

## **CELEBRATE CONSTITUTION DAY**

### ***Civic Engagement Crucial for a Healthy Democracy***

This September 17th marks the 220th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America. On September 17, 1787, the 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia held their final meeting to sign the Constitution. This remarkable and groundbreaking event and the struggles that preceded it set the democratic foundation upon which we rely today. Even though we may argue about the details and interpretation of the Constitution today, this document represents a model of statesmanship and compromise that is not only inspirational, but a living document that has proven to be lasting in its establishment of our enduring form of government.

All Americans need to remember the key ideals of the Constitution: the establishment of the rule of law, personal freedoms, representative government, the separation of governmental powers into three branches that check and balance each other, with no one branch being above the rule of law.

Members of the League of Women Voters, as a nonpartisan political organization, work hands-on to preserve and strengthen our system by encouraging informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of major public policy issues and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. We encourage all citizens to mark this day to remember the importance of a concerned, involved body politic to keep our country strong and dedicated to the ideals set forth by the framers of this great document.

For more information on the LWV of Geneva St. Charles e-mail [info@lwvgenstc.org](mailto:info@lwvgenstc.org) or visit [www.lwvgenstc.org](http://www.lwvgenstc.org).

Kimberley Haag, President, League of Women Voters, Geneva/St. Charles