

the Voice



**the newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Litchfield
County
Box 899, Litchfield, CT 06759**

May 2010

Serving Litchfield and Surrounding Communities

Annual Meeting

Bring the Voice insert, which includes: the proposed budget, the proposed slate of officers and the proposed bylaw changes.

**Monday, June 21
10:30**

Chatterley's Banquet Facility at
Eastwoods Country Club

Bring a Friend!

Big Issues in Small Towns

Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday, May 19 at noon

Mildred Pond's Home
153 West Shore Road
New Preston, CT 06777

RSVP to Bev Pearson at 567-8321

Carpool leaves from
St. Anthony's at 11:15 a.m.



**Thank you,
for serving.
2009-2010 Board**

President	Christine Horrigan
First VP	Patricia Donovan
Treasurer	Bernard Harrington
Rec. Secretary	Marie Wallace
Cor. Secretary	Adele Goodkind
Action	Christine Horrigan
Archives	Marilyn Lieff
Civics	Patricia Donovan
Membership	Ingely Forbes
Voter Services	Denise Butwill
Webmaster	Katherine Davis
at Large	Sara Gault
	Mary Ellen Spiegel
	Mildred Pond
	Beverly Pearson

President's Message

They say that time flies, especially when you are having fun. The last two years have gone by in a blur. I am deeply appreciative to the Board and to everyone else who has stepped up during that period to help make our local League a successful organization.

We've done some very interesting things over the past couple of years. That's in no small part due to the energy, vision and organizational skills of Pat Donovan, who has been our Vice President of Program during my tenure. Pat is on deck to be our next president, *assuming that you agree*. Pat brings exceptional skills and personal qualities to the job. She is Vice President of Voter Service for the state League, chairs our cable TV study, has run numerous forums and programs, does school outreach, chips in wherever else she can help and faithfully attends League events. She is a thoughtful leader, not afraid to tackle a controversy—in a diplomatic way, of course—and is always thinking of ways to make the League more visible. I expect our League to thrive and grow under her guidance. Pat will be backed up by an exceptionally dedicated and hard working Board. The Nominating Committee has done an extraordinary job in retaining some of our current Board members and finding new members to fill vacancies. But there is always more to do! Please join us at our Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Monday, June 21 to learn more about where we are headed, to meet the "cast" and/or suggest your own nominations, and to let us know where your own talents and interests lie. We will conduct our business in the morning and then adjourn for lunch and a talk by State Comptroller Nancy Wyman on the state of our State finances and the impact that federal health care reform will have on our State.

So much to do, so much to learn! In our polarized and sometimes ill-informed world, the League's advocacy, education and voter service work is more important than ever. Many thanks to all of you—members old and new—who make that work possible and fun.

--Christine



Symposium on International Relations Women's Participation in Society and Government: A Global Perspective

On Wednesday, April 28, 2010 The League of Women Voters of Connecticut presented the 41st Symposium on International Relations. The speakers:

Wassane Zailachi

Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco

Bertrade Ngo-Ngijol-Banoum

Director of Women's Studies, Lehman College City University of New York

Sylvie I. Cohen

*Deputy Director, Division for the Advancement of Women,
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations*

Each of these accomplished women addressed ways in which women's power/influence can progress. Once women become better citizens in their communities only then can they can move to positions in their countries and then eventually to positions of global prominence. Addressed were obstacles women face and the changes needed to speed the progress of becoming better citizens. The panelist spoke about the effects poverty, lack of education, lack of networking opportunities, lack of transport, home responsibilities and time poverty have upon women's ability to fully participate in society and government. Before full citizenship can be enjoyed women need better access to healthcare, including family planning, education, employment and decision making opportunities. There is a need for watchdog agencies and better enforcement of election laws as well as greater public confidence in women candidates. Women in the Americas and the Caribbean have made the most progress. European and African nations are moving forward while women living in Arab and Islamic nations have made the least progress. Currently there are 9 women Heads of State and 11 Heads of Government. Much remains to be done.

Local Cable Study

The League of Women Voters of Litchfield County is currently engaged in a two year study of the Area 20 cable franchise.

The Study Group has learned much about the way the Cable Advisory Council works, the role of the DPUC in regulating cable providers and the technical issues involved in the delivery of Hi Def &/or analog service. In March Stephen Simonin, Chairman of the Local Cable Advisory Council, spoke at an informational meeting held at the Oliver Wolcott Library. Mr. Simonin explained the technical issues affecting the quality of the TV image delivered into the home. He also addressed the lack of industry regulation.



A full report on the Study Groups progress will be given at the LWV Litchfield County's annual meeting. **Hope to see you there.**

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? PLEASE CONTACT OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, INGELY FORBES, AT 567-2733.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$45 PER MEMBERSHIP / \$ 67.50 PER COUPLE

**PLEASE PAY DUES AT THE ANNUAL MEETING
OR MAIL BY JUNE 30TH TO**

LWV OF LC
PO Box 899
LITCHFIELD, CT 06759

THANK YOU!

Welcome New Members

*Margaret Webster Klein
Judith R. Rossi-Santamaria*

Annual Meeting Material 2010-2011

2010-2012

Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors:

President	Patricia Donovan	Action	Christine Horrigan
First VP	Christine Horrigan	Archives	Marilyn Lieff
Second VP	Kerry Mayers	Membership	Ingely Forbes
Treasurer	Bernard Harrington	Webmaster	Katherine Davis
Recording Secretary	Marie Wallace	Member at Large	Sara Gault
Corresponding Secretary	Adele Goodkind		Mildred Pond
			Barbara Veerman
			Jackie Miller

**Currently the positions of Voter Services and Civics are empty.
Nominations may be taken from the floor at the annual meeting.**

Bylaw Changes



The following changes are being proposed to the current bylaws. While there are other changes, they are technical in nature and relate to punctuation and grammar. Space prohibits the printing of bylaws in their entirety in the Voice. For anyone that would like a complete copy of the bylaws please contact Christine and a copy will be provided to you.

Article IV, Section 8

Sec.8. Directors' Consent without a Meeting: If all the Directors severally or collectively consent in writing, whether conveyed by U.S. mail, facsimile or electronic transmission or comparable method, to any action(s) to be taken by the Board, such action(s) shall be valid corporate action(s) as though it or they had been authorized at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall file such consents with the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors.

Article V, Section 1

Sec. 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers and Co-Officers of the League shall be: President, one or more Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. The Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for the term of two years or until successors have been elected.

Article VIII, Section 1

Sec. 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, at least one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The Chairman shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. The other members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to this Committee by any voting member.

League of Women Voters of Litchfield County.
Proposed Budget July 1 2010-June 30, 2011

	Approved	Actual	Approved	Actual To	Proposed
REVENUE	2008-2009	2008-2009	2009-2010	04.30.10	2010-2011
<u>Dues</u>	2,925.00	3,577.50	2,937.50	1,861.14	2,430.00
Members	150.00	72.50	200.00	5.00	25.00
Betty Katzin Memorial		515.00	100.00	-	-
<u>Fund Raising</u>					
Int'l Lunch	1,000.00	1,040.00	1,150.00	1,650.00	1,500.00
Spring	1,000.00	538.00	1,000.00		350.00
Winter MHC					5,000.00
Auction 90				72.30	
<u>Membership Meetings</u>	500.00		500.00		100.00
<u>Annual Meeting</u>	1,250.00	1,990.00	1,250.00		1,000.00
Interest On CD's	150.00	166.09	100.00	99.85	
Riddle Fund	28.00	18.24	15.00	11.15	
<u>Election Reporting</u>	200.00	405.00	300.00		300.00
TOTALS	7,203.00	8,322.33	7,552.50	3,699.44	10,705.00
EXPENDITURES					
<u>Operating Costs</u>					
Administration	200.00	393.74	250.00	105.17	200.00
State Convention	100.00	185.00	100.00		100.00
National Convention	-		200.00	400.00	
Workshops	50.00	100.00	100.00		
<u>Program Committees</u>					
Local-Action	100.00	67.00	100.00		
Local-Gifts/Moderator	-	200.00		209.99	150.00
<u>Annual Meeting</u>	1,250.00	1,780.73	1,300.00		1,200.00
<u>Community Service</u>					
Members Meeting	200.00		200.00	19.07	50.00
Voter Services	500.00	444.03	500.00	66.07	400.00
<u>Fund Raising Costs</u>					
Int'l Lunch	650.00	593.57	600.00	1,340.00	1,100.00
Spring	500.00	55.80	500.00	75.00	
Winter MHC					1,050.00
<u>Education</u>					
Awards	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	400.00
Voice	100.00	127.60	100.00	139.21	150.00
SIR	150.00		150.00	15.00	50.00
<u>Support</u>					
State PMP	1,083.00	951.42	1,039.50	1,051.50	891.00
Nat'l PMP	1,820.00	1,581.00	1,898.00	1,364.70	1,598.40
TOTALS	7,203.00	6,979.89	7,537.50	5,285.71	7,339.40
PMP LWVCT	\$ 16.50		\$ 16.50		\$ 16.50
PMP LWVUS	\$ 28.00		\$ 29.20		\$ 29.60
	\$ 44.50		\$ 45.70		\$ 46.10



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

*The League of Women Voters of Litchfield County
Cordially invites you to join us for our*

ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
Monday, June 21
Chatterley's Banquet Facility at Eastwoods Country Club
1301 Tarringford West Street
Torrington, Connecticut

GUEST SPEAKER:
STATE COMPTROLLER NANCY WYMAN

Business Meeting begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.
Luncheon follows at noon

\$26.00 per person payable in advance
Please R.S.V.P by June 15

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LITCHFIELD COUNTY
ANNUAL LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM**

Name: _____ @ \$26. _____

Guest(s): _____ @ \$26. _____

Total _____

Please return this reservation form, along with your check payable to LWVLC, by June 15 to:
League of Women Voters of Litchfield County, P.O. Box 899, Litchfield, CT 06759

GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WELCOME!

For more information, please contact Christine Horrigan at 860-567-3268

League of Women Voters of Litchfield County
P.O. Box 899
Litchfield, Connecticut 06759

Special thanks to
Niraj Patel
The Business Center
in Litchfield
for printing the Voice

Litchfield League Calendar of Events

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Wed., May 19 | Big Issues in Small Towns
Invited Guests:
Local officials from
Litchfield, Washington,
Goshen & Morris |
| Sat., May 22 | LWVCT Convention
Hartford Lyceum |
| Thurs., June 10 | Non -Fiction Book Group
Oliver Wolcott Library |
| June 11-June 15 | LWVUS National Convention
Atlanta, GA |
| Mon., June 21 | Annual Meeting
Eastwoods Country Club |

Dues are due by June 30th.
\$45 per year.
Thank you!
(*Details inside*)

www.theitchfieldpage.com/lwv/