



THE GENEVA LEAGUER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GENEVA, NY

<http://geneva.ny.lwvnet.org>

JUNE 2009

CALENDAR

June 10

Court Watchers

1:15-2:15pm

Geneva Presbyterian Church

June 11

Agnes Slosson Lewis Award

Dinner

6:00pm

Lochland School

Agnes Slosson Lewis Award Dinner

Please join the League for our annual Agnes Slosson Lewis Award dinner on Thursday, June 11, 2009 at the Lochland School, 1065 Lochland Road, Geneva. The League will be honoring City Council Member Jackie Augustine (see page 5 for full article). Following the award ceremony, Bill Oben, President, Finger Lakes Boating Museum, will be speaking on the plans for a local boating museum. The evening begins with wine and cheese at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

The cost of the catered dinner will be \$15. Please make your reservations with Kim Aliperti (789-7395) or aliperti@verizon.net by Tuesday, June 9th.

How do I get the LWVUS E-Newsletter?

As a benefit of membership you will receive LWVUS monthly electronic updates if you provide them with your email address. This short yet informative publication will be sent to you once a month via email and there are options to easily unsubscribe should you want to. If you have not given them your email address, you can do so by sending an email to membership@lwv.org with your name, city, state and email address and they will add you to the list! Also, if you are interested in legislative lobbying, become an e-Activist, join the Grassroots Lobby Corps!

Our local League website is: <http://www.geneva.ny.lwvnet.org/>
Thanks to Karen Goulet! She keeps our website up-to-date. Please add it to your bookmarks and visit often for event and info updates. The League of Women Voters of New York State website is: <http://lwvny.org/index.html> See especially the Local League Resources section where you will find several excellent and recently updated resources. Check out the national website: <http://www.lwv.org> As a League member, to access member only pages on the national website, you can create a login here: <https://member.lwv.org/Login.asp>

Reminder- Need to get rid of old clothing from the attic? Take your unwanted, used clothing to the Linden Exchange in down town Geneva and tell them to give the money from the sale of your clothing to the League of Women Voters. Your donations are appreciated!

Vice President's Message

I'm very happy to be back on board with the League. It doesn't seem like it's been six years since I went off the board...but calendars don't lie. Your new board has gotten off to a fast start. Our League participated in the **National Popular Vote Compact Study** and held consensus on April 29th. Please read Director Rob Kriss' article about the process.

Due to the hard work of Membership Director, Judy Curtis, our League hosted **Mary Wilson, President of LWVUS** for a breakfast meeting on May 2nd. League members got to meet President Wilson and ask her questions about the national League. My niece and I then got to spend most the afternoon with President Wilson and Lauren Frank, Major Gifts and Planned Giving Manager, for LWVUS, at the Women's Rights National Historic Park in Seneca Falls. We thoroughly enjoyed our day and appreciated the opportunity to share more about our local League with them and learn more about what is going on at the national level of the League.

A **Candidates' Forum** for school board candidates and candidates for the Geneva Public Library's Board of Trustees was held May 13th and broadcast the next night one of Hobart & William Smith Colleges' radio stations, WHWS. Many thanks to those who helped pulled this off at the last minute, Judy Curtis, Beth Reiners, and Judith McKinney. See what we can do when we set our minds to it!!

I was also privileged to attend the **LWVNY Convention** in Syracuse, May 15th -17th. I discovered we're one of only five local leagues in New York using a simplified website program developed by the California State League, our board is still younger than most other league boards and there are some amazing things going on around the state. I brought back some interesting ideas for programming and fundraising...but the most important information came in the form of board development. With that information the board will be embarking on a "getting on board" journey over the next several months. We'll be reviewing job descriptions, our annual calendar, developing committees and participating in board training.

Another change we're also considering is taking the **Leaguer virtual**...Currently the Leaguer is sent by mail to about 250 people and then uploaded to our local website. The cost for printing and mailing is not insignificant and we're wondering if having an exclusively electronic version would be a better option for us. League members without access to computers could request a copy be mailed to them. So...we're asking for your input. Please contact me at [kreisch@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kreich@rochester.rr.com) or 789-7104 to give me your opinion. This is your League so any feedback about how we're doing is much appreciated. I look forward to seeing you at the Agnes Slosson Lewis Award Dinner.

Happy Summer! Kim Reisch

Geneva League – Who to Contact

President

Open

Vice President

Kim Reisch

Secretary

Dawn Kelley, DC

Treasurer

Beth Reiners

Board Members

Rob Kriss

Mary Lee Bourbeau

Alaine Espenscheid

Edith Lurvey

Membership

Judy Curtis

Voter's Services

Open

Leaguer Co-Editors

Rob Kriss

Dawn Kelley, DC

genevaleaguer@yahoo.com

More information on the Geneva League of Women Voters, including 501(c)3 status, can be found at:
<http://geneva.ny.lwvnet.org>

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

National Popular Vote Compact Receives Local Support

A group of members of the local LWV met on April 29 to discuss and take a position on the National Popular Vote (NPV) Compact. The outcome of the study locally was largely supportive of the Compact idea.

The NPV Compact is a mechanism for introducing the national popular vote without the need for a Constitutional Amendment. The NPV Compact relies on the strategy of inviting the individual states to enter into a compact (as provided for under the "Compact Clause" of the US Constitution), whereby each state adopting the compact agrees to commit all of its electoral votes to the presidential candidate receiving a plurality of popular votes nationwide, regardless of the tally within each state. The Compact would go into effect as soon as the total number of electoral votes of states adopting the Compact reaches a majority of the Electoral College. Several states have already passed the Compact.

Since the LWVUS has previously expressed support for using the national popular vote to select the President and Vice-President, the main issue for discussion was whether this should be accomplished by the abolition of the Electoral College through a Constitutional Amendment, or whether use of the inter-state Compact was an acceptable alternative. In general, support for the idea is based on the perception that it is a more practical route to achieving the popular vote, while opposition to it is based on concerns that there may be legal obstacles raised in enforcement of the Compact, or the notion that it would be perceived as a "short cut" method of implementing a fundamental change in our election process.

The following are the responses adopted by the local group to the seven consensus questions. The complete LWV discussion and alternative responses are available at the www.lwv.org website.

1 & 2. Amending the Constitution: Action by states through a compact process is an acceptable way to alter the method for electing the President and Vice-President. Despite the novelty of the use of the compact approach to address a fundamental constitutional issue such as voting, the League should support the NPV Compact as a way of achieving an important goal.

3. Congressional Consent: The possibility that the NPV Compact will require congressional consent is not of sufficient concern to block the implementation of the plan.

4. Enforcement: Although it is not possible to determine whether the enforcement provisions will be sufficient to assure smooth operation of the plan, the plan should be passed anyway.

5. Uniformity: The NPV Compact is more important than uniformity of voting systems because it would succeed in achieving the popular election of the President.

6. Popular Election of the President: It is more important to achieve the goal of national popular election of the President than it is to achieve the goal of abolition of the electoral college.

7. Achievability: The NPV Compact will have problems being passed because of the need for congressional consideration and the need for action by so many states. **Disagree**

A constitutional amendment to establish the direct popular election of the President and the abolition of the Electoral College will continue to have problems being passed. **Agree**

(see page 4)

(National Popular Vote Compact Study continued)

After our all local Leagues consensus opinions were submitted to the National Popular Vote Compact Study Committee the LWVUS National Study Committee made the following statement :

"In conclusion, the committees recommend a statement of our position based on the consensus reports from local Leagues: "The LWVUS affirms its support for the direct election of the president and abolition of the Electoral College, but the LWVUS has no position on the National Popular Vote Compact as currently proposed."

Quilting B Creations



Beth Reiners
719 White Springs Drive
Geneva, NY 14456
315-789-3761




CAROL VAN HORN, GRI, CBR
Associate Broker
(315) 789-6768 BUS., (315) 789-9524 FAX
(315) 539-9049 RES., (315) 569-8221 MOBILE
cvanhorn@coldwellbanker.com





PARROTT-VENUTI
REAL ESTATE, INC.
218 Hamilton Street
Geneva, NY 14456
www.carolvanhorn.com

Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.



Dawn Kelley DC, MSACN
2123 Rt. 14N
Geneva, NY 14456
315-729-0249
www.drkelley.nutrametrix.com

S. A. Gilbert Jeweler
510 Exchange St. Geneva, NY 14456
Phone: 315-789-7722 Fax: 315-789-0280
e-mail: sagmgs@verizon.net



Mickey Gilbert Schultz
owner

Celebrating 100 Years 1907 - 2007

Hours:
Tues. - Thurs. 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Fri. 9:30 am-7:00 pm; Sat. 9:30 am-3:00 pm
Closed Sunday & Monday

Agnes Slosson Lewis Award Recipient


Jacqueline Augustine is the 2009 recipient of the Agnes Slosson Lewis Award, given to a woman who exemplifies outstanding contributions to and participation in civic affairs. Jackie is a Geneva City Councilor, having won a close race in 1999 on an independent "Residents First" ticket. She ran again in 2003 and 2007 endorsed by both the Democratic and Working Families parties. Her primary focus has been on government transparency and accountability. She is proud to tell us that earlier this year a comprehensive Code of Ethics and Financial Disclosure protocol was passed by City Council after many years of work.

Jackie originally lived in Geneva and graduated from Midlakes High School in 1995, from William Smith College (cum laude with honors in philosophy) in 1999. She received her M.A. in philosophy from the University of Rochester in 2007 and is currently finishing her Ph.d (University of Rochester), slated for August 2009. Her areas of specialization are ethics, political theory, and history of philosophy. She and her husband, Greg Baker, currently the Assistant Principal at Newark High School, have three children: Prashanta, Henry, and Sophie.

At the University of Rochester, Jackie taught a class called "Writing to Effect Social Change" for several years and was nominated twice for the Edward Peck excellence in teaching award. Jackie taught Ethics at Finger Lakes Community College (as an adjunct).

Jackie worked as Development Assistant for Community Unified Today from 1999 to 2004 and was successful in the organization receiving funds for a Vitagrant project (health and fitness initiative that reached out to youth) and the Pulteney Street Visioning Project, a neighborhood revitalization project.

Jackie is co-author of the blog, No Strings Geneva, with former Councilor and Hobart Assistant Dean, Rocco "Chip" Capraro. The goal is to provide a fact-based point of view about happenings in local government. "Our shared belief is that good government starts with good information and clear communication!"



Allstate.
You're in good hands.

24-Hour
Customer Service

Stephanie J. Kutzke, LUTCF
Exclusive Agent

Allstate Insurance Company
187 North Main Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Phone 315.789.4833
Fax 315.789.4855

LAKESHORE ANIMAL HOSPITAL, P.C.



4377 West Lake Road
Geneva, NY 14456
Phone: 315-781-0700
Fax: 315-781-0900



Robert Thompson, DVM

Tel. 315-789-9538
www.billsborowinery.com



billsboro
winery

Kim & Vinny Aliperti
Owners

P.O. Box 1097
4760 West Lake Rd. (St. Rte. 14)
Geneva, New York 14456

info@billsborowinery.com

Students Inside Albany Participants Share Experience

This year our LWV chapter was very fortunate to have Brittany Garms and Chris Catt participate as our representatives at Students Inside Albany (SIA) from April 19-22. SIA is an intensive four day training experience designed to immerse students in the process by which public policy is proposed, enacted and changed in the New York State. Significant focus is placed on how students can influence and affect this process.

When asked about their favorite part of SIA, both students said that meeting with and shadowing their elected officials was the best part. Both Senator Mike Nozzolio and Representative Brian Kolb were specifically cited as having facilitated great experiences for the students.

The students attended a series of workshops on a diverse collection of topics related to the function of government. Brittany found the workshop conducted by Mr. Robert Freeman of the Committee on Open Government to be the most enlightening because it highlighted how to access government information, her rights as a citizen, how she can get involved, and interestingly, what our government can legally hide from its constituents. Chris also mentioned Mr. Freeman as one of his favorite presenters, but was preferential to Ms. Barbara Bartoletti of LWVNYS. He found Ms. Bartoletti's ability to explain the process of how a piece of legislation travels its **long** journey from development to law was very interesting.

Both students were surprised by some of their experiences such as the seeming dysfunction of the state assembly and how elected politicians can have motivations that conflict, such as the motivation to get re-elected versus the motivation to service. When asked if they would recommend the SIA experience to others, both were very clear...."Absolutely!" Brittany thought the SIA experience would motivate her to be more active in government as an individual citizen and for Chris, the SIA experience just reinforced his desire to pursue a career in government.

Brittany Garms is the daughter of Doreen Johnson and is a senior at Desales High School. She plans to attend college, major in math, and after SIA, possibly get involved with the New York Public Interest Research Group.

Chris Catt is the son of Mary and Gary Catt and is a junior at Romulus Central School, but he will be graduating this June one year early. He will be going to South Africa next year through the Rotary Foreign Exchange Program and plans to attend the School of Labor and Industrial Relations at Cornell University when he returns, followed by law school.

Our chapter is very fortunate to have the opportunity to send two students to SIA. Both students noted that they were the only two from the Finger Lakes Region to attend. Special thanks to Stephanie Lopez of the LWVNYS for being a great contact person for this program and wonderful host to our students.

Phone / Fax: (315) 789-1933

Super Casuals

"Brand Name Clothes For Less"

JOE FRAGNOLI
STEVE FRAGNOLI
Owners

52 Seneca Street
P.O. Box 408
Geneva, NY 14456

Community Welcome!



THE COLLEGE STORE HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 9:00 TO 4:30 P.M.

51 St. Clair Street, Geneva, NY 14456-3191
Phone 315- 781 - 3449 FAX 315 - 781 - 3450

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.hws.edu/collegestore
BOOKS, HWS SPORTSWEAR, AND MORE!

Court Watching Project

Court Watching Project volunteers observe court sessions in the City of Geneva, the Town of Geneva, and in the Ontario County courts. The Project holds a General Meeting on the second Wednesday of the months of September - June, at 1:15 pm in the Presbyterian Church in Geneva. The most recent three speakers at these meetings have been: 11 March, Sharon Donovan, Director of the Ontario County Probation Dept., 8 April, Robert Griffo, from Family Counseling Service of the Finger Lakes and 13 May, Jennifer Meeks, Director of Substance & Chemical Abuse for the Canandaigua Center of Clifton Springs Hospital.

Our last meeting of this season will be 10 June. There will not be a speaker; instead, observers will discuss what they have seen and heard, and what they think about it. Our meetings are open to the public and if you are interested or curious about the Project, this would be a good meeting to attend.


Century 21

Steve Davoli Real Estate

156 Castle Street
Geneva, New York 14456
Business (315) 789-4569
Business 1-888-575-4569
Cellular (585) 230-7503
www.SandraAnsley.com

Sandra Ansley, CRS, GRI
Associate Broker
SanC21@aol.com

Million Dollar Club



Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated

MASSA CONSTRUCTION, INC.

PHONE: (315) 789-8667
FAX: (315) 789-2629

NICHOLAS P. MASSA
President

630 PRE-EMPTION RD.
GENEVA, NY 14456

nmassa@massaconstruction.com

STUDIO SALON

Aveda Concept Salon and Day Spa

34 Seneca Street
Geneva, New York 14456
(315) 781-1812

**Tell our loyal advertisers
and
business owners you saw their
card here -**

in THE GENEVA LEAGUER.

*Reach over 200 readers!
Contact us for information on becoming a
League advertiser.*

Lamb Bookkeeping Service

Accounts Payable 1 Franklin Square, #324
Accounts Receivable PO Box 844
Bank Reconciliation Geneva, NY 14456
Payroll phone 315-781-2231
Financial Statements fax 315-781-2232
Tax Preparation

lambbookkeeping@rochester.rr.com



THE GENEVA LEAGUER
**League of Women
Voters**
2076 Carter Rd
Geneva, NY 14456

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Geneva, NY 14456
Permit No. 13