



Suffolk County Voter

www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org

Box 1440, Stony Brook, NY 11790-1440

631-862-6860

March 2010

Wed. March 17

LWVSC Board Meeting, Riverhead Library

10:00 am - 12:00 noon

OFFICERS

Co-President/ATI/Legislative Issues
Katherine Hoak 667-8745
khoak@optonline.net

Co-President/DPO /County Voter
Lisa Scott 265-2198
lisawscott@optonline.net

1st Vice President/Webmaster
Adam Gaus 543-1446
adam.gaus@IEEE.com

2nd Vice President
Barbara Jordan 324-6144
bjordlwvh@aol.com

Secretary/Financing Education
Edith Embler 474-0983
embler@verizon.net

Treasurer
Marilyn McKeown 286-1169
mhmckeown@verizon.net

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Voter Service
Judie Gorenstein 491-3177
judieL728@aol.com

Housing
Nancy Marr 730-6556
enpymarr@optonline.net

Special Events
Susan Wilson 283-6549
sswilson@hamptons.com

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Sondra Irvine 862-4042
fsr Irvine@hotmail.com

Arlene Lesser 265-4384
alstna@verizon.net

Mary McLaughlin 427-1925
mary_mclaughlin@msn.com

Mary Zopf 499-0107
mtzopf@verizon.net

LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

Brookhaven
Nancy Marr 730-6556
enpymarr@optonline.net

Hamptons
Carol Mellor 537-6998
camellor@aol.com

Huntington
Judie Gorenstein 491-3177
judieL728@aol.com

Shelter Island
Cathy Kenny 749-1848
cathy_kenny@hotmail.com

Smithtown
Joyce Rosenthal 265-6463
ejrosen@optonline.net

OFF-BOARD SPECIALISTS

Budget
Jacqui Lofaro 537-3361
jacqlo@hamptons.com

Natural Resources
Dorothy Cappadona 549-6987
Doc.dot@verizon.net

Fund for Modern Courts and LWVSC Seeking Volunteers for Court Monitoring at Family Courts in Suffolk County

The Fund for Modern Courts is an independent nonpartisan statewide court reform organization committed to improving the court system for all New Yorkers. It supports a judiciary that provides for the fair administration of justice, equal access to the courts, and that is independent, highly qualified and diverse.

Why Family Court?

Family Courts are woefully under-funded and yet have the greatest number of cases of any court. Problems include frequent delays and adjournments, inadequate legal representation for the poor, overcrowded court rooms and substandard court facilities. These problems affect the most vulnerable members of society, including children who have suffered abuse or neglect, and victims of domestic violence. We need to bring citizens and community members into the family courts to observe and provide a much needed tool to inform the public and effect change.

Volunteer Service Activities:

- Observe Suffolk County Family Court proceedings over several months, 1+ days a week, and complete Monitoring Forms documenting findings and recommendations for improvements.
- Attend in person or via phone regular status update meetings with FMC.
- Provide follow-up monitoring, 6 months—1 year after project to report on implementation (or lack of) of recommendations.

Accomplishments As a Result of Court Monitoring:

- Based on our court monitors reports, The Fund for Modern Courts will publish a detailed report on the monitors' findings and recommendations for improvement.
- FMC will distribute the findings and recommendations to the FMC Board of Directors and the administrators of the state court system, state & local legislators, new media and other interested parties, for action.
- Provide follow-up to ensure actions recommended result in improvements to the Suffolk County Family Courts.

Why Citizen Monitoring?

We believe that those who administer justice should always act under the sense of public responsibility, and that every citizen should be able to satisfy, with their own eyes as to the mode in which a public duty is performed.

Modern Courts has sponsored court monitoring programs around the state, through which ordinary citizens observe and evaluate their courts, report their findings, and issue public recommendations for improvement.

www.moderncourts.org

Timing:

Orientation and Training for Court Monitors
March
(locations to be announced)

Court Monitoring
April-May-June
Central Islip and Riverhead Family Courts

Interested?

Send your contact info ASAP

lisawscott@optonline.net
or call 631 523-1653