

[View this email in your browser](#)



August 2025

Prez Says



PREZ SAYS

The lazy days of summer have been cancelled. We have a country to save! Actually, the League has always kept pretty busy during summer months providing voter registration and education at public events and internally

organizing for the busier fall ahead. This year is alarmingly different for all of us.

You will see if you go to the LWWUS website, lww.org, our national organization is on fire with the actions they are taking and the information they are providing to all of us. They have declared that our country is in a constitutional crisis and they need us all to be doing what we can to address this. As a member you have full access to the part of the website called League Management which is full of ways to help. Just go to lww.org, scroll all the way to the end, and click on League Management. If you have any problem accessing this area, just email me and I'll figure it out with you.

Please also watch for the monthly messages from LWWUS president, Dianna Wynn. She highlights activities she thinks our members may most want and need to know about. She spent a day with some of us at the NY League convention in June and she is warm and approachable - and fierce and focused about this work. She is a marketing professional too, which helps! So do watch for her very useful emails.

You may already be aware that **September 16th is National Voter Registration Day** and we welcome your help in being out and about serving voters throughout our three counties. But did you know that LWWUS celebrates ALL the "civic holidays"? On the [League management site](#) you can sign up for an August 5th program about these holidays and what you can do. You'll be hearing more from us too.

Meanwhile notice the local activities mentioned in this newsletter and on our own website, lwwmidhudson.org.

Finally, if you feel as if addressing the federal issues is too overwhelming and discouraging, you can serve the cause by attending governmental meetings right there in your own town or county. Way too few people do this and newspapers don't cover them the way they used to. Your power to make a difference is magnified MANY times when you show up and simply watch. The not-so-good people need to know that they are being observed and the good people really do appreciate being noticed. And here's the

bonus: this fall the elections will be mostly local and you will actually know many of the people on the ballot!

See you at a meet-up! I will be visiting my county legislature after the August 19th one in Kingston and would enjoy having company. It's a bit of a soap opera.

Dare Thompson, President

darethompson@gmail.com

845-236-3074 (preferred) 845-591-3445 (cell)



September 9th Membership Meeting
6 PM, [Milton Train Station](#)
Save the Date!

Calendar Happenings

You can also check our website for more info!

[League of Women Voters of the Mid-Hudson Region](#)

August 5th

9 AM

Program Committee

(all are welcome - new ideas!)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87868759939?
pwd=ysvpH9gwbU52gzGwbkFN8AbCsksz0H.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87868759939?pwd=ysvpH9gwbU52gzGwbkFN8AbCsksz0H.1)

August 6th

Noon

Membership/Communications Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87961878308?
pwd=xGZSMb9S3kgbU3xW5Ou741J7GQCvSe.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87961878308?pwd=xGZSMb9S3kgbU3xW5Ou741J7GQCvSe.1)

August 7th

3:30 PM

Meeting Orange County Legislature

Orange County Government Center, 3rd Floor

255 Main Street, Goshen

August 8th

Noon

Dutchess Meet-up

[Mahoney's](#), Poughkeepsie

August 10th

12 - 5 PM

Beacon Corn Festival (see flyer below)

August 11th

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Voter Services County Chairs Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86341969784?
pwd=dsBLhdSfAaDTaWhdfAYQVRYuS5xTeE.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86341969784?pwd=dsBLhdSfAaDTaWhdfAYQVRYuS5xTeE.1)

August 11th

6:30 PM

Meeting Dutchess County Legislature
Dutchess County Office Bldg, 6th Floor
22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie

August 15th

Noon

Southern Tier Meet-up
[Silk Factory](#), Newburgh

August 18th

4 PM

Ulster County Meet-up
[Kings Diner](#), Kingston

August 19th

7 PM

Meeting Ulster County Legislature
Ulster County Office Bldg, 6th Floor
244 Fair Street, Kingston

August 21st

4 PM

LWVMHR Board Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84529166407?
pwd=Q4kjXi3MLTrAZD7EHEzMsKrOFrhP8V.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84529166407?pwd=Q4kjXi3MLTrAZD7EHEzMsKrOFrhP8V.1)

August 23rd

Join or Die (Documentary showing)

Check [website](#) events for more information

[Bard College](#), Annandale-on-Hudson

Thank you for attending our recent Annual Meeting. To ensure that next year's meeting is as effective and productive as possible, we request your feedback by August 10. This brief survey will help identify areas for improvement and better tailor future meetings. The survey is anonymous and will take about 10 minutes to complete. Honest responses are appreciated and will help make annual meetings more valuable for you. Click **HERE** to access the survey

**James Skoufis**

Mar 2 · 🌐

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that does incredible work to expand voting access and voter turnout. I was glad to have the opportunity to sit down and discuss their legislative and budget-related priorities for this year.



Issues and Advocacy

The Mid-Hudson League would like to form a working Issues and Advocacy Committee to study and promote League-approved topics in the community and among our government representatives. Our goal is to continue the dialogues we have had during annual pre-budget sessions with our representatives and utilize our collective skills to advocate for important policies our members wish to champion.

Some examples might be: expansion of voting access for the eligible incarcerated population, human rights and human trafficking, healthcare access, etc.

If you are interested and have not yet signed up, please notify Leslie Simons - lesliesimons1066@gmail.com.
Suggestions for future action are welcome!

Voter Services



The League in Action!

On July 10, we were honored to be one of dozens of vendors at the “Putting Your Skills Back to Work” Older Adults Skills Fair, held in partnership with Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Dutchess County Office for the

Aging at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. It was a great day to connect older adults with meaningful opportunities to stay engaged in our community and to network with other non-profit organizations.



Ready to Help More New Yorkers Vote?

Voter registration is one of the best ways to get involved with the League. Whether you're new or experienced, it's easy to get started or expand your reach. Here are some upcoming opportunities. You can find more

information on our Calendar. New opportunities are added to the calendar regularly, so check back often.

August

1. Dutchess County Naturalization Ceremony on Friday, August 1th.
2. Beacon Sloop Club Corn Festival in Beacon on Sunday, August 10th.
3. Bard College Democracy Day Block Party in Annadale-on-Hudson, Friday, August 22nd.

September

1. Dutchess Community College Falcon Fest on Wednesday, September 3rd and Thursday, September 4th.
2. National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, September 16th, at Dutchess Community College, SUNY Orange Middletown, and SUNY Orange Newburgh Campus.
3. Restore Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County in Wappingers Falls on Tuesday, September 23th.

October

1. Beacon Sloop Club Pumpkin Festival in Beacon on Sunday, October 19th.
2. Restore Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County in Wappingers Falls on Tuesday, October 28th.



Be a joiner. Find your people. Build community. On the evening of August 23, the League, in partnership with Bard College, will host a free screening of the award-winning documentary "Join or Die" for Bard students. It's a film about why you should join a club—and why the fate of America depends on it. The film follows the story of America's civic unraveling through the journey of Robert Putnam, whose legendary Bowling Alone research into American

community decline may hold the answers to our democracy's present crisis. A discussion will follow. Watch the trailer [HERE](#).



Want to Get Involved?

Voter Services has many events planned this summer across all three counties. Please keep checking the website [calendar](#) and [volunteer opportunities](#).



LWV Mid-Hudson Meetups

Dutchess Meetup

Everyone is enjoying summer but take the time to join us in the cool air conditioned company of League members for food and conversation!

Our next meeting is **Friday, August 8th at noon** at [Mahoney's](#) in Poughkeepsie.

Ulster County Meetups

Please join us wherever you live and hear about newly hatched LWV-MHR plans for the rest of the summer and into the fall. Defending democracy isn't

easy, but with your help, we're up to it!

Our next meeting is **August 19th, 4 PM**, at the [Kings Diner](#) in Kingston!

Southern Tier

Leslie Simons organized a trip to NYC to see the play “John Proctor is the Villain”. Our group really enjoyed discussing the thought provoking issues raised by the writer, as we dined out at “The Smith” restaurant afterwards. Just another example of how we refresh and challenge ourselves to do the important work we do!

Our group consists of folks from the Southern portions of Ulster and Dutchess Counties, as well as all of Orange County. Anyone is welcome to come and hear about the latest work of the League and get involved. We are open to ideas that compliment our commitment to Women’s issues.

Next meeting is **August 15th**, at the [Silk Factory](#) in Newburgh at noon!





Welcome New Americans!

From Pat Lamanna:

"This was taken at the Vanderbilt Estate on Thursday, July 17 at a Naturalization Ceremony sponsored by the Federal Government, not Dutchess County as usual. There were 12 new citizens, accompanied by friends and family, sworn in in the sumptuous living room of the Vanderbilt

Mansion. Jane Argineanu and I handed out registration forms, two of which were returned to us, and I brought them to the Board of Elections that afternoon.”



**Keep Up With your
League's Latest
Local Events!
Always at the
Website!**

[Learn more](#)

In the News





Girls Just Want FUNdamental Rights!

The League of Women Voters was one of three groups that were invited to accompany Cyndi Lauper on her latest singing tour throughout the Country. Cyndi Lauper values civic engagement and believes in the work the League of Women Voters does to educate and engage voters.

Several members of the LWVMHR were able to spend a fun evening at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts handing out cool “swag” and speaking with the crowd that came out on a beautiful evening for the concert!



The month of July offered some interesting happenings at the meeting of the Dutchess County Legislature. Besides the ongoing issue of siting a homeless shelter in Poughkeepsie, LWVMHR Observer Jane Simkin Smith writes:

“Several legislators sought information about, and described the need for progress on, the YOU (Youth Opportunity Union) center to be constructed at the former YMCA site on Montgomery Street in Poughkeepsie. Legislator Kaul reported that she had recently attended a City of Poughkeepsie Council

meeting where city officials had asked many questions about the YOU but did not get answers.”. Read more at our Website [Here!](#)

LWVMHR

**Hyde Park Library**

1d · 🌐

Join us for the first in our speaker series, "Know Your Local Government." Register at hydeparklibrary.org/events

KNOW YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MEET SUE SERINO AND HEAR
ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE THE
DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECUTIVE!



MONDAY, AUG. 18, AT 5:30 P.M.

**HYDE PARK LIBRARY
ANNEX**

Register at
hydeparklibrary.org/events

Register [HERE](https://hydeparklibrary.org/events)

EMAIL TIP - Having trouble finding the Newsletter amongst reams of emails? Search “Local League Newsletter” to find the correct email!

From the Editor - We welcome information or articles you think would add to our members' & friends' knowledge of educating voters and protecting our Democracy. Write to info@lwvmidhudson.org.

Deadline for next Newsletter is **August 25th**. Thank you!



Copyright (C) 2025 LWV Mid-Hudson Region. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)