

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

NEWSLETTER

Mansfield, Connecticut

January 2009

MEMBERSHIP

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

My New Year will be happier when all those in arrears send in their dues! AND suggest new members. The **Legislative Breakfast** is always a popular LWV event (**see P. 2 of this newsletter**), and guests are welcome (with paid reservations). Do let me know of anyone whom I should contact about receiving the Newsletter and joining the League.

I am delighted, of course, to welcome 2 new members:

Denise Burchsted, 268 Warrenville Rd, Mansfield Center 429-4247,
sampmama@ctgaia.net

Kathy McNamara, 76 Charles Lane, Storrs 477-0195,
hankdog17@aol.com

Please add their names to the yellow roster (we will have new rosters in February), and make two e-address changes:

Gloria Gerald: glo_worm@charter.net

Ruth Klemens: ruth.klemens25@att.net

Anne Smith
Membership Chair
429-0529, anneksmith@charter.net

Legislative Breakfast

When: January 31, 2009, 9 a.m.

Where: Community Room, First Church of Christ, Mansfield Center

The annual Mansfield LWV Legislative Breakfast provides a lively presentation of information from area legislators, followed by questions from members and guests. Breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. at the Community Room of the First Church of Christ, located at Route 195 across from the intersection of Route 89 in Mansfield Center.

Legislators will talk about their priorities in the current session, which has been described as one of the most critical in recent times due to the state's budget shortfall. Gov. M. Jodi Rell has called these "the worst financial times any of us can ever remember" and has warned of deep budget cuts that will be needed. The state faces a \$350 million deficit in the current fiscal year and a projected deficit of \$6 billion over the next two years.

Gov. Rell will submit her budget message to the legislature on Feb. 4. How will the Democrats, who control more than two thirds of the seats in the General Assembly, respond?

The Legislative Breakfast will provide you with an opportunity to ask our local legislators how they are prepared to deal with the budget crisis and the issues facing the state in the coming months.

The moderator and organizer of this year's Legislative Breakfast is Sondra Astor Stave, assisted by Peter Millman. The breakfast costs \$9 and includes pastries, muffins, bagels, coffee, tea, juice, and fresh fruit. Please send in your registration form, below, by January 24. We look forward to seeing you there!

Registration Form for Legislative Breakfast

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of people attending at \$9 each _____ Total enclosed _____

Please mail by Jan. 24 to Joan Neuwirth, 54 Bundy Lane, Storrs, CT 06268. Call Peter Millman at 429-0567 if you need more information.

FINAL REMINDER! It's time to renew your annual membership in the Mansfield League of Women Voters. Your continued support and participation are needed to ensure the ongoing vitality of your League's grassroots citizen efforts. Please renew promptly!

Anne Smith

Annual membership dues were due October 31, 2008.

Full Paying Membership Annual dues are \$45, which include membership in the national League (\$28) and the state League (\$16.50).

Household Membership This is available to a second person living at the same address for \$22.50 annually. One set of publications will be sent to each household.

Reduced Rate Any person with a limited income (including students) is eligible for membership at \$22.50 annually.

Please Note: Our bylaws require that names of members whose dues have not been received by December 1 of each year shall be dropped from the membership rolls. This is necessary to avoid making payments to the national and state Leagues for someone who has not paid local dues.

Contributions

Member contributions make it possible to expand programs and services. Please consider making a donation to help fund local League programs and publications. (Contributions and dues are **NOT** tax deductible.)

Please fill out this section and the Interest Survey on the reverse side and return this sheet with your payment. Make your check payable to the Mansfield LWV and mail to:

Anne Smith
156 Hillyndale Road
Storrs, CT 06268

Name _____ Home Phone _____
Address _____ Business _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Check here if any of this information has changed since last year.
Do you currently serve as an elected or appointed member of a board or commission (local, state or national)? If yes, please indicate

* E-mail is a wonderfully efficient way to remind our members of upcoming meetings, as well as for the State and National leagues to keep us up-to-date and inform us of "Action Alerts" (but not too often). Please indicate if you want to place any restrictions on its use or publication. (We publish e-mail addresses in the January roster.)

Dues \$ _____
Contribution \$ _____ **Th a n k Y o u !**
Total Enclosed \$ _____

2008 / 2009 MANSFIELD LWV INTEREST SURVEY

In which League program level are you most interested?

_____ All, depending on issue _____ Local _____ State _____
National

Do you have a particular area of interest, or would you like to serve on a study committee for (check all that apply):

_____ Campaign Finance Reform _____ Children's Issues _____ Social Policy
_____ Environmental Issues _____ Education _____ Electoral Reform
_____ Local Planning & Development _____ Health Care _____ Civil Liberties
_____ Local Property & State Taxes _____ Prisons _____ Ethics Policy
_____ United Nations and/or International Relations
_____ Housing (including Assisted Living) _____ Death Penalty in Connecticut
_____ Early Voting in Connecticut _____ Media & Internet Issues _____ Immigration

Would you like to propose another issue for study? _____

Can you help with any of the following activities?

_____ Phone Calls _____ Refreshments (Coffee & Cookies for One Meeting) _____ Publicity
_____ Occasional Computer Projects _____ Other Skills (e.g., Public Relations, Graphic Arts, Television, Finance)

_____ Voter Service (e.g., Candidates Night in October, Voter Information, Election Reporting)

_____ Legislative Breakfast in January _____ 3rd Thursday Festival
_____ Finance (Calendar Selling, Bulb Sale in April and May, Fund-Raising)
_____ Memorial Day Parade _____ Fourth of July Boom Box Parade

_____ **Know Your Towns Fair, usually first Saturday after Labor Day (e.g., Phoning, Mailing, Writing, Publicity, Brain-Storming, Greeting and Directing Visitors on Fair Day). Note: We still need co-chairs for the 2009 Fair! Please let us know if you are interested; help is available from experienced KYTF'ers!**

_____ Mansfield Town Budget Meeting Hospitality _____ "Green" House/Building Tour

Would you like to participate in Moderator Training? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Maybe

Would you be interested to report on town meetings (e.g., Town Council, Board of Ed, P&Z)? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Maybe

Are you interested in a leadership role next year (a board position; chair or co-chair a committee, State Board)? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Maybe

MEETING TIMES: Which times can you usually or occasionally attend?

_____ Noon Unit, Restaurant _____ Evening General Membership Meetings (approx. 7 p.m.)

_____ Check if you wish to be reminded of the meetings

_____ I wish to support League programs but choose to be an inactive member.

Do you have any comments or suggestions for League programs or activities? Do you know anyone who may be interested in joining the League? Would you like more information? Please contact Anne Smith (429-0529 or anneksmith@charter.net).

**Board Members
Mansfield LWV 2008-2009**

President	Cindy Weiss	58 Maxfelix Dr., Storrs	429-4015, 486-4958
1 st VP	Jean McCarthy	436 Bebbington Rd., Ashford	487-0305
2 nd VP	Carol McMillan	100 Warrenville Road, Mansfield Ctr.	423-3774
Secretary	Ann Kouatly	98 Fern Road, Storrs	423-2975
Treasurer	Joan Neuwirth	54 Bundy Ln., Storrs	429-5798
Finance	Gloria Bent	PO Box 486, Mansfield Ctr	423-8208
Historian	Becky Lehmann	532 Browns Rd., Storrs	423-5807
Leg. Action	Sondra Astor Stave	150 Grant Hill Rd., Coventry	742-0200
Local Action	Meghan Connelly	375 Mulberry Rd., Mnsfield Ctr	429-4479
Membership	Anne Smith	156 Hillyndale Rd., Storrs	429-0529
Newsletter	Lisa Peterson-Blinn	577 Mansfield Cty Rd., Storrs	423-9632
Public Relations	Karen Greer	1205 Flanders Rd., Coventry	742-0621
Publications	Alexinia Baldwin	3 Charter Oak Sq., Mansfield Ctr	456-3947
Voter Service	Peter Millman	122 Dog Lane, Storrs	429-0567
	Susan Spak	85 Birchwood Hgts., Storrs	429-4520
	Kathy Ward	51 Chatham Dr., Storrs	456-8258
			933-3506 (C)
Calendars	Iris Kinnard	61 Birchwood Hgts., Storrs	429-9102
KYTF	Ann Kouatly	98 Fern Rd., Storrs	423-2975
	Janis Fausey	PO Box 495, Mansfield Ctr	423-4773
Nominating	Janis Fausey		
	Shamim Patwa	27 Greenfield La., Storrs	429-4321
	Laura Katz-Smith	68 Wildwood Rd., Storrs	429-8735
LWVCT	Jean Rabinow (office)		
	1890 Dixwell Ave.	lwvct@lwvct.org	203-288-7996
	Hamden, CT 06514		

Mansfield LWV home page

www.lwvct.org/lwvmansfield

CALENDAR

January

- January 24, 2009 (Sat) Mail registration for Legislative Breakfast
- January 26, 2009 (Mon) 7 p.m., Board Meeting, Conference Room B,
Audrey Beck Municipal Bldg.
- January 31, 2009 (Sat) Legislative Breakfast, 9 a.m., First Church of
Christ, Mansfield Center

The League of Women Voters of Mansfield web page address is
<http://www.lwvct.org/lwvmansfield>

Communications to the Mansfield LWV can be emailed to
lwvmansfield@lwvct.org

League of Women Voters of Mansfield
P.O. Box 104
Mansfield Ctr, CT 06250-0104

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For more information about items in this newsletter or about membership in the LWV, please contact President Cindy Weiss, 429-4015; or Membership Chair Anne Smith (429-0529; e-mail: anneksmith@charter.net). Membership is open to both men and women. Dues are \$45 per year and should be sent to Anne Smith, 156 Hillyndale Road, Storrs, CT 06268. Lisa Peterson-Blinn, Newsletter Editor (377-6132), e-mail: lisajpb@gmail.com).

