
THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 51 ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2011

CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 1 9:30 am	LWVCCA Board Meeting Cape Cod Five, Dennis
Tuesday, February 15 9:30 to 11:30 am	Mid and Upper Cape Unit Channel 17, Yarmouth
Wednesday, February 16 9:30 am	Nauset Unit 9 West Road, Orleans
Thursday, February 17 9:30 to 11:00 am	Chatham-Harwich Unit Park Place, 912 Main, Chatham
Monday, February 28 1:00 pm	Health Committee Channel 17, Yarmouth

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST
FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 7:30 TO 9:30
See coupon inside

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the LWVCCA,

On January 4 Phyllis Walsh, Elaine Bono and I traveled north to Weymouth to meet with other Leaguers from southeastern Massachusetts for the first of several focus groups the LWVMA is sponsoring. Those of you who attended the Holiday luncheon may recall hearing state planner Terry Yoffie describe the purpose of the meetings as providing direction to the LWVMA as it works toward a three year strategic plan.

We were joined in the meeting by seven other women: four from Weymouth, two from Falmouth and one from Monroe, Mattapoisett and Rochester. Though we were few in number the discussion was lively as Terry led us through a discussion of the mission statement, listened to our priorities and together with state president Marcia Hirshberg gave us an update on what's been happening at the state level.

Because of a significant reduction in state resources, both human and financial, the state board is looking for help in prioritizing what services it will provide in the future. The state board had earlier made the decision to change the position of the executive director to an office manager. Interviews for this new person were scheduled for that week in January. Also being investigated is a possible move of the office from its very high rent space to something much more affordable.

Our group reviewed a list of about a dozen activities and services the state has provided in the past. We all agreed that they were beneficial, some more than others, and several needing improvement. Unfortunately, Terry stated, this list must be greatly slimmed down. The comments of our group plus future focus groups will help the state determine where the limited resources should be directed. (Our membership director Betsy Bray and Chatham member Joan Craig were involved in leadership roles in one of those sessions.) This information will be shared at the state convention in May.

Our group offered suggestions of how Day on the Hill could be improved that would not involve cost and stated that we really wanted to hear more about what the state board is doing in its various activities. We urged that the state calendar for the following year be set in a timely manner so that our own calendar setting can take the state dates into account.

The three of us enjoyed the two hours of conversation. It is good to be with other members who care about our organization, its mission and making it more visible and more effective.

Finally, to meet the *Voter* deadline, I write this before our January 29 forum on county government. Our press releases have generated much interest and Sean Gonsalves devoted a column to the forum on Jan. 23. I hope the turnout will prove to be worthy of the need for greater citizen knowledge about county government and the GREAT AMOUNT OF EFFORT the planning committee has put into the forum. The committee consists of 1st vice president Renate Sands, Nancy Curley and Jari Rapaport (county government portfolio), Eastham member Mary Lou Petitt and Teresa Martin, Assembly Delegate from Eastham. My deepest appreciate to each one for all their teamwork.

In League,
Judy Thomas

BOARD NOTES

LWVMA – Town Meeting: Judy Thomas and Elaine Bono attended a town meeting/focus group on January 4 and presented the following LWVCCA Board recommendations and concerns:

- Communications: greater use of technology to connect, but also keep face/face communication; more information from state board and the specialist e what they are doing; improve the website in terms of organization and use.
- Advocacy: more information needed sooner about LWVMA's priorities and issues to be emphasized for Day on the Hill.
- State calendaring: LWVMA deliver next program year's dates in time for our own calendaring (by June 1).
- LWVMA visibility: keep essay contest (opportunity for PR); greater emphasis of non-partisanship, keep at least one large annual, public event.
- Events: keep in this time of budget crisis for LWVMA – President's breakfast, workshops, e.g., membership, moderator and Voter Service training. Leadership training helps members feel supported and help develop camaraderie with state and other locals. **SPEAKERS:** Paul Niedzwiecki (Executive Director, Cape Cod Commission); Senator Robert O'Leary (former State Senator and former County Commissioner); Wendy Northcross (Chief Executive Officer, Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce); Julia Taylor (Falmouth Delegate, Barnstable Assembly of Delegates); William Doherty (Commissioner., Cape Cod Board of County Commissioners); **MODERATOR:** Teresa Martin, Eastham Delegate, Barnstable Assembly of Delegates.

Membership Committee: Betsy Bray, Chair, is coordinating a fall breakfast for Women in Democracy program for female elected officials.

Health Care: Rhondda Tewes is planning a meeting in January; Low Cost Health care resources brochure will be available soon.

Wind Turbine: Jari Rapaport has prepared a letter to be sent to County officials.

Legislative Breakfast: March 18 at Ardeo's Restaurant. Directory of Elected Officials will be available soon.

ALL UNITS: All units will meet in February and will invite members of the Assembly of Delegates as a follow up to the January forum.

Publicity and photo ops will be arranged with local newspapers re meetings.

Jane Teixeira-Henry

HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

The Health Committee will meet on Monday, February 28, at 1pm at the Media Center on White's Path in South Yarmouth. There are many issues to be dealt with on this vital area, and we invite all interested members to join us. For more information call Rhondda Tewes at 508-385-1633.

UNIT MEETING MID AND UPPER CAPE

Date: Tuesday, February 15

Time: 9:30-11:30

Place: Channel 17 Community Media Center - 307 White's Path, S. Yarmouth

Topic: County Government - Informal Discussion with Assembly of Delegates Members:

Tom Lynch - Barnstable

Marcia King - Mashpee

Spyro Mitrokostas - Yarmouth

John Ohman - Dennis (if he's not on family vacation)

James Killion - Sandwich (unable to make meeting)

Your participation is vital for the success of this unit meeting. It's an opportunity to meet, learn and share with members of the County Government Assembly of Delegates representing our unit towns. Mary LeClair will also be with us to add to the discussion from her experience as a former member of the Board of Commissioners.

Directions: Exit 8 - Take Station Ave. ramp off Rt. 6. Turn left onto White's Path at the set of lights. It is 1.2 miles on the right just past Dupont Ave. It's a low gray building with an antenna at the back of the building. Their telephone number is 508-394-2388

HARWICH/CHATHAM UNIT MEETING

The Harwich-Chatham Unit will hold its County Government follow-up meeting on Thursday morning, February 17 at Park Place, 912 Main Street, Chatham ~ across from Del Mar Restaurant (formerly Friendly's). Come for coffee by 9:15 so that we can start promptly at 9:30 in order to finish by 11, when we will need to vacate the room.

Our guests will be Leo Cakounes of Harwich and Ron Bergstrom of Chatham, members of The Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates They will be reporting on benefits brought to each town by county government as well as on the progress of the County Charter Review Committee on which both serve. We look forward to seeing you there ~ and as always, please phone if you would like a ride. *Thanks to Jean Mangiafico for hosting our visit.*

NAUSET UNIT MEETING

On Wednesday, February 16, at 9:30, our Unit will meet at Wise Living, 9 West Rd in Orleans to discuss what changes are being considered for County government, and how it may affect us and our towns, as well as the County as a whole. Teresa Martin, the Eastham Delegate to the County Assembly of Delegates, will be there, and Tony Scalse and Chris Kanaga, the Brewster and Orleans Delegates, have been invited, but as of this printing have not yet been able to clear their calendars. We plan for a lively discussion.

LWVCCA ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

**Friday, March 18, 2011, 7:30-9:30 am
Ardeo at Kings Way, Rt. 6A, Yarmouth Port**

This is a special annual opportunity to meet and hear our state legislators speak on timely issues of importance to League members. Spouses and guests welcome! Don't miss it!

Coffee will be available starting at 7:30 am. Buffet breakfast will be served at 8 and includes freshly baked muffins, danish, fruit, scrambled eggs, bacon & sausage, home fries, waffles, coffee, herbal teas, and assorted juices. Cost is \$20.

Directions to Ardeo at Kings Way (via Rt. 6):

Take Rt. 6 to exit 8 (Union St./Station Ave.). Go north on Union St. about a mile until road comes to a T (gas station in front of you). Go right onto 6A, following 6A for about a mile, passing two pizza restaurants on the right and a small plaza and Manchester Rd. on the left. Kings Way is on your left (small white sign. (If you reach Peterson's/ Rite Aid plaza or the Dennis town line, you've gone too far.) Go past the guard house and the tennis courts on your left. Take the next left into the parking lot of Ardeo.

Fill out and send in the coupon below, along with your check. **Reservations must be received by March 11. No refunds after March 11.** Any questions? Call Elaine Bono, 508-375-9421.



REGISTRATION FORM
LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST
FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011, 7:30 AM

Please note the location—Ardeo at Kings Way, Rt. 6A, Yarmouth Port. Cost is \$20 per person and includes a full buffet breakfast, tax, and gratuity. Make your check payable to LWVCCA and send to:

Elaine Bono, 19 Pine Grove, Yarmouth Port, MA 02675

Name(s): _____

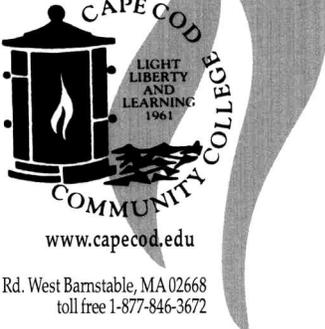
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