



## THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 50 ISSUE 10

JUNE 1010

### CALENDAR

**Tuesday, June 8**  
9:30 am

**Joint Board Meeting**  
Dennis Cape Cod 5 Bank

**Wednesday, June 9**  
12:30 pm at CCCC

**Civility Forum Committee**  
Bring Brown Bag Lunch

**Friday, June 18**  
9:30 am  
Volunteers Welcome

**Addressing Birthday Cards**  
Nauset High School  
Call Elizabeth Levy

**Tuesday, June 29**  
9:30 am, Judy's home  
Interested Members

**Bylaws and Job Descriptions**  
21 Eileen Road, Chatham

### OUR LEAGUE YEAR ENDS JUNE 30. 2010 DUES ARE DUE !!!

***"Here's a way YOU can help your League" . . .***

Our new fiscal year begins in July and that means it's **time to renew your membership** in our League. Renewing during July helps us greatly in the preparation of our new Handbook which will have all our new members listed as well as those of you who renew before July 31..

**Dues are \$55.00 Please send your renewal made out to LWVCCA to:  
Debbie Aikman, Treasurer. 78 Water Street, Chatham MA 02633**

## ***From our president:***

*“Everything you wanted to know about ‘dues’ but were afraid to ask” – long but please read on ~*

“I don’t understand about the new dues payment and what our League gets to keep or not keep.” That’s the gist of a question one of our members posed to me after the Annual Meeting on May 15. (The Annual Meeting had earlier passed a new introductory for one year only dues rate of \$35.) I offered a rather quick explanation to the member and then offered to explain more in my June *Voter* message. Here goes:

Our “regular” dues are \$55 per person. Our obligation to the LWVUS or “national” will be (with adoption of a 60 cent increase at the June convention in Atlanta) \$29.80 per member. We call this our national PMP (per member payment). It is largely through this money that LWVUS funds its program. Our obligation to LWVMA is \$23 per member. This has not been increased in over ten years. The total amount therefore which leaves our general fund to support national and state is \$52.80 per member. If nothing else happened locally with our Cape Cod League, that would result in just \$2.20 from the \$55 to fund our own program. That would be difficult, if not impossible. Our adopted budget is \$8,885. An Ed Trust contribution (see next paragraph), your (and others) generous contributions are what make up the difference and allow us to have a balanced budget.

Fortunately, LWVUS and LWVMA allow a percentage of our PMPs to be supplemented by, in our case, the Helen S. Aaron Education Trust Fund. This Fund is our 501(C)3 fund to which many of us and some others contribute. Our contributions to it are tax deductible as charitable contributions. The Fund is mandated to be used for educational (as opposed to operating or advocacy) purposes. Because of the national and state rule regarding educational trust funds, our Helen S. Aaron Ed Trust Fund picks up 25% or \$13.20 of our PMP at both the state and national levels. That leaves us with roughly \$15 per member from the full dues to support our general, non-educational expenses.

But that’s not quite the whole picture. Second members in the same household as a first member (spouses, partners, children etc.) receive a reduced dues rate of \$30. State and National also have a reduced PMP for second members in the same household. Our Ed Trust contributes in a similar manner for these members’ PMPs. I hope you get the picture.

Funds to support our new member initiative and introductory rate of \$35 per person will come from our reserves. We’d be delighted if this was a huge number of new members, but that is not likely. Still, with Betsy Bray, our new membership chair, and everyone else acting as recruiters (Remember “ATM” = Always Think Membership) we hope to add significantly to our ranks.

**Let me hasten to say we seek new members, not for their dues paying capacity, but because we will be able to fulfill our mission of voter education and services that much more effectively. We have a great organization just waiting to get greater!**

In League with you,

Judy

## BOARD NOTES

May 2010

- Judy Thomas thanked committee chairs for their excellent reports in the Workbook.
- Judy reported that we now have 128 active members including 11 new members.
- Debbie Aikman reported that there will no longer be national members. Betsy Bray will follow up with our national members to see if they would like to become local members next year.
- Judy suggested an Advocacy Chair to keep track of proposed state legislation so we can advocate more effectively. Elaine Bono and Judy will bring a proposal to the June Board meeting.
- There will be a joint old and new Board meeting on at 9:30 am on June 8 at CC5 in Dennis.
- Freddie FitzGerald reported that Coast Weeks will be held on Sept. 11 at the Audubon Society's Long Pasture Sanctuary in Barnstable.
- Rhondda Tewes reported that the Health Committee will concentrate on a study of health care on Cape Cod next year.
- Rhondda moved that the Board support a group at the National Convention which will attempt to strengthen the League's position on health care by calling for expanded and improved medicare for all. The Board agreed.
- Jari Rapaport is working on a Hot Topic meeting on the Open Cape fiber optic highway. Open Cape, a non-for-profit corporation, has a government grant of \$32 million for the project which would benefit small businesses, at-home workers and emergency services.
- Elizabeth Levy and Judy Thomas will attend the LWVMA Council on May 22 at Lasell College.
- Judy Thomas, Elaine Bono and Betsy Bray met with Senator Therese Murray at her request and had their photo taken with her at Day on the Hill.
- Jari Rapaport would like the September *Voter* (deadline in late August) to have a "looking forward" theme.
- Kathleen Vogt reported that she and Nancy Erskine are planning a Chatham/Harwich unit meeting before summer to discuss schools in the two towns.
- Joan Bernstein reported that the town of Barnstable might join an appeal against Interior Secretary Salazar's decision on the Wind Farm. Judy Thomas said that since the League has a position on the Wind Farm, we, as individuals, can take actions, but any letters referencing the LWV and its position must go through her.

Betty Floyd,  
Secretary

<b>New Members July 2009 – 2010</b>
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**We are pleased to welcome our new members:**

**Barnstable**

Judy Staples (Osterville)

**Brewster**

Barbara Wellnitz

**Chatham**

Virginia Nordin

**Dennis**

Gail M. Burke

**Harwich**

Walter Diggs  
Jane Texeira-Henry  
Dottie Kelly

**Orleans**

Elizabeth Kuetchenmeister  
Suzanne Albert

**Sandwich**

Caitlin Johnson

**Yarmouth**

Janet Teglas

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE CAPE COD AREA**

**BOARD MEMBERS 2010-11**

**Officers**

President:	Judy Thomas
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President	Renate Sands
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President	Facilitated as necessary by Sally Cahill
Secretary	Jane Teixeira-Henry
Treasurer	Debbie Aikman

**Unit Chairs**

Brewster/Orleans	Joan Bernstein / Freddie FitzGerald
Chatham/Harwich	Nancy Erskine / Kathleen Vogt
Outer Cape	Jari Rapaport -- facilitator
Upper/Mid Cape	Phyllis Walsh

**Committee Chairs**

Public Relations	Harriet Klebanoff
Legislative	Elaine Bono
County Government	Nancy Curley and Jari Rapaport
Environment-	Joan Grant,
Voters Service	Elizabeth Levy,
Healthcare	Rhondda Tewes
Membership	Betsy Bray

Bulletin Co-Editors	Jari Rapaport, Terry Chesney
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**ABOUT OUR DUES**

For those who haven't yet paid, dues renewal for 2010-2011 is now due. New members who paid dues after January 31, 2010 are paid up to June 30, 2011. Honorary (50 year) members no longer need to pay dues. Dues is \$55.00 for Single membership and \$85.00 for Family membership.