



March 2021

President:	Mary Boschult
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Secretary:	Jane Witte
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Lunch & Learn Chair:	Karen Dienstbier
Voter Editor:	Jim Johnson

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

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### Calendar of Events

**Mar. 4 (Thursday): 12:30 pm**  
**LWVLL Lunch & Learn**  
**via Zoom:**

*Can't Trust it: Race, Policing, the  
Prison Industrial Complex*

Dr. Jeanette Jones, Associate  
Professor of History and Ethnic  
Studies, UNL

*See article at right, and check out  
the winter/spring schedule on  
page 2.*

**Apr. 1 (Thursday): Noon**  
**LWVLL Lunch & Learn**  
**via Zoom:**

*Holding Cops Accountable: What  
is Happening Locally?*

Ishma Valenti, Director,  
Community Engagement, Clyde  
Malone Community Center

*See article at right, and check out  
the winter/spring schedule on  
page 2.*

**Apr. 6 (Tuesday): All Day**  
**Lincoln City Primary Election**  
Polls open 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

**May 4 (Tuesday): All Day**  
**Lincoln City General Election**  
Polls open 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

### **March 4 Lunch & Learn topic focuses on Injustices in the Criminal Justice System**

The March Lunch and Learn, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County, will be held on March 4 at **12:30 pm**. (Note that this is a half hour later than our usual start time.) Meeting will be via Zoom, beginning at noon. Speaker will be Dr. Jeanette Jones, Associate Professor of History and Ethnic Studies, UNL, speaking on the topic "Can't Trust it: Race, Policing, the Prison Industrial Complex".

If you are a member of the Lincoln Chapter of the League, OR if you had registered for a previous Lunch and Learn this fall, you should have received a Zoom link earlier this week (sent on Thursday 2/25), and you should also receive a reminder notice the evening before the meeting. You will also receive Zoom links prior to the future meetings. There is no need to register again.

Other guests are welcome and the event is free; however guests who are not League members and did not register for previous meetings will need to pre-register at <https://lincolnleague.org/lunch-and-learn-schedule/> (registration deadline is Monday, March 1, for the March 4 meeting.) See page 2 for information about the winter/spring series. For recordings of our past presentations in the 2020/2021 season, see <https://lincolnleague.org/lunch-and-learn-schedule/#Recordings>.

### **Drop Box Couriers Needed for the Spring City Elections**

The Lincoln League will be assisting the Lancaster County Election Commissioner as couriers to place and retrieve ballot drop boxes for the spring city elections. Spring City Primary is set for April 6, 2021 and the General Election is May 4, 2021.

Early voting will begin March 23 for the spring election. You can ask for your early/mail in voting ballot by contacting the Election Commission. Phone number is 402-441-7311 and their website is [www.lancaster.ne.gov/election](http://www.lancaster.ne.gov/election).

We will be organizing league members and volunteers to help with this project soon. Jane Witte will be taking on the scheduling of League participants for this project. Jane currently serves as Secretary on our Board.

*Submitted by Mary Boschult, President and Voter Services*

## League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County Lunch and Learn Upcoming programs and Links to Previous Programs

**Title: Can't Trust it: Race, Policing, the Prison Industrial Complex**

**Speaker: Dr. Jeanette Jones, Associate Professor of History and Ethnic Studies, UNL**

**Thursday, March 4, 2021, on Zoom at 12:30 pm**

Members of the public interested in participating in this free Zoom programming can send their name and email address to: [lwvlunchandlearn@gmail.com](mailto:lwvlunchandlearn@gmail.com) or they can go to <https://lincolnleague.org/lunch-and-learn-schedule/>. Please put the word registration in the subject line. Programs begin at noon unless otherwise specified. No phone messages will be accepted. Registrations should be received by Monday, March 1, for the March 4 program.

<b>Remaining Winter/Spring 2021 Lunch and Learn Topics and Speakers</b>		
March 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2021 12:30 p.m.	Can't Trust it: Race, Policing, the Prison Industrial Complex	Dr. Jeanette Jones, Associate Professor of History and Ethnic Studies, UNL
April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021	Holding Cops Accountable What is Happening Locally?	Ishma Valenti, Director, Community Engagement, Clyde Malone Community Center
May 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Together One Lincoln	Sändra Washington, Lincoln City Councilwoman
<b>Videos of previous presentations for the 2020/2021 season</b>		
<i>September 3, 2020</i> <a href="#"><u>Voting Rights, Voting Right Now: Principals and Practicalities of Voting in Lancaster County</u></a> John Cartier, Director of Voting Rights and Dave Shively, Lancaster County Election Commissioner		
<i>October 8, 2020</i> <a href="#"><u>The Electoral College: Is It Still Relevant?</u></a> John Comer, Professor Emeritus, UNL Department of Political Science		
<i>November 5, 2020</i> <a href="#"><u>Redistricting and Apportionment</u></a> Gavin Geis, Executive Director, Common Cause Nebraska		
<i>December 3, 2020</i> Dr. Deborah Turner, President of the National League of Women Voters Due to unforeseen technical difficulties the video of Dr. Turner's 12/3/2020 presentation is unavailable. Please enjoy this video <a href="https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/videos/588949825314829"><u>https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/videos/588949825314829</u></a>		
<i>January 7, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>Focus on the Coming Nebraska Legislative Session</u></a> Analysts Craig Beck and Alex Serrurier, OpenSky Policy Institute		
<i>February 4, 2021</i> <a href="#"><u>The Life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg</u></a> Anna Shavers, Associate Dean, NU College of Law; Eric Berger, Professor, NU College of Law		

# League of Women Voters Membership Renewal

Sandy Blankenship, Membership Chair

It's that time of year—to renew your membership in the League of Women Voters Lincoln and Lancaster County! Our membership year runs from April 1 to March 31, with this year's memberships expiring March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Here are just a few examples of how our Lincoln/Lancaster County League has provided support to area citizens: "Lunch & Learn" sessions have continued via zoom (without the lunch) with the public invited to attend, keeping community members updated on important issues through our web site, assistance in getting citizens' absentee ballots collected at city libraries and city offices in Hickman and Waverly, and letters or testimony to the Legislature. Normally we would also be holding several voter registration events! The League is non-partisan and does not support or oppose candidates or political parties. We strive to increase understanding of public policy issues and to increase voter participation in elections. Our web site includes links to recordings of our previous Lunch & Learn presentations. Check our site for more details:

<https://lincolnleague.org>

There are two ways you can renew your membership:

- 1) You can quickly renew your membership online.  
<https://lincolnleague.org/join-us>
- 2) OR Complete the form below and return it to the address listed.

Our community needs leaders like you to help ensure that our community is a strong, safe and a vibrant place to live!

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**Membership Renewal.** *(If renewing by check, please include this form and send it to the office.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am volunteering for \_\_\_\_\_

(possible examples: helping with voter registration, organizing candidate forums, serving on the League's board)

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership is \$50 year, \$10 for high school or university students.

\_\_\_\_\_ Donation to LWVLL

\_\_\_\_\_ Friend of LWVLL (I don't want to join, but want to be a friend and donate to LWVLL)

Make checks payable to the League of Women Voters Lincoln Lancaster (LWVLL) and mail to:

**League of Women Voters Lincoln Lancaster**

**4600 Valley Road, Suite 306**

**Lincoln, NE 68510**

## Obituary of Bonnie Sittig

Bonnie L. Sittig, 83, of Lincoln, died February 14, 2021. She was born in Jacksonville, FL on April 24, 1937 to Lloyd and Bernice (Hess) Brush. Bonnie was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother who filled her home with laughter and candor. She shared a beautiful life with her loving husband Robert for more than 60 years. She was an excellent seamstress, was involved in 4H, WICS (Women in Community Service), Altar Society and League of Women Voters. After raising her 5 children she completed her Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies at Doane College, graduating with honors.

Bonnie was a State Legislative Clerk for 20 years ending in 1998. She was Chief Deputy Election Commissioner of Lancaster County from 1999 to 2003. Bonnie was also a small business owner in the Lincoln community. She was an artist that explored jewelry making, glasswork and painting. She was a member of St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Catholic Churches, Lincoln Artists' Guild and Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. Bonnie was a woman of infinite talents. Her fiery verve for life and her immense creative energy will be missed.



Bonnie is survived by her husband, Robert F. "Bob" Sittig, Sr.; children, Beth M. Sittig of Omaha, Christie S. Sittig of Mendocino, CA, Ann L. Sittig of Redding, CA, Robert F. (Candy) Sittig Jr. of Leawood, KS, and Darcy S. (Rich) Majka of Oak Park, IL; and grandchildren, Josie Badillo Sittig, Anna, Libby, & Frankie Majka, and Robert F. "Bobby" III & Isabella Sittig. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Richard "Dick" Brush.

Rosary 10 am followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 am Saturday (3/6/21) at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1940 S. 77th Street, Lincoln. Burial Calvary Cemetery, Lincoln. Contributions in Bonnie's name can be made to: WICS Residence: Women In Community Service, 1935 D Streets Lincoln, NE 68502  
Condolences: [www.bmlfh.com](http://www.bmlfh.com).

## **Ballot Drop Box Couriers for 2020 General Election**

The Lincoln League was pleased when the Lancaster County Election Commissioner, Dave Shively approved adding 10 ballot drop boxes for the November 2020 General Election. We were also pleased that our offer to help with the effort was accepted. The 10 drop boxes brought in 16,913 ballots for people.

We organized League members and non-member volunteers to serve as couriers to deliver and pick up the drop boxes from 5 of the 10 locations every weekday from September 29th through November 3rd. Each volunteer served as a temporary county employee to perform the service in a team of two people from differing political affiliations.

The League's assigned route included Anderson, Eiseley, Bethany and Williams Branch Libraries as well as the Waverly City Hall. The route for Bennett Martin, Walt, South and Gere Branch Libraries and the Hickman City Hall was handled by two temporary employees of the Election Commission except on November 2nd when the League volunteers covered the 4 libraries on that route.

In total the League covered 105 pickups/retrievals during this time and 15 different people served as couriers. Many served on multiple days. All remarked how secure and well organized the process developed by Maura Kelly, Chief Deputy Election Commissioner was and how well she supported the couriers in performing the check in for replacement boxes and reporting back with the boxes carrying ballots. Maura Kelly and Mary Boschult, Lincoln League Voter Services covered the League's route on September 29th and 30th to test and refine the route and procedure.

Many thanks to the folks who helped with the courier services:

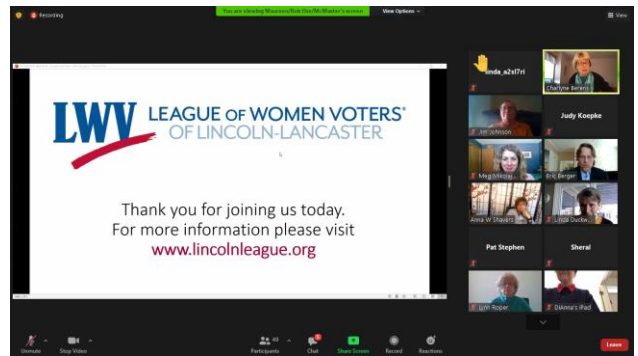
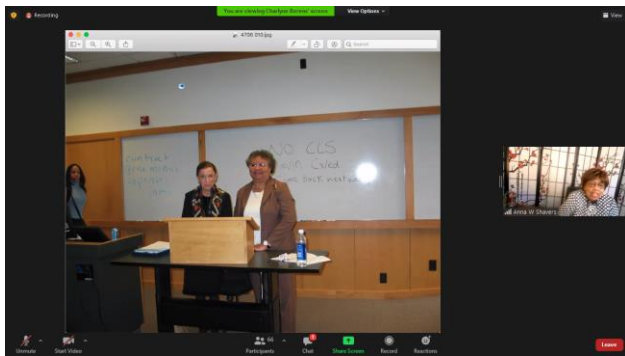
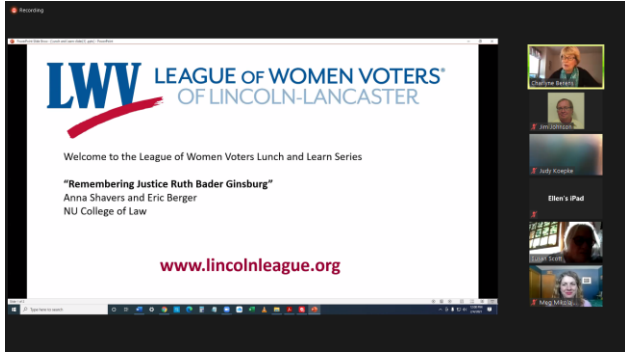
Maureen Ose, Rob McMaster, Sheryl Wright, Jane Witte, Tari Hendrickson, Joan Leitner, Sherry Miller, Sandra Powell, Sandy Blankenship, Nancy Comer, Allison Crouch, Sue Heist, Chuck Clifford, Mary Boschult and Maura Kelly.

We look forward to participating as couriers for the Lincoln City Primary and General Election this Spring. Primary is April 6, 2021 and General is May 4, 2021.

*Submitted by Mary Boschult, President and Voter Services*

## February LWVLL Lunch & Learn

Pictures from the February Lunch & Learn. Guests were Anna Shavers, Associate Dean, NU College of Law, and Eric Berger, Professor, NU College of Law, discussing the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



The Lincoln Lancaster *Voter*  
League of Women Voters ®  
4600 Valley Road, Suite 306  
Lincoln NE 68510  
402-475-1411  
<http://www.LincolnLeague.org>



Time Dated Material  
Please Do Not Delay