co-Treasurer
Kay Wagner 539-3322
cmw18@cornell.edu

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While tabling at Apple Harvest Festival, the League registered 44 voters!
DARK MONEY

Tuesday, October 9, 7pm
Cinemapolis, 120 E Green St, Ithaca, NY

Don’t miss this PBS documentary about corporate influence in electoral politics.

Talkback after the film with Trailblazers PAC
https://www.darkmoneyfilm.com/
President’s Message

Happy Fall. Hope you haven’t floated away with all this rain. I’m ready for a little snow. Okay, maybe not yet.

We have had a very busy schedule this September. And it will continue throughout October. Our name has become known for voter registration events. We have registered voters by request for eight events in September, and we have four more planned for October. Thank you to Mandy, our Director of Voter Services, and to you. We couldn’t have done it without member volunteers.

We’re particularly pleased that Dryden and Groton High Schools made arrangements for us to register students in their “Participation in Government” classes. Also, we were invited by TC3 and Cornell. We made arrangements with Ithaca College too.

Speaking about Ithaca College, we have a new student liaison on the Board. His name is Sebastian Chavez and he is majoring in Politics at IC. He made some suggestions at our Board meeting on programs that would cater to younger audiences. So the Health Committee is going to work with him on our April program. It’s great to have the special vitality of youth on our Board, they challenge the status quo.

Also, new to our Board is a new member of the League, Linda Vierling. She will serve as a Director at Large. She just moved into the area and chose our League to volunteer on voter service activities. She was part of the team of volunteers who went to TC3. Welcome Linda.

Just in September we have two additional new members – Jennifer Livesay and Kelly Morris. Kelly also joined us for TC3 voter registration. Welcome to the League, both of you. It’s been an exciting return to League business given our respite during the summer. I look forward to seeing all of you again at our programs and voter registration activities.

Kay Sharp
The Natural Resources Committee by Kay Wagner

The program “Farmers Can Help Cool the Planet”, for which we were one of the co-sponsors, was a great success. Around 100 people attended and the speakers were both dynamic and very interesting. Jeffrey Creque spoke about the Marin Carbon Project and explained the science behind the project, focusing on carbon sequestration but also on building healthy soil. Steve Gabriel spoke about what he and his wife are doing on their local farm, Wellspring Forest Farm, with its emphasis on forest-based systems using “silvopasture” techniques.

Brian Caldwell is co-owner of Hemlock Grove Farm, a certified organic orchard. He emphasized the need to consider costs as well as benefits in terms of energy use when applying such techniques as bringing in mulch from elsewhere to put on a field. His catch phrase was that we need to pay attention to “robbing Peter to pay Paul”.

Suzanne Hunt described the work she and her seventh generation family are doing on their vineyard, Hunt Country Vineyards. The vineyard runs on renewable energy resources and a portion of it is organic. Suzanne also emphasized the importance of looking at state and national farm policies and the need for more support for farmers transitioning to better farming techniques. In particular, she mentioned the need for assistance in furthering farmer to farmer conversations.

If you are interested in learning more about the topic, a good book to read is Grass, Soil, Hope, by Courtney White. Steve Gabriel also has a recent book on silvopasture techniques or you can read about his farm on the website for Wellspring Forest Farm.

The handout for the event had a list of 12 things all of us can do, which include avoiding using chemical fertilizers and instead using composted materials, adopting a local plant-rich diet, supporting local farmers who use no-till plus diverse cover crops, and contacting your NY Senator about supporting the Carbon Farming Bill (A3281) to give financial incentives to farmers who capture carbon in their soil.

Our committee is just starting to meet again after a summer break.

We plan to look into local land use, both current and future in order to gain a better understanding of the best policies to support.

If you are interested in joining our committee contact Kay Wagner (cmw18@cornell.edu or 607-592-4770).
We do have a few upcoming events, most of which take place before the deadline to register to vote in the general election in New York (click here to view a list of voter registration deadlines).

October 5 at the Groton Public Library from 3pm to 6:30pm
October 8 at the Groton Public Library from 3pm to 7pm
October 9 at Cinemapolis screening of the film “Dark Money”
October 11 at Dryden High School from 9am to 1pm
October 16 at Groton High School

If you’d like to sign up for any of these events, please go to https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JYW7DKAo0tU1e xsrwIBkqGRMlkT0zgZoi1d7Z4Dtc10/edit#gid=0

The Voter Services Committee continues to be extremely busy in the run-up to the 2018 midterm elections. We’ve had some very successful voter registration drives, including:

Constitution Day at TC3, 42 voters registered
Unitarian Church at PorchFest, 4 voters registered
National Voter Registration Day on the Commons
Cornell University, 31 voters registered
Apple Harvest Festival, 44 voters registered
Ithaca College, 4 voters registered

In addition to registering voters, we also serve as a source for voting information for the public, whether through events such as the above, social media, or other means. We always receive many questions at public events about voting, local issues of concern, and are always open to how we can better serve the public. A huge thank you to all of our Voter Services volunteers, who make everything we do possible. If you’d like to be added to our volunteer list, please send an email to mandyqualls@gmail.com.

We will be participating in a candidate forum on Tuesday, October 9th at the Space at Greenstar. It will be sponsored by the Finger Lakes Independence Center and begins at 7pm. Kay Sharp will be moderating and Mandy Qualls will be the timekeeper for the event.

The League is sponsoring a Sheriff’s candidate forum on November 1st with the location to be determined. If you’d like to volunteer to be a timekeeper or turn in questions from the audience, please see our registration link above.

Again, a huge thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers. Let’s get out there and vote on November 6th!
Health Committee

The Department of Health requested that the League co-sponsor a program on COPD. In researching this illness, it becomes apparent that the illness is more deadly for women than for men.

The Health Committee is meeting with the Department of Health this month to finalize the program, which will be November 14, 4:30-6:00 pm in the Public Library Borg-Warner Room.

The Committee is considering a program for the Spring on the legalization of marijuana. It is a topic that is currently being debated by college students. It is a topic that needs our attention, as our state, as many other states, is considering this issue. We will have Sebastian Chavez, our student liaison, help plan this program.

Diane Kelleher, Ann Warde, Kay Sharp, Debbie Levin

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 4:30–6:00 p.m.

Tompkins County Public Library Borg Warner Room

Come hear local health professionals and community members share information, best practices, and real experience about living with chronic lung disease. Enjoy a *Harmonicas for Health* performance following the presentation.

*Light snacks and refreshments provided — Open and Free to the Public. Doors open at 4:00pm for exhibits. Presentation begins at 4:30pm.*

Sponsored by:
Tompkins County Health Department League of Women Voters of Tompkins County Cayuga Medical Center
**LWV-TC Program Committee Report**

The program committee will meet Wednesday, Oct 24, 9am at the Ithaca Bakery – Triphammer. Please join us if you are interested in outreach to the public or would like to work on programming for the spring.

The Tompkins County Chapter sponsored two public programs in September:

- Campaign Finance Reform was held on September 24 with 16 participants. Professor Jonathan Krasno, Binghamton University, reviewed the national history of campaign financing and explained the complexities in making reforms. Laura Bierman, Executive Director, NYS LWV, focused on state initiatives and the LWV reform efforts in New York. The event can be viewed at http://www.lwvtompkins.org/program_archive.html and an article/video at http://amandachin.com/follow-the-money/.

- Farmers Can Help Cool the Planet was presented on September 26 to an enthusiastic audience of about 100. Dr. Jeffrey Creque from the Carbon Cycle Institute and local farmers explained the benefits of carbon farming methods. See Natural Resources Committee Report.

-Submitted by Charlotte Coffman

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**Interested in becoming a league member?**

The league would love to have you!

**Who can join LWV-TC?** Membership is open to all men and women, 16 years or older.

**What does membership bring?**

Joining the League of Tompkins County automatically enrolls you in the League of Women Voters of New York State and the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Membership includes our Voter newsletter with reports, legislative action, events, news, membership updates, and more. For more information, here is our Membership Booklet.

To join LWV-TC, print and complete the membership form and return it to
League of Women Voters of Tompkins County
303 Savage Farm Drive
Ithaca, NY 14850

You will receive a packet from the Membership Chair. If you have problems accessing or printing the form, please contact lwvtompkins@gmail.com
Upcoming Events

Vote Smart National Tour - Facts Matter*

Monday, October 22, at noon
United Presbyterian Church, 25 Court St, Cortland, NY.

Speaker: Richard Kimball, President of Vote Smart, a national non-partisan organization that maintains records on candidate statements, voting record, donors, etc. <https://votesmart.org/>

Co-sponsors: League of Women Voters Cortland County, YWCA Cortland and Cortland Women’s Coalition

Carpooling from Barnes & Noble on Route 13 (10:30am) and Triphammer Marketplace in front of the ReUse Center (10:45am). Contact Kay Sharp (607-272-4748 or phylliskaysharp@gmail.com) if you would like to be picked up at your home. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch.

<https://votesmart.org/>
Mandy Qualls and Megan Nettleton offer a quick and easy workshop to learn how to make the most of the League Facebook -- and more. Developed with members in mind, but open to everyone.

Clarity Connect, Inc. continues to host our website, and we are grateful for their generous contribution.

Our League web page, is designed to serve League members as well as the community at large.

Our fantastic webmasters are Michael & Linda Duttweiler.
lduttweiler@gmail.com
mduttweiler@gmail.com
YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN ALBANY

SENATORS

James Seward 518-455-3131; 607-758-9005  
www.nysenate.gov/senator/james-l-seward  
51st—Towns of Groton, Dryden, Caroline, Danby

Pamela Helming 518-455-2366, 315-568-9816  
helming@nysenate.gov  
54th—Town of Lansing

Thomas O’Mara 518-455-2091; 607-735-9671  
www.nysenate.gov/senator/thomas-f-omara  
59th—Towns of Ithaca, Newfield, Enfield, Ulysses; City of Ithaca

ASSEMBLYWOMAN

Barbara Lifton 518-455-5444; 607-277-8030  
www.assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Barbara-Lifton

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON

SENATORS

Kirsten E. Gillibrand 202-224-4451 e-mail and web-site: www.gillibrand.senate.gov

Charles E. Schumer 202-224-6542; senator@schumer.senate.gov;  
www.schumer.senate.gov

REPRESENTATIVES:

Tom Reed 202-225-3161; 607-654-7566; e-mail and web-site: reed.house.gov

Important Links

- [http://lwvtompkins.org/bulletins.html](http://lwvtompkins.org/bulletins.html)  
  See all of the League’s Past Bulletins

- [http://lwvtompkins.org/calendar.html](http://lwvtompkins.org/calendar.html)  
  The League’s Calendar of Events

- [http://lwv.org/](http://lwv.org/)  
  The National League Website

  The State League Website

- [http://lwvtompkins.org/stand.html](http://lwvtompkins.org/stand.html)  
  Where the Tompkins County League stands on important issues

- [http://www.lwvtompkins.org/program_archive.html](http://www.lwvtompkins.org/program_archive.html)  
  A link to previous league sponsored programs which were videotaped.

- [http://www.lwvtompkins.org/voting.html](http://www.lwvtompkins.org/voting.html)  
  Find out when the Upcoming Elections

- [https://www.elections.ny.gov/](https://www.elections.ny.gov/)  
  Governor Cuomo

  [gov.cuomo@chamber.state.ny.us](mailto:gov.cuomo@chamber.state.ny.us)