



Westport Voter

Summer 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
Rsgalan75 @hotmail.com**



Congratulations to our TWO scholarship recipients

Pictured here with Co-president Eileen Flug are Christina Campbell (left) and Elizabeth Myers (right).

Although we met only Christina at our Annual General Meeting, this year the Staples Tuition Grants Committee decided to split our scholarship between Christina and Elizabeth. We congratulate them both and wish them every success in their studies and beyond.

MEMBERSHIP BINGO

If there's a green sticker in the circle below, we haven't received your membership renewal form and you lose this round. BUT, if you act quickly and send us your check, the prize is yours: all the benefits of an LWV Westport membership, no annoying reminder calls or letters, AND inclusion in this year's handbook which will be mailed to you in the fall.



If you are among those lucky people who receive this *Voter* but are not already members, please consider joining us to support all the good work that we do.



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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Membership Administrator, Joyce Netherton

Voter Editor, Lisa Shufro

LWV websites:

www.lwvwestportct.org

www.lwvct.org (Connecticut)

www.lwv.org (US)

Book Group News

Next meeting:
Monday, August 20
1:30 PM
At the home of
Deborah Green
17 Cockenoe Drive

We will be discussing *Skinner's Drift*
By Lisa Fugard

Please e-mail debgreen@optonline.net
Or call 226-1845 if you are planning to attend.

NB: The August meeting will take place on the third Monday. In September we will return to our usual meeting day of the fourth Monday, with an earlier start time. Details to follow.

**From the Presidents**

Greetings,

Summer is here, but let's recall for a moment what a productive spring we had. The League carried the Democracy Challenge Cup in the Memorial Day Parade and represented the suffragists in the Westport Woman's Club's 100th anniversary parade. In addition, we held an enjoyable Annual General Meeting and a fabulously successful Tag Sale. Now we can take advantage of the "lazy days of summer" to relax and enjoy a good book or two. But the League never stops working. The Immigration Study Committee will be meeting throughout the summer to prepare for a consensus in January. Members who volunteered to participate in an educational program about the new optical scanning voting machines will be trained. Voter Services will begin to prepare for the Forums and the Voter's Guide, and the Observer Corps and Action Committees will continue with their duties.

The League is fueled by many dedicated volunteers and... funding. Fundraisers, while fostering a sense of community and providing much-needed financial support, are time-consuming and can take volunteers away from other League activities that further our mission. For this reason, the League is hesitant to add more fundraisers to the calendar. The Board has chosen NOT to raise dues this year, but is asking all members to consider making an additional contribution when you renew your membership. All donations made out to the "LWV Education Fund" are tax-deductible as provided by law. While you enjoy the summer, please don't forget to renew your membership, and consider this request. Thank You!

Eileen and Pippa

SPEAKING OF DONATIONS, THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO HAVE ALREADY DONATED TO THE LEAGUE AND SHOWN HOW IMPORTANT LEAGUE WORK IS TO THEM

Donors to the Westport**LWV:**

Pippa Bell Ader
Winifred Balboni
Helene Crawford
Barlow Cutler-Wotton
Jane Eyes
Diane Farrell
Maggie and Joe Feczko
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Rose Anne Preston
Janet Reynolds
Alison Rivard
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Yvonne Senturia
Lisa Shufro



IMMIGRATION STUDY

Twenty LWV Westport members are actively involved in studying immigration as part of the LWVUS study, which will culminate in consensus meetings in February. The study group is meeting as a whole twice a month and subgroups are meeting independently to study the reasons for immigration, the impact of immigration and current immigration policy. Throughout the fall, the group will be inviting all league members to attend informational meetings so that as many members as possible will be involved in the discussion before the local consensus meetings. **Next Meeting: August 22, 9:30 AM, Town Hall Room 309**

COME JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

You are invited to join the Immigration Study Committee in a lively discussion to help LWV members better understand the vocabulary of immigration and the values that inform our ideas about immigration and immigration policies.

Wednesday, September 26, 9:30 AM, Town Hall Room 201



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN VOTER EDUCATION

In October, the Community Services Committee plans to visit Coleytown and Bedford middle schools to present our 7th grade voter education program, and Staples High School to present our high school civics program, The Power of One. We are looking for volunteers who enjoy being with students and can present a short talk about the importance of voter participation. We have scripts for both programs. 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 LWV volunteers help their students understand the importance of being an active participant in the voting process. Our goal is to get enough volunteers to do all Westport 7th grade classes, and all the Staples American Government and AP American Government classes.

If you are interested in volunteering or would be interested in more information, please call either Yvonne Senturia (226-6683) or Jill Greenberg (454-3723).



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Several members of the Environment Committee have been monitoring water quality in the Norwalk and Aspetuck Rivers under the supervision of members of the River Watch/Harbor Watch staff. The Committee also prepared a Letter to the Editor drawing attention to the Conservation Department's brochure on preventing non-point source pollution and the importance of adequate septic system maintenance.

If you are interested in joining us, contact Alison Rivard or Jane Eyes.

**Next Meeting: August 22, 11:30 AM
At home of Pippa Bell Ader, 62 Woodside Avenue**



VOTERS SERVICES NEEDS YOU!!

**Next Meeting:: Thursday September 6th, 2007, 9:00-10:30am
At the home of Liz Ann Koos, 114 Greens Farms Road**

This is the year to get active --Please plan to attend this meeting
We are looking for more Volunteers --
Do as much or as little as you want!!!
Help us:

- * Design and implement ideas to GET OUT THE VOTE
- * PRACTICE this year for the big Presidential election next year
- * Assist the registrars with public programs introducing NEW voting machines
- * Think up questions for Voters Guide and Forums



RSVP to Jackie Gordon (jevag@aol.com) 203-803-3725

If you can't join us on the 6th but want to be involved -- please call Jackie and let her know

Do YOU know what is in your Town Plan?



The Westport Town Plan of Conservation for the years 2008-2018 has been drafted and revised and is available for public comment, before October 4th, the date of the public comment meeting. The P and Z's final vote will take place on October 25. Suggestions included in the draft plan include additional service stations to be built on the Post Road, raising maximum height allowances on Main Street and installing meters for parking downtown. Perhaps you have views about these and other issues that are addressed in the document. If so, it behooves you to review the Town Plan and comment, as a member of this community. Now is the time to inform yourself and make your opinions known!

To see the Town Plan, go to the Town of Westport website, www.westportct.gov, and type in Town Plan in the Search box in the top left hand corner. In addition, copies are available at the library.

Mark the Public Comment Date on your calendar! October 4th, 2007

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 20 Book Group - 1:30PM**
At the home of Deborah Green
17 Cockenoe Drive
- 22 Immigration Study Committee- 9:30 AM**
Town Hall, room 309
- 22 Environment Committee - 11:30 AM**
At the home of Pippa Bell Ader, 62 Woodside Ave.
- SEPT 5 Board Meeting - 8:30 AM**
At home of Eileen Flug, 5 Gault Avenue
- 6 Voters Services Meeting - 9:00 AM**
At the home of Liz Ann Koos
114 Greens Farms Road
- 12 Immigration Study Committee - 9:30 AM**
Town Hall, room 201
- 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 - TBD**
- 26 Immigration Open Discussion - 9:30 AM**
Town Hall, room 201

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*

