PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP SERVICES
Dare Thompson
LWV of the Mid-Hudson Region

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/VOTER SERVICES
Judie Gorenstein
LWV of Huntington

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/ISSUES & ADVOCACY
Sally Robinson
LWV of the City of New York

SECRETARY
Jane Park
LWV of Broome and Tioga Counties

TREASURER
Lori Robinson
LWV of Buffalo/Niagara

DIRECTORS

GRASSROOTS DIRECTOR
Carol Mellor
LWV of the Hamptons

AT-LARGE
Sheila Miller Bernson
LWV of New Castle
Betty Ann King
LWV of the North Country
Suzanne Stassevitch
LWV of the City of New York

STAFF
Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director
Jennifer Wilson, Legislative Director
Linda Bondi, Office Manager
Marissa Goddard, Development Assistant and Database Manager
Lisa Allendorph, Local League Finances

New York League Delegates at LWVUS Convention in Chicago, June 2018

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation
62 Grand Street, Albany, NY 12207
Ph. 518-465-4162 • Fx. 518-465-0812
email: lwvny@lwvny.org • www.lwvny.org
The year of this report (July 2018-June 2019) is poised halfway between the centennials of the month New York women won the vote (November 1917) and the month when the New York State League of Women Voters was founded (November 1919). We have Carrie Chapman Catt to thank for those two events as well as the ultimate suffrage victory that would happen in 1920, and if you (like most people, alas) don’t know this, please Google her and spread the word! We salute New York’s famous suffragists Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton too, but it was Catt - transplanted from Iowa to New York - who got the job done and shaped the organization the LWV still is, complete with local leagues that evolved directly from the local suffrage organizations.

I wonder if Catt would be thinking “it’s about time!” or simply “Brava!” if she time-traveled forward to now, turned on a TV, and saw women legislators, women mayors, and even several female presidential candidates appearing regularly? What would she think of Andrea Stewart-Cousins taking over the top seat in the state Senate and ushering in critical election law and reproductive rights reform? She might not realize how recent these changes are unless her time-travel first took her through the 2016 election, the 2017 protest marches - particularly the post-inaugural Women’s March and post-Parkland March for our Lives - and then the 2018 elections.

I wonder too what Catt would have thought of the striking change in the power imbalance between men and women both at home and in public as the Me Too movement has brought down one formerly esteemed male after another for assuming sexual privileges he did not actually have. It may have taken several national crises and the downfall of highly placed sexual predators to create the dynamic climate we are in, and we lament the causes, but the League has been here for those who have been newly-energized by this climate. We may be doing our work in different ways, but the twin goals of educating citizens and engaging them fully in their government remain unchanged since the suffragists foresaw the need for this work.

I had the privilege of helping write A Force to Reckon With, the state League’s centennial history (along with Forces to Reckon With: A Collection of Histories of the Local Leagues in New York State) and was so proud to see that in the beginning, our history was also the history of LWVUS and the NYC League too, and how important our work has continued to be nationally. I now have the pleasure of welcoming you to this review of the final full year of our first century of work.

As we get ready to move into our second century, let us never forget the long, hard struggle that led to the creation of our important organization, and let us re-commit to all that Catt and other suffragists expected of us. On behalf of the whole state League, I thank all of you who supported the work in this report as a member, a donor, a volunteer or all of the above. We are blessed to live in a democracy, and you are helping to keep it vibrant. Enjoy reading all about it!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

ABOUT THE LWVNYS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation is the educational and fundraising arm of the League of Women Voters of New York State. It derives its strength from the energy and commitment of the women and men in over 50 Local Leagues and Inter-League Organizations (ILOs) throughout the state. Strictly nonpartisan, it works primarily on projects that educate the electorate.

The charitable support of individuals, corporations and foundations throughout New York State helps the LWVNYS Education Foundation accomplish its three main goals:

- To educate people on the importance of their participation in government, in the political process and in the life of their home community;
- To create awareness of issues at local, state and national levels and to inform citizens how they can have an impact; and
- To instill in young people and new citizens the knowledge of their new role and responsibilities in government.

The LWVNYS Education Foundation is incorporated under the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of New York and is classified as a public educational charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to the LWVNYS Education Foundation are fully tax deductible.
The 2019 Students Inside Albany Conference had 60 attendees representing 42 local Leagues, MAL Units and ILO’s. The students came from all over New York State from Long Island to Buffalo and Plattsburgh to Binghamton. They ranged from freshmen to seniors in high school. They were energetic and enthusiastic to learn about New York State government.

On Sunday evening, Jennifer Wilson, former LWVNYS Legislative Director, presented information on how New York State Government works. She explained the roles of the various branches of New York State government and the differences between the state government and the other levels of government, eg, national and local.

On Monday, the students toured the state Capitol and heard about whose faces are on those engraved stones and the secret of the fireplaces in the Senate Chambers. Back at the hotel, NY Assemblywoman Pat Fahy (NY District 109) talked with them about effective lobbying, how to approach legislators, make your arguments and be persuasive. She allowed the students to perform role playing and lobby her about an issue.

On the way to the Capitol that afternoon, the students had a tour of the Chambers of the Court of Appeals and heard about the different levels of the judiciary in New York State from Gary Spencer, Public Information Officer of the Court.

Continuing up the hill to the Capitol and Legislative Office Building, the students were directed to find their Assemblymember’s offices and shadow their legislator. All of the students were escorted onto the Assembly floor and introduced on the floor of the Chamber. They viewed the legislators at their desks and the Chamber in session.

That evening, Elissa Kane, Albany Public Library Trustee, and Lynne Lekakis, Albany County Legislator, spoke to the students about running for office. They outlined how to gather signatures for petitions, work with the parties, fundraise and participate in a candidate forum or debate. The students had many questions about the exact procedures and were encouraged to consider running for office at the local level.

On Tuesday, Julia Watson, Communications Coordinator from the Alliance for Quality Education, presented information to the students on education issues and the methods they use to advocate for these issues. The topic was of particular interest to the students who asked many questions on financing education, Common Core and APPR. Liz Moran, Environmental Policy Director for NYPIRG, spoke as well, about their lobbying efforts to ensure clean air and water, especially in low income areas.

The students shadowed their Senator on Tuesday and again were escorted to the floor to watch the session.

On Wednesday morning, Jim Anderson, one of the chaperones and a seasoned-activist, engaged the students in a discussion of what they saw in the Assembly and Senate. Much of the discussion surrounded questions on procedures and voting in both Chambers and the role of leadership in each Chamber. The students were also presented individually with a certificate for attendance at the Conference. A few students noted that they had been offered internships in the legislators’ offices for the summer.

Just for fun, the students also went bowling one night at a local bowling alley that provided laser lights, disco lights, black lights, and runway lights combined with the latest music videos on a giant screen.

YOUTH PROGRAMS
Mission: To instill in young people the knowledge of their new role and responsibilities as voters.

Students Inside Albany | May 19-May 22, 2019
“When we picked our son up at the train station he didn’t hesitate to tell us that it was one of the best experiences he ever had. This surprised us since he had just come back from a trip abroad with his high school class. It was obvious to us that meeting peers from different counties in his own home state was even more eye opening than any new foreign culture. The other key element that made Students Inside Albany so special was seeing adults, lawmakers in action. Discussions and negotiations weren’t theoretical. This was reality and he witnessed it happening in real time.”

*Chris and Mei Morin, parents of Andrew Morin*

### From the perspective of the students

**BIANCA CARZO**

At SIA almost every student knows absolutely nobody going in. I knew I would need to make friends so that I could have someone to talk to between the listening and learning. I met Annie the first night, and for the next three days we took on every speaker, lecture, and conversation together. Between tours and presentations, we would discuss all that we learned, the importance of getting involved in our own schools to bring back and apply what we learned. We both had leadership roles in our own towns, her being class president and a JROTC commanding officer in Utica, while I’m a multi-committee leader in my school’s Senate and a speech captain for high schoolers and teens. Together we climbed tall hills in heels and suits and excitedly went over our schedules daily. At night after our daily shadowing and touring, we’d eat and play foosball with our friends we met from all over New York. Felix and Vaughn were from Albany, they would tell us about their Senator while beating us at cards. Mahala was from Oneonta and I toured the capital with her and we all laughed at her jokes. Kaela came from my county and I saw her a couple of months ago at a League meeting. She has an internship now with the non-profit AQE that presented to us. Mady lives near Ithaca in a very rural area and is very excited for college in the fall. On this trip, we learned the in’s and out’s of NY’s government and learned that together, if we stay engaged, we can make a change.

I am endlessly grateful that my Saratoga county League covered the costs of this trip. Without this financial support I would not have gone on a trip like this. The hotel and meals included were so generous and really made the trip and experience so much less stressful than other conferences I have gone to that don’t have such good accommodations.

*– Bianca Carzo*

**ANNIE LE**

How to tackle the capital: comfortable shoes, newly made friends, and an open mind. Through the early hours and late-night lectures from our guest speakers, the days seemed to drag on for hours on end. The struggle of walking up to the capital from our hotel felt as if we were climbing Mt. Everest. The only thing keeping me sane was knowing that I had a best friend, whom I had only known for several hours since the first night. I knew from the start that Bianca was going to be the most reliable, understanding, and comforting friend I will ever encounter. The next couple of days we walked everywhere together, discussed all of our new findings together, and most importantly, agreed that we need to take what we’ve learned back into our schools and communities. Although we live nearly two hours apart, Bianca and I, along with the rest of our friend group, decided that we would bring this experience to our fellow peers in order to promote political advocacy to the future generation of our country. Although we are currently still struggling with our plans for college, we are determined to encourage our peers to go to the polls and vote! With the upcoming presidential election in 2020, Bianca, Kaela, and I plan to start up a club where we could register students to vote once they become of age. In addition, we would be of service in providing relevant facts and information to those who are interested in politics and government. We are passionate about creating the future that we want and this is only the beginning!

**Words fail to describe how much this has expanded my world view and inspired me to be a voice to be heard, whether it be in my local community, or on a nationwide scale.**

*– Annie Le*
National Voter Registration Day

The League of Women Voters of NYS and many of its local Leagues participated in National Voter Registration Day which took place on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, and broke records for the holiday. In total, 865,015 registrations were completed nationally! Most of the local Leagues in NYS participated and registered thousands of new voters at over 70 registration drives. New York State as a whole registered upwards of 30,000 eligible citizens on this day. The theme of “Midterms on my Terms” seemed to resonate with citizens. As stated on their website (nationalvoterregistrationday.org), “biggest thanks goes to our thousands of community partners who showed an unprecedented amount of coordination by getting up and out on September 25 and doing their best to register every eligible citizen.”

Voter Services in New York State

League members know the importance of registering eligible citizens and in 2018 hundreds of drives were held by local Leagues across the state resulting in thousands of completed registrations. This year the importance of not only registering voters but turning out the vote was stressed. Leagues collected information at their voter registration drives and followed up with reminders by texts, emails calls and post cards. LWV of Syracuse used grant money to go door to door from mid September to Election Day in low voter turnout areas registering voters and encouraging them to vote. Other Leagues used PSAs, letter to the editors, social media, messages on theater marquees, banners, flyers and electronic signs both at schools and in towns to get out the vote.

Results from the 34 local Leagues who completed the voter service survey about their many activities during the summer and fall of 2018 are listed below:

- The number of registrations drives ranged from 2 to 190;
- The number of voters registered at these drives ranged from 20 to 3,300;
- 27 local Leagues indicated that they held drives at new venues this year, including jails, bus depots, street fairs, independent living centers, food pantries and more;
- 19 local Leagues provided voter registration training to other groups or organizations;
- 31 local Leagues organized candidate forums ranging from 1 to 8 forums each totally 69 FORUMS STATEWIDE;
- 16 local Leagues co-sponsored candidate forums with other organization, including AARP, Latino Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, NAACP and more;
- 24 local Leagues registered voters and distribute educational materials such as First Vote and Voter Guides at naturalization ceremonies.
In the summer of 2018, the State League set out to organize a gubernatorial debate among the five candidates running for New York’s top office. We met with several media outlets in hopes of finding a partner to broadcast our debate across the state. Over the course of three months, we arranged meetings with four different outlets. Each representative we spoke with raised the same concern — whether or not the incumbent Governor would attend. While we couldn’t guarantee his attendance, we felt that even without his participation voters deserved to hear directly from the candidates.

As fall approached, we became frustrated and decided that with the rise of social media, having a media co-sponsor was not as important as it once was. We contacted the College of Saint Rose and moved forward with planning the debate. In just two weeks, the League was able to secure a venue, confirm participation from four of the five candidates, and make arrangements for live-streaming across all of our social media platforms.

The debate featured media experts:

- Susan Arbetter, State Capitol Correspondent and News & Public Affairs Director for WCNY Syracuse Public Television and host and producer of The Capitol Pressroom
- Ken Lovett, New York Daily News Albany Bureau Chief
- Josefa Velasquez, Investigative Reporter at Sludge
- Takora McIntyre, a junior at the College of Saint Rose majoring in communications with a concentration in journalism.

Candidates participating in the debate included Marc Molinaro (Republican), Stephanie Miner (Save America Movement), Howie Hawkins (Green) and Larry Sharpe (Libertarian).

In order to fund this event, the League launched a Go Fund me effort where we raised over $5,000 to cover the costs of the venue and security.

Even without the participation of the incumbent Governor, the debate was a huge success. The event was livestreamed by close to 80,000 viewers on the day of the event with thousands more viewers watching the archived footage in the days leading up to the election. Reporters from across the state covered the debate in various print and broadcast outlets.

We were able to “sell out” the free event and gave away tickets to over 200 people, including many students from the College of Saint Rose. We engaged 30 League volunteers and promoted the League to new audiences who were previously unfamiliar with our work. By the end of the debate, we were proud of our hard work and grateful to all the individuals who donated their time and money to make it happen, and to the College of Saint Rose for helping us live-stream the event.

State Fair 2018

For the second year, the State League partnered with NY Alliance for Donation to host a voter registration table at the New York State Fair. More than 50 volunteers staffed the table over a two-week period. Volunteers talked to voters from around the state, educating them about the League’s electronic ballot guide and helping them understand New York’s election processes. The League helped hundreds of voters complete registration forms, update their voter information, and apply for absentee ballots. Volunteers also encouraged voters to sign the League’s petition to bring early voting to New York State.
Civics Education has become a major topic of conversation across the nation. The State League has long known that civic education in New York State is inconsistent and sometimes nonexistent in school curriculums around the state. Resources for teachers on the topics of state government, policy, advocacy, and individual rights are lacking. In 2018, we decided to prioritize civic education and launch a new initiative to create 7 lesson plans for teachers of the New York Grade 12 Participation in Government course.

The League worked with the State Education Department (SED) and the New York State Council for the Social Studies (NYSCSS) to hire three Participation in Government teachers to help us create this curriculum. The lessons included in the plan cover:

- Structure of New York State Government
- Individual Rights and Responsibilities in New York State
- Voting in New York State
- The Public Policy Process (Laws) in New York
- Influencing New York State Government
- Participating in Political Action in Your Local Community
- Participating in Community Service in Your Local Community

The goal of these lessons is to bring a heightened knowledge of the formal system of government in New York State, a better understanding of the forces that can change the balance of power, and to develop an improved student understanding of how to be an active citizen, knowing their rights and responsibilities.

The League worked with SED and NYSCSS to promote this curriculum to teachers across New York State. We attended the NYSCSS conference where we were able to discuss the program with over 150 Participation in Government teachers.

Following the creation of our curriculum, we joined the DemocracyReady NY coalition. The coalition, convened by the Center for Educational Equity (CEE), includes student and teacher organizations, unions, and rural and urban advocacy groups. As a member of the coalition, the League took part in conversation on how to best shape the state’s civics curriculum through advocacy and the education. The State League continues to work with this coalition on creating a uniform civics education program.

In 2018, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was revised to include civic readiness as a graduation requirement. The Board of Regents is now tasked with determining how to implement this new requirement. The Board formed the Civic Readiness Task Force to develop recommendations. The League’s Executive Director, Laura Ladd Bieman, was also appointed to the taskforce by the State Education Department. The Task Force was instructed to create a “seal” that students could achieve and have displayed on their graduation diploma. The Task Force has developed recommendations for what a student should be required to accomplish for the “seal” and a “capstone” project that students can complete to fulfill the requirements for the seal. The capstone allows students to go farther and create a multi-year project to engage in their communities on a specific issue. The Task Force also looked at other ways that civics could be incorporated into the state curriculum at all levels, including high school, middle school and even elementary school.

Sample pages from lesson plans available at lwvnycivics.org.
Celebrating the centennial at the State League’s Convention was fun for all! Over 100 people attended the Convention, participating in workshops, hearing speakers and enjoying League friends.

The state Convention had:
- 96 Delegates Registered
- 17 Observers or Visitors Registered
- 25 attended Saturday Dinner only
- 7 Delegates by Proxy
- 21 volunteers

On Friday, Jeff H. Behler, Regional Director for the US Census Bureau presented information on why the census matters, how it will work, timing of the process and what attendees can do to help make it a successful count.

On Friday evening, Robert Boatright, PhD, Director of Research for the National Institute of Civil Discourse and a Professor and Chair of the Political Science Department at Clark University, spoke about the polarization of this country and efforts to achieve civil discourse in our communities.

During Saturday’s lunch, DeNora Getachew, Executive Director of Generation Citizen in NYC and Lori Campbell, a student at Bedford Academy had an informal conversation about Action Civics. They discussed what is being done in Lori’s school to engage more students in their communities and how best to reach out to the youth of today to energize and educate them on their role in society.

On Saturday evening, Elaine Weiss, Journalist and Author of The Woman’s Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote, spoke to over 120 attendees about women’s suffrage history in New York State and beyond. Her presentation included many fascinating old photos of the fight for women to win the right to vote. Following her presentation, she signed many of her books purchased by the attendees. The dinner was co-sponsored by the NYS Archives Partnership Trust.

On Saturday and Sunday morning, League members participated in an interactive training session on diversity, equity and inclusion, a major priority for the state and national Leagues. Dr. Patrick Jean-Pierre, Assistant District Director of Diversity, Recruitment and Retention, Schenectady City School, presented critical information to engage the attendees in discussions and future actions.

Other workshop topics during the Convention included:
- Election Laws
- Civics and Engaging Youth
- LWVNYS Policy on No Empty Chair
- Candidate Forums
- Fundraising Tips
- Proposed Concurrence on Election Process
- Tackling Food Waste and Food Insecurity
- Advocacy Training
- Fact or Fake: Exploring the Role of Media in Politics
- Reviving Civility
- Vote 411 Training
- Youth Programs of Local Leagues
- Moderating Candidate Forums
- League Management Options
- Social Media, Websites and Other Technology
- Parliamentary Procedures and Plenary Session Discussions
- Voter Services Q&A
- 2019-2020 Proposed Budget
- Proposed New Program Process and Bylaw Amendments
- Women’s Suffrage and League History Projects
LEAGUE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

The League of Women Voters of New York State Board of Directors agreed in 2017 that it was important that the 100 years of history of the State League should be formally documented and celebrated. Recognizing this task was bigger than our staff and volunteers could handle, and with the early and very generous support of Emily and Eugene Grant, we hired Mt. Ida Press to help us. Mt. Ida staff members Diana Waite, Elizabeth Allen and Liz Marsh were tremendously helpful in researching and creating this book.

Searching the archives in Butler Library at Columbia University, as well as the NYS Museum and SUNY Albany, they unearthed fascinating treasures of League history culminating in a draft book. Former LWVNYS president Martha Kennedy and our current LWVNYS executive director Laura Ladd Bierman also went through files in the office and provided consistent oversight.

With help from current LWVNYS president Dare Thompson and immediate past president Sally Robinson, and long-time New York City LWV leader Toni Coffee, they also edited multiple drafts to ensure accuracy and readability.

All the efforts were inspired by the many members, former members, and supporters of the state League whose skills, dedication, and persistence have done so much over the last 100 years to strengthen and maintain our democracy. The local Leagues’ efforts have been critical to every success the state League has had, and they make our organization uniquely effective among our state’s “good government” groups. A list of the current Leagues is included at the end of the book and a separate document honoring their histories has been created as well. We thank every member and supporter who continue to help us empower voters and defend democracy. Surely our foremothers and fathers would thank them too.

Last and hardly least we enthusiastically thank the financial supporters of this book:

- Carrie Chapman Catt Supporters ($5,000+)
- Emilie and Eugene Grant, Nancy Rosenthal, Sally S. Robinson, Evelyn M. Stock

Narcissa Cox Vanderlip Supporters ($1,000-4,999)
- Aimee M. Allaud
- Laura Ladd Bierman
- Toni Coffee
- Joseph and Shirley Eberly
- Elizabeth B. Hubbard Fund
- The Judith Fund of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region
- Martha and Don Kennedy
- Marcia A. Merrins
- Barbara K. Thomas
- Dare and Douglas Thompson

- On May 4 2019, LWV of Buffalo/Niagara celebrated 100 years of the League of Women Voters of NYS at a cocktail party, “An Afternoon with Eleanor.” A re-enactor portrayed Eleanor Roosevelt and educated the attendees about Roosevelt’s work with the League, as well as First Lady.

- The LWV of Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties MAL Unit celebrated the state League centennial with “Afternoon at the Movies” presenting the film, “Iron Jawed Angels.”

- The League of Women Voters of the City of New York, celebrated its 100th anniversary and welcomed 225 guests at the Hotel Roosevelt in New York City on May 21st. The Centennial Celebration event paid tribute to the women who fought to win the right for women to vote by honoring two New Yorkers who have broken barriers in their own fields: Stacey Cunningham, President of the New York Stock Exchange, and Billie Jean King, founder of the Billie Jean King Leadership Initiative.
# LWVNYS EDUCATION FOUNDATION
## BALANCE SHEET

**June 30, 2019**

### ASSETS

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<td>Land</td>
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<td><strong>Total Other Assets</strong></td>
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| **TOTAL ASSETS**                  | **$590,890**    |

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

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| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY**     | **$590,890**    |

### Income and Expenses 2018-2019

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<td>Direct Mail Income</td>
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*Unrealized gain/loss for investments not included*

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<tr>
<td>Grants to Local Leagues</td>
<td>87,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Local League Educational Programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>$87,834</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Expenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building, Equipment and Leases</td>
<td>15,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>3,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance and Upkeep</td>
<td>15,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>1,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Building Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>37,207</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Administration</td>
<td>34,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Dues and Subscriptions</td>
<td>1,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Development &amp; Fundraising</td>
<td>31,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$368,754</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Cash Reserves</td>
<td><strong>$50,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td><strong>-$50,755</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The financial information presented above is unaudited and subject to adjustments and modifications during the auditing process.*
Donor Profile: Elizabeth B. Hubbard (Libby)

She believes in the mission of the League.
Libby Hubbard was President of the League of Women Voters of New York State from 1979 to 1983 but her work and support for the League started well before that and continue until the present day.
Elizabeth B. Hubbard (Libby) is a graduate of Smith College (B.A. summa cum laude) and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, where she earned a masters degree. She served as Executive Director of the Committee for Modern Courts and is presently a member of the Modern Courts Board of Directors. She served previously as President and Judicial Director of the New York State League of Women Voters, President of the League of Women Voters of Huntington, Founding Chairperson of the Huntington Township Chamber Foundation, a recent President of the Huntington Township Housing Coalition, and a member of her Village Planning Board. Libby has also served as a member of the Dominick Commission to reform the State court system, two gubernatorial judicial screening panels, the State Bar Association’s Committee on Courts and the Community and the American Judicature Society. Ms. Hubbard also worked on improving prison conditions when she served as Chair of the Correctional and Osborne Associations.

“The League has influenced and shaped my life; it has also played a major role in improving the state court system over the past 40 years – helping to institute major changes in structure, financing, and administration of the courts and judicial selection and discipline.
My own history of persistent, informed League action could be repeated many times in describing other League leaders and other fields of interest. The League’s success should be measured in both personal and substantive terms.” (from 75 Years of a Great Idea: A History of the League of Women Voters of New York State, 1995)

LEAGUE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
The State League also printed a collection of histories submitted by thirty local Leagues across the state entitled Forces to Reckon With: A Collection of Histories of the Local Leagues in New York State. The formats differ greatly but the content is interesting for all to read. This collection represents only a fraction of all the local League activities over the past decades.
THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. is pleased to acknowledge the following members and community partners whose philanthropy in the 2018-2019 fiscal year has supported our efforts. Thank you for being part of our community and making our success possible!

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Silvia Marx
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Marie McKeever
John McKinney
Paul Meissner
Elaine Merians
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Judy Meyer
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Suzanne Perry
Bartha Person
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Diane Pilgrim
Janet Rassweiler
Jean Rathjen
Florence Reed
Janet Reilly
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$1,000-$2,499
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Del Bashkow
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Mary and Dan Berry
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Lisa Nissenbaum
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Nobell
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1919 SOCIETY

The 1919 Society was created in celebration of the state League’s 90th birthday to ensure that the League is able to maintain its vibrant reputation in the 21st century. Remembering a charity in your will or other estate plans is a powerful way to ensure that your values survive you and that the League remains robust for the next generation.

In addition to providing a wonderful legacy for the community, bequests decrease the size of your taxable estate.

Members of the 1919 Society as of June 30, 2019:

Barbara Bartoletti
Helen Bailey Bayly
Laura Ladd Bierman
Paula Blum
Anne Burton
Lori Dawson and Michael LaBelle
Elizabeth Hubbard
Katharine W. Lloyd, MD
Evelyn Stock
Dorothy Westhafer

Sustaining Support – Recurring Donors

Many donors find it easier to set up monthly or quarterly gifts to the EF. These gifts are made with a credit card and happen automatically on the schedule that works best for our donors. Sustaining support like this means the EF can continue to provide meaningful resources for New York State voters. Thanks to our 2018/2019 EF recurring donors:

Toni Coffee
Lauren Frank and Annette Miller
Linda Frank
Kate Jankowski
Betty Ann King

Paul Meissner
Susan Schwarz
Dare and Douglas Thompson
Janalyn Travis-Messer
Roberta Wiernik
Susan Wilson

For more information on making recurring gifts to the League, please contact Laura Ladd Bierman, at (518) 465-4162 or Laura@lwvny.org.

Every effort was made to make this report as accurate as possible. Should you notice an error or omission in our donor list, please contact the LWVNY office at (518) 465-4162 for a correction.
Donor Profile: Barbara Thomas

I initially became involved with the League while living in Montana. An acquaintance asked me to attend a League meeting where the Clean Water Act was discussed. I got involved with their fact-gathering effort about the role of local oil refineries in water pollution. I was pleased with the League’s commitment to in-depth research and understanding of topics.

I continued to advocate for the environmental issues of clean water and air while in Pennsylvania with the Pennsylvania LWV and then started out on the environmental committee of the Saratoga (NY) League, tackling the issues of PCBs and radioactive waste. From there, my interests expanded to include reproductive issues and to keeping the League functioning and vital.

After serving for 20 years as President of her local League, I then was on the state League Board for 4 years, having been Newsletter Editor or Co-Editor since 2002. I serve currently on the Steering Committee of League of Saratoga County and as the Issue Specialist for Women’s Issues and Medical Aid in Dying for the state League. I am often at the State Capitol for many of these issues.

I feel it is important to donate to the state League because local Leagues need a statewide organization to provide us with information, support, and a voice in Albany. We have always found the state office to be very responsive to our requests for assistance. Vote 411 is certainly something that most local Leagues couldn’t do on their own.

Gifts to the League bring real benefits to local communities, from voter registration and candidate forums to informative programs about all sorts of public issues. The League is a trusted voice in our communities and must remain so.

Donor Profile: Jane’s LWV Journey

I confess that I had dabbled in the League several decades ago – attending a few meetings which I later learned were part of a study process. The tone of the meetings seemed ponderous and the action glacial. I was interested in more immediate results.

I was looking for something new in 2003. I was wrapping up specific tasks and long-term commitments to various non-profit human service organizations. A change of pace seemed appealing.

I realized that several of the women I had worked with in these other contexts were also passionate members of the League of Women Voters. Since I enjoyed and admired these folks, I decided to take a fresh look at the League of Women Voters.

I was welcomed with warmth and given a thorough orientation. My first job in the League was as editor of the monthly VOTER for four years. This proved to be an excellent way to learn about all aspects of the League’s activities as well as an opportunity to expand my computer skills. Subsequently I have served as a director-at-large, president for 2 years, secretary for 4 years and currently as chair of a Steering Committee (an alternate structure we are trying during a time of transition in our League).

My introduction to the State League came when I participated in the statewide efforts to implement HAVA requirements and to assure that New York had the right new voting machines. Under the guidance of Aimee Allaud, I learned more than I would have thought I wanted to know about how to work with my local boards of election and to influence their selections. It took a while, but we were successful.

But it was while I was president of my local League that I came to really appreciate the role of the state League. No question, however picayune, would be unanswered – usually the same day.

State conventions and regional trainings were very helpful as were the printed materials available at reasonable cost. In addition, I learned more about what the state League does on our behalf in the halls of government. I am particularly excited about the current focus on youth such as the civic education materials.

The opportunity to serve as secretary of the LWVNYS/EF board was very gratifying. I am in awe of the volume of work done by so few for so many. The volunteer leadership is excellent, and the staff leadership and support amazing. In my opinion, the state organization is the glue that holds us all together. The League is facing some real challenges for the future, and I am excited to see our new state leadership moving forward.

I came to the League somewhat late in life and have wondered why I did not join sooner. I have become a donor also somewhat late in life, and I am sorry I did not start sooner. I hope my modest contributions of time and money will contribute to the League’s continued vitality and effectiveness.
2018/2019 LOCAL LEAGUES IN NEW YORK STATE

Albany County
Allegany & Cattaraugus Counties
(Broome/Tioga Counties
Buffalo/Niagara
Cazenovia
Central Nassau County
Chautauqua County
Chemung County
Cooperstown
Cortland
East Nassau County
Putnam County
Geneva
Greater Oneida Area
Hamptons
Huntington
Larchmont/Mamaroneck
Long Beach
Mid-Hudson Region
New Castle
New Rochelle
New York City
North Country serving
Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties
North East Westchester

Oneonta
Orange County MAL (Members at Large)
Port Washington/Manhasset
Rensselaer County
Rivertowns
Rochester Metro
Rockland County
Rye, Rye Brook, Port Chester
Saratoga County
Scarsdale
Schenectady County
Schuyler County
Shelter Island
Smithtown
Southwest Nassau County
St. Lawrence MAL (Members at Large)
Steuben County
Syracuse Metropolitan Area
Tompkins County
Utica/Rome Metro Area
White Plains

Inter-League Organizations
Nassau County ILO
Suffolk County ILO
Westchester County ILO

“America, as the world’s greatest proponent of democracy, has good reason to demand of herself civic and social consciousness, tolerance, justice, high standards of political honesty – for those we must strive if we are to defend our democracy by making it a shining example.”

– The League of Women Voters of NYS, 1946