



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF NEW ORLEANS  
LEAGUE ESSENTIALS**

Volume 49 Issue 1

August/September 2006

**ANNUAL POTLESS DINNER**  
*“Bring a Bottle and a Buddy”*  
**Thursday, September 14 at 6 pm**

Speaker: Nick Varrecchio on **Pros & Cons of Court Consolidation**

St. Henry’s Auditorium located at 812 General Pershing  
Security and free off-street parking

**COST \$12**

Catered by The Gumbo Shop, water, ice tea/coffee included

***Bring a bottle of wine to share!***

And help us grow our membership by bringing along a friend  
*50 year members Juanita Bohn and Joel Myers to be honored!*

**RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 7 to Ann Duffy at 288-2641**

**WATCH for LWVNO CANDIDATE’S GUIDE for FALL ELECTIONS**

The target date to have our guide for the 2006 state and local fall elections completed is August 28. All candidate information and their unedited responses to our questionnaires should be available at that time. Go to our website, [www.lwvno.org](http://www.lwvno.org), for all election information, including the state constitutional amendments scheduled for both the September 30 and November 7 elections.

The candidates that qualified in New Orleans at the Convention Center and the ones that qualified in Baton Rouge have all been contacted and asked to submit their completed questionnaires. Thanks to Leaguers who helped gather the information: Carol Good, Ina Davis, Dorothy Smith, Ann Duffy, Zigrida Reis, Maggie McKeown, Felicia Kahn, Elizabeth Rack, Ellen Miclette and Linda Walker.



**Letter from the President:**

*Thank you for the honor of being chosen president once again. I served for two terms in the early 90's and enjoyed working with so many dynamic, dedicated women (and some men too!). The challenges are greater now for us as an organization as well as for the city. For Leaguers it is always the shortage of time that is available to be away from home/work in order to spend it on community service. Many of our most active volunteers are retired and still seeking challenges outside the home. And we certainly have challenges now!*

*We need all of you who have a few minutes to spare to work on our greatest mission, voter education and registration. Please note the times needed and assist us so that our city/parish/state elections will run smoothly and fairly. This is the opportunity for our new members to get a taste of League, which will make your membership more meaningful. Supporting the League with your dues/contributions is wonderful; but actually being involved will create that bond of friendship with a purpose!*

*Check the upcoming events and plan to join!*      **Lea Young**

**VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE  
CONTINUES THROUGH THE FIRST OF OCTOBER**

The first round of the League's voter registration drive for the fall election took place August 11<sup>th</sup> at Harry's Hardware on Magazine Street and the Whole Foods Supermarket. More sites and times are planned for locations around the city. Pat Kimmel and Jean Fischer are chairing the voter registration drive. If you want to volunteer for this time-honored League activity, call Pat at 552-9000 or Jean at 861-1807. Suggestions for locations will be welcome also.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE—HELP REGISTER VOTERS.**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Reserve **September 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at the JCC** for the League's Forum on the State constitutional amendments that will be on the September 30<sup>th</sup> and November 7<sup>th</sup> ballots. The forum is being co-sponsored with the National Council of Jewish Women and CBNO/MAC. Norman Robinson, news anchor for WDSU, Channel 6 will moderate. The panelists are Janet Howard from Bureau of Government Research, Clancy DuBois of Gambit Weekly and Stephanie Grace from the Times-Picayune. The amendments will be voted on statewide. Organizers are Joel Myers, Lea Young, Linda Walker, Ina Davis and Jane Jurik.

**2006/2007 Dues**

Thanks to all of you who promptly paid your membership dues for this fiscal year (July 1, 2006 thru June 30, 2007) and especially to those who add on a contribution when writing their checks. For your information, with the increase in PMPs this year, of the \$60 you pay in dues for an individual, \$26.30 goes to national, LWVUS, and \$15 goes to state, LWVLA ... so only \$18.70 remains here for our local needs: maintaining the office, producing the newsletter and financing our many programs. So, if you have not already done so, please make your check out today and keep our great organization going.

## **LWVNO Receives Honors at National Convention**

Barbara LaFleur and Ellen Miclette had the honor of attending the 2006 Convention in Minneapolis this year and receiving, on behalf of our local league, a special award for our Voter Service efforts post-Katrina.

Seven resolutions that affect our local league passed by the nearly 750 voting delegates attending this year were:

- The LWVUS supports the abolition of the death penalty;
- Requirement for a voter-verified, paper ballot or paper record with electronic voting systems;
- Elevation of the restoration of our systems of checks and balances and separation of powers;
- Support of Internet neutrality and a call to Congress to protect equal access to the Internet;
- Adoption of a three year study of immigration policies;
- Election of new board members and officers; and
- An increase of national PMPs by \$2.50.

Several opportunities for projects, such as Smart Voter (an enhancement to our current internet voter information service) and Diversity programs were made available.

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### ***A MUST WATCH TELEVISED FORUM***

Plan to watch the debate for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District U.S. Congressional race on Wednesday, **November 1** at 6:00 pm. Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New Orleans and the National Council of Jewish Women, the debate will be broadcast by FOX 8, WVUE. FOX 8 News anchor John Snell will moderate. The criteria for candidates to be invited are: either a campaign fund with at least \$250,000 or proof that an independent poll shows them with 5% or more of the eligible voters committed to her/him.

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### **20 New Members Join LWVNO**

Please join us in welcoming Barbara Ballard, JoAnn Bohm, Lynne Cashio, Monica Gibson, Francine Giugno, Pat Glorioso, Francine Hebert, Pat Kimmel, Gail Lemarie, Anne Redelfs, Zigrida Reis, Jean Rice, Linda Santi, Joan Francis Smith, Renee Smith, Fran Swan, Norma Weaver, Laurie White, and Mary White. Hope to see all of you September 14 at our "Potless Dinner" meeting.

We encourage all members to bring prospective new members to our meetings so they can get a glimpse at the good work we do. Also, if you have not already done so, please remember to pay your dues so we can continue to include you in our communications.

### **Special thanks:**

- Linda Walker for organizing voter service information and working with Joel Meyer on forums
- Ann Pettit and Carolyn Malek for keeping the web site and office running
- Ellen Miclette for organizing the move and painting the furniture
- Barbara LaFleur for reviewing files and Wendy King for taking the documents to Tulane Archives
- Karen Wimpelberg for updating us on Entergy issues
- Pat Kimmel & Jean Fischer for registering voters and those manning the table during qualifying
- Ann Duffy & Marian Bourgeois for party planning and set up
- Wendy King for volunteering to be our new secretary
- Carol Good for representing LWVNO at Common Good meetings



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1215 Prytania Suite 224  
New Orleans LA 70130**

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**LWVNO Board 2006-2007**

**President, Lea Young; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Mary Frances Gardner; 2nd Vice President, Jane Jurik;  
Secretary, Wendy King; Treasurer, Dorothy Smith;  
Board Members: Marion Bourgeois, Ann Duffy, Pat Kimmel, Wendy King,  
Ellen Miclette ("Essentials" Editor), Linda Walker  
(504) 581-9106 (phone and fax); Internet address: [www.lwvno.org](http://www.lwvno.org)**

***MARK YOUR CALENDAR for Upcoming Events:***

- **ANNUAL POTLESS DINNER** on **Thursday, September 14, 6 pm** St. Henry's Auditorium located at 812 General Pershing. Speaker: Nick Varrecchio on Pros & Cons of Court Consolidation. Security provided and free off-street parking. Cost \$12. Catered by The Gumbo Shop, water, ice tea/coffee included. Bring a bottle of wine to share and bring a friend! **RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 7 to Ann Duffy at 288-2641.**
- **FORUM on CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS** **Monday, September 18, 7 pm** Jewish Community Center (St. Charles at Jefferson). Joint project of LWVNO, NCJW, MAC, YLC
- Tune in to the **2nd DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL FORUM** on **WVUE Channel 8 TV on Wed. November 1, 6 pm.** A collaboration of LWVNO, NCJW and WVUE. No live audience.
- Plans for the October meeting include a speaker and discussion on Stem Cell Research.
- Visit the wetlands to see firsthand its disappearing act! (Plans for November).

**See you there!**