



April 2017



Canton Voter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to a spring of League activity!

On April 11 we sponsored "Coffee and Conversation with our First Responders". Please read the article about this event in this bulletin.

Upcoming in the month of May is our Annual Meeting on May 17. Please join us for this social/business event that always includes wonderful food, great conversation and speaker, and important election of officers.

Also in May we will be sponsoring a group of high school students who will attend the Symposium on International Relations (see article). We will also provide a scholarship to a Canton High School student, and we are giving a monetary gift to one of our school libraries.

In addition in our very busy month of May, we will be participating in the Canton High School senior voter registration assembly by providing the Democratic, Republican and Unaffiliated speakers.

Please look over the 2017-2018 Slate of Officers, Budget, and Program as you will be voting to approve them at the Annual Meeting. *Ev Kubas, President*

You Are Invited to the Annual Meeting

When: *Wednesday, May 17 at 6 PM*

Where: *Joanna Eickenhorst's Home, 7 Shingle Mill Drive*

Cost: *Dinner will be catered and will cost \$20.00*

Speaker: *Leslee Hill, Canton's First Selectman*

RSVP: *By May 3rd to Lucy Royer, at ronaldr115@comcast.net, or call her at **860-693-8011**. See article on Page 2 for more details.*

Please join us!

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **Friday, May 12:**
Annual Symposium on International Relations
What's in a Watt? —
9 AM McMillian Center for Intl. Studies, Yale University, 34 Hillhouse Ave., New Haven
- **Wednesday, May 17:**
League's Annual Meeting
6 PM at Eickenhorst's home, 7 Shingle Mill Drive

CTP Proud—What is it?

The state LWV is encouraging local leagues to join the CE Proud Team, and your League board has voted to sign on as an organization that wants to support this initiative. CE Proud is a group of individuals and organizations that promotes the Connecticut Citizen Election Program (CEP) which is a voluntary program providing public financing to qualified candidates for statewide offices and the General Assembly.

It is administered through the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC). The goal is to allow candidates to compete without reliance on special interest money and thus to allow state officers and legislators to make decisions free of the influence of special interests.

Please go to the state LWV website, lwvct.org, to find out more about CE Proud.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! ANNUAL MEETING

The weather is turning warmer and the League's Annual Meeting is upon us! The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17th at Joanna Eickenhorst's home. Her house is located on 7 Shingle Mill Drive.

Dinner will be starting at 6:00 PM. The cost will be \$20.00 for a delicious meal catered by Emily's of Bristol. After dinner we will have a short meeting including the election of officers followed by our guest speaker First Selectman, Leslee Hill. She will be talking about issues facing the town from the perspective of the First Selectman's Office.

Please let Lucy Royer know by **May 3rd** if you will be attending. You may call her phone or email her at ronaldr115@comcast.net. Checks may be made out to League of Women Voters of Canton and sent to her post office box 156, Canton Center, CT 06020 or pay by cash or check at the meeting. I hope to see many of you there as this is one of the most enjoyable events of the year. *Lucy Royer, Vice President*

ELECTION DAY REPORTING FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Canton League has been helping with reporting vote tallies to the Associated Press for a number of years. This year we covered six towns in the area, for the primaries, a rehearsal the weekend before the November election, and the November 8th election. Each covered town has an assigned League member who is present when the town officials have finished the vote tally and phones that number in to the AP. Our League receives a fee for this work and this year we earned \$750.00 for our treasury.

The election this year was very interesting and all our reporters were very happy to help. It is a learning experience and falls into our League mission.

I would like to thank the League members who helped this year and in previous years: Barbara Backman, Barbara Checksfield, Gina Magennis, Zachary Barnes, and Missy Zils. Every one of them helped with all the different dates. Good job ladies and gentleman!

Lucy Royer, Vice President

CANTON LWV SUPPORTS SUCCESSFUL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM

The March 9 forum, Substance Abuse Prevention and the Opioid Epidemic, drew a standing-room-only audience at the Canton Community Center. As one of many community groups represented on the Canton Mental Health Task Force, the LWV of Canton helped with the event. Speakers included Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittmon of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Dr. Laura Shafer, a person in recovery, and Canton resident Maria Coutant Skinner, Director of the McCall Center for Behavioral Health. In addition, a Resource Fair offered information from nearly 20 area organizations and providers. Jennifer Kertanis, Director of the Farmington Valley Health District, and Claire Cote, Canton's Director of Senior and Social Services generously provided staffing services for the forum and resource fair. Convened by First Selectman Leslee Hill, the Canton Mental Health Task Force has identified a topic for each of the next 12 months to shine the spotlight on mental health and wellness. <http://www.townofcantonct.org/filestorage/19188/31043> **Call_to_Action_Calendar2.pdf**.

During the month of April, the community call-to-action focuses on medications. Saturday, April 29 is a national medication Take Back Day. But you never have to wait for a special day: Canton residents are reminded of the easy availability of the 24- hour Medication Drop Box at the Canton Police Station. No forms, no hassle: just drop your medications in the box. *Mary Hess*



UPDATE! THE VOTER ENGAGEMENT PROJECT



With the addition of two new members, Amy Peltier and Sue Saidel, the group now has eight members. “Old” members include Carlene Rhea, Lucy Royer, Missy Zils, Barb Checksfield, Ev Kubas and Ruth Small. Our work focuses on increasing voter turnout at elections, and encouraging residents to become more involved in and knowledgeable of its government.

It is two pronged. First, the group is planning to introduce our students in the classroom to voting, including all grades. The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kevin Case, has given his full support. Our committee will use his guidance in determining whom to contact and how to implement this effort.

The second prong focuses on the adult community. Our members have contacted 12 groups in Canton to see if they would be willing to urge their members to get to the polls this fall. All of these leaders said that they would support this.

The committee is now putting together a Tool Kit which will include information that will assist these town leaders as they approach their membership.

Stay tuned!

KNOW YOUR TOWN: COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH CANTON'S FIRST RESPONDERS

Canton's Chief of Police Christopher Arciero and Fire Chief Craig Robbins joined League members on April 11 for a Know Your Town: Coffee and Conversation session at the Community Center focusing on the organization of Canton's first responders. The wide-ranging discussion of all emergency services covered staffing, roles, training, dispatching, response times, and trends. Chief Robbins described the essential roles of volunteers in both the fire and ambulance services. Canton has one fire department with the three volunteer fire organizations still in existence providing fund raising and ownership of two fire stations (Canton and North Canton). Unlike Farmington and Avon, towns that contract for ambulance service, Canton has its own ambulances (2) using paid staff from 6 AM -6 PM weekdays and volunteers nights and weekends.

Chief Arciero noted the recent designation of Canton as the 85th safest town in the U.S. of more than 19,000 communities. The chief shared information about the computer-assisted dispatching and officer training including the Crisis Intervention Training of the entire force and the use of a family violence lethality assessment. The Canton police station offers a 24 hour/7 day/week drop off box at the police station for hassle-free disposal of unused prescription medications. Recently added to this service is disposal of sharps. During holiday season, an innovative community service, permits residents to arrange delivery of packages to the station instead of to their homes when they are not home during delivery times. Asked about trends, he noted some growth in shoplifting, car break-ins and identity theft.

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**PROPOSED 2017-2018 CANTON LWV
SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Officers	Name	Term/Years Left
President	Evelyn Kubas	2 years/Even-1 year
Vice President	Lucy Royer	2 years/Odd-1 year ext.
Secretary	Jane Latus	2 years/Even-1 year
Treasurer	Missy Zils	2 years/Odd-2 years
 Directors		
Voter Service	Gina Magennis	2 years/Even-1 year
	Carrie Sinish	2 years/Odd-2 years
Bulletin	Barb Checksfield	2 years/Odd-2 years
Membership	Lynn Homan	2 years/Odd-2 years
Fund Raising	Amy Peltier	2 years/Even-1 year
Publicity	Mary Hess	2 years/Odd-2 years
Publications	Julie Rush	2 years/Even-1 year
Nominating	Carlene Rhea	2 years/Even-1 year
	Eddie Offenhartz	2 years/Even-1 year

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CANTON 2017-2018 PROGRAM

Our Canton League will focus on the following three action items:

- 1) **Continue to advocate for our citizens who have mental health issues**, and this includes decreasing stigma, increasing access to appropriate interventions, and ongoing community support and education.
- 2) **Continue with the Voter Engagement Project**
- 3) **Initiate an Observer Corps.** The League will be looking for 2-3 League members who will choose a board or commission which interests them, and will attend its meetings, giving a brief e-mail report to their fellow League members after the meetings.

**This Program will be voted upon at our Annual Meeting,
May 17.**

A Chance to Attend Yale- LWVCT Forum

You are invited to attend the annual Symposium on International Relations which will be held on **Friday, May 12, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.** with registration beginning at 8 a.m. The title of the forum is “What’s in a Watt? The Story behind Sustainable Energy and Electricity”. It is being held at the McMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, 34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, CT. Continental breakfast will be served.

Your Canton League will be sponsoring several Canton High School students this year who will attend this event.

For the registration form, please go to lwwct.org and click on “Events”. Scroll down to SIR 2017 and click on SIR 2017 Registration Form.

This event is always well done and worth attending.
Hope you will go!

BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR

The highlights proposed for the 2017 to 2018 fiscal year budget:

- Total Anticipated Income: \$3,726.00
- Total Anticipated Expenses: \$3,710.00
- **The Associated Press voting returns will not be available as a fundraising event** within this fiscal year. This contributed \$750.00 this year and will need to be replaced next year.
- **Reduced expected dues** (Income) slightly
- **Reduced expected donations** (Income)
- **Increased Membership Expense** – This catch-up increase was not accessed in the last year. This would be expected to be reduced to the average in the next year. This is not an increase in Dues; this is a line item expense to support the Membership Chairs in their recruitment/engagement efforts.
- **Increased Fundraising** – to balance expenses. Please consider this an important effort for next year.

Canton League of Woman Voters 2017-2018 Proposed Budget								
		'14-'15	'14-'15	'15-'16	'15-'16	16-'17	16-'17	17-'18
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED	YTD	PROPOSED
INCOME								
I 10	Dues *	\$1,825.00	\$1,625.00	\$1,825.00	\$1,675.00	\$1,625.00	\$1,825.00	\$1,625.00
I 20	Contributions							
I 21	Members	\$175.00	\$300.00	\$250.00	\$275.00	\$200.00	\$275.00	\$200.00
I 22	Non-members	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
I 23	Corporate	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
I 40	Voter Service(Sponsors/Corp)		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
I 50	Fundraisers	\$2,281.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,681.00	\$1,156.00	\$2,196.00	\$1,066.50	\$1,900.00
I 60	Interest	\$1.00	\$0.46	\$1.00	\$0.88	\$1.00	\$1.03	\$1.00
I 70	Other (Annual meeting Out)	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$340.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
171	LWV Education Fund	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
I 80	From Reserves		\$2,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$4,707.00	\$5,575.46	\$4,182.00	\$4,646.88	\$4,422.00	\$3,192.53	\$3,726.00
EXPENSES								
E 10	Operations							
E 11	Supplies	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 12	Postage/Box/Permit	(\$300.00)	(\$100.00)	(\$150.00)	(\$127.00)	(\$150.00)	(\$106.00)	(\$150.00)
E 13	General Meetings (Annual Mtg Out)	(\$400.00)	\$0.00	(\$400.00)	(\$449.81)	(\$400.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 14	Insurance (Liability to CT)	(\$12.00)	(\$12.00)	(\$12.00)	\$0.00	(\$12.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 20	Administration							
E 21	Board Expense	(\$50.00)	(\$38.00)	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 22	Fundraisers	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 23	Public Relations (Sam Collins Day)	(\$125.00)	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	(\$123.80)	(\$150.00)	(\$100.00)	(\$100.00)
E 24	Membership	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	(\$300.00)	\$0.00	(\$300.00)
E 25	Donations	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	(\$50.00)	(\$50.00)
E 26	Website	\$0.00	(\$250.00)	(\$250.00)	(\$85.00)	(\$250.00)	(\$85.00)	(\$100.00)
E 30	Delegates							
E 31	State Convention or Council	(\$175.00)	\$0.00	(\$175.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 32	National Convention (Escrow)	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 33	Conference Days	(\$60.00)	\$0.00	(\$60.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 40	PMP - Financial Support							
E 41	LWVCT	(\$600.00)	(\$577.50)	(\$600.00)	(\$564.75)	(\$600.00)	(\$564.75)	(\$600.00)
E 42	LWVUS	(\$1,125.00)	(\$1,085.00)	(\$1,100.00)	(\$1,072.00)	(\$1,100.00)	(\$1,072.00)	(\$1,100.00)
E 50	Bulletin							
E 60	Educational							
E 61	Programs	(\$30.00)	\$0.00	(\$30.00)	\$0.00	(\$30.00)	(\$19.99)	(\$30.00)
E 62	Voter Service	(\$900.00)	(\$103.25)	(\$125.00)	(\$461.48)	(\$500.00)	(\$269.04)	(\$500.00)
E 63	Publications	(\$30.00)	\$0.00	(\$30.00)	\$0.00	(\$30.00)	\$0.00	(\$30.00)
E 64	Scholarships/Books	(\$750.00)	\$0.00	(\$750.00)	(\$750.00)	(\$750.00)	(\$750.00)	(\$750.00)
E 65	Know Your Town		(\$1,500.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 70	Study Group							
E 71	Immigration (or other)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$25.51)	\$0.00
E 80	To Reserves	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		(\$4,957.00)	(\$3,665.75)	(\$4,182.00)	(\$3,633.84)	(\$4,422.00)	(\$3,042.29)	(\$3,710.00)
	Actual +/-	(\$250.00)	\$1,909.71	\$0.00	\$1,013.24	\$0.00	\$150.24	\$16.00