

## IN THIS MONTH'S VOTER

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### About the League of Women Voters

#### MISSION OF THE LEAGUE

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.

#### BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the office of Sister Cities of Asheville, 29-1/2 Page Avenue. All members are welcome to attend meetings of the board.

## MEET & GREET CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

The League has invited candidates for Asheville City Council to meet the public at a Meet & Greet event Sept. 20 at Pack's Tavern in downtown Asheville. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held in the upstairs Century Room from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Candidates can meet and mingle with the public, and citizens will have a chance to talk with them about issues and campaign positions. All League members are encouraged to attend.

Nine candidates face off in a nonpartisan primary election Oct. 11; the six highest vote-getters in that election will vie for three seats on City Council (the League will host a forum for the six primary winners on Oct. 18). Incumbents Jan Davis and Bill Russell are running for reelection; the other candidates are Mark Cates, Saul Chase, Lael Gray, Marc Hunt, Tim Peck, Chris Pelly, and T. J. Thomasson.

To volunteer as a League member to help with logistics at the Meet & Greet or other fall election forums, contact program cochairs Jan Schwartz (350-9533 or blucottage@bellsouth.com) or Judith Hoy (255-2668 or j-c-h205@mindspring.com).

### NEW LEAGUE WEBSITE

Our website has a new look! Nelda Holder and Karen Oelschlaeger have updated the new, easily accessible site with better graphics, more information, more links, and easier navigation. Check it out at [www.ablww.org](http://www.ablww.org).

## THE EDUCATION STUDY

Janie Wilson

Are you satisfied with the public schools near you? Do you know how your tax dollars are spent to educate children in public schools? What do you think about equity in public school spending?

At its last national convention the LWVUS voted to undertake a study on "The Role of the Federal Government in Education," and a national League committee developed the above questions (and a dozen others) for local Leagues to study and address.

In response, LWVABC will meet at the Reuter Center at UNC Asheville on October 13 and 20 (*see Calendar, p. 10*) to discuss and determine our responses, which with those of other Leagues will be submitted to the LWVUS to develop a national consensus.

The study addresses funding, a common core curriculum, assessment, and equity. The National Governor's Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers have worked together to develop a consistent set of standards: basic information children should learn at each grade level from kindergarten through grade 12.

The League will ask whether there should be uniform national standards; what kinds of assessment there should be of children's school progress; how assessments should be used; how federal dollars should be equitably spent, and what to do about preschool funding..

You'll find some background on page 5 of this issue; visit the LWVUS website for more information, and then join us at the Reuter Center in October.

**Officers and Board****2011-2012****Board****Co-Presidents:**

Administration	Janet Bowman
Issues	Barb Panarites
Outreach	Yvette Wessel
Secretary	Nelda Holder
Treasurer	Ann Bass
Membership Chair	Peggy Heilig
Program Co-chairs	Jan Schwartz & Judith Hoy
Community Relations Chair	A.D. Reed
At-large	Karen VanEman

**Off Board Appointments**

Corresponding Secretary	Fran Myers
Hospitality	Beth Johnson
Office Phone	Christine Singleton
Webmasters	Nelda Holder & Karen Oelschlaeger
Membership Database	Jeff Stanton
Assistant Treasurer	Pamela Nickless

**Nominating Committee**

Sonya Friedrich, Chair  
Janet Bowman, Bonnie Habel, Karen Van Eman, Yvette Wessel, members

**Membership**

Individual: .....	\$50
Household: .....	\$75
Student: .....	\$20

The League of Women Voters welcomes women and men who are interested and supportive of our principles and goals.

Member names and addresses are not given or sold to other organizations. We do provide mailing labels when we co-sponsor an event with another organization.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Each year a limited number of scholarships are given to cover the cost of membership. In exchange for the membership we ask that recipients actively participate in League functions.

**WELCOME TO 2011-12!**

The board of the LWV/ABC started off this summer with a determination to be as involved and relevant to our community as possible in the coming year. So we began with a half-day retreat at the home of Janet Schwartz, at which we discussed a wide range of ideas and developed both long-term and immediate plans for the League.

Program co-chairs Schwartz and Judith Hoy presented a well-thought-out and comprehensive plan for educating the public and engaging League members and nonmembers alike in the process of making democracy work. It includes candidate forums, the Education Study, and a special event planned for midwinter to celebrate Women's History Month.

Naturally one big issue is the LWVUS Education Study, in which our League is taking an active part represented by Janie Wilson, who will keep us informed of its progress. The first two meetings are Oct. 13 and 20, from 5:45-7:45 p.m.; both are for members only; in November a public forum will bring our Education Study to the public. On page 5 of this issue you'll find the LWVUS background paper on the federal role in education, which Leah Karpen has edited for us.

We also agreed that, as 2011 is the year for municipal elections in Buncombe County, we should have as visible a presence as possible in furthering the

democratic process among our residents. We're beginning with a Meet & Greet for candidates for Asheville City Council from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 20. This event will be held at the new downtown pub, Pack's Tavern, literally next door to Asheville City Hall, in the upstairs Century Room. Everyone is invited to spend time one-on-one with the candidates, and they can even do so over a cold beverage! We'll be inviting all the young professionals who meet their friends at Pack's Tavern after work, too, in the hope that they'll be interested in the candidates and also learn something about the League.

After the Oct. 11 primary, we'll host a Forum for the six Council candidates, this time in conjunction with the NC Center for Creative Retirement at UNC Asheville. The forum, at the Reuter Center on Oct. 18 from 7-9 p.m., will be open to the public.

Weaverville also has a contested Town Council election, and Yvette Wessel has arranged for a candidates forum at Weaverville Town Hall Sept. 27 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

As you can tell, we're off to a good, active and nonpartisan start to the year. We have several Observers lined up who have already begun submitting reports (see pp. 6 and 7); and we still need more, so don't hesitate to let A. D. Reed know if you're able and willing to keep tabs on our appointed boards and commissions!

*Your New Board*

CHILDREN FIRST/CIS QUESTIONNAIRE

As in past years, the League is cosponsoring the Candidate Questionnaire for Asheville City Council candidates distributed by Children First/CIS of Buncombe County. Here are the questions to be posed to the candidates:

1. What are your top three policy priorities for your term, if elected?
2. An estimated 28 percent of students in Asheville City Schools live in poverty (family income below about \$22,000 for a family of four). Research has linked child poverty with larger societal costs including academic underachievement, higher dropout rates, higher rates of teen pregnancy, higher costs of crime, lower economic productivity, and poorer overall health outcomes – including higher death rates from infectious disease. What role, if any, does City Council play to address issues related to child poverty?
3. The city transit system will soon unveil new route changes and service hours. What is your assessment of the proposed changes? Are there other changes that you support to improve public transportation and access to shopping, workplaces, and services for those not using a car?
4. The city currently staffs and manages the Asheville-Buncombe County Homelessness Initiative that developed the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. What is your assessment of this initiative? What actions, if any, should Council take to address homelessness, especially for women and children?
5. In 2007 Council approved

- paying all year-round city staffers a living wage. This spring Council approved a policy to ensure that city contract workers will be paid a living wage (currently defined at \$11.35/hr or \$9.85/hr with health insurance). The ordinance covers general service contracts between \$30,000-\$90,000 and Council will evaluate the impact and make a decision as to whether or not to extend the program to all contracts next year. Should the city ensure that all city employees and contractor workers make a living wage? Why or why not?
6. More than double the percentage of White students pass both the reading and math end of grade tests compared to Black students in Asheville City Schools (91% White, 44% Black). Large achievement gaps also persist between White and Hispanic students and between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students. City Council appoints the board of education for Asheville City Schools – making Council the link between voters and the school board. How can the city best support the school district’s efforts to improve the achievement gap?
  7. The city’s Community Development Division administers and manages programs that impact affordable housing in Asheville and Buncombe County. Describe your vision for increasing affordable housing options in Asheville and explain what role the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville should play?
  8. According to the USDA:

VOTER REGISTRATION

Co-president for Outreach Yvette Wessel has arranged numerous voter registration opportunities this fall. The League will be visible and active at these locations in September.

Saturday, Sept. 3

South Charlotte St. Tailgate Market  
161 South Charlotte St.  
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 4

Lexington Ave. Arts Festival (LAAF)

Thursday, Sept. 8

Pack Library

10 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 12

Emerald Ridge Retirement Home

10:00 a.m.-12 noon

Wednesday, Sept. 14

Weaverville Tailgate Market

2:30-6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 15

Harvest Home Luncheon

Sunday, Sept. 18

Greenlife Tailgate Market

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 22

Senior Opportunity Center

11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

If you want to help get new voters registered, contact Yvette at 645-0626 or yvettewessel@dcharter.net.

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“Food security for a household means that all household members have access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.” In Western NC, 1 in 6 people sought help from a food pantry, soup kitchen, or shelter – indicating a high rate of food insecurity. What policies, if any, can City Council make to increase household “food security”?

## REDISTRICTING, GERRYMANDERING, AND POWER

by Karen Oelschlaeger

“Let’s be candid: this is all about power.”

Those were the words of Bob Orr, Executive Director of North Carolinians for Constitutional Law and former North Carolina gubernatorial candidate and Supreme Court Judge. Orr was one of three speakers to address the 50 to 60 people who attended the free screening of the documentary *Gerrymandering* at UNC Asheville’s Reuter Center Thursday night. Other speakers included Kathleen Balogh, outgoing President of the LWVNC, and Brent Laurenz of the North Carolina Center for Voter Education. All three organizations are part of the North Carolina Coalition for Redistricting Reform, a nonpartisan coalition of ten organizations lobbying in favor of a redistricting model that removes district line-drawing power from the legislature and invests that power in an independent body.

The film is a surprisingly engaging, compelling, and bipartisan look at the redistricting process used in the United States, and the frequent abuse of the process known as gerrymandering. As the filmmakers note, the United States is the only developed country that gives elected legislators the responsibility for setting the boundaries of their own districts. In contrast, both Britain and Canada (and a few US states) delegate the job of drawing district lines to non-partisan organizations.

In the film, David Winston, a GOP redistricting consultant, illuminates the flaws in our current redistricting process. He explains, “When I, as a mapmaker, have more of an impact on an election than [any campaign, any candidate, or] the voters...the system is out of whack.”

The film included powerful quotations from many political leaders and highlighted the organizing efforts behind Proposition 11 in California. The Voters First Act sought to shift the control of the redistricting process, which happens every ten years, from the legislature to an independent 14-member commission. Former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who advocated for Proposition 11 in California along with many organizations including the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, the NAACP, ACLU, and AARP, explains that within the redistricting process of gerrymandering, “the legislators get to pick their voters, rather than the voters picking their politicians.” Even President Barack Obama is quoted in the film empathizing with those who choose not to vote on election day. Obama says that given the political practice of gerrymandering, “people aren’t being illogical when they stay at home, because the outcome is a foregone conclusion.”

As flawed a process as this may seem, disillusioned voters can take some comfort in the fact that NC House Bill 824, Nonpartisan

Redistricting Process, recently passed the House with bipartisan support. Representative Ray Rapp, who represents Haywood, Madison, and Yancey counties in WNC, is one of the primary sponsors of this bill, and Representative Susan Fisher of Buncombe County is a co-sponsor. The bill, endorsed by the League of Women Voters, Common Cause of North Carolina, and other advocates for redistricting reform, is now in the Rules and Operations Committee of the State Senate (as of 6/10/11).

Preliminary NC maps for districts covered by the Voting Rights Act, which bans racial discrimination in voting practices, were released June 17, and the legislature followed up with statewide maps later that month. The biggest change for WNC is that the GOP-drawn maps moved Asheville and much of Buncombe County out of the 11th District and into the 10th, centered in Gastonia, in Gaston County. The plan has drawn outcries from across the state and the political spectrum for removing the heart of the 18-county mountain region from its district; a number of challenges to the new maps are in the works as of this writing.

Regardless of the outcome of the 2011 redistricting, proponents of reform can take hope that after the 2020 census, a new, fair, nonpartisan process will be in place.

## A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION

edited by Leah Karpen

The concern and involvement of the federal government in public education is not a new phenomenon. In 1787 the Northwest Ordinance included responsibility of the nation for an education system. Under the “general welfare” clause of Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution the federal government assumed the power to promote education activity both on its own and jointly with states, agencies and individuals.

Constitutional amendments also affected the government’s role in public education. The 10th amendment stated: “Powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” Since public education was not mentioned as one of the federal powers, it has historically been delegated to the local and state governments. In 1868 the 14th Amendment guaranteed rights to all citizens, stating “all persons born or naturalized in the United States, are citizens...nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

During the 19th century the federal government included vocational training grants and established the Office of Education, whose purpose was to collect information on schools and teaching to help States have effective school systems. In 1917 vocational education became the major area of

federal aid to schools, with the Smith-Hughes act, followed by the 1946 act focusing on training in agriculture, industrial arts, and home economics for high school students.

In 1941 the Lanham act and Impact Aid laws of 1950 authorized payments to school districts affected by the Military in World War II. In 1944 the GI Bill provided post-secondary education grants that resulted in eight million veterans attending college.

Major Supreme Court decisions affected education: *Brown v. Board of Education* declared laws establishing separate public schools based on race were unconstitutional (1954). Discrimination based on race, sex and disability were prohibited through Title VI of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) launched a comprehensive set of programs, including federal aid to the disadvantaged. This act forbade the establishment of a national curriculum, but funds were authorized for professional development, parental involvement and instructional materials to support educational programs. The Act, originally authorized through 1970, has been reauthorized every five to 10 years and in 2001 was reauthorized as the “No Child Left Behind Act.”

In 1980 Congress made the

Department of Education a Cabinet level agency. Then education became a priority issue, involving private and religious sectors, tax credits, parental involvement. Although many bills were introduced and failed of passage in Congress, in the 1980s the book “A Nation at Risk” emphasized that the United States no longer held the edge in education.

With the ESEA the role and importance of education shifted from local control to state and national control. Now Congress is debating the reauthorization of ESEA. Major issues are the purpose and role of the federal government in education and funding, the extent to which federal government should play a role in public education—specifically, school choice, accountability, teacher quality, goals, standards, and funding.

Currently federal funding averages about 10 percent of local school budgets.

### EQUAL RIGHTS AT LAST?

A new statewide organization aimed at ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment was formed in January by LWV/A-B member Roberta Madden and former Henderson County League president Nancy Glowacki. The group, Equal Rights Amendment North Carolina Citizens, is urging passage of House Joint Resolution 47 by Congress and ratification of the ERA by the NC General Assembly in 2013.

*cont'd on next page*

## DEMOCRACY ASHEVILLE SUMMIT

reported by Davyne Dial

Democracy NC, a nonpartisan organization based in Raleigh, held a “Democracy Asheville Summit” here on Saturday, June 16, to bring together community groups to discuss election-related topics such as voter ID, money in elections, limited early voting, redistricting, and more. LWV/ABC member Davyne Dial attended the summit as an official observer for our League, and recorded the following points from those attending the meeting, which took place at Pack Memorial Library. Note that this was not a LWV-sponsored meeting.

- *Editor*

The central take-away from the Democracy NC meeting in Asheville July 16 was that no one here in WNC (11th Congressional district) is happy about redistricting. The general feeling was that the new map lumps as many progressives & blacks into tightly drawn districts as possible.

Another central point was that the entire system of redistricting in NC is corrupted, and that responsibility for that rests with both parties.

Action: The consensus was that all “blue dogs” (conservative Democrats) need to be heavily pressured to show up in Raleigh and vote. It is expected that the week of July 25 will be important for troubling legislation to be slipped through by the majority attempting

to override gubernatorial vetoes of several bills, and “blue dogs” should be urged to support the governor’s vetoes.

There are numerous different fronts to be aware of that include strategies to minimize absentee voting, curtail the early-voting period by one week, eliminating same-day registration and voting (in 2008 more than 200,000 registered and voted on the same day), and eliminate straight-ticket voting, so as to minimize votes for down-ticket races. By all appearances, all the changes in voting rights and procedures make it look as if the agenda is to prevent lower-income people from voting.

The legislative majority also wants to eliminate public financing of judicial and Council of State races by going back to pay-to-play campaign financing. One question addressed was how to counter the big money controlling elections; one solution is to formulate an informational strategy that publicly stresses whether a candidate is funded by clean or dirty money.

Also pointed out was the importance of keeping the message simple and direct, and pointing out negative facts (about candidates) in a positive way. Activists must bring forth issues that matter to rally votes.

There was discussion over how to get higher participation. The key approach is education: “Educate,

educate, educate!” said one participant. It was made very clear that encouraging voting by saying, “I want you to vote” is not enough; the message must include the reasons why people must vote.

The ultimate goal of voting drives must be to find appropriate motivation, for example that there is an important local election coming up.

A strong message to be sent regarding redistricting would be, “Don’t mess with Buncombe.”

Similarly, a message regarding the danger of depressing voting through eliminating straight-party voting is, “Farther down the ticket are races most important to your local quality of life.”

A quick recap shows four points that must be incorporated into strengthening political engagement and participatory democracy in North Carolina:

- “ Get young people involved
- “ Need faith-based communities to help energize the base
- “ Energize the community one voter at a time for jobs, education, and accountability. Take this message to the community
- “ Utilize people’s frustration regarding redistricting and the multipronged attack on women to mobilize folks who wouldn’t ordinarily be involved in next election

ERA (*cont’d from p. 5*)

HJR 47, introduced by Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), eliminates the current ERA deadline and makes it part of the Constitution after ratification by three more states. The group is asking ERA supporters to call Senator Kay Hagan and urge her to introduce a Senate resolution similar to HJR 47 and to urge NC Gov. Bev Purdue to endorse the resolution.

For more information, see the organization’s website, [www.era-nc.org](http://www.era-nc.org), or contact Robbie Madden at [robertamadden@yahoo.com](mailto:robertamadden@yahoo.com).

## MEETING OF TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE 7-5-11

Norma Warren, Observer

The meeting was called to order by Shannon Tuch, Chair.

Also present:

Kim Hamel - TRC Mgr., Planning & Development  
Wayne Hamilton - Fire Dept.  
Ron Evans - Building Safety  
Kim Putnam - Traffic Engineer  
Bob Oast - Legal  
Mike Brookshire - Water Dept.  
Ken Johnson - MSD  
McCray Coates - Public Works  
Richard Grant - Public Works  
Susan Roderick - Tree Commission

Minutes of the June 20 meeting were accepted. Ms. Tuch explained the committee was meeting to conduct a technical review of Level 2 Project #11-3193, the Caledonia Apartments at 77 Finalee Ave. in Kenilworth. The proposed project would be a 64,712 sq. ft., 50-unit apartment building on what is now vacant land. The property owner is Caledonia, LLC and the contact person is David Aiton. Level 2 Projects require a technical review only, and approval must be unanimous to pass.

Nathan Pennington, the planner coordinating the review, displayed the plan and addressed compliance with technical requirements. Roderick asked about erosion control and was told that would be handled at another time.

Developer Frank Howington introduced himself and his architect, David Aiton; he described responses made to issues previously raised by the TRC. Tuch explained that those responses addressed the previous

application and do not apply to the current one. In effect they are starting over.

Patsy Brison, attorney for the Kenilworth Residents Assoc., asserted there are technical conditions which cannot be met, and said the project is not a subdivision. She presented in evidence a certification showing the TRC cannot consider this project because it's not the whole tract. Further, the acreage of the property is unknown, so one cannot tell if it is a Level 2 project or not. She asked that the review be continued. Tuch said TRC would take these issues under advisement, but would hear the rest of the public input.

Eight members of the public then spoke to the technical aspects of the project. Two identified themselves as architects and listed flaws with the plans as presented: egress in case of fire is inadequate, private water lines are shown on public property, and the site distance is inaccurate. Others pointed out supporting columns in the parking area do not meet requirements, the builder has failed to contact neighbors as recommended, and there is a lack of safe space for building equipment such as a crane. Concern was expressed regarding slope stability. The slope averages 39 degrees and hazard areas vary from moderate to high. Therefore, the retaining wall design and the storm water arrangement is inadequate and very likely fails to meet requirements.

Additionally, traffic occasioned by construction equipment cannot safely travel to the site, nor can

prefab units negotiate the steep, narrow, winding roads. Currently, semis bringing goods to this area have been seen unloading material into small trucks for delivery. Finally, the TRC is to review completed plans. This is the third time the TRC has set conditions. Therefore, these plans are not complete. Brison noted that under the circumstances, the TRC should deny this application.

Aiton attempted to rebut the issues that had been raised. Certain members of the TRC added their comments. Tuch summed up by saying the TRC is part of a process and no project will be approved until all technical requirements are met. While a number of the technical issues raised were of little significance, the issue of the site distance is a red flag. Therefore no decision can be made today. Also, the legal status of the property as raised by Brison will be researched and addressed. A motion was made for continuance. The developer must have the new plans in by July 20, and the next TRC review meeting is scheduled for Aug. 1.

Aiton asserted that: acreage is known to be 3.17 acres; if parking is not adequate, the columns can be rebuilt to meet standards; and that the site distance is OK. The Chairperson asked for evidence, and Aiton said it had been submitted as an addendum.

He added that Caledonia was the best access to the building site. Pre-fab units could be brought up one at a time from Swananoa River Rd. Chairperson Tuch commented

*cont'd on next page*

## LWV OF ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE COUNTY

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2011

**Present:** *Ann Bass, Janet Bowman, Peggy Heilig, Nelda Holder, Judith Hoy, Barb Panarites, Andy Reed, Jan Schwartz, Yvette Wessel*

**Also:** *Karen Oelschlaeger*

The board met at 6 p.m. on August 9, 2011, at 33 Page Ave., with co-president Barb Panarites presiding. Social Media: Karen Oelschlaeger, our first-ever Social Media Director, offered an overview of the League's new website and social networking programs. She reviewed the status of the new website (ablwv.org); use of Twitter (twitter.com/ablwv), and our Facebook presence in making our activities more visible to nonmembers and young people.

Treasurer's Report: Ann Bass submitted a written report showing balances and disbursements for the League and the Florence Ryan Education Fund. Details of the budget and financial statements are available from the Treasurer.

Program Committee: Co-chairs Jan Schwartz and Judith Hoy presented a comprehensive proposal for the 2011-12 League year, including numerous candidate events and an education study update. Highlights include:

- Meet & Greet - Asheville City Council candidates, Sept. 20 at Pack's Tavern
- Candidates Forum - Asheville City Council, Oct. 18 at Reuter Center at UNC Asheville (cosponsored with the NC Center for Creative Retirement).
- Weaverville Town Council Forum, Oct. 27, Town Hall
- Education Study meetings, Oct.

13 and 20 (details to follow)

Membership Committee: Peggy Heilig, Membership Chair, presented a written report that shows current membership at 68 (54 individual, 5 life, 1 student, 8 household).

Some board members voice reservations over sharing of personal information (such as phone or email) included in the member directory. A subcommittee named to devise a policy proposal includes: Karen Oelshlaeger, Nelda Holder, Peg Heilig, and Barb Panarites. Community Relations Committee: A. D. Reed updated the board on public relations activities, which have included press releases for the Meet & Greet and possible regular radio appearances on behalf of the League.

In response to his request for board input on newsletter frequency and deadline, the board consensus was for a monthly newsletter, to be ready the week before the end of each month. News deadline for getting information to him will be the 15th of each month.

New Business:

Approval was unanimously given to the following off-board, appointed positions for the coming year:

Corresponding Sec'y ... Fran Meyers  
Hospitality ..... Beth Johnson  
Office Phone ..... Christine Singleton  
Webmasters ..... Nelda Holder &  
Karen Oelschlaeger  
Social Media Dir. .... K. Oelschlaeger

In addition to the forums scheduled by the Program Committee, Panarites, Wessel and Holder offered to help set up Weaverville forum and Black Mountain Meet & Greet (in conjunction with their newspaper).

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

## IN MEMORIAM

## MARGARET "PEGGY" TINKLER

The League of Women Voters of Asheville & Buncombe County is diminished by the unexpected death of longtime member Peggy Tinkler on August 26. Peg was active in the League in Huntington, Long Island, New York, for many years before she and husband Bob moved to Asheville in 1989, and she continued her civic contributions throughout their retirement years. We extend our deepest condolences to Bob.

## HENRY COLTON

We also send condolences to Marie Colton, whose husband Henry died Aug. 29 at age 90. During the many years of Marie's service in our community and as the first woman to serve as speaker Pro Tem of the NC House of Representatives, Henry was her stalwart supporter, friend, and mainstay. He was a business and community leader as well as a lifelong volunteer, and his passing leaves Asheville diminished.

TRC OBSERVER (*cont'd from p. 7*)

that a previous application had showed a crane. The representative for the Tree Commission said the water line was public. It had been gone over with the Water Department. Brookshire noted the plan is unclear about water lines, requiring a separate application to the Water Department.

*Invite a friend to join*

**THE LEAGUE**

2011 - 2012

**League of Women Voters Asheville-Buncombe County**

**PO Box 8292, Asheville, NC 28814**

828-258-8223

<http://ablvw.org>

on Twitter@ablvw

[www.facebook.com/ablvw](http://www.facebook.com/ablvw)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Second Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_ Check if a change or an update of information \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category:

Individual (\$50)	_____	Membership Cost	_____
Household (\$75)	_____	Additional Contribution	_____
Student (\$20)	_____	Total Enclosed	_____

**Mail to: Treasurer, ABLVW, P.O. Box 8292, Asheville, NC 28814**

I want be INVOLVED! My issue interests are \_\_\_\_\_

League activities center around COMMUNITY RELATIONS, MEMBERSHIP and PROGRAM. Please check those areas which are of interest to YOU!

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

\_\_\_\_ Writing articles    \_\_\_\_ Contacting Media    \_\_\_\_ Social Media    \_\_\_\_ Observing Boards & Commissions  
\_\_\_\_ Voter Registration    \_\_\_\_ Speakers Bureau

**MEMBERSHIP**

\_\_\_\_ Communications with members    \_\_\_\_ Assessing member skills, interests    \_\_\_\_ Telephoning  
\_\_\_\_ Staffing membership table at events

**PROGRAM**

\_\_\_\_ Help organize Candidate Forums, monthly programs, social events    \_\_\_\_ Host events  
\_\_\_\_ Participate in League Study Committee

The League Of Women Voters, a non-partisan organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to all citizens of voting age, male or female, who subscribe to the League's purpose and policies.

# THE VOTER



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

OF ASHEVILLE & BUNCOMBE COUNTY

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## LEAGUE CALENDAR 2011-12

### SEPTEMBER

**Board Meeting** ..... Sept. 13

**Meet & Greet the Candidates for Asheville City Council**

Pack's Tavern, Marjorie Street  
5:30-7:30 p.m. .... Sept. 20

**Forum, Weaverville Town Council Candidates**

Weaverville Town Hall, Main Street  
6:30-8:30 p.m. .... Sept. 27

### OCTOBER

**Regional leadership training workshop**  
Sponsored by LWVNC; breakfast & lunch provided. Contact Barb Panarites for details  
YWCA

9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. .... Oct. 1

**Board Meeting** ..... Oct. 11

**Primary Election** ..... Oct. 11

**Education Study Information & Consensus Meeting - Part I**

Reuter Center, UNC Asheville, with the NC Center for Creative Retirement  
5:45-7:45 p.m. .... Oct. 13

**Forum, Asheville City Council Candidates**

Reuter Center, UNC Asheville, with the NC Center for Creative Retirement  
7-9 p.m. .... Oct. 18

**Education Study Information & Consensus Meeting - Part II**

Reuter Center, UNC Asheville, with the NC Center for Creative Retirement  
5:45-7:45 p.m. .... Oct. 20

### NOVEMBER

**General Election** ..... Nov. 8

**Board Meeting** ..... Nov. 8

### DECEMBER

**Holiday Party** ..... TBA

**Board Meeting** ..... Dec. 13

### JANUARY

**Board Meeting** ..... Jan. 10

**Meet Your Legislators** ..... TBA

### FEBRUARY

**Board Meeting** ..... Feb. 14

**Membership Planning Meeting** ... TBA

### MARCH

**Board Meeting** ..... Mar. 13

**Womens History Month**

Special guest appearance ..... TBA

### APRIL

**Board Meeting** ..... Apr. 10

**Let's Talk League**

wine & cheese party ..... TBA

### MAY

**Board Meeting** ..... May 8

**Annual Meeting** ..... May 19

**Your Event Here!**  
*If you know of an event compatible with the League's work, let us know and we'll try to list it. Send the information to adreed@charter.net or mail it to the League P.O. Box.*