



Westport Voter

September 2007

Visit our website: www.lwvwestportct.org

**Mark your calendar
Join us for our next membership event**

**THE ANNUAL FALL BRUNCH
Sunday, September 23, 11:30**



**At the home of Claudia Saunders
8 Tiffany Lane
Westport**



**Visit with friends, greet new members and meet the local candidates
\$20 per person
RSVP to Sally Galan: 222-1850 or**



**'Tis the Season!
The Election Season, that is!
Voters Services is very busy at this time of year and
there are many volunteer opportunities:**

Local Candidates Forums

Held at Town Hall auditorium and televised. Workers needed:

◆ **Wed., October 17, 7-9pm**
Planning and Zoning Commission
Zoning Board of Appeals
Board of Assessment Appeals

◆ **Thurs., October 25, 7-9pm**
Board of Finance
Board of Education

New Optical Scanning Voting Machines Orientation

Westport Registrars have asked for LWV assistance at the following sessions at Town Hall:

- ◆ **September 26, 3-5pm**
- ◆ **September 27, 6-8pm**
- ◆ **October 10, 3-5pm**
- ◆ **October 11, 6-8pm**

And the following session at the Westport Senior Center:

- ◆ **October 5, 10am to noon**

Various "Get Out the Vote" Activities including

- ◆ The Voters Guide
- ◆ "Did you vote today?" sticker campaign with merchants (see inside for more details)
- ◆ "I voted, did you?" sticker campaign at the polling places
- ◆ Other ideas welcome!

If you're interested in helping out with any of the above, please contact Jackie Gordon at 803-3725 or Liz-Ann Koos at 227-2024.



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.

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From the Presidents

Greetings,

Fall is soon upon us, and with it comes election season! As you know, this is a busy time of the year for us. Come meet candidates, reconnect with friends, and support the League at our annual **Fall Brunch Fund-raiser on Sunday, September 23rd**. This is an important fundraising event, so please plan to come, and bring a friend!

Our voter education and get out the vote efforts will include publication of the Voter's Guide, two candidate forums, and various other get out the vote efforts. The Voter's Guide will be published in October, through the generosity of the Minuteman publications, and will also be available on our website, thanks to Marilyn Bakker, our talented webmistress. Look for announcements about the forums in the October Voter.

The Immigration Study Committee has been meeting regularly throughout the summer. The committee is inviting all members to attend a meeting on **September 26th, at 9:30AM at Town Hall, room 201**, to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding immigration in the United States. This is a first step toward educating our local members before a consensus meeting in early 2008, as part of the LWVUS's Immigration Study. Find out more at www.lwv.org. In addition, the Environment Committee continues its work on water quality in Westport, and Community Services is gearing up to providing voter education and civics classes to students.

There is something for almost every League member! If you wish to become more involved, please feel free to contact a board member.

Eileen and Pippa

LWV websites:

www.lwvwestportct.org

www.lwvct.org (Connecticut)

www.lwv.org (US)

Welcome to these new members:

Laura Axthelm
46 Hillandale Road
226-4301

Denise McLaughlin
2 Harbor Hill
226-1332

Leatrice Platt
366 Greens Farms Road
259-6662

Helene Weir
Westport/Weston Family Y
59 Post Road East

Alison Fraser Heisler
167 Imperial Avenue
341-8925

Patricia Haberstroh
3 Hermit Court
222-7699

Lynn Anvari
3 Promised Road
226-3464

Dalma Heyn
240 Hillspoint Road
227-1469

**Eco Tip:
Make Soap From
Soap!**

Slivery soap remnants can be recycled into new soap bars. Here's how: Let them dry and then store in a bottle until you have about 11 ounces. Grate them up, put them in a sauce pan with 8 ounces of water and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. They should blend together like a smooth pudding. Cut the bottom off a water bottle to make a cute, flower-shaped mold. After they are set up, pop them out. If they don't come out easily, stick them in the freezer for 4 hours or overnight or until they feel dry to the touch. Then they will pop out easily. Air dry them for 2-3 days, making sure they don't touch each other.



NATIONAL IMMIGRATION STUDY

Join the Conversation

Wednesday, September 26, 9:30 – 11:00 AM

Town Hall – Room 201



Don't wait until the January 2008 consensus meetings to become more familiar with the complex issues surrounding immigration in the US. All League members are invited to the September 26 Immigration Study meeting to have an opportunity hear short presentations by members of the Immigration Study and to discuss questions and concerns about this important issue.

National LWV has put study briefs, back ground papers, archived panel discussions, and the consensus questions on their website – go to <http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Immigration> for more information. Members who do not have access to the web, but are interested in some of these materials, should contact Jane Eyes 227 – 0782.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN VOTER EDUCATION

In late October, the Community Services Committee plans to visit Coleytown and Bedford Middle Schools to present our 7th grade voter education program. We are looking for volunteers who enjoy being with students and can present a short talk about the importance of voter participation. A script is provided, volunteers work in pairs in the classrooms, and training will be given to volunteers who want it, at their convenience. The teachers are very excited about having us help their students understand the importance of being an active participant in the voting process, so we need to get enough volunteers to do all Westport 7th grade classes! For further information, please call Yvonne Senturia (226-6683) or Jill Greenberg (454-3723).



The **DID YOU VOTE TODAY?** committee really, really, really needs more members. The group distributes these eponymous stickers to over forty merchants, banks and other institutions in Westport that have agreed to ask their staff to wear them on Election Day. This “**get out the vote**” effort is particularly urgent this year since all the candidates are local and traditionally a very small percentage (+/- 33%) of Westporters turn out to vote (compared to state and national contests).

The task is fun, you get to know the powers behind the cash registers and we enjoy each other at our intense but not too frequent meetings. For more information, call Katy Goldschmidt at 227-0003.

Environment Committee

Did you know that about 4 billion gallons of wastewater is treated and discharged daily in the US from onsite septic and small cluster systems? The EPA estimates that 10 – 20% of these systems nationally are malfunctioning.

The Environment Committee is looking at the EPA Guidelines and at how other Connecticut towns seek to safeguard water resources and public health through effective management of septic systems.

If you are interested in joining the Environment Committee, contact: Pippa Bell Ader or Alison Rivard



Book Group News

The Book Group has chosen its reading list for the fall. We will continue to meet on the fourth Monday of the month. Our NEW meeting time is 1pm on the following dates, with the exception of November, when we will try an evening meeting at 7pm:

September 24- *Book of Salt* by Monique Truong at Hope Hageman's house, 116 Greens Farms Road

October 22- *A Handbook of Luck* by Christina Garcia at Peg Bishop's house 7 Bradley Street (Parking at beach lot.)

November 26- *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan, at Athena Bradley's house, 7 North Gate (at 7:00 PM.)

December 10th- Discuss your favorite books, book lists and books we have read this year, at Elaine Weinstein's house, 39 Whitney Street.

Community News

Are YOU Ready?

The Westport Weston Health District (WWHD) is launching the emergency preparedness campaign “Are YOU Ready?” The Goal of this campaign is to create a culture of preparedness in the Westport community. An official campaign guide and material will be distributed to the residents in the upcoming months through regional organizations and community events. Watch for messages, articles and programs to help your family and business prepare for emergencies of all types.

For more information, please call WWHD at 227-9571, ext. 242 or visit their website at www.wwhd.org.

The 2007 Town Plan of Conservation and Development—There's still time to comment: Look it up on the Town website, www.westportct.gov and make your comments to the P&Z at the public hearing on October 4th.

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

- SEPT 20 Observer Corps - 9 AM**
Action Committee - 11 AM
Parks and Recreation Building. Long Shore
- 23 Annual Fall Brunch - 11:30**
At the home of Claudia Saunders, 8 Tiffany Lane
- 24 Book Group-1 PM**
At the home of Hope Hageman, 116 Greens Farms Rd.
- 26 Immigration Open Discussion - 9:30 AM**
Town Hall, room 201
- OCT 3 Board Meeting - 8:30 AM**
At the home of Pippa Bell Ader, 62 Woodside Ave.
- 17 Candidates Forum - 7-9 PM**
P&Z, ZBA, BAA
Town Hall Auditorium
- 18 Observer Corps - 9 AM**
Action Committee - 11 AM
Parks and Recreation Building. Long Shore
- 22 Book Group - 1 PM**
At the home of Peg Bishop, 7 Bradley Street (please park at beach parking lot.)
- 25 Candidates Forum - 7- 9PM**
Town Hall Auditorium
BOE and BOF

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

Annual Fall Brunch
Sunday, September 23
Details inside

