

THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 54 Issue 4

DECEMBER 2013

CALENDAR

**Tuesday, December 3
9:30 am**

**LWVCCA Board Meeting
Cape Cod Five, Dennis**

**Saturday, December 7
9:30**

**Holiday Brunch
The Riverway, South Yarmouth**

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!

**JOIN YOUR LEAGUE FRIENDS AT THE
HOLIDAY BRUNCH ON DECEMBER 7**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear League Members:

This month has marked the 50th year date of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. It is a date indelibly marked in our memories for the tragic loss of a leader who had inspired our finest hopes and aspirations. November is a time of Thanksgiving, and I am thankful for the leadership of people like John F. Kennedy who choose to serve our country, our commonwealth and our local communities through public service. I am thankful for our veterans who answer the call to duty. I am thankful for community service volunteers and organizations like the League of Women Voters who work to make a difference in big and small ways wherever they can. I am thankful for you our members for helping here on Cape Cod.

I would love to see all of you who are able to attend come to our December Holiday Brunch on Saturday December 7 at the Riverway Lobster Restaurant in Yarmouth. It is a good time to celebrate our work and to celebrate each other. Anne Borg, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts will be here to share with us new developments at the state level. I am very impressed with the direction of the state League. They have truly advanced outreach support for local Leagues and have done much to strengthen the League at the state level. We will also build in time to get to know each other better so if you are a newer member and don't know many people this is a chance to meet other members. See the registration information in the Voter. You are welcome to bring a guest.

Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Karen Mazza

BOARD NOTES November 12, 2013

- The November fundraising letter will be mailed this week to all members.
- The possibility of collaborating with Chris Duran, Executive Director of Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Cape Cod, regarding areas of common legislative concern and fundraising was discussed.
- The LWVMA has delayed their timetable on their study of Citizen's United. Therefore we will not need a consensus meeting in January.
- Joan Craig has volunteered to host a membership recruiting meeting to write letters to prospective members or organizations to invite them to consider membership in LWCCA. Please contact her if you are interested in helping.
- Karen Mazza shared information on new member renewals and non-renewals and asked members to think about this issue for our December agenda. Judy Thomas and Debbie Aikman will work on a survey to obtain more information on this subject.
- We need an additional member from the Board to serve on the Nominating Committee. Please contact Debbie Aikman or Sally Cahill if you are interested.
- The December Social will be held at the Riverway Lobster House in South Yarmouth on the 7th. The speaker will be Anne Borg, Co-President of the LWVMA.
- Until we know the decision of the Assembly of Delegates regarding the recommendations made by the Charter Review Committee, no date can be set for a forum.
- The new Strategic Plan (2013) for the county is on the county website.
- The Environment Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 19 in building #7 at the County Courthouse Complex at 10:00 AM. Erin Jackson Perry from the Cape Cod Commission will be the speaker.
- Ed Trust member Richard Utt and Judy Thomas will meet Wednesday, December 11 in Orleans to review the current Ed Trust By-laws and the proposed By-Laws.
- A forum on mental health will be held on February 8, 2013 at the Harwich Community Center. The two speakers so far are Ron Holmes, Cape Cod Exec of NAMI and Beth Albert from Barnstable County Human Services. The Health Committee is meeting on November 14, 2013 to finalize the program.
- The possibility of using a room at the Hearth & Kettle for the Legislative Breakfast was discussed.
- A discussion ensued on whether the Legislative Brochure should be reprinted now and/or put on line as PDF.
- The Cape Cod Times editorial on County Government will be posted on the website along with the pros and cons to be considered regarding changing the structure of the Barnstable County Government.
- A handout listing the names of volunteers to act as moderators, timers, card sorters, greeter and voter registration has been developed.
- Our League obtained 450 signatures for the Bottle Bill petition. The state got a total of 20,000.
- The necessity of consolidating two LWVCCA mailboxes into one will be explored.
- The deadline for the Voter is November 23, 2013.

Renate Sands, Secretary

HOLIDAY BRUNCH - DECEMBER 7, 2013

Come greet your friends at our festive Holiday Brunch at the Riverway in Yarmouth!
The menu is also enticing: Quiche (spinach, tomato and feta cheese); Canadian bacon, Bacon;
French Toast: Fresh Fruit; Assorted Danish and Pastries; Coffee, Tea and Juice.

Please bring a wrapped “shelf” book you would like to share in our grab bag - something you have enjoyed and would now like to offer to someone else.

This is a special time to get together and renew our friendships and share greetings with newer members! Hurry with your reservation on the attached reservation sheet! Time is fleeting!

VOTER SERVICE REPORT

Here is the listing of the current volunteers in Voter Service programs for your information. We always welcome LWV members to participate in any of these programs. Please contact Barbara Wellnitz at 508-896-2023 or bwwellnitz@comcast.net. We have set the date for our next moderator training for March 25th at 2:00pm. The location is to be decided. Please let me know if you are interested in this training. The spring is always an active season helping out at town meetings. For sure 2014 will find us very active in registration for the many local and state elections coming up in the fall.

Barbara Wellnitz, chair

Voter Service Volunteers 2013-2014

LWV-Trained Moderators

Joan Craig (Chatham), Marilyn Gullett*(Yarmouth), Emily Hannah (Orleans), Jan Hively (Yarmouth), Judy Thomas (Chatham), Florence Seldin (Chatham), Barbara Wellnitz (Brewster)

LWV members who would like to participate in next moderator training session: Joan Bernstein (Brewster), Betsy Bray (Harwich), Mary Jane Byrne (Orleans), Nancy Erskine (Chatham), Mike Gradone (Brewster), Phyllis Helfrich (Sandwich), Bobbi Rennie-Greer (Barnstable)

Timers/Card Sorters/Greeters

Debbie Aikman, Bea Auty, Joan Bernstein, Betsy Bray, Helen Bresnahan (Card sorter), Mary Jane Byrne, Sally Cahill, Nancy Curley, Nancy Erskine, Phyllis Helfrich, Jan Hively, Karen Mazza,, Anita Mewherter, Karen Miller, Helen and Gene Pickett (Chatham only), Carol Rader

Voter Registration Volunteers

Nancy Erskine, Claire Gradone, Kathy Schatzberg, Barbara Wellnitz

Environment Committee Report

The environment committee met on Nov. 19 at the Innovation Room at the Barnstable County Complex. Erin Perry, special projects manager – wastewater, gave a slide presentation on the history and progress of the Section 208 plan of the US Clean Water Act.

The committee discussed with Erin plans for the environment committee forum on the 208 Plan which will be held **April 12, 2014 at the Harwich Community Center**. It's not too early to mark your calendars and save the date.

More information on the forum will follow in future *Voters*.

We encourage our members to go to the Cape Cod Commission Website “home page” then “Initiatives” then “Wastewater” and view the very informative You Tube videos which describe very understandably the Cape Cod wastewater issue. **Then we encourage any of our members who are on Facebook to share one or more of the videos to help educate your Cape Cod neighbors and friends.**

Judy Thomas, chair

COUNTY GOVERNANCE

County News Notes for your Information

- New Interim County Administrator: Michael Brillhart begins his one year appointment this month. Mark Zeilinski, former administrator, assumes his full time appointment as finance director. The appointment was on an interim basis pending the outcome of the Charter Review Committee recommended changes in county structure which create a new role.

-The County Annual Report is available in very accessible form on the County website and presents much detail on programs and staffing of all county departments.

-The Strategic Plan for the next 5 years is also posted on the county website. This was developed by the Board of Commissioners to guide activities and yearly evaluations of progress for this period

In addition we welcome the emerging joint Communication Plan of the Board of Commissioners and the Cape Cod Commission to assure timely and complete information for the public, as well as to create needed uniform internal communication infrastructure. We have been pressing for such outreach to the public for years.

Charter Review Committee recommendations have not yet been presented to the Assembly of Delegates. That is to take place on the last meeting of the year, December 4, for discussion, which means there will be no action until next year. Our committee will continue to monitor the process.

Jari Rapaport, co-chair

2013 HOLIDAY BRUNCH

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

SATURDAY, December 7, 2013 9:30 am

Brunch Buffet

THE RIVERWAY LOBSTER HOUSE 1338 Route 28, South Yarmouth

Speaker: Anne Borg, Co-President of LWVMA

Topic: "LWVMA PRIORITIES AND ADVOCACY FOR 2014"

The brunch cost is \$15. The deadline for reservations is **Monday, December 2.**

We enjoyed the Riverway setting and lovely menu last year. As we did last year, please bring a wrapped "shelf" book to share in our grab bag.

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

Ira Seldin
321 Dear Meadow Lane
Chatham, MA 02633

Directions to The Riverway: 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 about a block on the right.

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

Name _____