



Dover Voter

The Price of Liberty Is Still Eternal Vigilance

League of Women Voters of Greater Dover, October-November 2006

President: Ellen Wasfi, 734-1545, ewasfi@aol.com

Newsletter: Joan Breukelman, muonjb@comcast.net

Calendar of Events

Sep 14	Great Decisions: Report of Delegates to UN/DPI NGO Conference – Speakers: Ruth and Ralph Johnson, delegates; Camden Friends Meeting
Sep 20	Potluck Supper: The Human Impact on Global Warming – Speaker: Dr. Chad Tolman, Research Fellow (retired), DuPont Research, Camden Friends Mtg.
Sep 26	LWVGD Board Meeting – St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Camden
Oct 12	Great Decisions: Brazil – 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., home of Carol Reid-Grandfield, 2791 Hills Market Road, Felton
Oct 14	Voter Registration Deadline for November Election
Oct 18	LWVGD Candidates Night for Kent County Row Offices, Levy Court, and State Representative – 6:45-8:45 p.m., Boscov's Auditorium, 2nd Floor, Dover Mall
Oct 24	LWVGD Board Meeting – 12:30 p.m., St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Camden
Oct 25	LWVGD Candidates Night for State Senate, Statewide Offices, U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative – 6:45-8:45 p.m.; Boscov's Auditorium, 2nd Floor, Dover Mall
Nov 9	Great Decisions: Human Rights – 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; home of Laura Kelly
Nov 15	Wine and Cheese: "Welfare to Work" – 6:30-9:00 p.m.; home of Sue Schmittinger, 103 Dodge Drive, North Ridge, Smyrna
Nov 28	LWVGD Board Meeting – 12:30-2:30 p.m.; St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Camden

The League of Women Voters of Greater Dover is on the Internet at
<http://go.to/lwvgd/>

LWVGD October 2006 Candidates Nights

The public is invited to attend two Candidates Night debates sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Greater Dover and Boscov's Department Store. The first Candidates Night will be from 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. Wednesday, October 18, 2006, in the second floor auditorium of Boscov's Department Store at the Dover Mall. Candidates for State Representative (28th - 34th districts), Kent County Levy Court (2nd, 4th, 6th and At-Large districts), Kent County Recorder of Deeds, Receiver of Taxes and Sheriff have been invited to participate.

The second Candidates Night debate will be held a week later on Wednesday, October 25, 2006, from 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. in the same venue, Boscov's auditorium at the Dover Mall. Invited candidates include those running for State Senate, Attorney General, State Treasurer, State Auditor of Accounts, U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator.

The audience will have the opportunity to pose questions to the candidates via index cards. The League of Women Voters will moderate the debate. This is a unique opportunity to learn about and voice the major local concerns of the upcoming elections and find out where the candidates stand on these issues. Radio station WDOV has indicated an interest in broadcasting these debates.

Many thanks to the Candidates Night Committee of Mary Merritt, Beverly Bresnahan, Cynthia Johnson and one of our newest members, Faye Stetson, for their persistent efforts in contacting the candidates; and to Joan and Fred Breukelman for drafting all the letters of invitation. All League members wishing to help monitor these two events, please contact Ellen Wasfi at 734-1545. We would greatly appreciate your assistance.

Voter Registration Deadline

The League of Women Voters wishes to remind all citizens that October 14, 2006, is the deadline for voter registration for the upcoming

November 2006 election. For information on how and where to register, please call the Kent County Department of Elections at 739-4498.

Great Decisions: Brazil

Thursday, October 12, 2006, 10:00 a.m.
Home of Carol Reid-Grandfield,
2791 Hills Market Road, Felton

Directions: Go south on Route 13 from Dover to the stoplight in Felton (Route 12). Lake Forest North Elementary School (the old Felton High School) will be on your right. Turn right onto Route 12 and proceed through Felton. Stay on Route 12 for three miles. Turn left onto Hopkins Cemetery Road. A small cemetery is on the left corner where you turn. Proceed south on Hopkins Cemetery Road for two miles, to the first STOP sign. Turn right onto Hills Market Road. Our home is the second house on the right, three tenths of a mile (.3 mi.) from the corner. Our house is white with blue shutters and has a circular drive in the front and plenty of parking in the back.



Brazil is a nation still trying to deal with the political, economic and social legacy of its colonial past which has left large numbers of repressed and under-represented ethnic and racial minorities facing conditions of persistent poverty, lack of educational opportunity, and workplace discrimination. The country has also had to confront repeated corruption scandals at the highest levels of government. US policy towards Brazil has been one of neglect "punctuated by moments of attention prompted by crises." Recent Brazilian governments have moved towards greater economic and political distance from the United States by seeking alliances abroad with European and Asian nations, and initiating an independent trade association with other South American countries, known as Mercosur (or Mercosul).

[Great Decisions 2006]

The complexities of the Brazilian political and social scene and the ramifications of its quest for an independent foreign policy will be the focus of this month's Great Decisions discussion. Do join us!

Meeting In The Middle
47th National Convention
June 10 - 13, 2006, Minneapolis, MN

By Carol Reid-Grandfield

To someone new to attending national conventions, there was much to experience, to absorb, and ultimately, to evaluate. From the many offerings, caucuses I attended included Health Care, International Criminal Court, Small Leagues (fund raising and membership), Civil Liberties, Global Warming, and "Safeguarding U.S. Democracy: Promoting an Independent Judiciary by Defending the U.S. Constitution." All of these caucuses represented a lot of time and work by the states presenting them.

Four plenary sessions presented the opportunity to hear excellent speakers, including Dr. Thomas Mann, on the state of our government in America. My notes include phrases like "polarized," "nearly balanced," "struggle for control," "intense manipulation of the rules," "dysfunctional politics," "no genuine deliberation in Congress," "no open and honest discussion or debate," "gerrymandering," and "radio talk shows." But Dr. Mann's conclusion seemed to reflect the reason behind the very existence of the League of Women Voters: "We acknowledge our flaws and are willing to do something about it" and "Change must first occur with the people."

Other plenary sessions were devoted to the LWVUS budget and to the U.S. system of choosing judges, with the inherent perils of appointments, the merit system, campaigns, PACs, and issue advocacy ads.

An important portion of each convention is motions. Several were presented by the LWVUS, most of which passed; and many—outgrowths of the myriad caucuses—were presented from the floor. Few of those presented from the floor passed, for reasons primarily concerning time required to carry them out by the Board and limited funds available for doing so. As a new convention attendee, I appreciate the merits of those motions made by the Board of LWVUS; however, as a member of

a state delegation whose motion (in our case, on global warming), was defeated, I suspect many other delegates also left Minneapolis frustrated. Fortunately, unresolved issues/concerns could still be submitted, in writing, as "instructions to the board," and we already have received satisfactory response from the Board concerning our motion. Of course, nothing stands in the way of Leagues continuing to press for change within their own states.

Limited free time was available, but our Delaware delegation experienced several wonderful restaurants, as well as guided walking tours of the city with its light rail, its "Cool City" and "green" features, its delightful parks and green spaces, and its extensive skyways.

My thanks to LWVGD for your financial support and for providing me the honor of representing you at this important biennial event.

Great Decisions: Human Rights

Thursday, November 9, 2006, 10:00 a.m.
Home of Laura Kelly, 109 Stuart Drive
Pennwood, Dover

Directions: From S. State St. turn onto Elizabeth Ave. or Emerson Dr. Each ends in a T intersection at Stuart Dr. Turn RIGHT from either Elizabeth or Emerson onto Stuart Dr. 109 will be on your left, a low brown house with Asian statuary in the garden. Pennwood is off S. State St. between Moores Lake and Rt. 10.

For over the past decade and especially since September 11, 2001, the US and other Western nations have adopted often controversial draconian measures to combat what they call terrorist insurgencies. While security is a priority for all societies, the basic question raised is, can human rights and civil liberties be fully protected under these conditions. Debate has arisen about how far some of these measures should reach, and whether international agreements to preserve basic human rights are applicable in these contexts. Related issues deal with the policies, especially military occupation, that foment violent resistance.

Historian's Report

July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

The LWVGD Summer Picnic was, once again, held on Andrews Lake, at the home of Ruth and Ralph Johnson, on Labor Day. It was quite well attended, and everyone had a good time.

A pot-luck supper was held in September 2005 at Camden Friends Meeting Annex. Participation was low. Also in September, three Dover members represented LWVDE at the 58th Annual Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization (DPI/ NGO) Conference at the United Nations.

Several LWVGD members joined members from New Castle and Sussex Counties on October 19 for the LWVDE bus trip to the United Nations.

The topic of the October Unit meeting was "Microenterprise and Economic Development." The speaker was excellent and the meeting well attended.

LWVGD study groups continued to work on a number of issues, including timely Freedom of Information Act issues, land development and housing, and instant run-off voting (IRV).

The Great Decisions group studied Outsourcing, China, Sudan, Global Poverty, the United Nations, Global Water Issues, Iran, and Energy.

Other topics of Unit meetings were centered around Kent County's Comprehensive Plan, (which, we learned, lacks attention to affordable housing in the low-income range), affordable housing, and freedom of information.

The LWVGD also sponsored two well-attended mayoral debates—for the Town of Camden and for the City of Dover.

Sunshine Week in March was observed by the LWVGD, in cooperation with the LWVDE and the *Wilmington News Journal*, with a program centered around the Freedom of Information Act. The conference, entitled "Openness in

Government: Looking for the Sunshine," included a panel of distinguished guests and speakers. The program was excellent and well attended.

— Carol Reid-Grandfield

R_x from Jo Ann Fields, M.D. NEWS

This is a new feature in the Dover Voter. Dr. Jo Ann Fields is a LWVGD member and physician with a strong personal and professional interest in health care reform, especially the issue of controlling health care costs.

She states that "Behind the debate of public vs. private health care is the debate over who can control costs best - private market forces or government." Upcoming Voters will highlight a bulletin from Dr. Fields on health care cost saving measures and other health care issues.

Encourage Generic Medicines

Visit www.communitycatalyst.org to learn about an innovative program in Massachusetts called Generics are Powerful Medicine, which educates consumers about the value of generics and has participated in some class action suits against pharmaceutical companies in patent protection cases. Some of the pharmaceutical companies have decided "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em," and have gotten into the business of manufacturing generic medicines so they can get a part of this growing business.

Negotiating competitive prices for prescription medicines

Drug benefit management companies, which may or may not be independent of the pharmaceutical companies, restrict medicines to a formulary list, and pharmaceutical companies supposedly have to compete both on the basis of cost and efficacy to get their product on that list.

Delaware State Medicaid has a pharmacy benefit management group, which uses a formulary list to restrict prescription medicines. The people who decide what is on the list are doctors and pharmacists (I have a list of their names). I have noticed some lists, including Delaware Medicaid, do not always give priority to generics, even when the generics have equal

efficacy. If you ask Medicaid about this, they say the pharmaceutical company gives them a big discount in order to keep their brand name drugs on the list.

The new Medicare Part D pharmacy benefit is a dizzying hodgepodge of different formulary lists. While we are all trying to sort out Medicare Part D, I am afraid all the pharmaceutical companies are busy making sure they have a secure position on those formulary lists. I am not aware of much oversight by Medicare or at least Medicare does not seem to have much in the way of oversight processes in place yet.

LWVGD President's Message

Overview Of Dover League Activities

Welcome to all LWVGD members, and welcome back to the *Dover Voter*, which has been in hiatus for several months. Let me review the past year's activities in the areas of voter service, representative government, affordable housing, microfinance, international relations, government oversight, and the environment.

Voter Service

Several Dover League members completed the State board of Election voter registration training. Voter registration chair Charlotte Hunt organized voter registration opportunities at several venues and events throughout the city, including the Wyoming Peach Festival, Race Unity Day, the House of Pride and a meeting of the Delaware Family Child Care Alliance at Modern Maturity Center. Charlotte and her voter registration committee members have also registered voters and handed out voter information several local supermarkets and at Boscov's entrance to the Dover Mall.

The Dover League sponsored two municipal Candidates Nights during the past year. For the first time, in February 2006, the League held a debate for the Town of Camden mayoral election, with the enthusiastic cooperation from

the administration of Caesar Rodney High School, which hosted the event. In April 2006, together with the Kiwanis Club of Dover and the Kent County Association of Realtors, the League cosponsored a Candidates Night debate for the Dover mayoral and city council election. Both debates were well-attended by the voting public and well covered by the local media. This month we are cosponsoring, together with Boscov's, two debates featuring candidates from Kent County Row offices through United States Senate.

League member Jean Bauer edited the 2005-2006 edition of the Dover League's Directory of Elected Officials, which was underwritten as a public service by Boscov's Department Store. The publication provides citizens of Kent County with access information for their representatives from local school boards to state and federal offices. 2000 copies of the Directory have been published and distributed throughout Kent County.

Representative Government

The League has observed and certified the Resident Advisory Council nominations and elections process at several sites of the Delaware and Dover Housing Authorities. Resident Advisory Councils are instruments of representative government for these housing communities. By electing their own representatives, residents can mobilize to improve the quality of life where they live through petitioning for changes, applying for government grants, and providing a voice in the way their communities are run.

League representatives also met periodically with Delaware Housing Coalition to update and refine guidelines for holding such elections. This year we focused in the issue of defining procedures for administering absentee ballots. [Recently, the League informed the Dover Human Relations Commission of the positive role of these councils.]

The Dover League continues to provide the public with information about instant runoff voting (IRV) as an alternative method of electing public officials when multiple

candidates are running for the same office. Toward that end, we invited Rob Richie, Executive Director of the Center for Voting and Democracy in Takoma Park, MD, on two separate occasions to explain the impact of IRV on increasing voter interest and turnout. Mr. Richie's second appearance was before a combined meeting of the City of Dover Charter Review Committee, the Dover City Council, and the Dover Board of Elections.

The Dover League provided updated information on the City of Dover and Kent County to the revised edition of the Delaware Government book published by the State League and made current every ten years. The Delaware Government book is available on the State of Delaware website, www.delaware.gov.

Affordable Housing

On the initiative of two League members, Gina Miserendino and Jean Bauer, the Dover League has undertaken a long-term study of affordable housing in Delaware.

This has involved examination of the Kent County Comprehensive Plan and the impact of designated growth zones on the construction of affordable housing, adequate transportation for residents on limited income, and the environmental impact of residential development, especially in Kent and Sussex Counties. Speakers have included Sara Keifer, former Assistant Director of the Kent County Department of Planning Services, Dave Keifer, Chair of the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club and Gina Miserendino of the Delaware Housing Coalition.

One of the main findings of these initial sessions was that there is a serious lack of affordable housing in Kent and Sussex Counties. In the coming year, the League will continue to look into issues related to housing, such as the impact of "Moving to Work" legislation.

Microfinance

In the fall of 2005, the League began an educational series dealing with microfinance. A movement, which had its beginnings with the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, has now taken on

global proportions in its effort to provide small loans for low-income entrepreneurs who would otherwise be left outside the traditional financing network.

One speaker was Ms. Jeanine Kleimo, development finance specialist, who familiarized us with the concept of microfinance and its global impact. A second program featured leaders of local organizations including the YWCA's Microenterprise Development Program, the Delaware Center for Enterprise Development of Delaware State University, and the First State Community Loan Fund whose mission it is to provide local microfinance networking opportunities. Several prospective participants in these programs were invited to attend.

International Relations

The Dover League's international relations committee continues to sponsor monthly foreign policy discussions based on the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions guidebook. This past year the topics covered included Outsourcing Jobs, China, Sudan, Global Poverty, the Middle East, Global Water Issues, the United Nations, Iran, and Energy Policy. League members Ruth and Ralph Johnson were League delegates to the Fall 2006 United Nations Department of Public Information Non-Governmental Organization Conference, which focused on the implementing the goals of the UN Millennium Declaration. They reported their observations at as part of the League's Great Decisions discussion series.

Freedom Of Information Act

Much of League activity is related to facilitating citizens participation in the political process and providing the public with access to information. This past year, the Dover League combined efforts with the State League and the News Journal to present a program on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the threats to its implementation at both state and national levels.

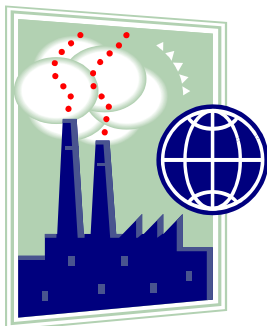
An esteemed panel representing advocacy groups, the media, academia and the three branches of state government presented a broad range of views on the issue and emphasized the

need for further examination. The League has joined a statewide coalition as part of a national effort to guarantee full implementation of FOIA's provisions. League member Dr. Margaret McKay is representing the LWVGD on this panel.

Environment: Global Warming

Thanks to the commitment and organizing efforts of LWVGD Environmental Chair Carol Reid-Grandfield, the Dover League hosted at its September 2006 potluck, Dr. Chad Tolman, retired Research Fellow at the DuPont Experimental Station, and current editor of a monthly electronic newsletter, *Climate Change News*.

Dr. Tolman presented detailed evidence of the increasing rate of global climate change, and concluded that this pattern is a result of increasing emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, particularly CO₂, from the burning of fossil fuels. He pointed out that the world's wealthiest consumers and producers cause most of the problem while the poorest suffer the worst consequences. Dr. Tolman proposed actions individuals can take to slow down global warming, including using compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs, which will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide a year per bulb.



Thank You

The success of the Dover League in pursuing its goal of expanding the democratic process through education, advocacy and voter service rests on the shoulders of its members. No amount of thanks is sufficient to express the gratitude felt and the debt owed to those, especially those members of the board, who give thousands of hours selflessly, year after year, to help realize the League's mission.

Let me express my personal gratitude to Dr. Phyllis Edamatsu, First Vice-President and liaison to the State Board; Betty Wagner, Treasurer; Charlotte Hunt, Secretary, Parliamentarian and Voter Registration Chair;

Christine Stillson, Membership Chair as well as Chair of the Resident Advisory Council Election Monitoring Team; Jean Bauer, Editor of our Directory of Elected Officials; Ruth Johnson, officially our Publications Chair, but who is our mainstay of community support and programming ideas; and our newest board members, Carol Reid-Grandfield, Ruth Ann Purchase James and Lester Stillson. Carol has taken on the portfolios of League Environmental Chair and Historian. Ruth Anne has focused on environmental issues as well as Observer Corps. Lester has concentrated his efforts on voter service and brings a unique male perspective to the board.

We also wish to thank all those who offered their homes to host various League functions, and especially to Ruth and Ralph Johnson who consistently opened the doors of the Camden Friends Meeting House to League members and guests. Our deep appreciation also goes to Joan and Fred Breukelman who format and produce all our flyers, the *Voter*, Candidates Night communications, and the League's website.

They, and all those organizations and individuals with whom we networked, enabled the League to focus public attention on critical issues requiring public scrutiny. We owe them a debt of gratitude and hope to continue to expand our outreach in order to make all our efforts more effective. Without such dedicated and enthusiastic involvement, the League would not have been able to undertake such a wide range of activities and fulfill the greater part of its mission to maximize informed and active participation of local citizenry in the political process. We appreciate the continued support of all League members and urge you to become an active part of upcoming League efforts.

I want to personally express my gratitude to each and every Dover Leaguer. It is an honor and a pleasure to work with all of you.

-Ellen O. Wasfi, President



From the Sierra Club:

Did You Know . . .

- that the **Sierra Club** and a coalition of other environmental and conservation groups have initiated a boycott of the **ExxonMobil** Corporation, the first boycott the Sierra Club has initiated in many years?
- called the "Expose Exxon" campaign, its goal is to force this mighty corporation to reverse its anti-environmental policies—policies which exploit our natural environment and the pocketbooks of the American public?
- after more than a decade, Exxon has still not yet fully paid for the extreme damage that resulted from the *Exxon Valdez* spill in Prince William Sound?
- while motorists are paying skyrocketing prices at the pumps, Exxon is reaping record high profits—over \$25.3 BILLION in 2004—money that is paying for junk science designed to stop and stall action on global warming?

You can subscribe to *Sierra Club Currents* online at:
<http://www.sierraclub.org/pressroom/currents/subscribe.asp>

Quote of Note:

"I believe our biggest issue is the same biggest issue that the whole world is facing, and that's habitat destruction."

- Steve Irwin, host of Animal Planet's
The Crocodile Hunter

[Quoted in *Sierra Club Currents*, Volume VI, #33, Tuesday, September 5, 2006]

News from the LWVUS

Securing a victory in a Florida Voter Registration Case

On August 28, a Florida judge issued an injunction preventing the implementation of a law that could impose penalties on civic groups undertaking voter registration projects. In granting the preliminary injunction, U.S. District Judge Patricia A. Seitz wrote that the law has a "chilling" effect on the constitutional rights of civic groups like the LWV that work to register thousands of new



voters each election year. The League of Women Voters of Florida was the primary plaintiff in the case (*League of Women Voters v. Cobb* (case no. 06-21265))

Encouraging Greater Electoral Participation Among Hispanics

The League has partnered with ZGS Communications, the largest independent owner of *Telemundo* affiliate television stations, to launch *Tu Voto, Tu Voz*, a public awareness campaign to encourage voter registration and electoral participation among U.S. Hispanics through a series of public service announcements. LWVUS held a kickoff event at the National Press Club on September 28th to celebrate the launch of this project.

Educating About D.C. Voting Rights

The LWVEF has begun its work on a year-long education and outreach project to build awareness across the nation about D.C. citizens' lack of full voting rights.

Taking Action Against Restrictive Voter ID Laws

LWVUS President Mary G. Wilson denounced the House passage of H.R. 4844, the "Federal Election Integrity Act of 2006," which would require all voters, beginning in 2008, to show government-issued, current and valid photo ID in order to vote. "Any proposal that restricts voter registration or raises barriers to voting is a fear-based approach instead of a fact-based solution," Wilson stated. She added that "... this bill's restrictions will disproportionately impact those who are least likely to have a current photo ID: the elderly, young people, people of color, rural voters and others."

Leading the Fight Against Warrantless Wiretapping

The League has urged Congress to oppose the "National Security Surveillance Act of 2006", which would "rubber-stamp" the NSA's warrantless wiretapping program by expanding the domestic surveillance powers of the President. The League is convinced that the Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act, H.R. 5825, would seriously jeopardize the civil liberties of ordinary Americans and threaten the

checks and balances of our government by expanding the domestic surveillance powers of the President.

League Urges Congress to Support Electronic Disclosure Filings

The LWVUS joined with other national reform organizations in a letter to the Senate in September, urging passage of S. 1508, the "Senate Campaign Disclosure Parity Act", which would require electronic filing of Senate campaign finance disclosure reports under federal campaign finance laws. Currently, all federal candidates, party committees and federal political action committees are required to file their campaign finance disclosure reports electronically — with the sole exception of Senate candidates who are still filing paper reports.

Mary G. Wilson Speaks Out Against Congressional Abdication on Civil Liberties

The League issued a press release in which LWVUS President Mary G. Wilson strongly denounced Congressional passage of a bill that eases restrictions on interrogation techniques and trials for "detainees" by barring challenges in federal court on a number of issues ranging from interrogation techniques to the right to a speedy trial.

2006 Sample Questions for Debates

Leagues across the country are swinging into voter service overdrive, hosting debates, producing Voters' Guides and registering voters in droves. LWVUS has crafted sample debate questions on federal issues for optional use by state and local Leagues. These questions touch upon some of the major issues this election year, including lobby reform, campaign finance, energy and healthcare:

1. What should be done, if anything, at the federal level to reduce our use of and dependence on fossil fuels?
2. What should be our short term and long term goals in Iraq?

3. What should the federal government do, if anything, to ensure that every American has health coverage?

4. What should be done at the federal level, if anything, to combat the high cost of prescription drugs?

5. Do you support setting spending limits for political campaigns and providing a set amount of public funding for all candidates who agree to take no private contributions? Explain.

6. Do you think that lobbyists and other powerful interests should continue to pay for trips and travel for Members of Congress? Explain.

7. Is the U.S. Congress appropriately fulfilling its constitutional role to check the power of the executive branch? Is the judiciary performing its appropriate role as the third branch of government? Explain.

8. What measures would you support, if any, to enfranchise American citizens living in the District of Columbia who currently do not have voting representation in the U.S. Congress?

9. Are you concerned about the increasing amounts of secrecy — and decreased access to public information — at all levels of government? If so, what solutions do you suggest?

10. How can civil liberties be preserved while giving our government necessary tools to fight terrorism?

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2005-2006

As of May 1, 2006 the League of Women Voters of Greater Dover has a total membership of 52, with an additional two nationally recruited members.

New members joining this year: Ruth Anne Purchase James, Marlene Naylor, Edward Torsch and Jeanine Kleimo. We also welcomed back former member Robin Alexander who rejoined the League in August 2005! Several members did not renew their membership this year, but said they intended to rejoin at a later date.

Three members hold the status of Member Emeritus — Lorraine Godshall, Marg Records, and Martha Miller.

It is apparent that the political issues, both local and national, increase public awareness of the League and spurred some to become new

members. Recruitment activities included placing brochures about League Membership at Voter Registration events, putting perspective members on the mailing list for several months, reaching out to targeted community members informing them of upcoming programs of interest and informing resident advisory councils about League activities.

Current League members have also been active in recruiting members to the League. Thank you! Members are always encouraged to recruit new members who have interests in the many topics under the local, state and national League umbrella.

– Christine L. Stillson, Membership Chair
May 1, 2006

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee of the LWV of Greater Dover, comprised of Annie Norman, Ruth Johnson, and Jean Bauer, and led by *ex officio* member Christine Stillson, met at 1 p.m., March 31, 2006, at Where Pigs Fly, Dover. They were joined by Betty Wagner, Treasurer and Charlotte Hunt, Secretary. The following slate is submitted for 2006-2008:

Officers:

2nd Vice-President: Lester Stillson
Treasurer: Betty Wagner

Directors:

Ruth Johnson Publications
Jo Ann Fields Health Care
Christine Stillson Membership

Nominating Committee: 2007-2009

Annie Norman, Co-chair
Jean Bauer, Co-chair
Peggy Swygert
Marian Boon

– Jean Bauer

LWVGD Revised Budget 2006-07

Income

Dues \$2,000
Ads..... 450
Contributions 100
Fund Raisers 225
Education Fund 11
From Reserves 1,614

Total Income \$4,400

Expenditures

Rent..... \$135
Supplies 10
Hospitality 100
Sunshine/Remembrance 50
President 30
Secretary 75
Treasurer 25
Membership 75
International Relations..... 10
Delaware Convention 200
U.S. Convention/Council (800/300)..... 1,100
State PMP 450
U.S. PMP 1,315
Postage/Printing..... 150
Publications 75
Programs..... 200
Voter Services..... 200
Directory of Elected Officials..... 70
Scholarship 70
Committees..... 10
Other 50

Total Expenditures \$4,400

– Betty Wagner, Treasurer

READERS, WRITERS AND BOOKS, OH MY!

Come to the first ever Delaware Book Festival
Saturday, November 4, 2006 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
In front of Legislative Hall, Dover – Rain or Shine

Bring the family for an enchanting,
informative and fun-filled day!

Meet more than 20 nationally recognized authors and
illustrators.

Learn how to write poetry, create a blog, and get published.

See favorite storybook characters and create fun crafts.

Discover how to repair and appraise books – and more!

Free and open to everyone – for information call
1.800.282.8696 x113.

Annual Fiscal Report
July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

Balance of Checking Acct (7-1-05) \$2,618.97
Balance of CD at DFCU @ 2.6248% 1,571.23
(as of 6-30-2005)

Income

Dues..... \$1,715.00
Donations 917.50
Ads 310.00
Fund Raiser 180.00
CD Cashed..... 1,587.34
Luncheon..... 406.00

Total Income..... \$5,115.84

Expenses

PMP Dues to LWVUS \$1,110.50
PMP Dues to LWVDE 427.50
LWVUS Convention Delegate 800.00
Rent 135.00
Administration/Board..... 33.47
Dover Voter..... 80.60
Dover City Election Debates 998.92
Luncheon..... 396.00
Hospitality 39.60

Total Expenses..... \$4,083.19

Balance in Checking Acct (6-30-06) ... \$3,651.62
– Betty Wagner, Treasurer

Spotlight on New Members!



As membership chair, I'm pleased to introduce you to several new members! To help us get acquainted, we are highlighting three new members: Marlene Naylor, Jeanine Kleimo, and Ed Torsch. We extend our warmest welcome to these new members! We hope your association with the League proves educational, enjoyable and meaningful!

Marlene Naylor (Telephone: 302-730- 8096)
Marlene joined the League in November 2005 and brings with her a broad array of interests and expertise. She has a Masters in Adult Education and has taught college level classes in business and held seminars on business related topics. She is now retired and is a free lance writer. She

is a Dover resident, and is very interested in the League's candidate debates, in campaign finance reform and health insurance issues. She enjoys attending the Great Decisions Discussion Group. Welcome to the League, Marlene!

Jeanine Kleimo (Telephone: 302-697-3363)
Jeanine moved to Dover 30 years ago to start the National Council on Agricultural Life and Labor NCALL's (NCALL) housing program. She has degrees in Economics, International Relations and Development Banking. She was a Fulbright Scholar in Singapore where she did her thesis on Singapore's public housing program and its impact on economic development. She has expertise in local government finance and the financing of housing and infrastructure. She has done extensive overseas work, including training and technical assistance in these areas. Microenterprise in developing countries continues to be a major interest. She was an AFS student in New Zealand and continues her commitment by coordinating the AFS high school exchange program in southern Delmarva. Recently she participated as a mayoral candidate in the recent Candidates' Night in Camden. Welcome to the League, Jeanine!

Edward Torsch (Telephone: 302-736-1930)
Edward joins his wife, Mary, as a member in the League. A retired physics teacher, he and Mary came to Delaware in 2003 from Elkton, Maryland. Although he was born in Baltimore, he spent summers in Milford, where his family owned a cannery. Edward was educated at Johns Hopkins University and Princeton Seminary. He and Mary were educational missionaries in Brazil (1959-68) and Rwanda (1977-79). He taught Physics in Baltimore County (MD), Atlanta (GA), Tulsa (OK) and Newark (DE). Edward is active in the Presbyterian Church and Habitat for Humanity. He is interested in many issues—including water and air quality, race relations, Kent County Zoning, accountability in education, UN programs, health insurance, and health care for the elderly. He participates in the Great Decisions Discussion Group. Recently, Edward attended Voter Registration Training through the League. Welcome to the League, Edward!

2007 LWVGD DUES REMINDER

October 31, 2006, is the fast-approaching deadline for submitting your annual LWVGD dues payment of **\$40.00**. The major part of your dues covers membership in LWVUS (national) and LWVDE (state). LWVGD (Dover League) retains only \$2.00 of that amount for operating expenses. The increase in this year's dues is a result of an increase in the national share.

Please remit a check to LWVGD in the amount of \$40.00 and the completed form below to: **Betty Wagner, Treasurer, League of Women Voters of Greater Dover, 556 Buckson Drive, Dover, DE 19901.**

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