



April was busy, but May promises even more...

Upcoming Dates to Note on Your Calendar

Date	Time	Details
Thurs. May 10	5:30-8pm	LWVPA Annual Meeting – CHANGE OF LOCATION Falmouth Community Programs (formerly Plummer-Motz School) 190 Middle Road , Presumpscot Room Falmouth, ME 04105
Sat. May 19	9-noon	Primary Study Consensus Meeting American Legion Hall, 65 Depot Road , Falmouth, ME

Additional information about LWVPA and LWVME activities is available on the Maine LWV [website](#) calendar.

LWVPA Annual Meeting

Join us on May 10th to celebrate our growth, meet other members and learn how you can help make Maine a place where democracy works for all. Our speaker, **Mark Hews, State Coordinator for Maine Revives Civility**, will discuss how he helps people restore civility and respect by teaching skills to further constructive conversations. **There will also be a business meeting so the full membership can vote to approve a Slate of Board Nominees and the proposed budget.**

We'll have dinner (contact [Carol](#) if you want to bring a dish) and a raffle to benefit the Emily Farley Fund which helps support great educational projects (contact [Marsha](#) to donate a raffle item.) RSVPs are not required, but advance notice is appreciated. For directions and RSVP, contact [Barbara Kaufman](#).

Join us on May 19th for the 2nd Primary Study Consensus Meeting

LWVPA Primary Study enthusiasts met on April 28th to learn about the evolution of Maine's legislation for selecting Presidential Candidates and how Maine differs from other states, and to come to consensus on questions about proposals under consideration for improving the system. The discussion was both lively and informative, with two members of the LWVME Study Committee contributing the expertise gained by them during the study process.



Karla Wight, Valerie Kelly, Kim Rich, Polly Ward and Peg Balano at Primary Consensus Meeting.

The second Consensus Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 19th, 9 AM to noon. No need to have participated in the first meeting to join us for the second, which will focus on the pros/cons of (1) expanding the franchise for all primary elections (now generally restricted to party members only) and (2) moving from partisan to nonpartisan primaries. Here is your chance to have a say in how the LWVME advocates on these election issues. Don't sit back and let policies be formed by just a few members—we seek policy positions that reflect the membership in general! It is best if you can look at the [Primary Study Guide](#) before the meeting (especially pages 16+). The discussion leaders will be summarizing the findings, so don't let a lack of time to review materials in advance keep you from joining us on the 19th.

Volunteers needed:

Get involved in clean elections at the local level

Our partners at Maine Citizens for Clean Elections have launched a groundbreaking project focused on City of Portland campaigns and elections. Working with city government and a coalition of local groups, MCCE needs one or more League members to be involved. If you're a Portland resident who wants to help bring greater transparency and fairness to city elections while working with a fun group of people, please contact [Anna Kellar](#) or [Lado Lodoka](#) for more information.

Volunteer Spotlight

Sanford HS Voter Registration Drive

On Monday, April 30th, two members from the League of Women Voters held their 10th voter registration drive in southern Maine this spring, at Sanford High School in Sanford, Maine. What Donna Ricci and I found unique about this drive was the enthusiasm and preparation for the event set by social studies teacher, Paul Auger. Although many high schools in southern Maine have graciously allowed us to hold drives on their campuses, Paul's enthusiastic involvement with the drive was unique.

Prior to the League's arrival on campus, Paul had used his class to educate his seniors about the importance of registering and voting. He told his students registering to vote was an important adult rite of passage and that voting was their civic duty. After Donna and I arrived at the school, he gathered the seniors together in the dining room, and following a brief lecture about the checkered history of voting rights in this country, helped us pass out voter registration cards and supervised as students filled them out. Thanks to Paul's careful groundwork, Donna and I registered our highest number yet, 70 students!

It was such a pleasure for Donna and me, as representatives of the League, to feel that Sanford High School was as excited as we were to register students. Thank you to Sanford High School for your warm welcome and to their wonderful teacher, Paul Auger who helped guide his students through this important rite of passage.

Susan Richards

Proud member of The Maine League of Women Voters

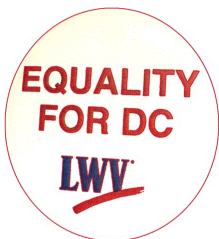
Footnote: This year's student voter registration drives have been amazing, with renewed student involvement and enthusiastic LWVME volunteers statewide. Since March 1, 2018, League members have registered over 815 students, with 4 more drives scheduled before the Primary Election on June 12th. Now we need to be sure to get out the vote!

Reviving Civility Training



On May 2nd, LWVPA facilitated its second "Reviving Civility" training for Scarborough Adult Education. We are available to hold similar trainings for other adult ed programs.

Washington, D.C. Statehood Initiative



We mentioned last month that the LWVUS is advocating for Congressional approval of statehood for Washington, D.C. In support of the effort, LWVPA will add this "equality" button to the footer of future newsletters. Members interested in helping can find information on the [LWV website](#) for Washington, D.C. and the [LWVUS.org website](#). Contact [Jill Ward](#) if you would like more information.

Are you are looking to get more involved? [Click here for a list of ways to make a difference.](#)