



VOTER

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County, Delaware

Summer 2017

www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org

Vol. 22, No.1

The Mission of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities.

HOT TOPIC for AUGUST 2017 - CLIMATE CHANGE Lunch on AUGUST 28 or Evening on August 29

FIRST - GO WATCH THE MOVIE

AN INCONVENIENT SEQUEL: TRUTH TO POWER (2017)

IN AREA THEATERS

Brandywine Regal Cinema, 3300 Brandywine Parkway Wilmington, DE . Fri 8/18 thru Wed 8/23 - 12:40 pm, 3:30 pm, 6 pm, 8:30 pm Thurs 8/24 - 11:55 am and in Pennsylvania theaters

Then come to the HOT TOPIC LUNCH to discuss and conversate about the topic and anything else on your mind:

HOT TOPIC LUNCH MONDAY August 28th, 11:30 a.m. at Michaels Restaurant

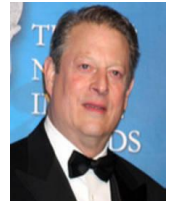
HOT TOPIC EVENING Tuesday August 29th, starting at 6:30 p.m. at McGlynn's Pub



Plot Summary

Former Vice President Al Gore continues his tireless fight, traveling around the world to train an army of activists and influence international climate policy. Cameras follow him behind the scenes -- in moments private and public, funny and poignant -- as he pursues the inspirational idea that while the stakes have never been higher, the perils of climate change can be overcome with human ingenuity and passion.

Director: Bonni Cohen, Jon Shenk, **Genres:** Documentary.



Al Gore

MICHAEL'S RESTAURANT, 1000 Churchman's Rd, Newark, DE 19713, **Buffet lunch is \$15.00 paid at time of the luncheon. Please pay in cash if at all possible. RSVP at lwvde@comcast.net or 302-571-8948 by Saturday, August 26, so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect. If you need a ride, leave a message on the League Office phone or e-mail when you RSVP 302-571-8948 and leave a message. If you have not made a reservation please come anyway**

Directions: Michael's is located at 1000 Churchman's Road, Newark. <http://michaelsde.com/directions/>

MCGLYNN'S PUB, 8 Polly Drummond Shopping Center, Newark, DE 19711, www.mcglynnspub.com, Buy your drinks and/or food. Please RSVP to Kim Wells at 302-836-4751 or kimwells19702@gmail.com.

(Continued on page 2 **Hot Topic**)

(Continued from page 1 **Hot Topics**)

The public is invited to all Hot Topic meetings to become informed on a wide variety of topics. It is also a time to check in with members of LWV, make new friends, invite your neighbors, and colleagues to experience the League in an informal setting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope you have all had a good summer, and have had some time to relax. However, the League of Women Voters of New Castle County is gearing up for another busy year of education, outreach and advocacy. We had a wonderful planning session at our July Hot Topic Luncheon and generated many good ideas and challenges for ourselves. We are going to try to reach more members with formal and informal gatherings at different times, and places. We are encouraging the Board and the committee chairs to contact new members so that, if you are new to the League, you will know someone and be encouraged to become involved in whatever area interests you.

We are looking at new ways to fundraise and also new ways to get our message out to more people. The only way for Democracy to work is to have an informed citizenry, and the League can be a driving force with that. So, please, make your membership an active one. There are so many issues in The Voter, so finds one that interests you and invest in it. Help us to continue the legacy of "Making Democracy Work".

Marj Johnson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Frank Dilley - rejoined household member, 610-869-8848, jadilley@udel.edu,

Norma T. Freire - 302-575-0539, normateres@comcast.net

Cara Gaudino - 302-322-0710, rokes21@gmail.com

Ed Klinge - Rejoined household member, 746-7302, edjoklinge@mindspring.com

Jacqueline Kuehn - 610-558-1705, jjkuehn2@verizon.net

Marianne Roken -302-633-1540, mroken@comcast.net

Nancy E. Weldin - rejoined, neweldin@aol.com

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our volunteer board members and committee members who are working through the summer planning our activities: Fay Whittle, Justice Chair for organizing September's Human Trafficking forum, Lorraine Botticelli and Bob Hasse for collating the new citizen welcome packets; and Marj Johnson, Kim Wells, Bea Webb; Letty Diswood; Patti Christopher, and Linda Barnett for coordinating and planning August activities.

IN MEMORIAM

Rita Smith, died early Saturday morning, July 1, 2017, in Melbourne, Florida. Rita was a member of 50 years of the LWV of NCC and a dedicated volunteer in the office for many years, as well as serving as treasurer for the Delaware Education Fund for years, and the state VOTER editor for untold years. I am grateful to her to have spent so many hours with Rita during the she spent in the office for her help and advice, and especially her humor. (Letty Diswood)

Her children shared these memories with her friends and family: "Although Mom's health crisis came unexpectedly, all three of us were able to spend time with her during her last hours. Up to the very end, she was the Rita we all cherish: alert, interested, funny, sweet, and tart. We miss her enormously, and we know you will, too."

"Mom was an extraordinary person. Born a country girl in the coal town of Herminie, Pennsylvania — where both of her grandfathers worked in the mines — she moved to the nearby factory town of Swissvale at age 9. Although her parents both left school after eighth grade, Rita graduated near the top of her high school class. In a time and place when college attendance was unusual for boys and rare for girls, she graduated with honors from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. She was one of the few women in the math department and in the early days of mainframe computing, the field in which she worked at Westinghouse and DuPont.

"It would be hard to say which Mom loved more: numbers or words. (Her niece and goddaughter Paula points out a fitting numerical symmetry in the date of Rita's death: 7/1/17.) Equally at home with a crossword puzzle or a math problem; meticulous monitor of the family finances; scribbler of poems — often acrostics — for birthdays and Christmas gifts; improviser of vocal harmonies; occasional painter of murals, models, and, once, a lattice-top patio table (by hand — no spray paint for her!), Mom was both creative and analytical, relishing details while nourishing her soul with books, plays, movies, and the company of people she loved.

"Far more important than her many talents, skills, and accomplishments were Mom's personal relationships. From her days at St. Anselm School and Swissvale High, through the Smith family's decades in Wilmington, to the past eight years living at The Fountains in Melbourne, Rita was a loving, kind, generous, and sage friend and family member. The three of us cannot imagine better parents than her and Dad.

Although Mom's energy for correspondence and phone calls flagged in recent years, she was grateful for her connections to all of you — a gratitude that we share. Thank you for being there for our family for all these years.

In love and sadness,
Kathleen, Carole, and Doug

VOTER SERVICE UPDATE

NEWARK COMMUNITY DAY, September 17, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. LWV will have a table to provide membership information, hand out free civic information and *They Represent You 2016-1 #10*. We are seeking volunteers to take shifts of two hours or more. Contact Patti Christopher, Voter Registration Chair, lww.patti@gmail.com.

VBS OLYMPICS: The LWV will have a table to provide voter registration and free information.

WHEN: Saturday, August 26, 2017 12pm – 4pm **WHAT:** Vacation Bible School Closing Celebration

Presented by the PESD CED, Join us for *Food, Games, Prizes, Music & More!* Vendors to include financial services, health services, and community youth programs. #BYOChair!

WHERE: Scott A.M.E. Zion Church, 629 E. 7th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Rev. Dr. R. J. Chandler, Sr., Host Pastor

WHO: ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Patti Christopher, Voter Registration Chair

NEW CITIZEN CEREMONY

There will be a naturalization ceremony on Thursday, September 7, 2017. If you are interested to attend the ceremony and/or help to distribute the League's welcome packet, contact Lorraine Botticelli 354-2585 cell, lsbotticelli@gmail.com.

GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP

What: Great Decisions: **Latin America's Political Pendulum**

When: 3rd Monday, Sept. 18, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Where: Newark Free Library

Who: Meta Little will lead the discussion

What else: Lunch, for those who wish it

When: Before discussion, 11:30 am

Where: Skipjack Restaurant, Shops at Louviers

How: Contact Vicky Kleinman, kraver@udel.edu or 302-731-4950

SAVE THE DATE!

HOT TOPIC: Human Trafficking (Exploitation) to be held Saturday, September 9, 2017

2017 at Peniel UMC Church in Newport, Delaware

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (or maybe 2:00 p.m.)

Refreshments will be provided in the morning. Bring your own lunch. Deserts and drinks will be provided.

Look for an email with all the details later this month.

Some of the speakers and presenters will be:

FEATURING: A/V presentation by **Yolanda Schlabach**, founder and Executive Director of Zoë Ministries

PANEL:

- Commissioner from Delaware Court of Common Pleas, Human Trafficking Court
- Commissioner from Delaware Family Court
- A panel of experts who work with victims and others who deal with human trafficking

The purpose of this forum is to educate the public about how to recognize human trafficking and what you can do.

Delaware ERANow's Ready to Run@ Delaware program begins on October 11, 2017.

This program is an affiliate of the Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University. The kickoff session, featuring U.S. Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester's keynote address, begins on October 16th from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. at the Delaware Law School.

It is apparent that, over the long run, women's equality will require that we have more seats at the table when decisions are made that affect us as well as our families. It follows, then, that we must make every effort to provide women with the confidence, skills and knowledge they need to run for public office, or become more involved in the political process by standing for appointment to boards and commissions, or becoming active in political parties.

Take the course yourself or forward this information to your friends and associates, encouraging them to take the course. The LWV of New Castle County has made a contribution to this program.

Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester has agreed to provide the keynote speech for Ready to Run® Delaware. The first session will be held from 6:15 – 8:15 pm October 16th with the second session occurring two evenings later on Wednesday the 18th. The four remaining sessions, all on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 – 8:15 pm, continue through November 15, 2017. In addition to Rep. Blunt Rochester, there will be a dynamic group of legislators, party officials, and campaign experts as presenters and look forward to a successful program.

Program partners are —the Delaware Commission for Women, Delaware Law School, and Mary Ann's List—as well as the Delaware Democratic Party and YWCA Delaware (sponsors).

Scholarships are available. Registration fee is \$100.

Nominate someone for the program you'd like to see more actively involved in politics or run for office –
scmoore23@delawareeranow.org

Make a donation, become a sponsor, ask other organizations to which you belong to become a sponsor –
<http://www.delawareeranow.org>

HIGHLIGHTS OF JULY HOT TOPIC LUNCH

A lively group of League members and guests discussed ideas for our activities and programs for the months ahead.

Many good suggestions were made among them was to start informal gatherings at various locations, in the evening or daytime, and continue our current Hot Topic Lunches, to informally discuss issues and ideas that need to be addressed.

So check out the Hot Topics planned for August and September. We are still at the beginning of this process and always want to hear from you.

Send an email to Marj Johnson, marjcj@comcast.net or leave a message at the office 302-571-8948 or lwncc@comcast.net.

CALENDAR

August 14, 2017, (2 nd Monday) 6:30pm-8:30 pm	Panera Bread Restaurant, Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington	LWV OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY BOARD MEETING.
Wednesday, August 23, 2017 at 5:30 -7:45 pm	Dover City Library, Lookerman Street, Dover	FIRST MEETINGS OF NEW BOARD LWVDE & EDUCATION FUND BOARD.
Monday, August 28, 2017, 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.	Michael's Restaurant <u>1000 Churchman's Rd</u> <u>Newark, DE 19713</u>	HOT TOPIC: INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF THE FILM "AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH and other topics of interest to you. http://michaelsde.com/directions/
Tuesday, August 29, starting at 6:30 pm	McGlynn's Pub, 8 Polly Drummond Shopping Center, Newark, DE 19711, RSVP Kim Wells 302-836-4751	HOT TOPIC: INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF THE FILM "AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH and other topics of interest to you. Buy your drinks and/or food. www.mcglynnspub.com
Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:30 am - 12 pm	Legislative Hall, House Majority hearing room, 411 Legislative Ave. Dover, DE 19901	LWVDE ADVOCACY CORPS MEETING. Contact Committee Chair Sandy Spence for details (302-841-2882) and if interested in attending. (sandyspence325@gmail.com)
Saturday, September 9, 2017, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (or maybe 2:00 p.m.)	Peniel United Methodist Church, 1115 E. Market Street, Wilmington DE 19804	HOT TOPIC - HUMAN TRAFFICKING FORUM Refreshments in am will be provided, bring a bag lunch and drinks and desert will be provided. No charge, but RSVP requested for planninglwvnc@comcast.net .
September 17, 11am - 4 pm	On the Green at UD. LWV needs volunteers to staff table.	NEWARK COMMUNITY DAY
Wednesday, September 20, 5:30 - 7:30 pm	Kent County Public Library, 497 South Red Haven Lane, Dover, DE 19901 (302) 744-1919	LWVDE & EDUCATION FUND BOARD MEETINGS RSVP joannhase@aol.com
September 25, (4th Monday) 5:30 pm-8:30pm	Panera Bread, Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington, DE	LWV OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY BOARD MEETING AND TRAINING
Monday, November 6, 2017, 6:30 - 8:30 pm	Panera Bread, Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington, DE	LWV OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY BOARD MEETING Back to regular first Monday meeting schedule.

League of Women Voters of New Castle County
2400 W 17th Street, Clash Wing, Room 1, Lower Level
Wilmington, DE 19806

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