

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BRONXVILLE

(Serving Bronxville, Eastchester, Tuckahoe, Mt. Vernon and Yonkers)

APRIL 2008

BULLETIN

ISSUE SIX

The League of Women Voters of Bronxville

invites you and your friends to its

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Guest Speaker: Phil Reisman

Featured Columnist with The Journal News

*“A Columnist’s Cock-eyed View of Westchester
and the World Beyond”*



Thursday, April 24, 2008

Board Meeting: 10:00 AM (Members)

Luncheon: 12:00 Noon

Lake Isle Country Club

660 White Plains Road

Eastchester

See inside for lunch reservations

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

In celebration of Women's History Month, the LWVUS noted the achievements of women in the past and highlights the success of today's women making a difference in our country coast to coast. From the suffragists who founded the League 88 years ago, to all the strong women who volunteer time to improve their communities today, women of the League make a profound civic impact. A three part series of events that took place titled: **"Changing Faces of Power: Women in Politics"** can be viewed at the LWVUS.org's special events page. The topics covered were "Women as Candidates", "Women as Office Holders" and "Women as Voters and Activists". The videos are all well worth viewing.

We were busy in the Bronxville League in March, from hosting a Candidates Meeting in Tuckahoe for two Village Trustee seats that three candidates were vying for, to finalizing our annual budget, preparing nominations for our annual meeting on April 24th, and securing an interesting speaker for the luncheon. My thanks to all the members who participated and made it happen.

Our Third Tuesday coffee on March 18th featured Delores Scott Braithwaite, the Executive Director of Westchester County's Human Rights Commission. She was eloquent! She reminded us that this year, the three presidential candidates who are an African American male, a female, and a senior citizen - are individuals who are part of the group that must be protected because of their group identity based on their race, color, religion, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, gender, marital status or disability. Ms. Braithwaite was a fine example for all of us during Women's History month.

By the time we go to print, the LWVWestchester's Tappan Zee Bridge Presentation, co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Rockland, on March 27th at Kendal-on-Hudson in Sleepy Hollow will have taken place. It was an informational presentation on the future of the Tappan Zee Bridge and the Route 287 corridor, entitled "The Tappan Zee Bridge: A Regional Approach".

League activities for April include:

Friday April 4th, the LWVWestchester will be hosting "Coffee and Conversation with Westchester's County Legislators: A Roundtable Discussion," starting at 9:30 am at the White Plains Public Library, at 100 Martine Avenue.

Monday April 7th, "Health Care - the Future?" A Forum: 7 p.m., Embassy Community Center of Dobbs Ferry

Tuesday April 15th: LWVBronxville's Third Tuesday Coffee features a follow up: "Toward a National Health Plan - Challenges and Very Sticky Issues Along the Way"

And, last but certainly not least, our **LWVBronxville's Annual Meeting and Luncheon: Thursday, April 24, 2008.** See inside for information and reservations.

See inside for more information on all of these activities.

See you at all of the events!

Adelaide

OUR LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Phil Reisman has been a working journalist for 30 years, the last 10 as a news columnist for *The Journal News*. He figures he has written nearly 1,500 columns, of which about one-third were any good. In baseball, that is a .333 batting average, high enough for entrance to the Hall of Fame. Along the way, he has won a bunch of awards, but his modesty and painful shyness precludes him from listing them.

He grew up in the town of Mamaroneck, the youngest and tallest of five children. His father was a freelance writer and his mother was a librarian. Reisman says he lives in Bronxville when he's putting on airs. In reality, he lives in Yonkers with his patient wife, Rebecca. They have two sons, ages 23 and 20, an 80 pound dog, two cats and a turtle who was caught in the Hudson River many years ago on a family vacation and is likely to outlive them all.

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Guest Speaker

Phil Reisman

Columnist, The Journal News

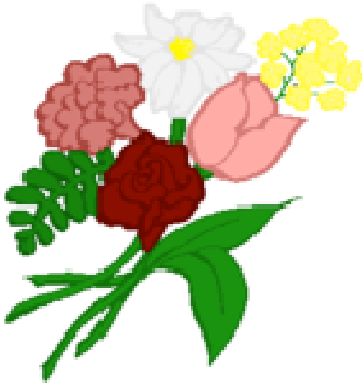
***“A Columnist’s Cock-eyed View of Westchester
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QuickTime™ and a
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are needed to see this picture.

Name _____

Address _____

***Please reserve _____ seats at \$30 per person
(Please circle your luncheon choice: chicken or pasta primavera)***

***I would like to be a Sponsor of the League (includes special recognition)
Please reserve _____ seats at \$50 per person***

***I would like to be a Patron of the League (includes special recognition)
Please reserve _____ seats at \$75 per person***

I cannot attend but enclose \$ _____ to support the League’s activities

Send reservation form and check made out to LWV of Bronxville to:

***Pat Parker
9 Knox Road
Eastchester, NY 10709***

HEALTH ISSUES

A friend and I were commiserating with one another, apprehensive about our upcoming annual exams. Her experience last year, when she had a lingering cough, was emblematic. Urinalysis revealed a few microscopic blood cells. A sonogram showed nothing untoward but "something" was seen on the liver. On the CAT scan (which uses many X-rays) a "probable" hemangioma (a benign mess of enlarged blood vessels) was found, triggering a follow-up CAT, three months later. Your cholesterol. It wasn't considered high before but the recommendations have changed. How about a low dose statin? We'll do a lipid and a liver panel in six weeks to see how it works. And as for the cough, we'll schedule an echocardiogram (could be heart related), a CAT of the lungs, and a look-see by the laryngologist (in case it's GERD).

Did my friend do it all? She did, feeling trapped by the medical establishment. We all can empathize. Most of us have been through it. And all of these tests may well be prudent, even if they are defensively ordered and may be overused. Nevertheless, I thought longingly of *caveat emptor*, the old consumer's motto. How many emptors helplessly submit to unwanted, even superfluous tests, because they don't know how or when to caveat. This is a pattern we need to change, for sure.

Still, there's no question that we over-test, for lots of un-medical reasons. I have certainly done my share of pointing that out. However, Dr. Sandeep Jauhar, a cardiologist, suggests another source of pressure on these physicians (NY Times, Mar.11): from us, their patients. He asked a young cardiologist about the use of imaging in his practice. When he started, the other doctor said, he tried to practice ethical medicine. A young woman would come in with palpitations. He'd tell her, truthfully, that she was fine. But she'd go off to someone else, who ordered the echocardiogram, the stress test, the Holter monitor - all the stuff she didn't need. And then she'd boast about the great and thorough doctor she'd found.

It was a thought provoking tale. We have to rely on our own best judgment about the physicians we consult. As lay people, we can't second guess our physicians and we shouldn't have to try. What we can do is ask questions. What information will this test provide? What can we do as a result? What about a second opinion? Our health is the common goal of our doctors and ourselves, and we should be active partners in this endeavor. What if they don't let us? Well, it may be time to find another MD.

Edith Szold, Health Issues Chair

APRIL COFFEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

9:30 AM

Bronxville Women's Club

135 Midland Avenue

Toward a National Health Plan - Challenges and Very Sticky Issues along the way

Presentation and Discussion with League Members

Edith Szold, LCSW, of Bronxville,

Mary Kaufman, MD, Emma Lou Sailors, MD, Susan Goodwin, PhD,

Christine Verber, Ed.D, RN - all of Rivertowns

HEALTH CARE – THE FUTURE?

Monday, April 7, 2008

7:00 PM

Embassy Community Center

60 Palisade Street, Dobbs Ferry

A forum presented by the LWV Rivertowns and co-sponsored by the Westchester LWV, the Bronxville LWV and the Westchester Health Action Coalition.

Speakers: U.S. Representatives, the Hon. Nita Lowey and the Hon. Eliot Engel

Lindsay Farrell, Director, Ossining Open Door

Jim Foy, St. John's Riverside

For more information, call Christine Verber – 693-9054

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!!!
(Fiscal year begins April 1st)

Individual	\$50	\$ _____
Family	\$75	\$ _____
Contribution		\$ _____

Make checks payable to Bronxville LWV and send with this to:

**Bronxville LWV
P. O. Box 321
Bronxville, NY 10708**

Name(s) _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____

(Please note that dues and contributions are not tax deductible)

Westchester League to Host County Legislators' Roundtable

The League of Women Voters® of Westchester has invited the county legislators to a “**Coffee and Conversation**” to be held on **Friday, April 4, 2008, starting at 9:30 am** in the Auditorium of the White Plains Public Library, 100 Martine Avenue. The format will be an informal, roundtable discussion that is open to the public. All 17 members of the Board of Legislators have been asked to attend in order to discuss issues that are of interest to Westchester residents. There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions of the county legislators.

This roundtable discussion is the latest of three hosted by the League. In December 2007, the LWVW hosted a public breakfast meeting with the members of Westchester's state legislative delegation. In February 2008, the LWVW hosted County Executive Andy Spano at our annual “Breakfast with the County Executive.” According to League President Mary Beth Gose, “Our goal is to have an informal dialogue with our elected representatives about topics that are of interest to Westchester residents. With these events, we are continuing our strong grassroots tradition of direct, in person communications.”

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BRONXVILLE			
PROPOSED BUDGET 2008 April 1 - 2009 March 31			
	YTD	BUDGETED	PROPOSED
	29-Feb-2008	2007-2008	2008-2009
INCOME			
Dues: Individual	\$ 4,145.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,250.00
Household	1,200.00	1,050.00	1,200.00
Contributions	705.00	400.00	500.00
Finance Drive	2,410.00	3,200.00	2,500.00
Luncheon: Fee	1,350.00	1,800.00	1,500.00
Contribution	250.00		100.00
Bulletin Advertising		700.00	
Other	610.72		500.00
Education Fund			2,900.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 10,670.72	\$ 11,650.00	\$ 13,450.00
EXPENDITURES			
LOCAL			
President	\$ 120.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 150.00
Secretary & Administration	341.00	425.00	350.00
Finance Drive	106.83	225.00	350.00
Membership	594.07	675.00	450.00
Programs	45.00	250.00	150.00
Voters' Guides	2,074.97	2,000.00	2,500.00
Voter Service	18.10	250.00	100.00
Bulletin Printing	1,711.98	2,800.00	1,800.00
Bulletin Postage	200.00	400.00	250.00
Permit and PO Box	56.00	225.00	235.00
Annual Luncheon	1,075.00	1,800.00	1,500.00
Conventions	580.00	600.00	1,400.00
County Legislature Day		400.00	125.00
Annual Audit		500.00	250.00
NYS Taxes		100.00	150.00
LOCAL TOTAL	\$ 6,922.95	\$ 10,925.00	\$ 9,760.00
OTHER LEVELS			
PMP National (LWVYS may increase)	\$ 2,945.00	\$ 3,041.80	\$ 2,921.20
PMP State	1,518.75	2,043.00	1,962.00
PMP County	225.00	227.00	218.00
Other	100.00		100.00
OTHER LEVELS TOTAL	\$ 4,788.75	\$ 5,311.80	\$ 5,201.20
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 11,711.70	\$ 16,236.80	\$ 14,961.20
Surplus (deficit)	(1,040.98)	(4,586.80)	(1,511.20)
As of 2/29/2008		Budget Committee	
Checking Account	\$ 12,088.84	Amanda Moore, Chair	
Education Fund	2,941.36	Adelaide DiGiorgi	
P.O. Account	62.16	Pat Harriss	
Total Funds EOP	\$ 15,092.36	Janet Jaidi	
		Mary Nicolis	
NOTES			
	PROPOSED		
	2008-2009		
INCOME			
Dues: Individual	\$50 x 85		
Household	\$75 x 16		
EXPENDITURES			
PMP National	(\$ 26.80 x 85) + (\$ 40.20 x 16)		
PMP State	(\$ 18 x 85) + (\$ 27 x 16)		
PMP County	(\$ 2 x 85) + (\$ 3 x 16)		

BRONXVILLE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Report of the Nominating Committee
April, 2008

OFFICERS

Second Vice Pres.	Edith Szold	2008-2010
Third Vice Pres.	Pat Harriss	2008-2010
Treasurer	Mary Nicolis	2008-2010

DIRECTORS

Alice Clapp	2008-2010
Martha B. Moore	2008-2009
Pat Parker	2008-2010
Birgitta Sherman	2008-2010

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2009

Dorothy Brennan, Chair
Florence Vitiello
Sue Weisfeld

Respectfully submitted,

Nominating Committee 2008
Dorothy Brennan, Chair
Jean Delfiner
Florence Vitiello
Janet Jaidi
Pat Parker

MISSION STATEMENT

Promote open government that is responsible and responsive to its citizens. Provide forums and other gatherings for the community to interact with candidates, officials, and each other to increase participation in local government. Raise ideas and issues that may have local significance and provide opportunities for citizens to discuss them.

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BULLETIN

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P.O. Box 321, Bronxville, NY 10708
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Editor: Janet Jaidi

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People with Disabilities)

Date Sensitive

IMPORTANT DATES

<u>Apr</u>			
4	9:30 AM	Coffee with County BOL members (See inside for details)	White Plains Library 100 Martine Avenue
7	7:00 PM	Health Care – the Future?	Embassy Com. Center Dobbs Ferry
15	9:30 AM	Bronxville LWV Coffee Meeting National Health Plan	Bvl Women's Club 135 Midland Avenue
24	10:00 AM 12:00 Noon	Bvl LWV Annual Meeting Bvl LWV Annual Luncheon Speaker: Phil Reisman	Lake Isle Country Club 660 White Plains Road Eastchester