



Westport Voter

Summer 2006

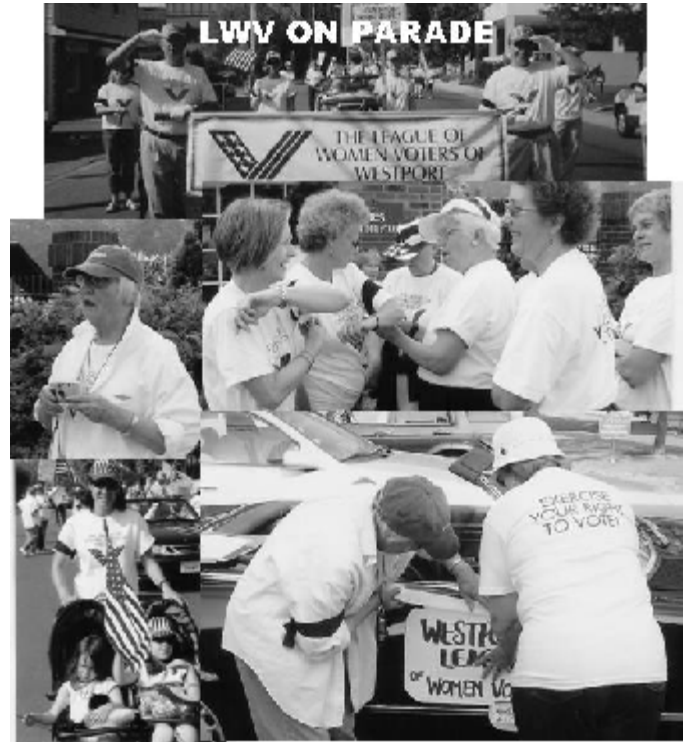
Visit our website: www.lwvwestportct.org

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Brunch
Sunday, October 8

At the Home of Rene & Joe Corcoran
73 Turkey Hill South

Look for details in the next *Westport Voter*



Join Us! Make an Impact!

Voter Services Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 9
9:00 a.m.
Jackie Gordon's house
82 Hillspoint Road

Get involved:
Voters' Guide, Candidate Forums, Get Out the Vote.

Call or email:
Jackie Gordon 803-3725/JevaG@aol.com
Sally Galan 222-1850/rsgalan75@hotmail.com

Membership Renewal A Gentle Reminder

Members who renew after September 30 **will not** have their names listed in the new directory.

If there is a green sticker below, we have not received your renewal form or check. Please save us a call and send your check to:

LWV Westport
P.O. Box 285
Westport, CT 06881-0285



Thank you to all who have already paid their dues for 2006 - 2007!



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, community-based political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. It was founded in 1920 as an outgrowth of the 72 year struggle to win voting rights for women.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Eileen Flug, 227 8474
 Laura Gallagher, 221 1746

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Pippa Bell Ader, 221 1555

Alison Rivard, 254 2079

Voter Services

Sally Galan, 222 1850

Jackie Gordon, 803 3725

DIRECTORS

Rose Anne Preston, 454 3547

Voter Editor

Jane Eyes, 227 0782

OFF BOARD

Member Handbook, Kitty Graves
 Webmaster, Marilyn Bakker

Greetings everyone,

The 2005-06 League year came to a close with the great successes of our Annual General Meeting and the Old Board/ New Board dinner. We can all be very proud of the accomplishments of the Westport League, not only this year, but all previous years too.

As you may already know, LWVUS presented our League with an award at National Convention for five continuous years of membership growth. We would like to mention (as newer League members ourselves) that the credit is due to the numerous members who over the years have dedicated countless volunteer hours in establishing a vivacious League that attracts new membership. You know who they are and as you travel around Westport this summer, trying to catch glimpses of the sun, take a minute to thank these women and men for all they have done!

Don't miss the interesting report on National Convention in this issue. Have a safe, sunny and wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you all in the fall.

Eileen and Laura



Outgoing Co-president Lisa Shufro flanked by Laura Gallagher and Eileen Flug, 2006-07 Co-presidents

ANNUAL MEETING



2005-06 Board

LWV WEBSITES

www.lwvwestportct.org
www.lwvct.org (Connecticut)
www.lwv.org (US)

'06 Tag Sale Thank You!!!

A special thank you to all League members who helped make the League's 22nd Annual Tag Sale a great success. Robin Weinberg's 3 bay garage was overflowing with all kinds of great items thanks to everyone who donated. Thanks to all gardeners who contributed items for the plant sale. A very special THANK YOU to all of you who weathered the weather. We did not let the rain deter us one bit. And a BIG, BIG thank you to the clean up crew who in only an hour or so took all the left over items to Goodwill and then repacked their cars for a trip to the dump. And the BIGGEST thank you to Robin Weinberg who was so generous to allow the League to use her fabulous garage for the Tag Sale. Thank you Robin!

Tag Sale Committee

TAG SALE



Future LWVers capitalize on the heat.



Kitty Graves tends the plant sale.



Jackie Gordon and Sheila Creatura pack up while Dick Lowenstein & Sal Porio stack up.





Westport LWV Needs You!!!!

LWV National Convention Minneapolis, June 2006

What a privilege to represent LWV Westport at the National Convention. The energy, excitement and dedication of LWV members from across the country was amazing. This was no boondoggle; we worked from 8 am to 11 pm for four days.

While National proposed and the convention accepted a three year study on immigration and a concurrence on abolition of the death penalty, conventioners lobbied, caucused and presented other issues to add to National's agenda. Three of thirteen additional concerns were agreed to by majority vote: advocating for the use of

paper verification for electronic voting systems, elevating to top priority efforts towards the restoration of System of Checks and Balances and Separation of Powers, and supporting the concept of internet neutrality.

After attending several meetings on the budget and proposed increase in the PMP (per member payment), Susan Voris was convinced that the PMP increase was reasonable. As the convention progressed, it was clear that State and local Leagues were eager to add to National's agenda and it would not serve to deny funding. The increase in PMPs will make up for lost income due to declining membership.

While LWV Westport received an award for five years of continuous growth in membership, many local Leagues are losing members. Meanwhile, National has developed a new membership campaign that it will pilot with interested local Leagues.



Convention delegates Lynn Crager, Susan Voris, and Jane Eyes display our Membership Growth Award.



The Connecticut Delegation

New Members

Nitzy Cohen Fitzgerald
28 Highpoint Road
256 1661

Jackie & John Cutrone
75 Cross Highway
222 8772
jackquelinacutrone@snet.net

Candidate Forums

LWV Westport is joining with the "northern tier" Fairfield County Leagues to sponsor a Regional Candidates Forum for the 4th Congressional District in October. Wilton High School has been reserved for possible October dates; we will let you know as soon as we have a confirmed date and times.

Action Committee at Work

The Action Committee had a productive meeting with First Selectman and League member Gordon Joseloff on May 24, offering the League's support for a Town Ethics Code and raising several issues of priority for the League. These included urging additional funding for the acquisition of open space, seeking balance in putting private information online, requesting that bus and other town transit information be easily accessible, and encouraging efforts to increase audibility and visibility at Town meetings.

The First Selectman discussed his priority of creating work force housing in Westport, and he seemed to welcome the Action Committee's concerns and ideas.

Book Group News

The Book Group will be discussing *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien on Monday, August 28 at 1.30 pm at the home of Rene Corcoran, 73 Turkey Hill South. Amazon calls this book about Vietnam a "sly, almost hallucinatory book that is neither memoir nor novel nor collection of short stories but rather an artful combination of all three." Please let Rene know if you are planning to attend. She's at 254-6409 or drjrc@optonline.net. Multiple copies of the book will be available shortly at the Westport Public Library. If you have questions about joining the group, email or call Helene Crawford: 227 2572 or helenekc@optonline.net



ECOTIP FOR A LONG HOT SUMMER

To decrease your dependence on air conditioning, use fans. (Ceiling fans are particularly effective.) Moving air feels cooler on the skin, so you can set your thermostat higher (say 78) and save energy. However, a fan, while making your *feel* cooler, does not cool the room, so turn off when you leave room. Here's a tip to increase effectiveness of natural ventilation. Open windows less on the windward side of the house than on the leeward, or less on first floor than on second floor. This creates higher velocity and stronger breeze. Now all we need is wind.

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Individual Dues: \$50 Household (limited to 2): \$75

Membership year: July 1 through June 30

Send check made payable to:

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WESTPORT

P.O. Box 285

Westport, CT 06881- 0285

Contributions to LWV Education Fund are tax deductible; LWV dues are not.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- AUG** 2 **Budget Study Meeting** - 10:30 AM
Home of Ann Gill, 53 High Point Road
- 9 **Voter Services Committee Meeting** - 9 AM
Home of Jackie Gordon, 82 Hillspoint Road
- Observer Corp and Action Committee** will not meet in August
- 28 **Book Group** - 1:30 PM
Home of Rene Corcoran 73 Turkey Hill South
- SEPT** 6 **Board Meeting** - 9AM
Home of Eileen Flug, 5 Gault Avenue
- 21 **Observer Corps** - 9 AM
Action Committee - 11 AM
Parks and Recreation Conference Room
- 29 **Book Group** - 1:30 PM
Selection & location tba

All League meetings are open to all members.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF WESTPORT

Westport Voter
P.O. Box 285
Westport, CT 06881-0285

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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WESTPORT, CT 06881

