



# The Bulletin

September 2005: Volume No. 7, Issue No. 1

## CALENDAR

### September

13 Tuesday Steering Committee Meeting - 7:15 p.m.  
Medfield Library

17 Saturday Medfield Day

23 Friday October **Bulletin** deadline

### October

11 Tuesday Steering Committee Meeting - 7:15 p.m.  
Medfield Library

21 Friday November **Bulletin** deadline

27 Thursday LWV Needham Fall Forum: Creative  
Solutions to Needham's Water Problems  
7:30 p.m., Broadmeadow School Performance Center, Needham

TBA Membership Committee Meeting

### November

8 Tuesday Steering Committee Meeting - 7:15 p.m.  
Medfield Library

25 Friday December **Bulletin** deadline

## Notes from the Steering Committee

*Formerly known as the Board of Directors*

The Steering Committee held a meeting in August to prepare for Medfield Day and immediate events starting in September.

The committee is in the process of organizing and determining how to proceed for the League year. This is new territory to all of us. We are enthusiastic and look forward to the coming year involving more of you in the league activities on your terms.

What does that mean?

In June we voted at Annual Meeting to go to a Steering Committee organization. We needed to spread the work among more than just eight people and to find out what role the membership sees the League taking in the community.

Other Leagues have been successful with this approach and have found that more members participate if asked to take on one responsibility for just a short period of time.

Membership, under the direction of Erin Pastuszenski, has already met several times over the summer.

The Bulletin is now going to be published in electronic format and that is a new step for us.

The Steering Committee will meet September 13 at the Library at 7:15 PM. All are welcome to attend and we will look forward to seeing you all at Medfield Day.

We need your support and insights. Please feel free to call anyone of the present committee to discuss this new and emerging organization of the Medfield League of Women Voters.

## Steering Committee 2005-2006

- Kathy Brennan.....359-6612
- Phyllis Cerel.....359-1380
- Susan Cotter.....359-2385
- Eileen DeSorgher.....359-4410
- Cynthia Greene .....359-2173
- Connie Jones.....359-6253
- Kelly Kiel.....359-8680
- Vivian Monaco.....359-2657
- Erin Pastuszenski.....359-8064
- Rayna Rubin.....359-8804
- Marjorie Temple.....359-2915

## Visit our website: [www.LWVMedfield.org](http://www.LWVMedfield.org)

A copy of the **Bulletin** will be posted on the website each month. You can also find links to our legislators' web pages and email addresses. If you have ideas for helpful resources that should be listed on our website, please contact Susan Cotter at [capparell@aol.com](mailto:capparell@aol.com)

The Bulletin is published September through June. To submit material for the **Bulletin**, email Kathy Brennan at [kbrennan1955@yahoo.com](mailto:kbrennan1955@yahoo.com). The submission deadline for the October **Bulletin** is Friday, September 23. Visit the LWVMA home page at [www.lwvma.org](http://www.lwvma.org) and the LWVUS home page at [www.lwv.org/lwvus](http://www.lwv.org/lwvus).

Membership: Erin Pastuszenski (8064)  
Editor: Kathy Brennan (6612)

Website: [www.LWVMedfield.org](http://www.LWVMedfield.org)  
The League of Women Voters  
Medfield, MA 02052

# Renew Your Annual Membership Now

If you have not already renewed your League membership at the May Annual Meeting or over the summer, please renew today. By sending us your dues (\$50 for an individual membership or \$65 for a two-person family membership) now, you can help us keep our operating costs to a minimum. A renewal form is included in this Bulletin. You can also renew your membership at the LWV booth at Medfield Day on September 17. Thanks for your continuing support!

Don't forget that your membership with the League of Women Voters of Medfield is also a membership in the LWV of Massachusetts and the LWV of the United States. Publications, websites, conferences and events are just some of the benefits of membership in the three levels of the League. Learn more about the state League at [www.lwvma.org](http://www.lwvma.org) and about the national League at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).

If you have an individual membership with the League, consider upgrading to a "family" or "household" membership by adding one or more additional people who share your mailing address. Your spouse, partner, roommate, parent or even one or more of your children might enjoy being a League member, and each additional person at the same address pays dues of only \$15. All U.S. citizens age 18 or older may be voting members of the League; non-citizens and those under 18 may be non-voting League members.

If you are interested in giving gift memberships to friends, relatives or colleagues, please contact our Membership Chair, Erin Pastuszewski, [ErinSP@aol.com](mailto:ErinSP@aol.com), 508-359-8064, for details. Gift memberships are a great way to introduce someone you care about to the League.

## Join the League or Renew Your Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Make your check payable to the League of Women Voters of Medfield and return it along with this form to: Susan Cotter, 3 Flint Locke Lane, Medfield, MA 02052. Questions? Call Erin Pastuszewski at 508-359-8064.*

**YES!** I want to join today or renew my League membership.

Individual Membership (\$50)

Family Membership (\$65)

2nd member at same address \_\_\_\_\_

Here is my additional gift to support the League's local activities. Amount \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in hearing about volunteer opportunities with the League. Please call me.

## OUR MISSION

**The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.**

*Your membership dues help support League activities. Because we lobby at the local, regional and national levels, membership dues and other contributions to the League of Women Voters are not tax-deductible.*

## Make a difference in your community with the League.

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# Medfield Day - Saturday, September 17

Come join us - for an hour or two, at our LWV booth for the 26th Annual Medfield Day, on Saturday, September 17th, between 9am and 4pm.

We welcome you to join us behind our league's booth, to greet neighbors, friends, and a variety of folks - both young and old, from our community.

We will provide the opportunity to register to vote, join the LWV, renew LWV membership, and we'll have on hand, a variety of free educational and voting information from the LWV, the town of Medfield and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and promise enjoyable discussions with our members.

We will have a final "Medfield tee shirt blow out sale," and sell ice cold water, and perhaps other items - to be determined.

Thanks in advance to the ten members who have already (as of 8/10) volunteered to donate an hour or two at our booth. To join us at the booth on Medfield Day or for any suggestions or questions please contact Kelly Kiel (508-359-8680 ) or Eileen DeSorgher (359-4410). We hope to see you at Medfield day and we welcome any suggestions that you may have.

## **Electronic Delivery of National League Newsletter**

Come this fall, all the current Medfield League of Women Voters email addresses will be entered into the National League of Women Voters email address system. This will ensure that you will receive the monthly electronic newsletter from the National League.

If your email address has changed recently, please send your new address to Susan Cotter at [capparell@aol.com](mailto:capparell@aol.com).

**Thank you to Susan Butler, past Editor of The Bulletin for all of her efforts to keep the League lines of communication open!**

## ***LWV Needham Fall Forum* Creative Solutions to Needham's Water Problems**

League members from all communities are invited to attend the Needham League's Fall Forum with Bob Zimmerman of the Charles River Watershed Association, on Thursday, October 27 at 7:30p.m. The Forum will take place at the Broadmeadow School Performance Center in Needham.

This is an opportunity to learn about the need for water conservation and how a rainwater collection project at the newly renovated Needham Public Library will use roof runoff to irrigate the library's landscaping.

As water problems affect all communities in eastern Massachusetts, this promises to be a timely and pertinent forum.

Stanley Start, D.D.S.  
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# Medfield League to Survey Community and League Members

**Medfield Day Survey.** The League of Women Voters of Medfield will conduct a community survey on Medfield Day at its red, white and blue booth on Frairy Street. The League is asking Medfield residents: "What is the most important issue facing Medfield today?"

After Medfield Day, the League will report the community survey results in a letter to the editor of this newspaper. The results will also affect future League educational forums and may even lead to a local League study.

Please encourage everyone to make their opinions known on September 17 by visiting the LWV booth!

**League Seeks Member Views.** This year, the Medfield League of Women Voters is launching a multi-faceted membership campaign designed to

strengthen our organization. To be successful, we must understand what our members expect from us and how we can best meet their needs. In September, we will conduct a survey of members, and we look forward to hearing your views.

After Medfield Day (September 17), a Steering Committee member will contact you (by phone unless you prefer email) to ask five brief questions. We will ask what drew you to the League and what keeps you a member, what you think the League does well, and how we can serve you and Medfield better. The feedback we get from all of our members will enable us to improve our communications, programming and effectiveness as a community organization. Thanks in advance for participating in our member survey.

- The Steering Committee

## **ACTION ALERT** **Reform Absentee Voting**

Urgent action is needed to lift the current restrictions on absentee voting to permit many busy citizens who have difficulty getting to the polls today to vote. This constitutional amendment will be voted on in the Constitutional Convention on September 14. This is an integral part of the League's Empowering Voters Project advocacy agenda.

**It is imperative that you contact your legislators who do not yet support the amendment NOW, tell them you are a constituent, and urge them to support the amendment to ensure passage. As of this writing, Rep. Harkins is on the list of supporters, and Sen. Timilty and Rep. Ross are not on the list of supporters.**

For information on how to contact your State Representative and Senator, go to LWVM's website at [www.lwvma.org/govlegislative.shtml](http://www.lwvma.org/govlegislative.shtml) or call the League office to get the names and telephone numbers.

### League of Women Voters of Massachusetts **FALL CONFERENCE 2005**

#### ***Empowering Voters: A Force for Change***

October 22, 2005  
Marriott Burlington

#### **Featured Speaker: Gracia Hillman**

*Election Assistance Commission Chair*

#### **Featured Speaker: Barbara Arnwine**

*Executive Director, Lawyers' Committee  
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For more information, visit the  
Massachusetts' League website at  
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