



# NC VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTH CAROLINA  
**EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING  
FOR DEMOCRACY**

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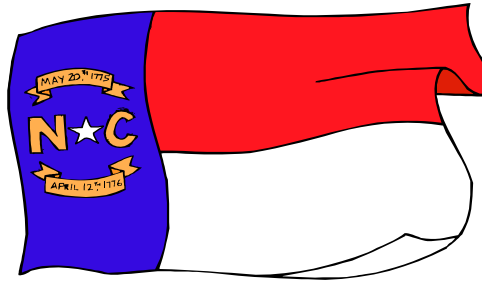
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## LWVNC COUNCIL 2008 – CATAWBA VALLEY LEAGUE

Fran Syptak



Greetings from LWV of Catawba Valley, your host for LWV of North Carolina Council, 2008. We are looking forward to your visit, and are eager to show you why we are so proud to live here and be part of the exciting and innovative ways that our region is promoting the Arts. The Program for the Council is on page 5.

### – SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ATTENDEES

On Friday, May 30, at 6:00 PM, you're invited to spend the evening at the S.A.L.T. Block. S.A.L.T. means **Science Art, Literature Together**, and yes, the Catawba Sciences Center, the Hickory Museum of Art, the Western Piedmont Symphony and the Patrick Beaver Library are all located on one city Block in Hickory, and they all work together through the United Arts Council of Catawba County. You will first visit the Science Center and Art Museum, then enjoy a catered dinner followed by musical entertainment – all for \$35 (plus what you will spend at the Museum and Science Center shops of course)! Here are some links to websites that tell – and show – you more about the SALT block: [www.artscatawba.org](http://www.artscatawba.org); [www.catawbascience.org](http://www.catawbascience.org); [www.hickorymuseumofart.org](http://www.hickorymuseumofart.org); [www.wpsymphony.org](http://www.wpsymphony.org); [www.ci.hickory.nc.us/library](http://www.ci.hickory.nc.us/library).

For those of you who can stay for lunch after Council adjourns on Sunday, June 1, we invite you to the Jacob Fork Gallery & Garden. We'll have box lunches that we can enjoy picnic style in the Garden while we admire Andy Brinkley's wonderful garden sculptures and other garden art before we roam through the gallery filled with a stunning variety of American arts and crafts. But here, see the gallery and garden for yourselves at [www.jacobforkgallery.com](http://www.jacobforkgallery.com). I had not set up the details with the owners, Andy and Leslie Brinkley, in time to include this event on the Registration Form. The box lunch will be \$10, payable after your arrival for Council, and our League will provide transportation, or provide directions from the Park Inn at 12:00 noon. We would also appreciate an RSVP for those of you who plan to attend either or both of these events by May 9, 2008.

Hope to see you there.

SPRING, 2008

## Officers and Directors

### 2007-2008

President	Judie Burke	ODC
Vice President	Brenda Rogers	ODC
Secretary	Sandra Wright	Moore
Treasurer	Betty Ellerbee	Wake

### Directors

Audrey Albrecht	Lower Cape Fear
Kathleen Balogh	Asheville/Buncombe
Nancy Birindelli	Dare
Kadra Bradford	Pitt
Carole Ellis	Lower Cape Fear
Beverly Hanly	ODC
Beverly Kawalec	ODC
Lousie Romanow	Wake
Fran Syptak	Catawba Valley

### Nominating Committee

Lee Luebbe - Chair	Henderson
Vicki Gehrig	Wake
Nancy Birindelli	Dare
Kadra Bradfird	Pitt
Ellen Olson	Piedmont Triad

### LWVNC

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[lwwncvotereditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:lwwncvotereditor@bellsouth.net)

## GOOGLE PAGE ADDED TO LWVNC'S COMMUNICATIONS OPTIONS

Thanks to many hours of work done by Patty Dale and Louise Romanow, North Carolina League members have a new way to communicate with one another. Our new Google page allows us to stay abreast of the latest information on our various Advocacy Issues, post information about Leagues' activities, and comment or ask for information from fellow Leagues and/or members.

Go to [lwwnc.org](http://lwwnc.org) and click on Members Only at the bottom of the page. On the Members page, click on Discussion Forum. (You may have to become a member of Google if you aren't already. There's no charge.) Then you will be on our Google page. You are encouraged to try a couple of updates, add messages, respond to information already shown there, and tell us what you think at [lwwncvotereditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:lwwncvotereditor@bellsouth.net).

## ELECTRONIC NC VOTER DISTRIBUTION CONVERSION CONTINUES

As of this issue, we have eleven Leagues distributing the electronic version of the NC Voter to all or a large portion of their members. The switch to electronic distribution of the NC Voter represents a significant savings to the state League expenses; thanks to all of you who participate. To those who haven't converted yet, you may want to consider how your League could reduce printing and mailing costs for your newsletters (and the NC Voter's).

## LWV'S PARADE IN DARE COUNTY

### Nancy O'Birindelli

Members of the League of Women Voters of Dare County were grand marshals for the 19th annual Kelly's Restaurant and Tavern St. Patrick's Day Parade in Nags Head.

Mike Kelly who states that his parade is the biggest and best St. Patrick's Day parade in North Carolina selected "Inform Yourself - Get Out and Vote" as the theme for this year's event. The League shared the limelight with the Dare County Board of Elections. Members were driven in antique cars and distributed voter information to the crowd along the parade route.

Fun was had by all!!



Some of the LWV Dare County Members Serving as Grand Marshalls

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS SEARCHING!

Lee Luebbe

Members of the Nominating Committee for 2008-09 are: Kadra Bradford, Nancy Birindelli, Vicki Gerig, Ellen Olson and Lee Luebbe, Chair. These five members will be combing the local leagues and the State Board to fill the slots for a slate of candidates to be offered at the State Convention in June, 2009. All terms are two years.

Each current State Board member has been asked to complete by March 31 a form to provide information and insight to the Nominating Committee. But that is not the only source of information. You may nominate yourself or your local league Board may nominate you. Talk to us at the State Council in Hickory, May 31 – June 1.

In our first meeting, a conference call, the committee established four criteria to guide its work.

- A balance in longevity vs. new members to continue the stability of the Board
- A geographical balance as much as possible
- Diversification to include gender, ethnicity, and age, as much as possible
- Board members with commitment and a bank of skills to further promote and carry out the mission and vision of LWVNC

The Committee values your recommendations of members who you believe should be considered by the Nominating Committee. We pledge to carry out the responsibilities of contacting potential candidates you suggest. If you prefer to contact me to discuss suggested nominees during this process, you may reach me at 828.694.3710 or 828.606.8756 or at [lluebbe2@mchsi.com](mailto:lluebbe2@mchsi.com).

## THE LEAGUE OF NC - SPONSORING TWO CANDIDATE DEBATES

Louise Romanow

March 28: All candidates running in the Democratic primary for Elizabeth Dole's Senatorial seat were invited. This live forum was cosponsored by Public Radio East (PRE), at 8 pm in Orringer Auditorium, Craven Community College, in New Bern. The debate was broadcast live over PRE and some other public radio stations in NC and is available via podcast at their site, <http://www.publicradioeast.org>.

If you missed the first debate, don't miss this one. On April 10 all candidates for Lt. Governor have been invited to participate in a forum to be broadcast on UNC-TV. Seven of the eight candidates have already agreed to participate. Broadcast live at 8 pm over digital UNC-NC, then over all UNC-TV stations at 10 pm, this debate will also be available for viewing through their web site, <http://www.uncvtv.org/election/>.

## GREAT BOOKS MENTIONING THE LEAGUE!

Several recent books highlight the contributions of League members around the country! If you're looking for a special gift—or just a good read—be sure to ask about these titles at your local bookstore or library:

Soul of a Citizen by Paul Rogat Loeb  
Getting a Grip by Frances Moore Lappe  
The Next Form of Democracy by Matt Leighninger

Information from the LWV US President's Letter

## **MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE UPDATE**

Carole Ellis, Co-Chair

The MRI (Membership Recruitment Initiative) pilots all seem to be meeting their goals for membership and then some. The most important improvement in recruitment of members has come as a result of the intentional "ASK". With the primary season fast approaching, the traditional activities of the League in sponsoring candidate forums would be a time to begin using the "ASK" before introducing candidates as well as when the program is completed. Other times would be at any of the programs you may present to the public at large. Most often friends and associates of present League members would be excellent candidates for membership in the League, but if you don't ask them they are certainly not likely to join. Membership is the responsibility of all League members. The more members we have the more influence we are able to build in a community. If each one of us is able to bring just one other person into our local Leagues, imagine the impact that would have!

## **PROPOSED PROGRAM CHANGE FOR CONSIDERATION AT COUNCIL**

The L WVNC Board of Directors approved a motion by Audrey Albrecht at its March 15, 2008 meeting to propose a program change by concurrence as an emergency measure. The L WVNC bylaws allow Council to approve a program change in an emergency situation when the issue needs a timely response.

House Bill 1024 passed in the 2005-2007 Session of the General Assembly, and authorized "the State Board of Elections to conduct a pilot program in which the instant runoff method of voting would be used in local elections." Hendersonville and Cary (Wake County), where we have local Leagues of Women Voters, were the two municipalities that participated in the pilot project in 2007. Up to 10 counties can participate in the pilot program in 2008. Local Leagues need a position approved by L WVNC for them to support the IRV in their counties. Therefore, the L WVNC Board believes that it is important for the Council to take action on the program change.

### **Position of League of Women Voters of Vermont**

In accordance with the L WV's position of promoting political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government, the L WVVT will support legislation that assures that the candidate preferred by a majority of voters wins the election.

Specifically, the L WVVT will support instant runoff voting (IRV) for all statewide elections.

### **Position Proposed by League of Women Voters of North Carolina**

Adopt Vermont's position, adding "and local" after statement.

#### **-Justification**

League of Women Voters of California and Washington have positions supporting instant runoff voting for local elections.

### **Proposed Position for League of Women Voters of North Carolina**

In accordance with the League of Women Voters' position of promoting political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government, the L WVNC will support legislation that assures that the candidate preferred by a majority of voters wins the election.

Specifically, the L WVNC will support instant runoff voting (IRV) for all statewide and local elections.



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

### League of Women Voters of North Carolina Council Meeting,

**May 31-June 1, 2008**  
**Park Inn, Hickory, NC**

#### **Friday, May 30**

3:00 PM—LWVNC Board Meeting                      Davenport Room  
7:00 PM—Social Event and Dinner                  Catawba Science Center (Extra Fee)

#### **Saturday, May 31—Meetings held in Biltmore Room**

8:00-9:00 AM                      Registration  
9:00 AM-10:00 AM                Call to Order              Judie Burke, President LWVNC  
   Welcome                      Mayor  
   Fran Syptak, President, Catawba Valley LWV

#### **Business Meeting**

Credential Report Sandra Wright, Secretary  
Budget presentation Beverly Hanly, Chair of Budget Committee  
Proposed changes to the 2007-2009 Program  
Beverly Kawalec, Chair of Advocacy Committee and Program. Recommend adopting position on instant-runoff voting

10:00-10:15 AM    Break  
10:15-11:00 AM    Report from State Board of Elections on Instant Run-Off Voting  
11:00-12:00 Noon    Membership Recruitment Initiative Update  
12:00 Noon            **Lunch with Parade of Local Leagues—Davenport Room**  
1:00 PM-2:00 PM    Update on Legislative Issues—Bob Hall, Democracy NC  
2:00 PM-3:15 PM    Advocacy Issues for 2008 Session of General Assembly  
   Advocacy Committee  
3:15-4:00 PM            Break  
4:00-4:30 PM            Update from LWVUS—Carol Reimers  
4:30-5:00 PM            LWVUS Convention—Judie Burke  
6:00 PM                    Social  
7:00 PM                    Dinner—**Emerald Room**  
8:00 PM                    Judicial Reform—The Honorable Linda McGee

#### **Sunday, June 1    Meetings held in Biltmore Room**

8:30-10:00 AM    Business Session  
   Discuss proposed budget. Approve budget.  
   Vote on program changes.  
10:00-11:30 AM    Roundtables—Presidents meet with Judie Burke  
   Five MRI Leagues in the Membership Recruitment Initiative meet with Kathleen Balogh and Carol Reimers  
   Local League Exchange—Betty Ellerbee, Louise Romanow, Beverly Kawalec, and Beverly Hanly  
11:30 AM                Adjourn

## LWVNC PROPOSED BUDGET 2008-09

Budget	YTD 2006-07	Budget 6/30/07	YTD 2007-08	3/4/08	<i>Projected</i> 7/1/08	<b>Proposed</b> 2008/009
<b>INCOME</b>						
Transfer from Reserves			4000			
CEF Transfer	\$3,000	3000	0		3000	3000
Contributions/Fundraising	\$3,300	1250	3545	1080	1080	900
Interest	\$150	\$943	\$300	660	\$1,000	500
LL PMP	\$13,500	\$13,476	\$13,500	9,881	\$13,500	13,500
LWVNC Coun/Convention	\$4,000	\$12,540	\$3,000		\$3,000	4,000
MAL + Ind Dues	\$480	\$2,325	\$300	580	\$610	750
Other Income	\$400	\$2,720	\$3,400	3,145	\$4,350	4,500
Position Support/Advocacy			\$5,000			
In Kind Contributions		\$2,500				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$24,830</b>	<b>\$38,754</b>	<b>\$33,045</b>	<b>15,346</b>	<b>\$26,540</b>	<b>27,150</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
<b>Fixed Expenditures</b>						
Bank Charges	\$0	24				
Insurance	\$850		\$850	465	\$465	500
Internet Service	\$250	\$143	\$600	78	\$78	
Professional Fees	\$150	\$150	\$500	200	\$200	200
Office copying	\$100	\$179	\$100			100
Office postage	\$150	\$138	\$150	191	\$250	250
Office supplies	\$500	\$386	\$500	93	\$250	250
Office phone/internet	\$750	\$726	\$650	496	\$1,150	1200
Office rent	\$4,800	\$6,500	\$6,000	4500	\$6,000	6000
Voter bulk mail expense	\$1,000	\$1,260	\$1,000	775	\$775	750
Voter printing	\$3,500	\$2,411	\$2,800	837	\$2,000	2000
LWVUS PMP	\$380	\$224	\$570	681	\$681	1000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>12141</b>	<b>11849</b>	<b>8317</b>	<b>11849</b>	<b>12,250</b>
<b>Variable Expenses</b>						
Accounting Conversion						1500
Affiliations/outreach	\$300	\$400	\$300		\$300	400
Board Mtg Expense	\$1,000	\$1,958	\$2,000	1,204	\$2,000	2500
Fundraising Projects	\$425	\$501	\$425	499	\$499	1000
LWVNC Coun/Convention	\$4,000	\$11,741	\$3,000		\$3,000	4000
Membership/Development	\$1,000	\$10	\$1,000			1000
LWVUS Coun/Convention	\$2,500	\$1,550	\$2,500	28	\$2,500	1500
Advocacy	\$1,500	\$4,662	\$6,500	1,010	\$1,010	1000
Printing/Reproduction	\$500		\$500			
Technology			\$1,000			1000
Local League Support	\$1,000	\$152	\$1,000	100	\$100	
Miscellaneous Expenses		15	\$1,100			1000
In Kind Expenses		2500				
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$12,225</b>	<b>\$23,489</b>	<b>\$19,325</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>\$9,409</b>	<b>14,900</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$24,830</b>	<b>\$35,630</b>	<b>\$33,045</b>	<b>11,158</b>	<b>\$21,258</b>	<b>27,150</b>
<b>Income Less Expenses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3124</b>		<b>4188</b>	<b>5282</b>	

**Budget Committee: Beverly Hanly, Chair; Kay Hunt, Orange, Durham & Chatham; Beth Springston, Charlotte/Mecklenburg**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**Registration Form for Council**  
**Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 30-June 1, 2008**  
**Park Inn Gateway Conference Center**  
**909 Hwy. 70 SW**  
**Hickory, NC 28602**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name for nametag \_\_\_\_\_ League \_\_\_\_\_  
Responsibility \_\_\_\_\_ Voting Delegate  Yes  No  
Street/Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE** for all Council attendees:

Includes breaks, lunch, and banquet dinner on Saturday and break on Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ \$70

**Special Event Friday evening 6:00PM: An Evening at the S.A.L.T. BLOCK** \_\_\_\_\_ \$35

**7:00 pm;** Catawba Science Center Tour, Reception, Dinner, and Music

Go to <http://www.catawbascience.org/>

**OTHER OPTIONS FOR PERSONS NOT REGISTERED FOR COUNCIL**

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday dinner banquet only  
\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday luncheon only

**# attending**  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$35 per banquet  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 per luncheon

**TOTAL payable to LWV-NC** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Form with check payable to LWV-NC must be received by May 15, 2008.** Mail to: League of Women Voters of NC

Attn: Treasurer  
3509 Haworth Drive, Suite 404  
Raleigh, NC 27609

**Room rates: \$70** single or double, breakfast included, plus tax 11.75%  
Reserve by calling Park Inn at **800-789-0686** and state you are with the League of Women Voters. **Room reservations at this rate must be made by May 9, 2008; reservations for Special Events on Friday & Sunday are also due by May 9th.**

**SPRING, 2008 LWV OF NORTH CAROLINA**