



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FALMOUTH

P.O. Box 450 • Falmouth, MA 02541

web: [www.lwvf.org](http://www.lwvf.org)

email: [league@LWVF.org](mailto:league@LWVF.org)

*The League of Women voters, a nonpartisan national organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

*Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.*

## Bulletin – May 2011

### *Member Events Calendar*

#### *May 2011*

- 4 7:00 p.m. LWVF Candidates' Night (Morse Pond School Auditorium)
- 12 6:30 p.m. LWVF Annual Meeting (Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Falmouth)

#### *June 2011*

- 16 7:30 p.m. Meeting: Observer Corps  
Falmouth Town Hall (Dinner at Peking Palace at 6:00 p.m.)
- 28 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting (Board Room, Falmouth Hospital)

#### *Looking ahead*

- May 17 Falmouth Town Election
- May 20-21 Massachusetts League State Convention

### LWVF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010-2011

#### STEERING COMMITTEE

First Vice-President	<b>Betsy Fontes</b>
Second Vice-President	<b>Barbara Kanellopoulos</b>
Secretary	<b>Sylvia Szulkin</b>
President Ex-officio	<b>Joan Boyer</b>
Membership	<b>Kathy Mortenson</b>



Treasurer	<b>Joanne Voorhis</b>	Natural Resources	<b>Pam Polloni</b>
Bulletin	<b>Judy Fenwick</b>	Observer Corps	<b>Deborah Siegal</b>
Development	<b>Sallie A. Giffen</b>	Outreach	<b>Landi Landrau</b>
Legislative	<b>Meg Borden</b>	Publicity	<b>Marcia Easterling</b>
Local Study	<b>Doris Epstein</b>	Voter Service	<b>Alice Carey</b>

If you wish to join the League, membership dues are \$50.00 for an individual membership and \$25.00 for an additional household member.

Send your check made out to *LWV of Falmouth* to the address shown above.

Please include your name, address and phone number.

**You do not have to be a resident of Falmouth to join.**

**NOT TO BE MISSED! LWVF ANNUAL MEETING!**

Thursday, May 12, 2011

6:30-8:30 PM

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Falmouth

Sandwich Road between Brick Kiln Rd. and Route 151

Come socialize with old and new members

and catch up on LWVF's projects and plans.

**LUSCIOUS DESSERTS! GREAT FRUIT AND CHEESES!**

**BEVERAGE CHOICES!**

Mail your check for \$15.00 to Betsy Fontes,

48 Churchill Drive, East Falmouth, MA 02536

Call Betsy by May 9 at 508-540-9698 to indicate you plan to attend.

**IN MEMORIAM**

The League of Women Voters records with great sorrow the passing of Lilyan C. Saunders on April 24, 2011. Lilyan was an active League member who chaired the Observer Corps and Nominating Committees.

We extend our sympathy to her family.

**LWVF FRIENDS FOR 2010-2011**

Dorothy and Duncan Aspinwall

Frank Egloff

Sally Fritz

Avery Funkhouser

Avis and Marv Grosslein

Christina Jacobi

Susan Kingwill

Winnie and Bill Mackey

Polly Montgomery

Dorothy Ryder

Robert Schneider

Deborah G. Senft

John and Freddy Valois

Helen Wilson

## STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Barbara Kanellopoulos

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“We have met the enemy and he is us.” Pogo’s well-known observation came to mind as I drove home from a two-day workshop on the planning and development of coastal communities. The “us” in this case are the 53% of our nation’s population living in coastal communities which contain only 17% of the country’s land area, not including Alaska. The “us” are also large numbers of tourists who visit coastal communities annually. Clearly, coastal communities are facing enormous developmental pressure.

Is our community resilient enough to withstand that pressure? Will Falmouth’s future growth be sustainable, causing the least amount of environmental, social, and economic impact? These questions speak to ongoing League concerns.

The position of the workshop sponsors [the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)] is that coastal communities like Falmouth will be resilient to change if they choose alternatives to conventional development. One resource that encourages sustainable development is the Smart Growth Network ([www.smartgrowth.org](http://www.smartgrowth.org)) whose slogan is “people-oriented planning.”

Most Cape Cod towns were represented at the workshop as well as New Bedford, Plymouth, Martha’s Vineyard, and Nantucket. Participants included town planners, conservation agents, natural resource directors, land bank representatives, volunteers, two League members (one from Plymouth), and engineers. Many are involved in contentious issues in their towns, and - in spite of verbal attacks from the disgruntled - expressed an impressive commitment to their work.

During one workshop activity, I was asked to gauge Falmouth’s progress toward sustainability. According to the scorecard I was given, we are “in transition” - moving in a positive direction. Changing many of its established practices is a daunting task for any town. Making haste slowly is, perhaps, the best we can do.

Your Steering Committee has planned for a lively and informative Annual Meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you all there.



## LOCAL PROGRAM PLANNING AND MORE

Sylvia Szulkin

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On April 21, 2011, LWVF members met to review local action items and to adopt a local study for the 2011-2012 year. By evening's end the group had also reached consensus to participate in two LWVUS studies—Privatization and Education.

The group agreed to add Water Quality, including Wastewater Management, as a local priority action item for the coming year. The Town Charter was added as a continuing action item, while Transportation was dropped from the list. We now have two priority action items: The Environment and Water Quality. There will be three continuing action items: Affordable Housing, Oversight of the Local Comprehensive Plan and the Town Charter.

There was strong consensus to continue the local study of the Effectiveness of Town Government for another year, with Doris Epstein as the study leader. Although the parameters of the continuing study were not defined, several members of the group hoped that a detailed review of the Town Charter would be part of the year's work. Moving beyond local concerns, group members showed interest in participating in two national League studies: (1) Privatization and (2) Education. The Privatization study will examine proposals to transfer federal, state or local government services to the private sector. The LWVUS will provide study materials to local Leagues with the goal of reaching consensus in the spring of 2012. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Barbara Kanellopoulos, has agreed to lead the Falmouth Privatization study group.

The LWVUS has already completed its study of the role of federal government in public education. Beginning this month, research information will be posted on the LWVUS website, to be followed by the posting of consensus questions, a Leader's Guide and additional short papers. Falmouth Board member Alice Carey has volunteered to lead the study group. The deadline for completing consensus by local Leagues will be November 30, 2011.

Please call Doris Epstein, Barbara Kanellopoulos and Alice Carey for more information on their respective study groups.

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### LEAGUE MEMBERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE -- SAFE HARBORS

Betsy Fontes, our League's first Vice President, has a more than full time job as the director of Safe Harbors, a homeless shelter in Hyannis. This residential shelter's primary focus is offering services to homeless battered women and their children. Betsy has to make do with a shrinking budget. Besides money, there is always a need for household items when clients find permanent housing. Betsy's clients can always use **twin sheets, pots and pans, lamps, lamp shades, silverware, blankets and comforters, shower curtains, shower curtain liners, bowls and toddler bed frames and beds.**

If you should be cleaning out your house this spring and want to give items to Safe Harbors, call Kathy Mortenson at 508-457-4410 to come pick the items up and deliver them to Betsy.



## LWV of Falmouth Nominating Committee Report 2011

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Maureen Sullivan, Chair  
Barbara Kanellopoulos, Board representative  
Stephanie Miele  
Barbara Espy

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### Officers to be elected for 2 yr term (2011-2013)

President - No Candidate  
1<sup>st</sup> VP Betsy Fontes \*  
Secretary Sylvia Szulkin \*

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### Officers in place 2011-2012

2nd VP - Barbara Kanellopoulos \*  
Treasurer -- Joanne Voorhis

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### Directors to be elected for 2 year term (2011-2013)

Meg Borden (Legislative)  
Marcia Easterling (Publicity)  
Doris Epstein (Local Study)  
Maureen Sullivan (Membership)

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### Directors to be appointed for 1 year term (2011-2012)

Joan Boyer (Bulletin Editor & Webmaster)  
Yolanda Landrau (Outreach)

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### Directors Continuing for 2011-2012

Alice Carey (Voter Service) \*  
Kathy Mortenson \* (Development)  
Pamela Polloni (Natural Resources)  
Deborah Siegal (Observer Corps)

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### Nominating Committee for 2011-2012

Chair: Stephanie Miele

\* Steering Committee for 2011

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## SUPPORT THE OBSERVER CORPS

Deborah Siegal, Chairman

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The focus of our final member meeting for the year is always on the Observer Corps. On Thursday, June 16 at 7:30 p.m. the observers will present their annual reports about Town boards and committees in the Civil Defense Room (downstairs) at Town Hall.

If you're thinking about becoming an Observer, this is a great opportunity to learn more about it or to bring a prospective member who is interested in the League and the Town. The Corps is at an all-time low, with enough choice of boards and meeting times to accommodate almost any schedule. We always hear things that are intriguing and, occasionally, baffling, so put us on your calendar and look forward to a different sort of night out.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND**

## **CANDIDATES' NIGHT**

Sponsored by the  
**FALMOUTH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2011**

**MORSE POND SCHOOL**

**FALMOUTH, MA**

**7:00 P.M. - MEET THE CANDIDATES**

**7:30 P.M. - PROGRAM BEGINS**

**VOTE MAY 17**

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**May 2011 Bulletin**



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THE LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS  
*Democracy in Action***

<b>EIGHT COUSINS</b> INC.	
189 Main St. Falmouth, MA 02540	A series of black silhouettes depicting various scenes of children reading. From left to right: a child lying on their back reading, a child sitting on the floor reading, a child standing and reading, a child sitting in a rocking chair reading, a child standing next to a bookshelf reading, a child sitting in a chair reading, and a child sitting on the floor reading. A small copyright symbol (©) is located below the silhouettes.
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