

THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY VOTER

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Champlain Valley

June 2010

CVLWV Board, 2010 - 2011

President	Vee Gordon	876-7869
Vice President	Irene Wrenner	879-0011
Treasurer	Amy Bond	879-0628
Director	Mabel Buttolph	863-3990
Director	Sue Golden	985-9524
Director	Jean Hopkins (Voter editor)	863-5359
Director	Marcia Mason	863-5784
Director	Laura Middleton	879-3515
Director	Louise Ransom	985-8706

Calendar of Events

We sponsor meetings and events for the public and League members.

Local, Statewide, Regional Meetings

Date	Time	Place	Description
June 9	10:30am	22 Carmichael St. Essex Junction	Champlain Valley Board Meeting All members welcome

Thank you to everyone who came to our Annual Meeting on May 13 at Wake Robin. As before, League members and their guests overflowed the room set aside for us. The meal was delicious and the setting was ideal. We appreciate Claire Anderson's help in setting up the event, as well as Marge Gaskins' running of the meeting.

Board Meeting Directions from our New President

This will be a short meeting to get everyone reintroduced and to start thinking of the fall. It's also a place where members can determine where they can be of help; perhaps to Louise on her project or to Marge on her Senate reapportionment project. There are other places where the League could go to work in support of our positions.

The meeting is to be held at Town Meadow where I live (just this once). It is situated at the northern edge of the Lang shopping area in Essex. Drive out north on route 15 past the Five Corners until you see – on the right – a new CVS Pharmacy building. Turn onto Essex way and then take your next right onto Carmichael St. My building is the three story building behind the pharmacy. Pull right into the parking lot.

National Convention June 11-15 Atlanta, Georgia

We have two local members attending this year. Joanna Cole will cast the vote from our local league. Christopher Pearson will be going as a state representative along with Vermont League President Kate Rader to cast two more of our eligible five votes.

Report from Quad State by Jean Hopkins

The four smaller New England State Leagues – Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine – hold a leadership training meeting together at ‘Quad State’. This gives us an opportunity to meet more League members and find out what studies and projects each state has.

This year Quad State was held on the Atlantic shoreline in Wells, Maine. Six Vermont League members attended: Pres. Kate Rader, Gia Biden, Nancy Lynch, Vee Gordon, Jean Hopkins and Terry Bouricius. Two of the three workshops were presented by Vermont League members. Nancy Lynch presented the Social Networking workshop which discussed the use of internet sites such as Facebook, Twitter, etc. We each had an opportunity to share our experiences with these new communication tools.

In Terry’s workshop on Alternative Voting Systems he was able to give us an explanation of how voting systems such as IRV, Choice, plurality voting, etc. work to encourage more candidates to run for office and give voters better ways to express their preferences. Judy Davis, our regional liaison with the national office presented the Get Out the Vote workshop with information on Vote411.org. We shared ideas on how to encourage voting and learned that Rhode Island is hosting a candidate’s forum on commercial TV!

New Hampshire is working on a project to examine the incarceration of women, its effect on society and alternative rehabilitation and re-entry programs. This is an issue that some League members in Vermont have been interested in, so we might work together on it.

Our National President, Mary Wilson, attended our workshops and was awarded for her work at Sunday’s luncheon to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the League. Maine has been working on Climate Change. Therefore, the Sunday luncheon was preceded by an Awards Ceremony which focused on how climate change affects the lives of women. Our national president, Mary Wilson, who attended the entire conference, had received a Climate Leader Award earlier this year from Oxfam’s Sisters on the Planet.

Oxfam’s Sisters on the Planet were also there for the ceremony that recognized Maine’s legislators who have worked to legislate climate action change – Senators Snowe and Collins and Representatives Michaud and Pingree. It was good to see the League partnering with a global organization for climate action.

If you would like more information about Quad State feel free to contact any of the members who attended.

Brief Update on Vermont’s Healthcare Legislation from Jean Hopkins

You all probably know by now that S.88 passed and it became law without the governor’s signature. Therefore the study with a consultant designing 3 possible plans on how to enact a more universal health care system will proceed.

Dues are Due if you owe them now

Please remit a check for \$50.00 made out to “Champlain Valley League of Women Voters” – or simply “CVLWV” – and mail it to: P.O. Box 8344, Essex, VT 05451
Note - This is a new P.O.Box number as of 2009.