SHOULD THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ENDORSE THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE LEGISLATION?

At our meeting on September 10, we will be beginning our study of the National Popular Vote. What follows are brief explanations of the Electoral College, how the National Popular Vote would operate, and the pros and cons of that proposal. Please come to the meeting to learn more about and discuss this important issue.

How the Electoral College Works
The Electoral College is a process established by the founding fathers as a compromise between election of the president by Congress and election by popular vote. The people of the United States vote for the electors who vote for the president.

Each state is allocated a number of electors equal to the number of its U.S. Senators (always two) plus the number of its U.S. Representatives based, in turn, upon the number of people in the state, which is determined by the federal census.

The process for selecting electors varies throughout the United States. Generally, the political parties nominate electors at their state party conventions or by a vote of the party’s central committee in each state. Electors are often selected to recognize their service and dedication to their political party. The voters in each state choose the electors on the day of the general election. The electors’ names may or may not appear on the ballot below the name of the candidates running for president, depending upon the procedure in each state.

There is no Constitutional provision or federal law that requires electors to vote according to the results of the popular vote in their states nor does the Constitution require that electors be completely free to act as they choose. Some states, although New York is not one of them, require electors to cast their votes according to the popular vote. Some state laws provide that so-called “faithless electors” may be subject to fines or may be disqualified for casting an invalid vote and be replaced by a substitute elector. It is rare for electors to disregard the popular vote by casting their electoral vote for someone other than their party’s candidate. Historically, more than 99% of electors have voted as pledged.

Of the 50 states, 48 award electoral votes on a winner-takes-all basis (as does the District of Columbia). For example, all 55 of California’s electoral votes go to the candidate who wins the larger share of the popular vote in that state. Only Maine and Nebraska award electoral votes on a winner-takes-most basis in each state. See page 4 for more information.
President’s Message

By all these lovely tokens September days are here,
With summer’s best of weather
And autumn’s best of cheer.

Helen Hunt Jackson

Many of us who live on the East End know September to be the best of times. The hustle and bustle of August is behind us, but the weather is wonderful and we, relieved of the stresses of summer traffic and house guests, can exhale and enjoy the beauty of the South Fork.

For the League, however, early fall is a most active time. We are gearing up for Voter Registration events, our Membership Committee is planning to attend several community events at which to encourage people to join us, we are scheduled to march in the Sag Harbor parade on September 15th, we are participating in the East End Community Picnic on September 16th and we are holding debates for the candidates for town government in East Hampton (October 22) and Southampton (October 29).

We are asking our members to join us at all of these events. If you have never participated in one of our community events, you are missing an opportunity to really see how appreciated we are by the community. When I stood in front of Waldbaum’s, clip board and voter registration forms in hand, I was amazed and touched by the numbers of people who thanked the League for the work we do, and expressed admiration for the organization. Our contingent in local parades receives cheers from the on-lookers—and we actually won a prize for our participation in the July 4th parade in Southampton this year. Attendance at the town board debates is important to any informed voter, but, as a League member, you will also bask in the high regard in which the candidates hold our organization.

It is important to the League that members come to and participate in our community outreach events. The more visible we are, the more powerful we are. But it is also important that members participate in our community outreach efforts so that they can experience the respect the public has for us, our organization and the work we do. So, come out to one or more of the early autumn events, and enjoy the autumn’s best of cheer.

Carol Mellor, Co-President 537-6998

HOUSEKEEPING

We have been running into a costly problem having The Voter returned to the LWVH due to incorrect addresses. If you wish to continue receiving The Voter while you are away for any period of time, it is important that you inform Arlene Makl (Arlene.Makl@gmail.com) of the dates you plan to leave and return and both your winter and summer addresses. Or, if you wish, we could simply discontinue your Voter while you are away. This will save our League double postage for all the returned mail.
voters go to the winner of that state election, even if the margin of victory is only 50.1 percent to 49.9 percent. As a result, the winner of the nationwide popular vote is not necessarily the winner of the election.

If no candidate receives a majority of electoral votes, there is a complicated process by which Congress selects the president and vice president.

The Effect of the Electoral College
There are three areas in which the practical effect of the Electoral College has been found to be objectionable. First, a person who has not received the majority of votes of the citizens of this country can be elected president and, this indeed happened in 2000. Secondly, it is thought that the Electoral College system can discourage voter turnout if a voter feels that his choice will not win the popular vote in his state. Thirdly, there is a great deal of evidence that the Electoral College system has created an election process in which the candidates only campaign in the “battleground” states which are not traditionally associated with one party or another. A recent analysis concluded that 31 of the 50 states have already been “written off,” leaving 19 states as “battleground” states. Under the “winner-takes-all” plan, candidates have no reason to poll, visit, advertise, organize, campaign or worry about the concerns of voters of states that they cannot possibly win or lose. This means that voters in two-thirds of the states are effectively disenfranchised. For example, neither party is likely to send its candidate to campaign in either New York or California because those states will likely vote for Democrats in the 2008 election. Thus, voters in two of the most populous states are, for all intents and purposes, irrelevant in the presidential election. (Of course, the candidates will make many trips to these states to raise money, but not to campaign).

The Proposed Solution: The National Popular Vote
The National Popular Vote (NPV) legislation provides that the electors of each state that has enacted the law will be voting for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates who win the majority of votes nationally.

How It Would Work
The National Popular Vote bill would guarantee that the presidential candidate who receives the most votes in all 50 states wins the presidency. The presidential electors would exercise their votes in a manner that reflects the voters’ nationwide choice.

The manner of conducting presidential elections is covered in Article II, Section 1, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution.

“Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors…” (emphasis added).

The constitutional wording “as the Legislature thereof may direct” contains no restrictions. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly characterized the authority of the states over the manner of awarding their electoral votes as “plenary” and “exclusive.” In short, there is nothing in the U.S. Constitution that needs to be changed in order to implement the nationwide popular vote of the president. This change can be accomplished in the same manner as the current system was originally adopted—namely, the states using their exclusive and plenary power to decide the manner of awarding their electoral votes.

Under the state legislation proposed by National Popular Vote, the popular vote counts from all 50 states and the District of Columbia would be added together to obtain a national grand total for each presidential candidate. Then, state election officials in all states participating in the plan would award their electoral votes to the presidential candidate who receives the largest number of popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The National Popular Vote plan is an interstate compact—a type of state law authorized by the U.S. Constitution that enables states to enter into a legally enforceable contractual obligation to undertake agreed joint actions.

Under the proposal, no state would act alone in offering to award its electoral votes to the nationwide winner. Instead, the National Popular Vote plan would take effect only when the plan has been enacted by states collectively possessing a majority of the electoral votes—that is, 270 of the 538 electoral votes. This threshold guarantees that the presidential candidate receiving the most popular votes nationwide would win enough electoral votes in the Electoral College to become president. The 270-vote threshold also corresponds essentially to states representing a majority of the people of the United States. The result would be that every vote in all 50 states and the District of Columbia is equally important in presidential elections.

To prevent mischief between the November voting by the people and the mid-December meeting of the Electoral College, the compact contains a six-month blackout period if any state ever wishes to withdraw from the compact. The blackout period starts on July 20 of each presidential election year and runs through the January 20 inauguration. Interstate compacts are contracts. It is settled
The word “advocacy” in League lingo could have been coined to define Anne Baird. For all the many years that she participated in the League of the Hamptons she represented advocacy in action. She was a committed member of the lobby team that regularly visited elected officials at the local, county, and state levels. She believed that if you wanted to change the laws on the books you took your issue directly to their makers. That’s what made the difference and what made for change.

Anne served many terms on the LWVH Board of Directors and was elected President following Linn Harwell. In fact, it was Linn, our “shameless” member recruiter, who first spotted Anne at a Southampton bank and invited her to join the local chapter. Anne had already been active in the League in Massachusetts but Linn persuaded her to continue on the East End of Long Island.

A major focus in the early nineties for Anne and the organization was natural resources, specifically solid waste management. Anne was at the forefront in lobbying for composting and recycling at the town and county levels. I clearly remember one particular lobby visit Anne scheduled with the Suffolk County Director of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. The League was protesting incineration as a garbage disposal method. Anne and committee members were armed with stats and the science that proved toxicity in the ash released during incineration. She was at her best at this meeting, fully in command of the facts, persuasive in argument. We were saved from the drastic effects of incineration, in large part due to Anne’s advocacy efforts. To further prove the benefits of municipal composting, Anne and her husband, George, made a site visit to an “in vessel” composting facility in Tennessee to bring back information to the League and to the Town of Southampton.

Anne stayed committed to and involved with the Natural Resources Committee for nearly two decades. Her advocacy for protecting and monitoring vital environmental areas extended to water quality, our aquifers, our wetlands and bays and, finally, the elimination of pesticide and fertilizers on golf courses.

Anne and George have moved to Massachusetts and will be greatly missed. Their tireless efforts in the development and building of the Unitarian Church in Bridgehampton stands as further testimony to their community leadership. The church, the League, and other organizations that they touched will bear their imprint; most especially the League of Women Voters that stands for the active participation of citizens in government. There was none better than Anne Baird. We tip our hats to her persistence, energy, and grit as she taught us all to be part of the solution.

Written by Jacqui Lofaro
**September 2007**

**Note:** Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please confirm with committee chairperson.

No Health Committee meeting in September.  
No Housing Committee meetings until further notice.

**September 4** Tuesday  
Natural Resources Committee meeting. Bridgehampton Library. 11:00 a.m. Contact Sue Avedon at 329-1830.

**September 5** Wednesday  
Membership Committee meeting. Home of Arlene Makl, 21 Montauk Avenue, East Hampton. 11:00 a.m. Contact Arlene at 324-8662 or Arlene.Makl@Gmail.com.

**September 5** Wednesday  
LWVH Board meeting. Bridgehampton National Bank. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Members and guests welcome.

**September 10** Monday  
**New Members’ Dinner and General Membership Meeting.** Topic: The National Popular Vote for President. Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse. 977 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton. New members’ dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by general membership meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**September 11** Tuesday  
LWVSC Board meeting. Riverhead Library. 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

**September 12** Wednesday  
Voter Services meeting. Bridgehampton Library. 12:00 noon. Contact Anne Marshall at 537-3257.

**September 15** Saturday  
Deadline for October issue of *The Voter*.

**September 18** Tuesday  
New York State Primary Day.

**September 19** Wednesday  
Fundraising Committee meeting. Contact Susan Wilson at 283-6549 for details.

**September 25** Tuesday  
Education Committee meeting. Cooper Hall, Rogers Memorial Library, Southampton. 1:30 p.m. Contact Judi Roth at 283-0759.

**September 26** Wednesday  
Immigration Study Committee meeting. Home of Arlene Hinkemeyer. 1:15 p.m. Contact Arlene at 324-6713 or ahinkemeyer@optonline.net.

**September 27** Thursday  
**TRIVIA PUB QUIZ and 50/50 Raffle.** To benefit LWVH. Southampton Publick House, Southampton. 7:00 p.m. See page 18 for details. Call 631-283-6549 to register.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**October 3** Wednesday  
LWVH Board meeting. Bridgehampton National Bank. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Members and guests welcome.

**October 4** Thursday  
LWVNYS Ida Trager Training Workshop. SUNY Farmingdale. 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**OTHER MEETINGS OF INTEREST**

**September 15** Saturday  
Sag Harbor 300th Anniversary Parade. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at John and Main Streets. Wear your League T-shirts.

**September 16** Sunday  
East End Community Picnic. Red Creek Park, Hampton Bays. 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN YOUR TOWN GOVERNMENT?

Go to [www.townclerk.com](http://www.townclerk.com) and type in your ZIP code. You will find a lot of information about your town, including a calendar for town board meetings, minutes of the meetings, dates and topics of public hearings, and much more.
NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE
continued from page 3
compact law and settled constitutional law that withdrawal restrictions—very common in interstate compacts—are enforceable because the U.S. Constitution prohibits a state from impairing any obligation of contract.

Benefits of the Proposal
Adoption of the proposal would mean that the person elected president of the United States is the person selected by a majority of the voters of the United States—a goal that 70% of the citizens of this country favor. The National Popular Vote plan would also eliminate the possibility of a presidential election being decided by the House of Representatives (where each state would have one vote) and the vice-presidential election being decided by the U.S. Senate.

No longer could a candidate can win the presidency without winning the most popular votes nationwide. In addition, nationwide election of the president would reduce the possibility of close elections and recounts. The current system regularly manufactures artificial crises even when the nationwide popular vote is not particularly close. Even though President Bush was 3.5 million votes ahead of Kerry in 2004 on election night, the nation had to wait until Wednesday to see if Kerry would dispute Ohio’s all-important 20 electoral votes. A shift of 60,000 votes in Ohio in 2004 would have given Kerry a majority of the electoral votes, despite President Bush’s 3,500,000-vote lead in the nationwide popular vote.

Under the proposed compact, the 270 or more electoral votes possessed by the states belonging to the compact would be cast by a group of presidential electors nominated by the political party whose candidate won the nationwide vote in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This group of electors—sufficient to guarantee the election of a president—would reflect the will of the voters nationwide. None of these presidential electors would be voting contrary to his or her political inclinations or conscience. Instead, the 270 (or more) presidential electors associated with the candidate who won the nationwide vote would simply vote for their own party’s presidential nominee (i.e., the nationwide choice of the voters from all 50 states and the District of Columbia). This approach implements the desire of an overwhelming majority of Americans (over 70% in recent polls), namely that the candidate who gets the most votes nationwide should become president.

Downsides of the Proposal*
There are many opponents of the proposal who say that if you want to amend the Constitution, you should amend that document, and not try to change it by an “end-run” plan. Although the procedure to amend the Constitution is thought by some to be cumbersome, it has been accomplished on twenty-seven occasions, reflecting the fact that if the citizens of the United States care enough about the issue, amendment is preferable and feasible.

Others argue against the NPV on procedural grounds. For example, it is pointed out that although the compact contains language creating a period of time during which a state may not repeal its law, it does not contain a mechanism to enforce this provision. Furthermore, the law does not take into account the fact that each state has its own laws regarding the appearance of the candidates on the ballot. What would happen if a candidate’s name did not appear on the ballot of every state? Should an election be close, the re-count process could be a nightmare of national proportions.

Some may argue that voters would be uncomfortable with the electoral votes of their state being cast for a candidate that won the national popular vote—but not necessarily their state’s vote. This was, in fact, the reason given by Governor Schwarzenegger for vetoing the compact in California.

Finally, there is a claim that the compact is unconstitutional. Although the United States Constitution permits “compacts” between states, the right of states to contract between each other is not unlimited, and is subject to certain restrictions. Some agreements between states require the consent of Congress. There have been arguments made that this contract, because it affects the political power of the states which are not parties to it, is the type of contract which will require Congressional approval. Whether this argument ultimately prevails, there is hesitation to set upon a procedure for the election of the president that is likely to result in prolonged litigation. What would happen if an election decided under the terms of the National Popular Vote were later held to be unconstitutional? Do we want to start down this road, if the likely result is uncertainty?

Written by Carol Mellor

Do you have an e-mail address? We need everyone’s e-mail address to update our files. Please do not assume we have it. Your address is never shared and is treated as a private matter. Take a moment now and send your e-mail address to Arlene.Makl@gmail.com.

* Inasmuch as the League of Women Voters has long favored the abolition of the Electoral College, the focus herein will be on the disadvantages of the National Popular Vote, and not on the advantages of the Electoral College.
Because of the League’s long-term support for Alternatives to Incarceration and awareness that people with mental illness often become entangled with the criminal justice system because of their illnesses, some League members attended briefings at Pilgrim Psychiatric Center on July 31. Dr. Michael Hogan, the new Commissioner of the NYS Office of Mental Health, provided his perspectives on the State’s public mental health system since he arrived several months ago and emphasized approaches to optimize services.

—Most people with serious mental illness are in poverty and the total bundle of benefits does not raise their income level over $10,000.
—There are high rates of unemployment among them because many fear losing their SSI if they work.
—Many people lack care, and entry into care is often late.
—On average there are two years between the first sign of psychosis and the first step toward care.
—There are approximately 11 years between the first signs of psychosis and a person’s ability to function well.

Usually, first signs of illness appear in childhood or adolescence; they worsen through the years. Early treatment is critical; it is important that support from mental health clinics and clinicians is provided where the children are (schools, homes, etc.). The stigma attached to mental illness also impacts on people seeking treatment (although apparently lessening). Attitudes change in the context of relationships; this occurs when people know others who struggle with mental illness.

Access to care is often difficult to come by, one reason being the lack of beds in facilities that provide service for mentally ill people. Ideally, no one should have to wait 24 hours for acute care. According to Dr. Hogan, most care is suboptimal, and there is incomplete insurance coverage. Because of the closings of three very large psychiatric hospitals in Suffolk County, we have a disproportionately large number of people needing services. In addition, some hospitals which had beds available, intensifying the crisis Suffolk faces for people in psychiatric crisis are either eliminating or seriously cutting back on the number of beds available, intensifying the crisis Suffolk faces in providing adequate care.

PROS (Personalized Recovery Oriented Services) is a comprehensive program for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The goal of PROS is to integrate treatment, support, and rehabilitation in a manner which facilitates the individual’s recovery. The goals for individuals in the program are to improve functioning, reduce inpatient utilization, reduce emergency services, reduce contact with the criminal justice system, increase employment, attain higher levels of education, and secure preferred housing. This is a more integrated and continuous approach than much of what exists and it is an investment in helping people to get a life!

Suffolk is one of three counties that is an “early adopter” of PROS; several PROS licenses have already been issued to several of our providers by OMH. It is essentially Medicaid-funded. There are many difficulties within the program which yet need to be worked out, but that work is on-going. A most positive change within our country in recent years is the understanding that any person can recover, even those whose conditions seem helpless and hopeless. There is a deep commitment within Suffolk County to reach all those in need of help. (See www.networkofcare.org.)

Katherine Hoak
• Information Items: The League received a generous contribution in memory of Dorothy Fishelson, which has been acknowledged with a "thank you" note and a copy of *The Voter* containing the tribute to Dorothy. The Board’s October meeting will be at 6:45 to hear the Southampton Business Alliance discuss their affordable housing initiative. There will be no October Member Meeting because of the two debates. Councilman Chris Nuzzi thanked Sue Avedon for speaking for the League to the Southampton Town Board on the topic of actions to take to achieve energy efficiency.

• Committee Reports: The September 10 Membership Meeting will be on the League study of the effort to enable the popular election of the president. Kevin McAllister, the Peconic Baykeeper, will speak at the Natural Resources meeting [Aug. 7] to discuss the brown tide. Anne Marshall (Voter Services) reported that the debates for town elective offices (East Hampton on October 22; Southampton on October 29) will be taped for TV. Arlene Hinkemeyer (Publicity) noted that the *East Hampton Star* has reported League committee meetings based on information in *The Voter* and so it is important that the information be accurate.

• Discussion: The Suffolk League has asked us to write to state legislators indicating that withholding sales tax revenue as a tactic to pressure Supervisor Levy to change his stance on illegal immigrants is an unacceptable means of government action. After much discussion, the Board voted to send a letter to Mr. Levy pointing out the criticality of having the full funding for all county programs available, especially for Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI), a League-supported program.

• Senator LaValle has canceled meetings with LWVH twice and postponed a third meeting. Anne will write to the Senator expressing the hardship caused by the cancellations and will summarize our positions for him. The issue of whether we should use the term “portfolio” or “committee” in our communications was discussed and it was proposed that we use only “committee.” A motion on this issue will be made at our next meeting.

ARCHIVES PROJECT

Who are these women and what ARE they doing?! They are LWVH Board members, Ann Sandford (left) and Maura Lester. And while many of us have spent time at the beach or at the pool, they have trekked to Anne Marshall’s house over a several-week period to sort out and organize the archives from the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons. We all are very grateful to them both.

If any of our members have material specific to the Hamptons League that could be considered for this project, please contact any one of us to make arrangements for retrieval.

Thanks Ann and Maura!
WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Janet Beck
90 Jagger Lane, Westhampton, NY 11977
631-288-7954
As a teacher and administrator for the New York City Board of Education, Janet understandably found herself with little time for much additional activity. However, now that she has been retired for the last nine years and living in Westhampton, as are her two sisters, she is ready to become more involved in community activities. Though she works part-time as a property manager, she has already become involved politically out here as she considers voting a very important part of life in these United States. She joined the League after being invited to a meeting. Unclear as to exactly what function she would like to take on in the League, she is open to possibilities. Janet is very impressed by the Meet the Candidates program the League offers. Perhaps there is a place for her talents in that arena.

Glorian Berk
P.O. Box 766, Water Mill, NY 11976
631-283-2638
As a vice-president of finance for 34 years in a division of Time-Warner, Glorian had never had the opportunity “to feel rooted” in Queens where she spent her working life, nor Southampton, her weekend retreat. Since retiring, she now feels that she has grown roots in the Southampton community. With the encouragement of active League members Joy Lupoletti, Judi Roth, and Joy Cordery, Glorian joined the organization. As president of the Southampton Trails Preservation Society as well as a member of the East Hampton TPS, she feels there is now “a coalition of interests” available for her. That is, as someone interested in preserving open space and the aquifer issues the League is taking on, there is much available for her. Evidently no organizational slouch by any means, Glorian is also working with a group called “Green And Involved Now” whose acronym is GAIN. It certainly looks like everyone gains when Glorian is involved.

Martha Harrington
P.O. Box 2158, Amagansett, NY 11930
631-267-6851
“It’s an interesting time politically,” responded Martha, to the question of what impelled her to join the League. “I joined to learn more about the political situation.” That, of course, touches on a major focus of the League in educating the public to some of the serious issues of our time on every level. Presently a consultant working with media companies, she has not as yet fully retired but is considering that possibility. Because of her professional work, Martha has difficulty committing to a specific date for committee meetings. However, as she is currently sorting through the packet of League materials recently sent to her, she feels that she will find a niche within her time constraints to make some contribution to the organization. We’re sure her efforts in whatever area she chooses will enrich the League.

Enid Roth
P.O. Box 183, Amagansett, NY 11930
631-267-8012
Because Enid is spending an increasing amount of her time on the East End, she felt that joining the League would satisfy a need for meaningful activity and provide the opportunity to meet more people. As a member of the East Hampton Trails Preservation Society and a volunteer at Guild Hall, she is clearly engaged in that process. Enid has many achievements to her credit. She retired from NBC as a director for the news at WNBC-TV, where she also programmed news specials, such as the primary convention and the Tony Awards. In her directorial capacity, she has the distinction of being the first woman to be director of a news program. Nominated four times for an Emmy Award, she won the coveted award for a documentary she made on the ethos of young people in the city. She also created a promotional public service program called “Wednesday’s Child,” for which she was cited with a plaque.

As soon as the demands of house care are taken care of, Enid will decide about what she wants to follow up on from the rich menu of active possibilities offered by the League.

LETTER FROM BEA LIPMAN

Dear Judi [Roth],

I apologize for not writing sooner. The reason is, I have put my place up for sale and will be moving closer to my daughter who lives in Washington, DC.

I would like you, the board and all the members to know that joining the LWV in 1989 has been a rewarding experience for me. The committees that I have served on longest—Health (circa Hillary), Membership, Housing and, most recently, Education—have been learning experiences. I hope I have been able to make some small contribution to each.

It has been a pleasure to meet and get to know so many bright, energetic people. My best wishes to all as you continue your endeavors to make the public aware of important issues and to make sure that “Every Vote Counts.”

Your friend,
Bea Lipman
These past two months have been busy for both the Membership and Voter Service committees. These committees have been making joint plans for the onset of voter registration with Voter Services taking the lead and Membership cooperating by providing LWVH information and additional person power when and where needed. The concept of “what needs to be done” is very rewarding when one knows it is for the greater good. It has always been the goal of volunteers, and especially LWVH volunteers, to make themselves available on an as-needed basis. This year we will be assisting in handling candidate debates, candidate nights, voter registration, National Popular Vote discussions, and more. The Membership Committee will be there to assist and we hope many of the membership, in general, will make themselves available to help where and when called upon. When you have a specific interest or some time available to volunteer, please let either me or Anne Marshal (apghny@aol.com) know.

Arlene Makl, Chair  324-8662
Arlene.Makl@Gmail.com

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**TRIVIA PUB QUIZ and 50/50 Raffle**

**FUN! EXCITING! CHALLENGING!**
Teams (4 individuals per team) compete for a chance to win **$400 CASH**!
Test your knowledge on a variety of subjects.

**September 27, 2007**, beginning at 7:00 P.M.
Southampton Publick House, Southampton, N.Y.
Light Refreshments (Beverages not included)

Entry Fee: $25.00 per person
To Benefit the
League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Pre-Register Your Team Now
And Receive an Advance List of Question Categories.

Call 631/283-6549 to register.

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We are all too much aware that the national election season has become virtually a two-year odyssey. But now is the time for the real deal—a focus on our local town elections. Since someone once said “All politics is local,” we are once again putting much of our energy into educating the towns’ citizens about the issues and candidates involved in the election on November 6. Some details are already in place:

A debate for **East Hampton Town** Supervisor and Council candidates will take place on Monday, **October 22** at 7:00 p.m.—location to be determined.

The **Southampton Town** debate among the same categories of candidates will occur on Monday, **October 29** at 7:00 p.m. in the Rogers Memorial Library.

And a group of intrepid Voter Services Committee members are setting up voter registration sites in both towns. They have been at farmers’ markets, town fairs, post offices and Main Streets. They have voter registration forms and absentee ballot applications—in English and in Spanish.

Here is a reminder of important dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>Primary Election Day for certain local offices.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Last day to register by mail for the General Election.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>Last day to postmark applications for an absentee ballot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5</td>
<td>Last day to apply in person at the Board of Elections for an absentee ballot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>General Election Day. Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.</td>
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Anne K. Marshall, Chair  537-3257

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Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State in association with the United Nations Department of Public Information
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MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues may be sent to: LWVH, P.O. Box 2253, East Hampton, NY 11937

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Individual</td>
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Dues Year is June 1, 2007 through May 31, 2008.

_____ Member Renewal
_____ New Member

Please make checks payable to LWVH and mail to:

LWVH, P.O. Box 2253, East Hampton, NY 11937

*For Education membership, amounts above dues level are tax deductible. In this case, please make checks payable to EDUCATION FOUNDATION—LWV/Hamptons.
The Voter
League of Women Voters of the Hamptons
P.O. Box 2253
East Hampton, NY 11937
Phone: 631-324-4637
www.lwvhamptons.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP
to a friend, family member, or neighbor.
It is a unique gift that may lead to a lifelong League membership.

DO YOU WANT TO GIVE SOMEONE A UNIQUE PRESENT
for graduation, a birthday, for just being a good friend or neighbor?
How about giving a League membership?
Call Arlene Makl at 324-8662.
See Dues Structure on reverse side.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER’S NAME ___________________________________________________
OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER’S NAME____________________________________________
WINTER ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________ AS OF _________
________________________________________________________________________________
SUMMER ADDRESS______________________________________________________________ AS OF _________
________________________________________________________________________________
PHONE (WINTER) ___________________________ PHONE (SUMMER) _____________________
E-MAIL ADDRESS _______________________________________________________________