

## Co-President's Message

Happy Birthday to the League! Raise a glass on February 14 to celebrate the founding of the League. And, if you haven't already, read *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*, by **Elaine Weiss**, first published in 2018. I read it for the summer book club and found it to be a real page-turner. Not everyone agreed with the page-turner part, but I think we all found reading it to be well worth the effort. If nothing else, it provides a bit of "misery loves company" in that the political world was probably just as chaotic then as it is now.



Ruth Reed

February is also Black History Month. In the spirit of honoring both worlds, my good friend and I, who have dinner together at least two or three times a week, have dedicated February to toasting a different woman before each meal (preview of Women's History Month in March!). Last night, I proposed **Frankie Pierce**, a Tennessee suffragist active in getting the Nineteenth Amendment passed. Frankie was born a slave in 1864. Wow. White women won the vote, but black women did not - yet Mrs. Pierce pushed alongside her white sisters. I first learned of Frankie Pierce from *The Women's Hour*. And she clearly wasn't the only African-American working with all women to gain suffrage.

**Juno Frankie Pierce**, daughter of an enslaved mother and a freedman father, became an educator and activist in Nashville, Tennessee, for social justice issues, especially education for African-Americans. After her efforts (as part of black women's clubs) at getting out the vote in the 1919 municipal elections in Nashville, the chair of the Tennessee

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## THE VOTER

League of Women Voters Clemson Area  
*Serving the Citizens of Pickens, Oconee, and  
Anderson Counties*

P. O. Box 802, Clemson, SC 29633  
[www.lwvclemsonarea.org](http://www.lwvclemsonarea.org)

## OFFICERS:

Sandra Gray, Co-President  
Ruth Reed, Co-President  
Matt Salzman, Vice President of  
Program & Action  
Rosellen Alegruere, Secretary  
Bill Hare, Treasurer  
Elaine Laiewski, Co-Treasurer

## ELECTED DIRECTORS:

Janet Marsh  
Mike Ellison  
John Dyar  
Shelia Crawford  
Kathy Bargeron  
Sandy Rosche  
Ansley Fraser

## SPECIALISTS:

Cheryl Lee, Voter Registration  
Eleanor Hare, Vote411  
Liz Vogt, VOTER Editor

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Tuesday, February 18, 2020**  
7:15 p.m.  
OLLI

GENERAL MEETING. Election Equipment in South Carolina

**Saturday, February 29, 2020**  
10 a.m.  
OLLI

Program Planning for National and Local

**Tuesday, March 24, 2020**  
7:15 p.m.  
OLLI

GENERAL MEETING. Spring Break is March 16-20, therefore, our meeting is scheduled for March 24.

**Tuesday, April 21, 2020**  
7:15 pm  
OLLI

GENERAL MEETING

*OLLI, 100 Thomas Green Clemson Boulevard, Clemson 29631.  
The public is invited to all LWVCA meetings.*

## Co-President's Message Continued

Equal Suffrage League (a white woman) was sufficiently impressed with Frankie Pierce's efforts to invite her to address the first convention of the Tennessee League of Women Voters, held in the Tennessee Capitol in May of 1920. (I've abridged the Wikipedia entry for Frankie Pierce; I recommend reading it.) It was May - only three months after the founding of the League and three months before Tennessee ratified the Nineteenth Amendment. Part of her platform was a state vocational school for black delinquents; the Tennessee League adopted this platform and lobbied extensively for it. One historian called this a "rare alliance" that happened only in Nashville.

In 2016, Nashville recognized Frankie Pierce and four other suffragettes with a statue in Centennial Park of Pierce, three other Tennessee suffragettes and **Carrie Chapman Catt** of New York and founder of the League of Women Voters. There is much more to her life, but space is limited. Out of curiosity, I googled South Carolina suffragettes and found some interesting links, including one from the League—more to explore.

I had intended to segue into a discussion of the Equal Rights Amendment, but that is turning out to be too involved. In short, I recommend a recent opinion piece in the *New York Times*, "The Misguided Push for the Equal Rights Amendment," by **Joan C. Williams**, an American feminist legal scholar. The title caught me like a cat after that light from a laser pointer; I hope it catches your eyes, too. Don't forget Lobby Day on February 12 in Columbia. Until the next meeting,

*Ruth Reed, Co-President*

## Review of the January Meeting-Lakes and Bridges School



1975 was a very good year!

Public Law 94-142 assured Americans that all children would be granted a free and appropriate education. Since then, all children have been able to go to school. That sounds like a happy ending, but we're only getting started now, 45 years later. Thanks to the efforts of four area women, a new charter school has opened its doors to children with special needs.

**Nancy Linvill** (pictured above) and **Debbie Vaughn** (at right) educated us on the intricacies of reading instruction and the need for research-based methods of teaching. Lakes and Bridges School in Easley serves 150 children with a student/teacher ratio of 10 to 1. Like public schools, it is a government entity, but receives no local tax funds. The overwhelming success of the Orton-Gillingham reading method that is in use has led to huge demand for placement. Lakes and Bridges has gone to a lottery system to meet the need. It is one of only four such schools in the U.S.



There is nationwide interest in replicating the success of Lakes and Bridges and we, as a League, can help with raising public awareness.

*Submitted by "Buzzy" Adams*

### Book Review

***Countdown to Zero Day: Stuxnet and the Launch of the World's First Digital Weapon***  
by Kim Zetter

Many cyber experts have voiced concern that tit-for-tat cyber-attacks, unchecked by internationally agreed limits, could escalate into nuclear war. This book describes the search to discover the function of some mystery code. It also gives us an intuitive understanding of the cyber war that governments are fighting.

A pc in Iran shut itself down every time anybody tried to open it. Why? Trouble-shooting the misbehaving computer disclosed an unidentified block of computer code. What was this code? How did it get into the pc? What was its purpose? Most of this book tracks the search to discover the secrets embedded in the newly discovered code. Along the way we learn a great deal about how malware is inserted into computers, how it is detected, and what damage it is capable of inflicting. Eventually, the malicious code, given the name "Stuxnet," is exposed as the specialized "worm" that destabilized Iranian centrifuges enriching uranium.

*Submitted by Eleanor Hare*

## Preview of February Meeting – Election Processes in SC

South Carolina used ES&S iVotronic Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting computers, beginning in 2004 and continuing until this past fall. As of now, all South Carolina elections will be done on ES&S ExpressVote voting computers, with optical scanners in the polling places. In this talk **Duncan Buell** will discuss similarities and differences between the two systems. He will also provide an overview of some of the problems (and occasional remedies) found using this equipment and some of the best practices recommended by the National Research Council's committee and other groups of experts in computer security and election technology.

Buell received his Ph. D. in 1976 in mathematics from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He was an assistant and associate professor in the Department of Computer Science at Louisiana State University. From 1986 to 2000, he worked on high performance computing and computational mathematics at the Institute for Defense Analyses in support of the National Security Agency, and, in 1997, he was part of a team that received a Meritorious Unit Citation from Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet for "a stunning achievement" that required the largest single computation ever made in the U.S. intelligence community. He joined the University of South Carolina in October 2000 as a professor and served nine years as chair of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and a year as interim dean of the college. He has research interests in electronic voting, digital humanities, text analysis, and computer science education. Most recently, he was appointed in March 2019 to the Commission on Voter Registration and Elections of Richland County, South Carolina, home to Columbia SC, state government, and the University of South Carolina.

### Annual Program Planning Meeting All Members Are Encouraged to Participate

At 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 29, we will gather in a very informal setting to discuss a collection of topics.:

- Ideas for local meeting programs (LWVSC priorities are voter access, redistricting, ethics reform, education, health care and natural resources)
- Proposed changes to our bylaws (501 (c) (3))
- A report from a committee studying composition of local councils
- Two proposals for support at National Convention:
  - Climate change
  - Cyber warfare
- Other?

Program planning is very informal. A few people always bring snacks and we sit around and share ideas. Please participate.

## League Registers Voters at Clemson and Area High Schools



**Linda Gahan** and I were invited to the Reeves Football Complex to register the Clemson football team to vote. It was a lovely venue with a large screen for our PowerPoint presentation, a microphone that worked, and comfortable seats for the players. This was done in coordination with “Rise to Vote,” whose vision is to “create a nation unified through sports committed to racial equity and social justice.”

Additionally, we were entertained by **Cory Mays**, a former NFL player who does motivational talks and paved the way for our talk.

We were able to register thirty-nine South Carolina voters and ten out-of-state voters. In addition to registering to vote, they signed a pledge to vote. Voter pledges have proven successful in many areas because, by signing this pledge, they tend to show up at the polls in greater numbers. We have also used self-addressed postcards successfully.

During the month of January, we visited all schools in Oconee, Pickens, and Anderson County, registering hundreds of voters. We’ve also gone to the tech schools and Clemson University. Additionally, we were a voice in several festivals and a Martin Luther King, Jr. program at the Civic Center in Anderson. Our next venues will be the Hampton Memorial Library in Easley and a classroom session on voting at Southern Wesleyan University. I will be asking for volunteers as soon as we settle the time and date. Thank you for your continued interest in voter registration.



*Submitted by Cheryl Lee*

### Public Testing of Absentee Ballots

**Cheryl Lee, Bill Hare** and **Eleanor Hare** attended the public testing of tabulating scanners at the offices of the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Pickens County on January 29. Election Director **Rodney Allen** welcomed us and explained the testing process as Election Analyst **Randy Russell** fed 91 test ballots into the scanner. At the conclusion of the test a printout from the scanner showed the expected number of votes for each candidate. (Of course, the scanners had already been thoroughly tested by elections officials before the demonstration for us.)

## League Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) on January 25, 2020

**Ruth Reed, Linda Gahan, Matt Saltzman, and Ansley Fraser** from the Clemson Area League of Women Voters attended LEAD in Columbia. As always, this was a great opportunity to meet with other Leaguers from South Carolina and exchange ideas on our common goals.

We had two informative presentations. **John Ruoff**, the League's redistricting expert and principal of the Ruoff Group, spoke on "War Stories from the Redistricting Front." We learned that South Carolina legislators are famous for drawing voting district maps to protect incumbents by minimizing opponents and maximizing financial donors. House Bill 3045, currently in committee, calls for an independent commission to draw voting district maps and provides guidelines of transparency and public involvement, while disallowing incumbency protection and partisan considerations. The next time voting district maps will be redrawn is 2021 after the 2020 census. In response to Ruoff's remarks **Matt Saltzman** commented on his student's statistical analysis of generating maps to maximize compactness. **Shayna Howell** is coordinating representatives from each league to support the passage of H3045. February 12 is Lobbying Day and training will be available to provide talking points for H3045.

**Laura Woliver**, Political Science and Women's Studies Professor Emerita of USC and President of the Columbia League gave us an inspiring presentation titled "Disturbing the Peace in South Carolina: Women's Suffrage & Human Equity." Women's suffrage was the largest and longest social movement in American history. Women had to fight for the right to vote unlike men who receive their voting privilege from the U.S. Constitution. Women won the right to vote in 1920 but, South Carolina did not ratify the Nineteenth Amendment until 1967 and failed to file the ratification until 1973 at the insistence of **Representative Carolyn Frederick** of Greenville and **Eulalie Sally**, who gave legislators a piece of their mind.

**Charmaine Clowney**, LWVSC Coordinator, brought us up to date on the LWVUS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative Project. League is trying to get rid of bias and build relationships across differences. **Lynn Teague**, LWVSC Vice President for Issues and Action, presented a legislative update for 2020. She is attempting to follow 124 bills but concentrating on those concerned with voting systems, redistricting, dark money, education funding reform, private school funding, fetal heartbeat and abortion, gun control and the ERA.

After lunch Leaguers divided into several roundtable discussion groups to address the following issues: voter registration and getting out the vote, candidate forums, VOTE 411, and educating voters on new voting machines. These gatherings are very helpful in promoting an exchange of ideas about the challenges and solutions on these topics. We also heard reports from working groups on education, natural resources, gender and racial equity and centennial planning. South Carolina leagues have many grand plans for celebrating the League's centennial. One of these is a march in Columbia down Taylor Street to the Capitol on August 22, beginning at 10:30 am. The Spartanburg League is raising money for a mural of the **Grimke** sisters.

On a personal note, we are always amazed at the determination of those women who came before us and fought for the right to vote. We should never take these hard-earned rights for granted. ERA is NEXT!

*Submitted by Ansley Fraser and Linda Gahan*

## Recommendations to the LWVUS Convention

*Impact on Issues 2018-2020*, published by the League of Women Voters of the United States, is a summary of national policy positions. When we state that the League supports an issue, we are asserting that the issue is supported in these 90 plus pages. Changes are made only at the National Convention.

One important topic, cyber war, is not addressed. Our understanding of cyber war has greatly expanded in recent years. We now know that computer code can be used to destroy electric generating equipment and to blow up gas pipelines. The electricity grid in Ukraine has been attacked twice. Any equipment that is operated by a computer is vulnerable. The ability of nations to launch cyber-attacks far exceeds their ability to defend against them. There are no international treaties that protect these and other essential services. Without an international agreement, tit-for-tat escalation could drive a situation out of control.

We propose that a phrase be added on page 47 to the Arms Control section of International Relations. After “the U.S. government should give the highest level of importance to arms control efforts that ..” the following text could be added to the list of actions; “provide international agreement on limits to the use of cyber weapons to attack critical infrastructure (including electrical grids, water supplies and other essential services).”

Convention could adopt this or similar text by consensus. Alternatively, we propose a study of cyber weapons and cyber war, including artificial intelligence, would acquaint our membership with a poorly understood reality.

For more information on this topic, please see the suggested reading list:

- *The Perfect Weapon: War, Sabotage, and Fear in the Cyber Age*, by **David E. Sanger**
- *Countdown to Zero Day: Stuxnet and the Launch of the World’s First Digital Weapon*, by **Kim Zetter**
- *Sandworm: A New Era of Cyberwar and the Kremlin’s Most Dangerous Hackers*, by **Andy Greenberg, Mark Bramhall**, et al.
- *Tools and Weapons: The Promise and the Peril of the Digital Age*, by **Brad Smith**

Please see the link to Issues and Action

<https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/2019-04/LWV%202018-20%20Impact%20on%20Issues.pdf>

*Submitted by Roseellen Alequire, Kathryn Barger, JoAnne Day, John Dyar, Michael Ellison, Alice Flower, Ansley Fraser, Eleanor Hare, Janet Marsh, Aleta Robinson, Matthew Saltzman, Ellie Taylor, Theodore D. Taylor, and Jean Wood.*

*Clemson City Council*      *1st and 3rd Monday, 6:30 pm*  
*Seneca City Council*      *2nd Tuesday, 6:00 pm*  
*Pickens County Council*    *1st Monday, 6:30 pm*  
*Oconee County Council*    *1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6:00 pm*  
*Anderson County Council* *2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:00 pm*

*Pickens County School Board*    *4th Monday, 7:00 pm*  
*Oconee County School Board*    *3rd Monday, 6:00 pm*  
*Anderson Co. South School Board* *3rd Monday, 6:00 pm*

### Contribution Form

League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area LWVCA, P. O. Box 802, Clemson, SOUTH CAROLINA 29633

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (opt) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish my contribution to remain anonymous.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish my contribution to be tax deductible where allowed by law. My check is made out to the "League of Women Voters Ed Fund" which is a 501(c)(3) organization.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to support the League's action priorities. My check is made out to the "League of Women Voters" and is not tax-deductible.

Visit our website at [www.lwvclemsonarea.org](http://www.lwvclemsonarea.org) and contact us at [lwvclemson@gmail.com](mailto:lwvclemson@gmail.com).

### League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area

*Serving the Citizens of Pickens, Oconee, and Anderson Counties*

P. O. Box 802

Clemson, SC 29633