

THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 54 ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2013

**Note: November Board Meeting is not the first, but the second Tuesday in
November**

Welcome to our newest member:

June Daley

Marstons Mills

[See interview on Page 4](#)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We have had a busy month of October. Thanks to our League volunteers, under the direction of Judy Thomas's efforts, our League obtained over 450 signatures to support placing a question on the ballot in 2014 to expand the bottle bill to include non-carbonated beverages. We also held a successful forum, "Revitalizing Civic Education to Empower Youth" and we received very favorable reviews about our speakers. The statistics that our keynote speaker, Meira Levinson, gave about the rate of participation in voting reveal that participation varies greatly by age, by level of education, and by

income level. Clearly, if our democracy is to reflect the views and needs of all of our citizenry, our education outreach to young people of all backgrounds must become more effective. You can watch the forum on Cape Cod Media during our League programming slots. Our Youth Support Committee will be working to follow up on this topic through coordination with local civics education teachers.

Please join us for our **December Social and Program on Saturday, December 7**, for a brunch buffet at 9:30 AM. We are fortunate to have Anne Borg, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts as our guest speaker. She will share news and updates about the priorities that the State League is working on. I have had the opportunity to meet several of our State League officers and directors and they are a very hard working dedicated group of women who are doing excellent work. As a Board they are focused on serving as a strong network and support for local leagues and I have found those resources very helpful in doing our work locally. We are returning to the Riverway Lobster House in Yarmouth. I hope to see you there. See details about the program and registration later in this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Karen Mazza

2

NOVEMBER FUNDRAISING LETTER TO BE MAILED MID-MONTH

In mid-November all members will be receiving our annual fundraising appeal letter from the League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area (LWVCCA) asking you to donate either to the LWVCCA and or the Helen S. Aaron Educational Trust. This request is our initiative to collect funds that will go exclusively to our League chapter or to the Helen S. Aaron Educational Trust, a charitable trust that funds our educational programs. Since our dues are almost completely used to pay our membership in the national and state Leagues, it is necessary for us to fundraise for our own operation. Watch for the letter coming in mid November. We appreciate

your support.

HIGHLIGHTS OF MOST RECENT MONTHLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 1, 2013

The County Committee will hold a forum in January.

We will hold a consensus meeting for our membership on the LWVMA study presently being researched on a constitutional amendment to Citizen's United.

The Program Committee will begin working in January on setting goals and developing a program for next year.

The Membership Meeting held at Cobblestone Landing had 27 members and 6 guests in attendance. The talk given by our guest speaker, Ann Van Vleck, Executive Director of Cape Cod Young Professionals, was well received.

The County Committee has been following the Charter Review Committee who will be voting soon on three proposals. 1/ Keep everything as is. 2/ Increase the Commissioners from 3 to 5 and keep the Assembly of Delegates as is and 3/ Elect representative from 11 districts and appoint a strong executive. Our League favors the third option which is similar to our consensus.

Some members of the County Committee will meet with staff from the Cape Cod Times to discuss fuller coverage of county news.

The citizen petition drive for signatures supporting the updated Bottle Bill has been successful.

Coast Day was a very interesting tour of the MA Alternative Septic System Test Center.

Ed Trust – A subcommittee will review the by-laws and changes previously made to see if any additional changes to simplify the language are needed or if there are any conflicts with other sections of the by-laws.

The possibility of the League being a booster club for civic education initiatives in our area was discussed.

The Board thanked Harriet Klebanoff and Nancy Erskine for doing an outstanding PR job for the civic education forum.

Harriet is looking for someone who will be a back up for the website. Please contact her if you are interested.

The Health Committee is planning a forum in February on mental health issues and resources on the Cape.

Barbara Wellnitz is looking for volunteers to be trained as moderators. Please contact her if you are interested.

3

COMMITTEES

County Committee Report

Our Committee has been actively following the work of the Charter Review Committee. On October 30 they approved major changes which will be passed on to the Assembly at its next meeting on Nov. 6. The approval was not unanimous. One member was absent, and another member Ron Bergstrom dissented.

The recommended change was major. They recommended the merger of the Board of Commissioners and the Assembly of Delegates into a single body, working with an elected Executive. The new legislative body would represent 11 districts defined so that each district would represent an equal proportion of county citizens. This proposal meets most of the elements of our League's consensus on county government following the recommendations of the Special Commission on Governance in 2012. At that time we preferred an appointed Executive.

We will continue to follow the action and support the elements which accord with our consensus.

Environment Committee Report

The Environment Committee's volunteer task force to collect signatures for an "Updated Bottle Bill" petition drive was highly successful! LWVCCA had pledged to LWVMA to collect in the 200-500 signature range. Our final tally was 485 +/- signatures. The task force had eight members who in spite of busy schedules were on the job. Congratulations and much gratitude to our Barnstable team (Phyllis Walsh, Bobbi Greer and Chris

Meade) and our Chatham team (Debby Ecker – signature hustler in the extreme) and Barry and Judy Thomas), and also to President Karen Mazza and County Committee co-chair, Jari Rapaport. One of our volunteers, working at the Barnstable transfer station, found herself engaged in wonderful conversations, including one with a woman who stated she recycled so much that she was going taking her recyclables to the transfer station far more often than emptying her trash. What a model she is for the Cape.

The next Environment Committee meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 10 a.m. at the Cape Cod Commission offices. The Committee will be meeting with Erin Jackson Perry who is the staff member most involved with the wastewater issue/project. As always, any members who are interested are welcome. Just give Judy Thomas a call (508-432-2775) for the final details.

Judy Thomas, Chair

Membership Committee – Interview with new member, June Daley

Like so many “washashores,” June Daley came to Cape Cod over 35 years ago and never left! Originally from Baltimore, June met her husband on the Cape and settled here. Her name might sound familiar to many of us for a number of reasons.

Firstly, June is an incumbent Barnstable Town Councilor from Precinct 11, and is (as of this interview), running for re-election. Her district includes West Barnstable, parts of Marstons Mills and Centerville. All members of the Council must re-run this year due to redistricting. When I spoke with June, she was going door-to-door throughout her precinct – she is not taking anything for granted since there is another candidate running against her. June initially ran for the seat two years ago due to her sense that the then Town Manager was not being appropriately evaluated nor were some members of the Council behaving professionally. Rather than complain about it, June made the decision to run against the long-term incumbent, and won!

Another reason you may recognize June’s name is because she was a 22 year municipal employee, as a special police officer and the animal control officer (now retired). June’s exceptional love for animals, and specifically cats, led her to have a cat adoption television program in the 1990s. She and her program won numerous awards, both town- and statewide, including from the Massachusetts Municipal Association. She educated citizens about the cat population and the ability to adopt cats and kittens. Through her initiatives, she collaborated with the local veterinarian on spaying and nurturing kittens.

As well, she started a non-profit organization, “Cats Lost and Wanting Shelter” (CLAWS). Although retired as the animal control officer, June still has the CLAWS agency, and continues to care for more than a dozen cats in her shelter. Those interested in adoption, can contact CLAWS at 508-420-8114.

June refers herself to being a “conservation nut” and is the Barnstable Town Council’s liaison to the Conservation Commission, the Sandy Neck Governing Board, the Shellfish Committee, and the Barnstable Municipal Airport Committee.

When not attending meetings, June loves to shellfish, attend plays and musicals in New York City, and occasionally travels back to Bermuda (another favorite getaway spot for her and her husband, who is a municipal financial consultant).

June is hoping to learn from the LWVCCA about political civility and fairness, knowing that our strengths include our strong mission to be bipartisan. We look forward to June’s participation in our League and wish her well in her re-election campaign.

Interviewed by Joan Craig of the Membership Committee

October 12, 2013

Program Committee Report

The new Program Committee will hold its first meeting in January. The Committee consists of a co-Vice President and a member of each committee. Its purpose is to develop a program for the 2014-2015 year. Current members are: Nancy Curley for County, Judy Thomas for Environment and Education Trust, Joan Bernstein for Health, Helen Bresnahan for Legislation, Mary Jane Byrne for Program, and Karen Mazza for Youth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEB SITE ASSISTANT NEEDED

If you are looking for an easy way to help our organization out without a large time commitment, here is an opportunity for you. Harriet Klebanoff posts our news and information to our League website and she is looking for an assistant to back her up at times when she can not be available. The website is an organized website format that we receive from LWVUS. We simply post information to it and do not have to design our own website. Harriet can teach someone to do this and she feels that it does not require

any specialized technical skill. If you think you might be interested please call Harriet directly and ask her what would be involved. She can be reached at 508-385-6813.

5

2013 HOLIDAY BRUNCH

**You are cordially invited to attend the
Holiday Brunch of the League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area**

SATURDAY, December 7, 2013

9:30 A.M.

Brunch Buffet

THE RIVERWAY LOBSTER HOUSE

1338 Route 28, South Yarmouth

Speaker: Anne Borg, Co-President of LWVMA

Topic: “News Updates from LWVMA”

The cost of the brunch is \$15. **The deadline for reservations is Monday, December 2.** We have held previous meetings at this venue and have had favorable feedback.

Directions: From Route 6, take exit 8 south on to Station Avenue for 2 miles. Make a slight right on to N. Main (short distance) and then a right on to Route 28 at the traffic light. Destination is immediately on your right.

EXCHANGE OF USED BOOKS FROM OUR OWN SHELVES: If you would like to participate in our book exchange, please bring a wrapped book for our book exchange table.

To reserve, please complete the form below and send with your payment of \$15 made

out to LWVCCA to:

Ira Seldin

321 Dear Meadow Lane

Chatham, MA 02633

I will attend the Holiday Brunch and am enclosing my check for \$15.

Name _____

6

READ ALL ABOUT IT

New Member Page 1

President's Message

Civics Education Forum Page 2

Holiday Brunch Page 2

November Fundraising Page 2

October Board Meeting Highlights Page 3

Committee Reports

County Committee Page 4

Environment Committee Page 4

Membership Committee Page 4 – 5

Program Committee Page 5

Invitation to

Annual Holiday Brunch Page 6

Please respond by December 2

CALENDAR

November 1 County Governance Committee
Meeting Location tba 3:00 pm

November 12 Board of Directors Meeting
 Cape Cod Five, Dennis 9:30 am

November 19 Environment Committee Meeting
 County Commission Offices 10:00am

December 7 Annual Holiday Brunch
 Riverway Lobster House 9:30 am

Mid-November Watch for and respond to your annual appeal letter