

Hingham Voter

Serving the Towns of Hingham, Hull, Cohasset and Norwell

September 2007

HLWV Board

2007—2008

President: Julie Strehle**VP Voter Education:**

Debbie Courteau

VP Advocacy:

Melanie Quackenbush

Green Study Co-Chairs:

Kate Boland, Elizabeth Fetsko

Secretary: Victoria Milano**Treasurer:** Marisa Costello**Membership Recruiter:**

Christine Dieterich

Publicity: Jerry Elsdon**Web Site & Newsletter:**

Lynn Cotter

Events Coordinator: Dina

O'Neil

Advisors: Cindy Coe, Cathy

Salisbury

President's Letter: Busy Start to New HLWV Year

Welcome to a new year of League of Women Voters of Hingham. We have a busy next couple of weeks, so mark your calendar and come out for these new events. Articles throughout this newsletter will have all of the details! We hold our year's first **All-Member Meeting** on Tuesday, September 18, featuring a presentation of the **Climate Project**, the slide show presentation that was featured in Al Gore's movie, An Inconvenient Truth. This event is a great way to connect with other members, so please come out for it!

On October 3, Christine Dieterich will host our annual **New Member Wine & Cheese** event at her historical home on Summer Street. We have held this event in the past with great success, and look forward to the chance to bring new members into our ranks. If you have a friend you'd like to introduce to HLWV, please contact Christine.

We strongly urge all members who have not yet had a chance to be trained in observing town boards to attend the **Training on Observer Corps** on October 10 at 7:00 pm. Veteran members Jane Malme and Pat Facey will conduct the training, and then members can make a real difference by reporting on our various town boards' activities.



Mark your calendars!



The Hingham League of Women Voters will hold their first annual

All-Member Meeting

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

7:00 - 8:45 p.m.

at the

Hingham Public Library

The Whiton Room

You've seen *An Inconvenient Truth*. You've made changes in your life to reduce your carbon footprint. Now, come see a live presentation of the slideshow presented in the film. A member of The Climate Project will be here to educate and challenge us as citizens into action against the growing crisis of global warming.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity!

To reserve your seat, call Debbie Courteau at 781-335-7558.

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 18

6:00 p.m.

(Before All-Member Meeting)

All-Member Meeting:

The Climate Project
Tuesday, September 18
7:00 p.m.

Hingham Public Library

New Member Wine & Cheese

Wed., October 3,
7:30 p.m.

104 Summer Street

Plans are in the works for the notes from meetings to be posted to our website. It's a great way to get involved in the League and get to know how the town is governed.

Finally, the **Know Your Town Committee** meets on September 12, 7:30 p.m., at Tamara Hall's house (175 Gardner Street), and the

Green Committee meets on September 13 at 7:30 p.m., at Kate Boland's house (338 Main Street). Stay tuned for exciting opportunities to get involved in these Committees.

I look forward to a great year with HLWV.

Regards,
Julie

BE A PART OF OBSERVER CORPS!

Next Training—October 10, 2007

Thanks to the wonderful turnout of our members, the reinstated Observer Corps has had great success this past year. HLWV was able to cover various town boards and committees which included Planning Board, Advisory Committee, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Light Board and School Committee.

Our goal this year is to continue to grow the Observer Corps with more participants and coverage of additional boards. All are welcome and urged to attend the Observer Corps Training to find out more about this great service.

Join us next month on October 10, 7:00p.m. at Hingham Town Hall for the training which will be led by Pat Facey, a former Massachusetts LWV Vice-President

and Jane Malme, a past HLWV President.

If interested in attending or becoming part of Observer Corps, please contact Jane Malme at j.jhmalme@verizon.net.

About Observer Corps

One of the most valuable services a local League can offer its members, and often the community, is to observe municipal boards and committees. For many years there was a Hingham League Observer Corps and at the HLWV Annual Meeting, members expressed an interest in organizing one again.

Participation in the Observer Corps is an excellent way for members to learn about local issues and share this information with League members through Bulletin articles and

League meetings. Observers' reports are factual and non-judgmental, present various sides of an issue and are intended to help members to be well-informed before making any decisions concerning possible League or individual action.

Those interested in participating will determine how many Hingham boards and committees will be covered. The HLWV Board will write a letter to those town committees, introducing the League Observers, explaining that the League, a non-partisan, citizen education organization that encourages informed participation of citizens, will have representatives attending their meetings only to observe and take notes.

Among the town committees that are of greatest interest usually are the Board of Select-

man, School Committee, Planning Board, Advisory Committee and others may be added, based on member interest. If there is sufficient interest among HLWV members from other towns, other Observer Corps may be established in the future.

Representing the League as a member of the Observer Corps does involve a certain level of commitment to regularly attend board/committee meetings and to take careful notes, but it can be a very rewarding and worthwhile experience. Observer Corps participants also have the option to work as a team to share coverage of a committee if time constraints are limiting yet would like to be involved.



HLWV Board Members busy at work, planning the new year.

Green Committee Update

The Green Committee met in June several items that were addressed included the possibility of expanding the scope of the original position adopted in May 2006; continuing successful efforts with the Green Corner articles published in the Hingham Journal; hosting an annual educational forum like last year's well received Organic Lawn Care Seminar; and collaborating with other Hingham/south shore commit-

tees involved with sustainable and green efforts.

This is another wonderful way to become involved with HLWV. Any input or time you can offer would be welcome. Please email greencorner@hingham.ma.lwvnet.org for more information. The next meeting will be held September 13 at 7:30 p.m., at 338 Main Street.

Know Your Town Committee Update

HLWV is currently working on the Know Your Town Booklet that was published a few years back.

This beautifully bound book carries a wealth of information about Hingham – including the town's rich history, the who and what of town government as well as the many organizations and businesses that make up Hingham.

We hope to make it a highly usable town resource for new and existing residents.

The committee will be holding their second meeting September 12 at 7:30 p.m. at 175 Gardner Street.

Please contact Cindy Coe at cynthia.coe@comcast.net if you are interested in helping out.

Wine & cheese

THE HINGHAM LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

WOULD LIKE YOU TO JOIN US ON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD AT 7:30 PM

FOR AN EVENING OF

WINE, CHEESE & INFORMATION

AT THE HOME OF CHRISTINE DIETTERICH, 104 SUMMER STREET, HINGHAM



The Hingham League
of Women Voters

R.S.V.P. TO CHRISTINE @ CEOLWV@VERIZON.NET OR 781-741-8121

American Heritage Dictionary

Moderator (mōd'ə-rā'tər)

1. One that moderates, as:

- n. We all know what the moderator does.....
 - a. One that arbitrates or mediates.
 - b. **One who presides over a meeting, forum, or debate.**

Did you know that the word comes from RULER???

Online Etymology Dictionary**moderator**

1398, "ruler, governor," from L.



Come to the LWV Moderator Training

You will RULE!

Earn money for your League when you moderate for Candidates Debates and Forums. The state League is offering a pass through grant of \$75 for members who complete the Moderator Training program **every** time they moderate an approved event.

Opportunity awaits, following the **President's Breakfast** on Saturday, September 29 at the Newton Marriott we will hold a moderator training workshop for all interested League members. A two-part workshop from 12:00-3:00 with a quick lunch (provided) break between session 1 and 2. There is limited space so reserve your spot now! RSVP to the State League office at lwwma@lwwma.org

WE NEED YOU!**Thursday, October 18, 2007****Phonothon – the easy and successful fundraiser for state and local Leagues – is around the corner.**

Phonothon is an easy and successful fundraiser that the League has been doing for a number of years. The way Phonothon works is that local League members come together to make calls to other League members and non-member donors that live mostly in the surrounding areas. The LWVM will provide the contact information for the people to be called, as well as training on how to make the calls.

This is a simple and effective way to raise money to support your local League and the state League.

In 2006 the Phonothon brought in \$61,000, and almost \$6,000 was distributed back to local Leagues. 45 Leagues received money from Phonothon. Eight Leagues received over \$300.

Here is how you can participate and earn money for your local League:

- Urge your members, through your local bulletin, to watch for Phonothon letters in September and mail in their donations by **October 9, 2007**, which will earmark 10% for your League.
- Urge your members to attend a calling session. Your League gets paid \$20 per caller. **A sign-up sheet follows this memo. Sessions will be filled on a first signed-up basis.**

Phonothon Sharing Policy:

- Local Leagues receive 10% of the donations sent in by its members before the calling sessions start.
- **Local Leagues receive \$20 per member who attends a calling session.**
- Local Leagues receive 10% of the donations received as a result of its members calling.

Now is the time to recruit your League members to make those calls at one of the calling sessions listed with this memo. LWVM will provide a light dinner, all materials, and prizes for callers. A calling session runs from 5:30-9:00 pm. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Julie Strehle at ja.strehle@verizon.net.

HLWV Membership Form May 2007 – May 2008

Send to:
Marisa Costello
43 Woodlock Road
Hingham, MA 02043

Name _____

2nd Member _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email* _____

We need your email address so we can alert you from time to time about a League meeting or let you know when a new Voter newsletter is on our website

Individual	\$50.
Household	\$75. (\$50, first member; \$25 second)
Full time student	\$25.
CONTRIBUTION	\$ _____
PAYMENT ENCLOSED	\$ _____

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate. We are delighted to get help from our Members. Below is a list of activities in need of your help. Please check or circle any items with which you can assist:

_____ **Voter Education**

- * Help run Candidates Night
- * Register voters
- * Pass out "I Voted Today" stickers at the polls

_____ **Advocacy**

- *Municipal Finance Study
- * Green Study Committee
- * Report on Town Boards with Observer Corps
- Compile town data for the "Know Your Town" booklet

_____ **Social Event Planning**

- * Plan All-Member meetings, including Annual Meeting

**HINGHAM LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS**

30 Ward Street
Hingham, MA 02043

*Democracy: The more you use it,
the better it gets!*



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