



# Westport Voter

May 2007

Visit our website: [www.lvwwestportct.org](http://www.lvwwestportct.org)

## Annual General Meeting

Breakfast at the Three Bears

333 Wilton Road

June 6

8:00 to 10:00

Breakfast Served Beginning at 8:00 Meeting Starts at 8:30

**This is Your Opportunity to Inform the Board and Impact League Activities**

Vote on the LWV Westport Position on the Town Budget Process

Review and vote on the 2007 - 2008 Budget

Decide on the LWV Westport 2007 - 2008 Program

Elect the 2007 - 2007 Board

**\$17 at the door - RSVP today!**

**Call or e-mail Helene Crawford at 227-2572**

## HIGHLIGHTS - LWV AT WORK THIS WINTER

Local Program Planning



Budget Study Consensus



Honoring Peg Bishop



The Bridgeport Volunteer Fair draws a large crowd and lots of interest



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**

**PRESIDENTS**

Eileen Flug , 227 -8474  
 Laura Gallagher, 221-1746

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Lisa Shufro, 221-1350

**TREASURER**

Jim Graves, 895-3271

**SECRETARY**

Joyce Orkand, 226 -9953

**VICE PRESIDENTS**

**Community Services**  
 Jane Fraser, 226-0686  
**Member Services**  
 Yvonne Senturia, 226-6683

Athena Ploumis Bradley, 227-8966

Helene Crawford, 227-2572

**Program/Advocacy**

Pippa Bell Ader, 221-1555

Allison Rivard, 254-2079

**Voter Services**

Sally Galan, 222-1850

Jackie Gordon, 803-3725

**DIRECTORS**

Rose Anne Preston, 454-3547

Jackie Cutrone, 222-8772

Liz -Ann Koos, 227 - 2024

**Voter Editor**

Jane Eyes, 227-0782

**OFF BOARD**

**Member Handbook**, Kitty Graves

**Webmaster**, Marilyn Bakker

**Membership Administrator**, Joyce Netherton

Greetings Everyone:

Here we are once again bumping up against year end and we must mention how proud we are of all our wonderful accomplishments in 2006-07. In addition to our ongoing projects, we've had an extremely ambitious agenda this year. We completed the consensus on the Town Budget Process Study and will be voting on a position at the Annual General Meeting. We all learned a great deal about the budget process and certainly hope it will be a useful position and educational tool in years to come. Program Advocacy established an Environment Committee; they are currently focusing on Nonpoint Source Pollution. Voters Services initiated a new program to encourage voter participation and shared the Democracy Cup award with the Town. Member Services instituted a bake sale at our annual tag sale, which is being set up at this writing.

It has been a productive year and there are a few people we would like to mention who are instrumental in the functioning of the daily League operations with whom many of you may not be familiar. A big thank you to Marilyn Bakker for maintaining our user friendly, comprehensive and informative website; Kitty Graves for maintaining our snail mail and email list, our data base of member interests and skills, and for updating the member handbook; and Joyce Netherton for maintaining the membership list and communicating changes with the National League. We really appreciate your ongoing commitment to the League!

Finally, thanks to all the Board members who really put in endless hours to make the League run seamlessly. A special thanks to those leaving our Board - Lisa Shufro, Jane Fraser and Sally Galan - we will miss you but know we will see you often.

We would like to remind all members that we will be walking in the Memorial Day Parade. And we invite all of you to RSVP and join us at the Annual General Meeting to hear about upcoming events in 2007-08.

Looking forward to a great turnout at the Annual General Meeting,

Eileen and Laura

**LWV WEBSITES**

[www.lwvwestportct.org](http://www.lwvwestportct.org)  
[www.lwvct.org](http://www.lwvct.org) (Connecticut)  
[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) (US)

**Book Group News**

The group will meet to discuss *The Doll Maker* by Harriette Arnow on May 21 at 1:30 PM at the home of Helene Crawford at 5 Highwood Lane. RSVP to Helene at 227-2572 On June 25 we will discuss *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai, at home of JoAnn Davidson, 15 Whitney St. RSVP to JoAnn at 227-6185 or to let her know you will attend.

Multiple copies of the group's selections are available at the Westport Public Library. If you have questions about joining the group, contact Helene Crawford .(see above).



**Bridgeport Volunteer Fair Wrap-up**

On Sunday, April 1 from 4- 6 pm 50 enthusiastic community members had an opportunity to meet with representatives of 18 organizations looking for volunteers. Organization reps reported making contact with many potential volunteers. Bernadette Baldino opened the program with statistics showing the urgent need for volunteers in Bridgeport and vignettes about her own volunteer experiences. LWV members, Dick Leonard and Marcy Hardt spoke about their own volunteer experiences and assured the audience that they would find volunteering in Bridgeport to be rewarding in many ways.



Annual Meeting  
 Wednesday, June 6  
 8:00 - 10:00 AM  
 The Three Bears Restaurant





## Westport LWV Needs You!!!!

### LWVUS Immigration Study

LWVUS has launched a study aimed at helping communities understand the implications of immigration at the local, state and federal level. The study's scope will include the reasons for immigration, the effects of global interdependence, current federal immigration policy, and the impact of immigration, including economic effects and inclusion of immigrants in society.

The LWVUS study committee has prepared an impressive set of background papers and other resources, and leagues around the country have already begun local educational efforts. We get to do the fun part without the administrative details. Two of our members, Jane Eyes and Hope Hageman, have volunteered to co-lead the Westport LWV participation in the Immigration Study, and an interested group is ready to begin over the summer.

Abundant information on the study is available at the LWVUS web site:

[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org). We hope that you will be intrigued and want to join us in looking at this complex topic. Contact Alison Rivard, Pippa Bell Ader, Jane Eyes or Hope Hageman with any questions or if you would like to join the group.



### LWV On Parade

LWV has been chosen to carry the Democracy Cup in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28. We'll wear our patriotic caps, LWV tee shirts and jeans. Gather at 8:30. Cars will be available for non-walkers.

On Saturday, June 16 we will have another opportunity to show off. The Westport Woman's Club will be celebrating their 100th anniversary with a short parade. Dress in Suffragist mode - white shirts and skirts and big hats. We will represent the years 1917 to 1926 when women got the vote. For costume help, call Winnie Balboni 227-9093

### Getting Ready for the New Voting Machines

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut has asked that Local League members volunteer to work with their registrars of voters to publicize the changes from lever to electronic (optical scan) voting machines. The LWVCT has developed a program to help voters make the transition. Please contact Liz-Ann Koos (227-2024 ) to indicate your willingness to participate in this cutting edge program for our Westport voting community.

Liz-Ann will coordinate our involvement in this endeavor which will include the opportunity for each volunteer to receive training in May or June and to then be involved in conducting outreach activities prior to the November election. What a great way to work cooperatively with Westport's local registrar and LWV Westport's own Voter' Services while participating in a historically significant community activity!

### High School Voter Registration Help Register 18 year olds to vote!

**Greens Farms Academy**  
**Tuesday, May 22**  
**11:00 - 12:00**

**Staples High School**  
**Wednesday, May 23**  
**10:30 - 12:00**

Call or email to volunteer  
Sally Galan - 222-1850  
Jackie Gordon - 803-3725



### Environment Committee

The LWV Environment Committee participated in the Earthday Celebration at Earthplace the weekend of April 28th and 29th, which was attended by over 750 people! A poster board, discussing septic systems, how they work and need to be maintained and the consequences of poor maintenance, was on display throughout the weekend. In addition, handouts for both children and adults were available. This poster board will also be on display at the Annual General Meeting on June 6th.

Next Environment committee meetings:  
Wednesday, May 9th, 1PM  
Wednesday, June 13th, 10AM  
At the home of Pippa Bell Ader, 62  
Woodside Ave



Contact Pippa Bell Ader or  
Alison Rivard for more information.

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

- MAY**
  - 9 **Environment Committee** - 1 PM  
At home of Pippa Bell Ader, 62 Woodside Ave.
  - 17 **Observer Corps** - 9 AM  
**Action Committee** - 11 AM  
Library Seminar Room
  - 21 **Book Group** - 1:30 PM  
At home of Helene Crawford, 5 Highwood Ln.
- JUNE**
  - 6 **Annual Meeting** - 8:30 - 10:30 AM  
3 Bears Restaurant
  - 13 **Environment Committee** - 10 AM  
At home of Pippa Bell Ader, 62 Woodside Ave.
  - 20 **Old Board New Board Meeting** - 11:30 AM  
At home of Jane Eyes, 4 Orchard Lane
  - 21 **Observer Corps** - 9 AM  
**Action Committee** - 11 AM  
Library Seminar Room
  - 25 **Book Group** - 1:30 PM  
At home of Jo Ann Davidson, 15 Whitney St.
- JULY**
  - 19 **Observer Corps** - 9 AM  
**Action Committee** - 11 AM  
Parks & Rec Bldg., Long Shore

*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  
PERMIT 110  
WESTPORT, CT 06881

