

League of Women Voters of Brookhaven

<http://www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org.brookhaven.htm> June 2011

ANNUAL MEETING

Program Reports

Presentation of 2011-2012 Budget

Election of Officers

Report of Committee on By-Laws and Nonpartisanship

Adoption of Local Program

Recognition of 50-Year League Members

Refreshments by the Board

7 Carol Place

Brookhaven, NY

(for directions, see page 9)

LWV of BROOKHAVENP. O. BOX 92BELLPORT, NY 11713631-730-6556BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Alice Jach-286-9260

*1st V.P., Death Penalty/
Candidates Debates*

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2nd V.P./Special Events

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1103-Recording Secretary

Renee Stahlman-475-2177

Treasurer

Judi Bird-286-3810

*Corresponding Secretary*DIRECTORS

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Ruth Schwarz-286-1236

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Budget

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Alice DAmico-751-0328

Finance

Reggie Seltzer-286-8849

New York State Government

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

We hope to see many of you at our Annual Meeting, Friday, June 17, at 7 pm at Alice Jach's house in Brookhaven. We are pleased that the Nominating Committee has added a Corresponding Secretary (Sue Kinsey), a Recording Secretary (Judi Bird, who was Corresponding Secretary), and a new Board member (Panayiota Doering). Alice Jach has agreed to serve as Assistant Treasurer, to cover for Renee Stahlman if she becomes a snow bird. In addition, we hope to recognize members who joined the League (anywhere) in 1961 or earlier. They are Honorary Members and we are pleased that they continue to support the League.

If you saw the article on May 26 in the New York Times about the television ads launched by the US LWV, you may wonder what it is all about. The House passed HR 910, called the Energy Tax Prevention Act. The League officers opposed the bill because it prevented, or delayed, the Environmental Protection Agency from taking action to enforce greenhouse gas regulations. The League feels it would have blocked EPA climate enforcement and deny the science of global warming. The Senate did not pass the bill (S 482), but many senators voted for it, including Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Scott Brown. The League raised money to mount two television ads, one in Missouri and one in Massachusetts, accusing McCaskill and Brown of putting the rights of polluters over the health needs of asthmatic children. The response to the League's action was harsh, accusing the League of partisanship, reminding the League that McCaskill is fighting for her seat, demanding to know who paid for the ads, and pointing out the League has been known for its work with voter registration and voter information. The League's response was that we wanted "to be heard above the din" and that our letters and calls to officials do not always do that. What do you think?

We are waiting for word about the Suffolk County Redistricting Commission. Legislator John Kennedy, putting together the members who will represent the minority party in the Legislature, is working to find the requisite number of retired judges and good government groups. We hope it will soon be a reality.

The LWV NYS website makes it possible to find out how your state assemblyman feels about the New York State redistricting commission bill (A 5388) and provides a way to send a letter or email responding to him. It is very helpful.

Have you been a League member since 1961 or earlier?

Please call me so that we can add your name to the list of Honorary Members—Members for Fifty Years. . They pay no dues each year, but are entitled to all the privileges of regular members.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROOKHAVEN

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

FOR TWO YEARS, 2011-2013

President

Nancy Marr

Second Vice-President

Robbie Fishman

Corresponding Secretary

Sue Kinsey

Recording Secretary

Judi Bird

Assistant Treasurer

Alice Jach

Elected Directors

Paulette Chase

Panayiota Doering

Lea-Abri Blalock-Becker

FOR ONE YEAR, 2011-2012

Nominating Committee Chair

Sue Kinsey

Submitted by Sue Kinsey, Chairman

Renee Stahlman

Alice Jach

**League of Women Voters
Of Brookhaven**

Non-Partisan Policy

1. The League of Women Voters of Brookhaven is a nonpartisan organization which does not support or oppose candidates for public office but does encourage its members, as individuals, to participate actively in the political process. The League acts on those issues the membership chooses for study and action.
2. Board member's activities must be limited to preserve the League's nonpartisan position.
3. Board members shall not undertake any action which will cause them to be identified publicly as supporting any candidate for office or any political party.
4. Board members may not engage in partisan, political activities. They shall not run for partisan political office or hold office in a political club or serve on a campaign committee. They may not serve as committee persons. Board members may not run for other elective office.
5. Board members may neither sponsor, nor hold coffees or fund-raising events for political candidates. They may not attend fund raising functions for a candidate or a political party. They may attend coffees or other gatherings to meet candidates.
6. Board members may not hold office in an organization which supports or opposes political parties or candidates.
7. Board members may not circulate, but may sign, nominating petitions which carry a party designation. They may sign or circulate referendum petitions so long as they are non-partisan.
8. The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member are considered separate from the activities of that board member.

(Adopted by the board of directors 5/23/97)



George R. Rehn

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A WORD FOR OUR ADVERTISERS

Our advertisers support of the League provides the funds to publish and mail the VOTER to all our members each month. Please patronize and thank all of them for their support of our mission.

Thank you for your support! – Alice D'Amico

CARMAN'S RIVER PROTECTION AND THE CONDOMINIUMS AT SANDY HILLS

At our meeting on May 16 we considered some of the options available to the Town of Brookhaven.

The Pine Barrens Society's film about the Carman's River showed how important it is to protect the river, and we discussed the steps proposed by the Carman's River Partnership to limit development around it and require care for storm water management, planting of invasives, etc. Owners of land that cannot be developed because it is in the Carman's River maintenance area will get transfer credits that they can sell to developers who want high density zoning, which can be used only in downtown areas and areas zoned commercial or industrial.

The Town Board has approved the recommendation and it has been submitted to New York State for the next approval. (Although the participants in the Partnership study were pleased by their success in reaching conclusions despite their diverse points of view, ABCO (Association of Brookhaven Civic Organizations) is criticizing the group's conclusions as too hasty and not accurate scientifically.)

Connie Kepert, Councilperson for Brookhaven Town's Third District, described the concept behind a proposal to build a new walkable community in Middle Island, at the northeast corner of Rocky Point Road and Route 25. To meet the demand of young residents for apartments and a community where they can have recreation and shopping near their homes, the developer included condominiums, senior housing, open space, and commercial units, with a sewage treatment plant. Responding to arguments from neighbors, Reggie Seltzer brought a lawsuit based on the belief of neighbors that that type of multifamily housing will not work in Middle Island and will become unsuccessful. She pointed to adjoining developments of condominiums which have had problems. The proposed development is within the Carman's River catchment area, but there is less objection to building it there because water flowing from the development will take up to one hundred years to reach the river.

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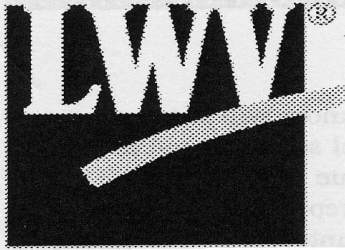
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JUNE

- Tues June 7 Suffolk County Legislature, Wm. H. Rogers Building, 725 Veterans Highway,
Hauppauge, 9:30 am—Discussion of Health Center cuts
- Wed June 8 Brookhaven LWV Board Meeting, Robbie Fishman's, 2 pm
- Fri June 17 ANNUAL MEETING—Alice Jach's, , 7 pm**

Directions to Alice Jach's, 7 Carol Place, Brookhaven, 286-0926: from Bellport Village, go east on South Country Road to Woodland Avenue, turn right and go down Woodland, until Carol Place goes to the right. Alice's house is the last one on the street, on the right side; from the east, go west on Montauk Highway and then take left hand fork onto South Country Road to Woodland Avenue.