

# THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2010

## CALENDAR

<b>Monday, September 6</b>	<b>Labor Day</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 7 9:30 am</b>	<b>LWVCCA Board Meeting Cape Cod 5 Bank, Dennis</b>
<b>Saturday, September 11 10 am</b>	<b>Coast Week Celebration Audubon Long Pasture Sanctuary ((story inside))</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 14</b>	<b>MA Primary Elections</b>
<b>Sunday, September 19 2:00 pm</b>	<b>“IS DISRESPECT KILLING DEMOCRACY” Forum Tilden Arts Center CCCC</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 28 7:00 pm,</b>	<b>MA District 4 Representative Candidates Forum Snow Library, Orleans</b>

The League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area  
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## Hello Leaguers ~

What a summer this has been from the very warm and sometimes too humid days that have given us lovely tomatoes weeks earlier than usual to a bounty of League work done for our organization by handfuls of people.

Probably the single most important thing to note is our ongoing planning in preparation for our **huge forum on civility at Cape Cod Community College on Sunday afternoon, 2 p.m September 19. We're calling the forum: "Is Disrespect Killing Please Democracy? A Public Dialogue."** See the full page flier that is included this newsletter. Note the 14 sponsors including us and the college. We are excited; we are proud; we are daring to be hopeful! This is a most needed forum and the interest is great. I hope every able member is planning on attending. A strong showing of citizens will speak volumes to the consensus for greater respect in the public square, including the upcoming political campaigns this fall. If you need transportation help, please call your unit chair.

While still on the subject of the civility forum, I offer my most sincere gratitude to all the planning committee members and especially to 4Cs president and LWV member Kathy Schatzberg, our ever gracious host for our planning meetings and most valued source of information, contacts and resources. If you get Channel 17 Cape Media, look for a 30 minute program featuring Lisa Heller Boragine of the college and myself discussing the issue.

Other work – the nuts and bolts type -- has taken place. A small committee has reviewed the By-Laws bringing many sections up to date. They will be reviewed in 2011 prior to the Annual Meeting where we hope they will be adopted. The same hard working group looked at the job descriptions and made revisions in them, better reflecting what has been going on in recent years. Thanks to Elizabeth Levy, Nancy Curley and Betsy Bray (who in addition to myself) made up that committee. Elizabeth has also worked hard on setting up political candidate forums in September and October. Please note these dates on the calendar part of the *Voter*. And finally, many hours have been spent in preparation of the new Member Handbook which will be mailed to you shortly. Thanks here go to Betsy Bray, Debbie Aikman, Elaine Bono and Nancy Erskine.

Our first event of the fall is the Coast Week celebration which will be held on Saturday, September 11 at noon at Long Pasture Sanctuary in Barnstable. The Ed Trust Fund has graciously offered to pick up the cost of our speaker. See notice of that event in this *Voter*.

I conclude with a most sincere invitation to you to join your fellow League members for as many events as you are able. We welcome members to our Board meetings, any committee meetings and of course, all forums. We welcome your support however you feel that can be given and we especially thank you for renewing your membership for the current year.

In League,

# Judy Thomas

This year's Coast Week Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 11, at 10 o'clock at Audubon's Long Pasture Sanctuary, 345 Bone Hill Road, Barnstable.

The Director of Long Pasture Sanctuary, Ian Ives, will be our speaker. His talk will discuss the variety of critical habitats which are to be found on Upper Cape Cod. He will explore what makes these habitats so special and will highlight some of the rare plant and animal species within them. Ian will also lead a short 20 minute nature walk after his talk. We are grateful to the LWVCCA Ed Trust for the donation to make this memorable Celebration possible.

Bring a brown bag lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided as usual. In case of poor weather, we can eat in the House. Otherwise we will picnic outside, and be free to explore the Long Pasture Sanctuary. Guests are welcome, so please bring interested friends.

**DIRECTIONS;** take exit 7 off the Midcape Highway at Willow Street. Follow Willow Street west to route 6A. Turn left towards Barnstable. After about half a mile on 6A, turn right on Bone Hill Rd (the same road that goes to the Harbor Point Restaurant). Don't park in the Audubon Parking you first see on you left, but keep on Bone Hill Road until you almost arrive at Barnstable Harbor. Turn left into the Sanctuary. We will be meeting in the House on the property.

## **Voter Service**

Election 2010 means a busy Fall for Voter Service. Three candidates forums are currently scheduled, and others may be added after the Primary.

September 28 - District 4 State Representative, Snow Library, Orleans 7:00 p.m.

October 14 - Cape and Islands U.S. Congress Representative, and State Senator,  
Cape Cod Community College, 6:30 p.m.

October 19 - District 1 State Representative, Brewster Ladies Library, time TBA

Voter registration will also be an activity and we need your help with this. Fall celebrations often offer a venue for a registration table. If you know of an occasion in your town which would be suitable, please volunteer to staff a table or booth. We will supply forms and other League publications. Currently we have a reservation for a table at Eastham's Windmill Weekend on Sunday September 12.

We have no formal Voter Service Committee, but in the past members have participated in

goodly numbers. Let's do it again.

As our name proclaims, VOTING IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

Elizabeth Levy, Chair

## **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

Welcome to our new members who joined during the summer:

**Karen Mazza, Brewster:** Karen and her husband have moved to Brewster as full time residents. Karen retired from school administration and she is interested in continuing public service through the League

**Jacqueline Pentz-Greene, Harwich:** Jacqueline has lived in Harwich for the last 6 years. Previously, she worked for the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C. She is interested in the environment and believes in the mission of the LWV.

**A belated welcome** to members who joined last year- we will highlight more new members in the next issue of "The Voter:

**Suzanne Albert, Orleans:** Suzanne lived in many areas including Nigeria when she was participants in the Peace Corps. She joined the League, remembering that her mother one of the first did back in the days when it was "radical" to do such a thing. Now she appreciates the intelligence of the members and the organizations balanced approach to politics.

**Dottie Kelly, Harwich:** Dottie moved to the Cape 6+ years ago from Rhode Island. Her background is teaching (ESOL). She joined the League this past year because of a desire to stay abreast of the issues from the local all the way to the national. She'd like to be involved with the Birthday Card project.

**Virginia Nordin, Chatham:** She's very interested in issues, especially women's issues, all politics and would like to be involved in one of the League's studies -- perhaps the new national study on the role of federal government in education.

**Walter Diggs, Harwich:** Walter is a retired hospital administrator from Memphis, TN, he and his wife have been here for 2 years. He is interested in health care issues.

**Barbara Wellnitz, Brewster:** Barbara has lived on the Cape for about 15 months. She was in the public relations business for 30 years and ran a consulting firm for part of that time. She is interested in health care and is looking forward to attending the Civility meeting.

**Elizabeth Kuetchenmeister, Orleans:** Elizabeth moved from Westport, CT about 3 years ago. She is busy serving on the Town's Conservation Committee and on the Republican Town Committee. She joined the League because she believes in the importance of voter education.

As the new Membership Chair, I am excited that the first time membership for \$35 was

approved at the June Annual meeting. It will be helpful in attracting new members. We are looking for people to join the Membership Committee; it does not require a big commitment of time. If you are interested please contact me at 508-432-4824

Also: Remember President Judy Thomas's motto :“Always think membership” (ATM) If you know anyone that might be interested in joining the League please let me know.

HYPERLINK "mailto:braybetsy@gmail.com" [braybetsy@gmail.com](mailto:braybetsy@gmail.com)

Betsy Bray, Chair

Editor's Note: Just in, welcome to new members Paul and Elaine Biegelsen of Eastham!

## **COUNTY OBSERVATION CORPS**

We are recruiting League members to join our Observation Corps. The Corps observes meetings of the Assembly of Delegates and the County Commissioner's meetings when possible. All meetings are held in the Barnstable County complex on 6A in Barnstable Village. We also attend meetings of the Charter Commission Review Committee, which were suspended for the summer.

The League has worked toward recognition of the interdependence of all towns on the cape as we deal with such issues as water, conservation, transportation, education and limited resources. Did you know that the official name of our county is The Regional Government of Cape Cod Massachusetts?.

Progress is on the way in regionalization efforts and transparency in government, the 2 areas our League has been pressing, with some success. To keep it up, we need more knowledgeable voices. If you would like to join in this effort, please call me and we will arrange an orientation session.

Jari Rapaport, 255-2476

## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Last year the Environment Committee concentrated on the waste water problems facing all our towns. We also kept an eye on the slow progress of Cape Wind and made clear the League's support of this vital project.

Next year, the same issues are before us and finding solutions becomes ever more urgent. We would enthusiastically welcome more members!

Erica Parra, Chair

## **CHATHAM-HARWICH UNIT**

The Chatham-Harwich unit met on July 28 in Harwich 400 East to talk over lunch with members of the Chatham-Harwich School Regionalization Board. Although this was an unusual time to schedule a unit meeting, we thought it important to begin to learn about the Board's progress and plans prior to what might become their recommendation to our town meetings in November. Three members of the Board attended --Jack Brown, Harwich, Co-Chair, Craig Vokey, Chatham member, and Bonnie Loedel, Harwich member -- as did most of our unit members. We learned quite a lot and left looking forward to future learning

opportunities whether at the Board's regular meetings (open to the public) or at the public forums they anticipated scheduling. The first of these forums is now scheduled for Sept. 15 at the Chatham Community Center. More about this and the Board's membership, history, and work can be found on their website: HYPERLINK "file:///C:\\Documents%20and%20Settings\\Mary%20Rapaport\\My%20Documents\\Bulletin\\www.chathamharwich.org" [www.chathamharwich.org](http://www.chathamharwich.org)

We anticipate that the topic of regionalization, as it relates to schools or other aspects of our communities' lives, will continue to be a part of our unit's agenda as we resume regular meetings this fall.

Nancy Erskine, Chatham  
Kathleen Vogt, Harwich

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**COAST WEEK**