CALENDAR

Saturday December 3
9:30 - Noon

Holiday Brunch
Riverway, S. Yarmouth

Tuesday December 6
9am - 1:30pm

Consensus Meeting, Charter Schools
Harwich Community Center, Oak Street

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday January 3 2017
9:30

Board Meeting
Cape Cod Five Dennis Branch

Thursday, January 19
10am

Third Week Coffee
Panera, Hyannis

Calm, peaceful and hopeful holidays to all!

www.lwvcapecod.org
Thank you for reading and studying the many files from LWVMA on Charter Schools. While the recent ballot question vote showed a strong defeat of the proposal to lift the cap on charter schools, this still leaves unresolved substantive issues of public policy related to charter schools, school finance, accountability and education improvement. The League needs to understand and promote good policy on these topics. Your involvement is very important. We look forward to your participation at our consensus meeting on December 6th. This meeting replaces our regularly scheduled Board meeting and the input of all our LWVCCA members is welcomed and encouraged. Joan Craig will be our facilitator and Scotti Finnegan will be the recorder.

Coffee and light breakfast items will be provided but please bring a brown bag lunch. See you then!

LAST CHANCE -- HOLIDAY BRUNCH THIS SATURDAY!
You’ll still be more than welcome!
Email Ira Seldin today at floira@comcast.net and pay at the door
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends,

What happens now? We wait. Americans are either satisfied or distraught. I wonder if anyone is joyful or hopeful. Perhaps. The other night while I was watching something about the lost manufacturing jobs and shutting down factories, steel making in Pittsburgh was mentioned as if steel had only recently been manufactured there and within the recent past has not. Steel has not been manufactured in Pittsburgh since the early eighties and the city has reinvented itself at least three times since. I was car shopping and interested in a German car being manufactured in Nashville. The story of the demise of manufacturing in the US is more complex than most of us take time to truly understand. So is climate change, charter schools, clean energy, issues of intolerance, the right to choose, affordable child care, affordable college, and healthcare, issues that are non-partisan and must be studied.

What do each of us know and truly understand about the issues and policies that are the work of the elected government and its agencies. The protests against President-elect Trump are not against the Republican party but against the man who has spewed hatred and intolerance at us for the last 18 months. We the people created the system that we rail against. It is becoming more rare to find women or men who consider running for office, step-up to be on a town board or run for a position in local government. Perhaps the reason is we don’t have the stomach to be part of a political system that has become more about celebrity and money than about building strong and meaningful relationships between “we the people” and those we elect to represent us in government. I noticed in my emails since the presidential election many people want to donate to political action groups but only a few have mentioned volunteering, stepping up to serve on a town board or running for office.

The suffragette movement was never about being a member of a political party it was about the right to vote, to have women’s voices heard, for women to have a seat at the table. The League of Women Voters was the vehicle for women to become informed voters, not democrats or republicans, not to vote for a specific party or candidate. That would be their choice after they were informed. This is as important now as it was almost 100 years ago.

Now is the moment to engage, not to flee. Now is the time to read, reflect, talk with non-likeminded people, to listen and question all in a civilized, respectful dialogue. The League of Women Voters is one vehicle to that end. This is a request for women and men to join a non-partisan political organization whose mission is civic education for the purpose of encouraging informed and active participation in our democracy. We must be partners not adversaries in this great experiment called the United States of America.

As a member of the LWVCCA renew your commitment to the League's mission and principles. If you are not a member please join us as we forge a future built on diverse points of view, civil discourse, and a genuine commitment to our democracy.

Scotti Finnegan
Yankee Ingenuity
525 Main St. Chatham, MA 02633
(508) 945-1288
coolstuff@yankee-ingenuity.com
www.yankee-ingenuity.com

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hair & body

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1-508-760-5700

David Gaudet (617) 365-0194
Sydney Mercer (508) 760-5700
Last month, the Youth Service Committee announced that, in collaboration with The Cape Cod Foundation, LWVCCA has been able to award three grants to support civic education in area school districts. Members expressed considerable interest in knowing more about the grant recipients and the projects they will now be able to undertake. Following are the details.

I. Barnstable High School of the Barnstable School District  
*Teachers: Steven Moynihan and Hilary Mueller*  
**Project:** Edward M. Kennedy Institute – Senate Immersion Module and Student Study of Immigration  
Funding will support transportation for students in the Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics class and the Advanced Placement Human Geography class to attend the Edward M. Kennedy Institute to participate in the Senate Immersion Module. Using tablets provided by the Institute, groups of students work together to create a bill on an historic issue or current policy affecting the country. The students will participate in the Immigration SIM, a topic geography students are studying. This allows both AP Geography students and 9th grade Human Geography students, who will be participating in other civic experiences, to integrate civics into their curriculum.

II. Dennis Yarmouth High School of the Dennis Yarmouth Regional School District  
*Teachers: Edward Fiorentino and Thad Rice*  
**Project:** Edward M. Kennedy Institute – Senate Immersion Module and Student Study of the Legislative Process  
Funding will support transportation for 11th and 12th grade students from the AP U.S. History and Senior Honors Seminar classes to participate in the Senate Immersion Module. They will participate in a Senate role play and, back at school, will monitor the legislation they worked on by monitoring actual legislation in the real Congress through various news forums.

III. Wixon Innovation School of the Dennis Yarmouth Regional School District  
*Teacher: Michelle Dunn*  
**Project:** Fifth Grade Study of the Levels of Government -- Students will tour the State House, meeting with local legislators and also attending the Edward M. Kennedy Institute, where they will be introduced to the Senator in Training program simulation, specifically designed for students in grades 3 through 7. The Senator in Training Program will enrich students’ skills in the areas of research, debate, perspective taking, and forming and explaining an opinion.

*Continued next page...*
ABOUT THE LWV CIVIC EDUCATION FUND
The League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area, in partnership with The Cape Cod Foundation, has established a fund to support “Action Civics” for middle and high school students. Action Civics combines traditional civic education, guided experiential civic education and youth leadership development with the goal of creating an engaged citizenry capable of effective participation in the civic process in their communities and in society. The fund supports middle and high school teachers in initiating or expanding civic education opportunities for their students. Grants of up to $750 per school district are awarded with a goal of being able to support every school district, secondary charter school or vocational high school on the Cape.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS
Ranney and Rimington, Custom Building -- Unique Properties
The Cape Cod Foundation -- The Briggs Fund of The Cape Cod Foundation
The Clifford Fund of The Cape Cod Foundation
League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area through the Helen S. Aaron Educational Trust
League of Women Voters of Falmouth
Individual Anonymous Donors
Mary Lopez of Harwich is our newest member. Formerly active in the Marlborough (Mass.) LWV, Mary has lived on the Cape for twenty-three years with her husband Richard. Before retiring, she was a Nurse Practitioner in psychiatry for Cape Cod Hospital and for Orleans Psycho Therapy. . . and was an active member of the Academy for Lifelong Learning and a volunteer for We Can.

While still in Marlborough she was active in programs for conservation. She was also a member of the town’s Fair Housing Committee: when the committee suspected racial discrimination in housing, Mary and Richard posed as potential renters for an apartment and were able to confirm discrimination.

LWVCCA’s concern with healthcare is of particular interest to Mary, who is presently on kidney dialysis three days a week. She is also an avid reader whose favorite author is Jane Austen.

Mary’s address is:
8 Tody Bole Lane, Harwich, MA 02645
508-430-2366
(Mary is not on email at this time.)

MEMBERSHIP TEAM’S OUTREACH EFFORTS CONTINUE. . .

The Membership Team has been busy this Fall, focusing on outreach to potential new members. At meetings with local newcomers groups in Sandwich, Barnstable and Nauset, they spoke to those in attendance about the changes in Massachusetts voting laws. They set up membership tables both at those meetings and also at the League-sponsored debates in October -- then followed up with all three groups by sending links to candidates debates for Congress, Mass. Senate and County Commissioners. As a result of this outreach, newcomers received information about LWVCCA as well as broader public voting information. Prospect lists were created which will be used for follow-up throughout the year.

The group will continue to seek opportunities to connect with other groups and would welcome suggestions from all members on potential openings for outreach.
BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 1 2016
Cape Cod Five, Dennis

MINUTES

Present: Scotti Finnegan, Judy Thomas, Nancy Erskine, Richard Utt, Phyllis Walsh, Jari Rapaport, Renate Sands, Suzanne Finney, Karen Mazza, Amy Harris, Joan Bernstein.

The Minutes of October 4, 2016 were approved as amended.

Treasurer’s Report: On October 31, 2016 the bank balance was $9,097.86. Total income for the month of October was $1,405.38, which included $1,250.00 reimbursement from the Cape Cod Foundation for the Tingle event, and expenses of $497.27. Suzanne Finney recommended that the budget for 2017-2018 and subsequently contain a line item for unforeseen expenses.

President's Report: President Scotti Finnegan requested that she be copied on every message that goes out on email. Scotti also requested that the approved minutes be sent by email to all members. Joan Bernstein, Secretary, will send her the approved Minutes and Scotti will distribute to the membership. Suzanne Finney prepared invitation forms for the coffees to send by email.

Phyllis Koppel may be able to continue as Communications chair working remotely. Scotti will investigate having the League people who worked at the polls on election day listed in the Voter. Also thanks should be extended to all the people who organized the events/debates leading up to the election, Debbie Beal, Phyllis Walsh, Joan Grant, and Chris Meade – in the Voter and at the holiday brunch.

Richard Utt contacted Maggie French about setting up the Facebook page. He noted that the League could have been much more active this election season and have provided good information for members and nonmembers. Richard will write up a plan for the Facebook page and send it to the board for its approval. He will also write an article for the December Voter about how to use the Facebook page. Karen Mazza noted that the board should approve the content at its January meeting.

Youth Service Committee chair, Karen Mazza, reported that the size of the audience at the Jimmy Tingle fund-raiser was disappointingly small but that due to contributions the event expenses were paid and funds were raised for additional grants for the 2016-2017 year. The board thanked Karen for her donation to and work for the civic education project. A discussion ensued as to how best to continue the grant program. Judy Thomas opined that the League should thoroughly discuss the pros and cons of any initiatives before they are undertaken. Scotti noted that we need to mentor each other in respectful and meaningful ways.

Charter School Study and Consensus will occur on December 6th in lieu of a Board meeting at the Harwich Community Center from 9:30-1:30. Coffee and tidbits will be provided at the opening; bring a brown bag lunch. Amy Harris distributed the background materials for pre-study by email. Room rental at the HCC is $40.

Continues...
Speaker Series: The Cape Cod Young Professionals (CCYP) has a civic engagement subcommittee. Phyllis Walsh suggested that we meet with them to discuss what would engage younger people. The Speaker Series would be designed to engage a wider community in civic engagement. Scotti suggested having two programs in the spring, possibly on the subject of money in politics. Suggested speakers included Jane Yarborough, Lawrence Lessig from Harvard, the new County Administrator, Ann Marie Doherty, Sue Goodwin and new Assembly members.

Outer Edges: Scotti suggested that we include “Outer Edges” events in place of two coffees to engage members who live at the farthest reaches of our geographical territory. Suggested venues included the Dunbar Tea House in Sandwich and Jari Rapaport’s home in Eastham. Nancy Erskine moved, Judy Thomas seconded a motion to accept that proposal. Passed unanimously.

Film Series: Richard Utt suggested we show a documentary film made by the Southern Poverty Law Center. The film is available at the libraries.

Field Trip: It was suggested that the League plan a field trip to the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

Coffee: In November the Coffee will be held the third Tuesday in November, 11/15 at Amy Harris’ house. The topic of discussion – post election issues. Scotti will send an email reminder to members.

New Business: Judy Thomas suggested that how the League celebrates the 100th anniversary of women’s right to vote be an Agenda item at the January Board meeting. Nancy Erskine moved, Karen Mazza seconded a motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan B. Bernstein, Secretary
## CALENDAR 2016-2017 (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/3/2016</td>
<td>Holiday Brunch, The Riverway South Yarmouth</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/6/2016</td>
<td>Consensus Meeting 9:30-1:30 Harwich Community Center</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>January/February</td>
<td>Program Planning per LWVMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/3/2017</td>
<td>Board Mtg, Cape Cod Five, Dennis</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/19/2017</td>
<td>Third week coffee - Panera, Hyannis</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/7/2017</td>
<td>Board Mtg, Cape Cod Five, Dennis</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
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<td>2/21/2017</td>
<td>Third week coffee - Buckies Biscotti, Dennisport</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>February/March</td>
<td>Legislative Breakfast TBD</td>
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<td>3/7/2017</td>
<td>Board Mtg, Cape Cod Five, Dennis</td>
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<td>3/20/2017</td>
<td>Third week coffee - Rendezvous, Hyannis</td>
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<td>4/4/2017</td>
<td>Board Mtg, Cape Cod Five Dennis</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>State of the County - TBD</td>
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<td>4/18/2017</td>
<td>Third week coffee - TBD</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>5/2/2017</td>
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<td>5/18/2017</td>
<td>Annual Mtg, Sea View, Dennisport</td>
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<td>6/6/2017</td>
<td>Board Mtg, CC5, Dennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/21/2017</td>
<td>Third week coffee - TBD</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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