



LWV of Pike County Newsletter

February 5, 2018

Volume 3, Number 2

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Volunteer

LWV of Pike County is run by Volunteers and is always seeking volunteers to help our committees better serve Pike County!

Thanks for all you do!

Contact Us

www.lwvpike.org
lwvpikecounty@gmail.com

Local League News!

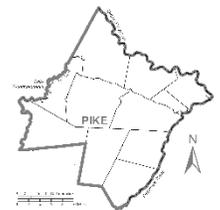
2017 Events:

"Last summer I opened my home to all members of the League of Women Voters® of Pike County and was happy that several members not only traveled the distance, but volunteered to help bring our events to all of Pike County! To the women who tirelessly go out of their way to bring voter services information, educational information, election hot topics and simply promote awareness of our non-partisan group open to both men and woman - I personally thank you!" said Lara Anne Dodsworth, President, LWV of Pike County



Ann DeMuth; Bonnie Samuelson; Michelle Tonkin; Lara Anne Dodsworth; Bette Eagan; Linda Bostinto

LWV of Pike County welcomes all men and women from the Pike County area regardless of your political affiliation because our group is non-partisan and never supports a candidate.



2017 Membership Social - Matamoras

Our volunteers enabled LWV of Pike County to hold LWV of Pike



County's first Member Social - a Pot Luck Dinner held on a Saturday at the Matamoras Borough Hall. Delicious Food, Good Company & Conversation. We advertised a welcome to potential new

members from all over Pike County! We are pleased to announce that we gained a new member at the member social and hope to do so again in 2018. Member Socials will be held at different locations and have different themes. What is your choice of social for 2018 - mini golf? Wine & cheese tasting? Picnic? location?

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2017 Informational Event - The Columns Museum, Milford

The rain didn't stop Pike County residents from attending, nor did it stop volunteers from turning the Museum into a party venue complete with desserts, wine & cheese as well as lots of information! Informational tables contained materials for participants to take and read at their leisure. Handouts included information on the general election ballot question; the definition of retention of a judge; sample ballots; a voter guide; and more. Linda Bostinto spoke briefly about the Suffrage Movement. Guests mingled. A fifty-fifty fundraiser successfully raised funds for LWV of Pike County.

Pictured: Rosann Kalish with Members Marcia Guberman and Connie Nichols
at The Columns Museum



2017 "Be Thankful" holiday party - Tafton

Our holiday event was held in November at the Fairview Café. Recognizing that thanksgiving is a time to "Be Thankful" for what we have, our volunteers included in the celebration a request to donate non-perishable food items as an outreach to those less fortunate. LWV of Pike County recognizes the crucial need for more food donations to local food pantries throughout the county, particularly during the holidays. Pantries have a constant need for donations of non-perishable food items, but even more so during the holidays and the onset of winter, when most families experience higher expenses for heat and groceries. Bette Eagan, co-Chair of Events, quickly organized a Food Pantry Collection and our local league members donated generously. At our dinner meeting it was decided that 2017's collection would be donated to St. Luke's Church "Good Cheer Food Pantry" in Greeley. We are especially pleased that our state mentor, Chris Herbener, was able to travel the distance to join our celebration.



Pictured: Members and Spouses at Fairview Café for "Be Thankful" party

Through the actions of our volunteers, we will continue to show that LWV of Pike County is here to benefit all of Pike County. We always welcome your suggestions, ideas and comments - simply email: lwvPikeCounty@gmail.com.

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Be an Informed Voter!

Our 2018 Spring "be an Informed Voter!" event is open to the general public for free.

March 19th -

Panel Discussion on State Education Funding for Pike County

In 2017, LWV of Pike County received a grant from the Campaign for Fair Education Funding (<http://fairfundingpa.org/>). The grant gives us the opportunity to help educate taxpayers on issues pertaining to school property taxes, as well as what to expect now that major changes in our tax structure appear to be imminent. LWV of Pike County was especially pleased to be selected as our county is one of the 202 rural counties which do not receive adequate state education funding, according to a 2016 report from PA Partnerships. (http://www.papartnerships.org/publication_files/ppc-ruralreport.pdf).

On March 19, at the Dingman Delaware Middle School Auditorium from 7-9 pm, we will hold an educational panel discussion with representatives from our three school districts who will explain where we've been, what's new, and what we can expect this year as the legislature and school boards create their budgets.

Whether you are a taxpayer, parent, teacher or other interested party, this discussion will provide information important to your financial bottom line.

Membership

Welcome Membership Chair Linda Bostinto

LWV of Pike County welcomes Linda Bostinto as our new Membership Committee Chair. The transition from Marcia Guberman to Linda Bostinto has been as smooth as the ice on Lake Wallenpaupack! Although we will miss you Marcia, we understand your request to no longer act as chair and we are especially pleased you will remain a member!

2018 Membership Challenge

Our new Membership Committee Chair, Linda Bostinto, states: "Hello Everyone, I would like to challenge each of you with bringing just one new person to our league as a new member! We are growing and look forward to meeting your family and friends as potential members."

We are proud to announce that LWV of Pike County currently has thirty-one (31) members. Think of the events we can host and the impact we can make if each member brings us a new member. The challenge is on for 62 members in 2019!

Remember, membership is on a fiscal year and runs from July 1st, 2018 through June 30th, 2019. Renew your membership now to take

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full advantage of our current membership dues:

Individual membership	-	\$65
Family Memberships includes two family members	-	\$95
each additional member of family	-	\$30

If membership dues are increased at our annual meeting in May, any Member who has paid prior to the May meeting will not be asked to pay the increase in membership dues. Anyone who enrolls as a new member between now and May, will receive membership for the months from now until July for free - so let your friends and family know the benefit of becoming a member during the spring. A Membership/Committee sign up form is available on our website lwvpike.org under the "Join or Donate" page.

For all membership questions, including how to become a member, please contact lwvpik county@gmail.com.

State League

LWV PA Lawsuit Reveals PA Congressional Districts

Gerrymandered

Remember that every member of League of Women Voters® of Pike County is automatically enrolled as a member of the Pennsylvania League of Women Voters. Our state league was monumental in last year's **FairDistrictsPA** movement to amend the PA State Constitution to allow our voting district boundaries to be set by an independent committee. Gerrymandering of boundary lines provides an unfair advantage. Your voice is your vote. In a gerrymandered voting district, the strength of your voice is diminished. The lack of fairness in PA's current map of congressional voting districts was taken to Court by LWV of PA filing a lawsuit to challenge the constitutionality of the congressional voting district map boundary lines. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court voted 5-2 against the current map and ordered the congressional district map to be redrawn prior to 2018 primary. **SCOTUS** (Supreme Court of the United States) upheld the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The Congressional Districts of PA have boundary lines that are unconstitutional. The state legislature now has until February 9th, this Friday, to pass a map, and Governor Tom Wolf has until February 15th to pass it. For more information on the changes in voting district boundary lines over the years, visit **FairDistrictsPA** and under the Maps page, choose 10th District to see the gerrymandered lines for Pike County's congressional district.

2018 HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO CONTEST:

What Makes Democracy Work?

LWV of Pike County asks you to provide every high school student with the opportunity to participate in LWV of PA's contest. All you need to do is share this information: Simply create and submit a 30 second video for a chance to win the following prizes:

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Top Prize = \$ 1,000.00

2nd Prize = \$ 500.00

3rd prize = \$ 250.00

**Deadline:
March 1st, 2018**



Details at palwv.org/videocontest.

Questions? Email videocontest@palwv.org

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Event Schedule

February 16th – LWV Meeting at Apple Valley, Milford - 6 pm

March 19th – Be an Informed Voter!

Panel Discussion on State Education Funding for Pike County

Dingman Delaware Middle School Auditorium 7 pm - 9 pm

May 20th - Annual Dinner Meeting

Lords Valley Country Club, Hemlock Farms

All members and their families are invited to Dinner.

Cost: \$38.00 per ticket or 2 tickets for \$70.00.

September 25th – National Voter Registration Day

Volunteers encouraged!

Help us make these events a reality...if you can volunteer by helping
with ideas and locations or with organizing before or attendance at
events, please email us at lwvPikeCounty@gmail.com.

General Member Meetings, Committee Meetings and Member Socials
will be circulated by email! **To stay informed, make sure we have
your correct email by contacting us at LWVpikecounty@gmail.com**

Share your news in our next newsletter or on our facebook page
by emailing us at lwvPikeCounty@gmail.com

Have you "liked" our facebook page? [LWV Pike County](#)

