CALENDAR

Tuesday May 3
9:30am
Board Meeting
Dennis Branch, Cape Cod Five

Wednesday, May 18
5 - 7pm
LWVCCA Annual Meeting
Sea View Restaurant, Dennis Port
Reservations by May 13--see coupon

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday, June 7
9:30am
Board Meeting
Cape Cod Five, Dennis

June 9 & August 24
Debates for State Senate Democratic Primary
June at CC Community Media Center
August at Yarmouth Town Hall
Co-sponsored by Cape & Islands Dem. Council

www.lwvcapecod.org
REMINDER -- ANNUAL MEETING

LWVCCA Annual Meeting & End of Year Celebration
Wednesday, May 18, 2016  5:00 - 7:00pm
Sea View Restaurant, 76 Chase Ave., Dennis Port

Our LWVCCA Annual meeting will be held at the same location where we met last year. We’ll review the outcomes of the April 2nd Priorities Meeting and approve the officers, directors, budget and programs for next year. Please join us as we share information about our future and celebrate the work we have done over the last year. Guests are most welcome. The price for the dinner is $29.00, which includes hors d’oeuvres, salad, choice of 3 main courses and dessert. Cash bar. Your confirmation is requested by May 13. Please see reply coupon at the end of this VOTER. For more information on the Sea View and for driving directions, http://seaviewcapecod.com

2015-2016 STEERING COMMITTEE YEAR-END REPORT
From the Steering Committee
Chris Meade, Barbara Wellnitz, and Joan Bernstein

The year 2015-2016 has been an active one, as attested to by the reports of committee chairs below. Their tireless work has contributed greatly to the effectiveness of the education and advocacy for which the League is respected and famous.

A wonderful Sunday Jazz Concert began the year and raised funds for the civic education program developed by the Youth Service Committee in collaboration with the Cape Cod Foundation.

Consensus. The Steering Committee led two studies which were open to all members. The League of Women Voters U.S. provided study materials and posed questions for consensus. The first required recommended reading, discussion, and coming to consensus about the best way to amend the Constitution. The second was an investigation of the problems of money in politics, especially in light of the Supreme Court decision in Citizens United. We met twice to come to consensus on the questions posed by National.

At the Holiday Brunch, Jane Scarborough as guest speaker extended the discussion of Constitutional matters with her informative and compelling talk on the Electoral College.

Setting Priorities. The Steering Committee also initiated meetings of members to consider, as we look forward, what we see as priorities and where we want/are able to put our efforts for the coming year. We held three meetings to set forth a realistic plan for 2016-2017 about the issues and programs we want to pursue. The plan is boiled down to the priority issues for study and action to be voted on at the annual meeting. Additional suggested activities and changes will be reviewed and decided on by the new board members later in the year.
VOTER SERVICE 2015 - 2016

Joan Grant and Chris Meade, Co-Chairs

Don’t Just Stand There, Run! Workshop
On January 23, the Don’t Just Stand There, Run! Workshop was held at the Cape Cod Community Media Center. We cosponsored the event with the Cape Cod Times, Cape Women’s Coalition and CCYP. LWVCCA committee members were Joan Grant, Florence Seldin, Judy Thomas and Chris Meade. Linda Cebula from the Cape Women’s Coalition and Stefanie Coxe from CCYP were also on the committee. Thirty people attended the event. Had there not been a major snowstorm forecast, attendance was projected to be about 50. Attendees’ evaluations included: Excellent! Very well done. Awesome and very thought-provoking! Great, informative event! The workshop was aired live to all 15 towns across the Cape. The video on-demand link is on the LWVCCA website.

Candidates Debates – 2016 Town Elections
We participated in candidate debates in three towns. Debates in Dennis were held on April 28th for the board of selectmen and school committee races. We were asked to sponsor the debate by the Town Clerk, Terri Bunce. The debates were moderated by Florence Seldin. On April 28, Judy Thomas moderated a debate for the board of selectmen race in Harwich. This debate was sponsored by the Harwich Voter Information Committee which is a non-partisan, official town committee. In Chatham, a debate for two seats on the board of selectmen and one on the regional school committee was held on April 29, sponsored by LWVCCA with Betsy Bray moderating.

Debates will be held in Brewster on May 5th for the board of selectmen and planning board races. This event is cosponsored with the Brewster Community Network and Brewster Ladies’ Library and will be moderated by Betsy Gasek.

Looking Ahead – Candidate Debates for the Democratic Primary Race for State Senate
We will cosponsor 2 candidate debates with the Cape and Islands Democratic Council. The debates are with the candidates running in the Democratic primary race for the Cape and Islands District Senate seat. The first debate will be held on June 9 at 6:30 at the CC Community Media Center. The second debate will be held on August 24 at 6:30 at the Yarmouth Town Hall.

Upcoming Events

May 5: Brewster Candidate Debates (2 races), Brewster Ladies’ Library
May 18: Annual Meeting – Sea View Restaurant in Dennis Port
June 9: Candidates Debate for State Senate Democratic Primary Race at the CC Community Media Center
August 24: Candidates Debate for State Senate Democratic Primary Race at the Yarmouth Town Hall
YOUTH SERVICE COMMITTEE YEAR IN REVIEW

Karen Mazza, Chair

This year the work of the Youth Service Committee to support civic education in the schools has taken several steps forward. The following list summarizes our major advances.

- In our first-year launch of the grant fund for schools, “The League of Women Voters Civic Education Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation”, we raised $3,800 and were able to award grants to four school districts to support projects in action civics. You can see a list of the awarded projects on our website under the civic education section.
- We initiated a partnership with the John F. Kennedy Museum in Hyannis to collaborate on civic education opportunities for youth.
- Karen Mazza made a presentation on the League of Women Voters and how it helps people participate in the civic process to a group of high school students at the JFK Museum in Hyannis in April.
- Karen Mazza and Renate Sands will present a similar presentation to the Rotoract Club at Cape Cod Community College on April 27.
- Karen Mazza has agreed to serve as the state League representative to a new task force on civic education and engagement formed by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The task force is charged with the responsibility of developing a strategic plan to support civic education and engagement in the schools.
- In March, our committee initiated a meeting of high school civics teachers across the Cape, with seven districts represented, to gain feedback for input to the task force and to gain feedback on our local efforts to support civic education.

Our next meeting of the Youth Service Committee, will be on April 27, and at that meeting we will be discussing the feedback that we obtained from the civics teachers about ways that we can support civic education on the Cape.

We must now turn our attention to the next round of fundraising to support the grant program for civic education. We will hold fundraising events during the summer and fall to be able to award the next grants in October. If anyone would like to help us raise funds by assisting us with organization of these events please contact Karen Mazza at mazzak1623@gmail.com. We are looking to sponsor concerts or talks by notable people for which we can charge admission.

If League members would like to donate to the grant fund, checks can be made payable to the LWV Civic Education Fund and should be mailed to The Cape Cod Foundation, 259 Willow Street, Yarmouthport, M
COUNTY COMMITTEE 2015-2016

Judy Thomas, Co-Chair

With the 2015 late spring and early fall resignations of both former county committee co-chairs, Jari Rapaport and Nancy Curley, the county committee entered a period of hibernation. Bringing the committee back to life in December 2015 was communication between committee member Paula Bacon and Ed DeWitt, executive director of The Association to Preserve Cape Cod and an active member of the Cape Cod Business Roundtable. The BRT was again interested in actively seeking structure change of the county government and seeking support of the League. Based on conversations at the League Holiday brunch, the League agreed to be a participant in an op-ed letter to the Cape Cod Times, and then to meet with leadership of the BRT and to meet with the BRT and the editorial board of the Cape Cod Times. At this January 2016 meeting, the League agreed to work with the BRT with the proviso that the League would be a full participant in planning and participating with the BRT in developing strategies to achieve structural change of the County government. Judy Thomas and Mary Lou Petitt agreed to co-chair the League’s county committee on an interim basis. Soon two members of the Assembly of Delegates offered differing proposals for amending structural aspects of the Regional Government Charter. The committee met to discuss strategies for advocating for change, based on our local position, which could be recommended to the Board. Judy and Mary Lou attended BRT planning meetings when possible. Members of the committee resumed attending some county government meetings. Judy and Mary Lou presented a comparison of the pros and cons of both proposals to the Truro Board of Selectmen. Judy, Florence Seldin and Mary Lou presented testimony to the Assembly when the proposals were on the agenda for discussion. Currently the proposals have been tabled to give the authors time to determine if they can arrive at a compromise proposal. The committee will continue to monitor activities and to work with the BRT as meaningful opportunities develop.
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE 2015-2016  
Helen Bresnahan, Chair

This year we welcomed seven additional members to our rolls. They are as follows:

Chatham
   Joanne “Scotti” Finnegan
Dennis
   Mary Beevers
Harwich
   Marie Caruso
   Tom Caruso
   Elizabeth “Betsy” Gasek
Orleans
   Deborah Beal
   Maya Sparrow.

A special centennial of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote motivated the League to hold a special event. With the movie “Suffragettes” playing at the Cape Cinema and the Chatham Orpheum, we provided membership and information brochures at these locales thanks to member Suzanne Finney -- clearly making known and demonstrating that the League of Women Voters is alive and well. The League has paralleled and supported women’s rights through the years since 1916. We have ensured that citizens have a free role in making democracy work.

On a personal note: This will be my last membership report for LWVCCA as my husband and I will be moving to Bourne in the near future. I want to thank all who helped me in this role ~ and I remain dedicated to furthering the work of the League of Women Voters. Sincere regards, Helen
WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER...

Mary Beevers, Dennis

Growing up in the western suburbs of Boston, and with degrees earned from Regis, Harvard and Simmons, Mary dedicated her life to a teaching career in nearby towns like Newton, Lincoln-Sudbury and Dover-Sherborn.

With one amazing exception. For several years, while their three kids were in school, the family had hosted AFS students spending a year in American schools and living with local families. Then, through a person who facilitated such exchanges, Mary and her husband were invited to teach at a university in China, specifically at Jilin Technical College in Manchuria! Their elder son took a year off from college, their daughter had just finished high school and both were also invited to teach in China, while the Beevers’ younger son was enrolled as a student. The year was 1985-86, just after the Chinese Revolution. Times could be a bit tough, the goods in the markets could be sparse. Travel wasn’t particularly easy, especially from Manchuria.

But they did manage to get in some good travel. In the months before coming home, Mary and her husband were able to get around much of the country and, thanks to the hospitality of some of their former students, saw much of Chinese life that ordinary tourists never get to see. In short, an unforgettable experience.

Now retired and living in Dennis for the last five years, Mary is still “in teaching” -- volunteering in the third grade at the Ezra Baker School. And fortunately for us, she has transferred her Wellesley LWV membership to LWVCCA and is looking forward to continuing her interests in issues and civic education.

Welcome, Mary!
**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

*Renate Sands, Chair*

The following is a list of bills we have been following. We are in the second year of the legislative session and any bill not reported out of committee by mid-March is dead for the current session. Recent changes have been highlighted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station</th>
<th>Action Date</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Hearing</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H1898 Increase nuclear power plant protection to 20 mi</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Public Health</td>
<td>7/28/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>H2031 Increase nuclear power plant protection to 50 mi</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Public Safety</td>
<td>7/28/2015</td>
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<td>H1899 Increase funding for monitoring and testing</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Public Health</td>
<td>7/28/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>H2030 Install radiological air monitoring stations</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Public Health</td>
<td>7/28/2015</td>
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<td>H.202 Create public education zones near nuclear plan</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Public Health</td>
<td>7/28/2015</td>
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<td>H.216 Asses preparedness for radiological accident</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>House Committee on Ways and Means</td>
<td>3/21/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>S1797 Fee on stored spent fuel rods in pools</td>
<td>4/15/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Telecommunication</td>
<td>11/17/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1798 Annual 25 million post closure fee</td>
<td>4/15/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Telecommunication</td>
<td>11/17/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Zoning</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mental Health</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>H1796 SBIRT-Screen, Brief Intervention, Ref &amp; Treatment</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Health Care</td>
<td>7/23/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Added into Opioid Abuse Prevention bill</strong></td>
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<td>H1793 Use Taunton Hosp for crisis unit</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Health Care</td>
<td>2/3/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1810 Telemedicine for mental health patients</td>
<td>1/20/2015</td>
<td>Joint Committee on Health Care</td>
<td>2/3/2016</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE continued.

As indicated above, little movement has occurred with the bills regarding the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, partly due to the announcement of the closing of the plant.

--Bills regarding the opioid crisis fared better. Much of the content of H1796 (Preventing adolescent substance abuse) was incorporated into the Opioid Abuse Prevention bill passed by the Legislature and recently signed into law by Governor Baker.

--The LWVMA has not focused on reporting legislative activity this year but has focused instead on providing information on how voters can advocate for legislation. Again, they stress that a personal approach, either through an email, letter or phone call, is the most effective way for constituents to influence legislation.

--The annual Legislative Breakfast was held in the Solarium at Cape Cod Community College on February 26, 2016. All six legislators, Senators Dan Wolf and Vinny deMacedo, Representatives Sarah Peake, Tim Whelan, Brian Mannal and Randy Hunt attended including some of their staff. Judy Thomas was the moderator for the event.

We were also fortunate to have students from Cape Cod Community College attend the breakfast. Karen Mazza and I had met with the Student Senate earlier in the year and invited them. We were also contacted by Virender Gautam, the advisor of the Economics and Rotaract Clubs, who asked if some of his students could attend. We were delighted to host all nine of them.

--Karen Mazza and I are scheduled as speakers for their April 27th meeting. We plan to continue to interact with the students to explore possible ways of collaboration.

--The “Day on the Hill” was scheduled for February 9, 2016. The snow storm that hit the Cape harder than Boston prevented us from participating this year.
HEALTH COMMITTEE 2015-2016

From Amy Harris, Chair

Having chosen Medical Marijuana, legalized through a ballot initiative in 2012, as our study topic for this year, the Health Committee met more than a dozen times -- researching marijuana, comparing notes, dividing tasks, reporting progress and finally planning for our forum in the spring. In gathering information, we read one of the few books on the subject, written by Dr. Steven Hill of Harvard’s McLean Hospital, *Marijuana: The Unbiased Truth About the World’s Most Popular Weed*” and also attended the LWV of Sudbury’s November forum on Marijuana in Massachusetts. We spent hours analyzing the Mass. Dept. of Public Health website --a rather stagnant site when we started, but by January it offered more and more information. (Mass DPH is the lead agency overseeing the introduction of medical marijuana in this state cf Dept. of Consumer Protection in Connecticut and other agencies in other states.) We learned of a dispensary--The Haven Center in Brewster-- currently in the process of filing for certification and attended an excellent program sponsored by the Brewster Community Forum in which the Haven Center set out its future plans. We also researched the FDA schedule of controlled substances and an urgent request from Senators Warren, Markey and others for more and better information on the subject from federal agencies.

Though we really wanted Dr. Hill as our keynote speaker, we were handicapped by his high fee. Then, in a most fortunate turn of events, we attended a meeting of the Barnstable County Regional Substance Abuse Council, chaired by Elizabeth Albert. Among the members of the council was Raymond Tamasi, President of Gosnold on Cape Cod who -- with great generosity -- offered to cover Dr. Hill’s substantial speaking fee. Our forum was becoming a reality! (We also received a grant from the Scharfman Fund for educational materials.)

“Medical Marijuana: Truths and Fictions” came to pass on Saturday morning, April 30th, in the studio of the Cape Cod Community Media Center, where we were broadcast and taped for rebroadcast in coming months. Our panel consisted of Dr. Hill, Raymond Tamasi, Valerio Romano, an attorney specializing in the legalities of marijuana certification and Sen. Vinny DeMacedo (Plymouth & Barnstable), one of a group of state legislators who had traveled to Colorado to study that state’s experience after legalizing marijuana.

Did the panel come to consensus? While a few things became clear (marijuana can help folks with debilitating conditions--chronic pain, neuropathic pain, MS spasticity), other aspects would seem to call out for more, and very careful, study. All in anticipation of the potential ballot question coming up in the Fall seeking legalization of *all* marijuana.

It’s a subject to which all citizens need to give careful consideration before election season comes around.
BOARD MEETING NOTES - April 5, 2016

From Board Secretary Judy Thomas

1. The treasurer’s report indicated a balance of $9,622.85.
2. Karen Mazza will be the sole attendee from LWVCCA to LWVMA Council.
3. We will not be sending a delegate to LWVUS national convention.
4. County Committee: The loose coalition of organizations in support of structural change at the County has worked together to organize speakers at the Assembly of Delegates meeting April 6 where the two proposals will be discussed. Speaking for CCA will be Judy Thomas, Florence Seldin and Mary Lou Petitt.
5. Renate Sands and Karen Mazza will be attending a meeting of the Rotaract Club at 4Cs. The Club has an interest in learning about the League.
6. Youth Service – Karen has met with 10 teachers from 7 schools to gain information that can be shared with the State Committee on civic education. Karen Mazetti of the Kennedy Museum in Hyannis has expressed interest in our project.
7. The Health Committee hopes to have a My View piece in the CCTimes on the Medical Marijuana Health Forum.
8. The League has 79 members with the addition of Mary Beevers of Dennis. Helen Bresnahan, committee chair, will be moving to Bourne and leaving our Area League.
9. The League will moderate four spring town races in Dennis, Harwich, Brewster and Chatham.
10. A successful “Priorities Meeting” was held on April 2 with 22 attendees. A special board follow up meeting will be held April 12.
ANNUAL MEETING RETURN COUPON
Deadline for reservations Friday, May 13

LWVCCA Annual Meeting & End of Year Celebration
May 18, 2016  5:00pm to 7:00pm
Sea View Restaurant, 76 Chase Ave., Dennisport

Cost: $29.00 per person  Make checks out to: LWVCCA
Number of attendees: ___________  Amount of Enclosed Check: _________

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________  Email address: __________________

Mail this coupon and your check to Ira Seldin, 321 Deer Meadow Lane, Chatham, MA  02633
LWVCCA May 2016

LWVCCA 2016 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Apr 30 Health Committee Forum – CC Community Media Center 9 AM - NOON</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April - May Moderate debates for local elections -- Dennis, Brewster, Harwich, Chatham TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
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<td>Aug 24 Candidates Debate, State Senate Democratic Primary Yarmouth Town Hall 6:30 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fall 2016 Forum related to Election – TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TBD TBD Moderate Debates for Nov. 2016 Elections</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

More detailed information about these programs, changes, and new programs will be published in succeeding issues of The Voter,