

Join The Westwood Walpole LWV
As a member you will:

- Make a Difference by Contributing to Your Community
- Make a Difference by Being Informed
- Make a Difference by Taking Action
- Enrich Your Life by Being Involved in a Vital Organization

Join The WestwoodWalpole LWV
New members join for \$25
and get:

- National Voter Magazine
- Local and State Publications
- Access to member information on League Websites
- Alerts to action on Capital Hill
- Significant discounts on publications, videos, and other valuable resources.



**2008-2009
STEERING COMMITTEE**
(left to right)

Virginia Fettig, Treasurer
Patty Stewart, At Large
Greg Andrew, At Large
Marcia Hirshberg, Membership
Phoebe Joseph, Fund Drive
Jane Nash, Secretary;
Judy Barrington, At Large

(Not pictured in alphabetical order)
Susan Aries, Bulletin
Nancy Farris, Walpole Voter Service
Melissa Hed, At Large
Kathy Zola-Web Master

Westwood-Walpole League of Women Voters
PO Box 294
Westwood MA 02090

Marcia Hirshberg, Membership 781-326-8784
Web Site: www.lwwwestwoodwalpole.org



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IS...

A nonpartisan, multi-issue, grassroots organization whose mission is to encourage informed, active participation of citizens in local, state, and federal government and to influence public policy through education.

WHO ARE OUR MEMBERS?

Locally, we are over 84 (and growing) concerned, politically motivated women and men working to make our towns and our state even better places to live.

Nationwide, we are more that 100,000 concerned, socially conscious women and men in all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

WHAT DOES THE LEAGUE DO?

- educates citizens about issues and legislation
- encourages individual participation in political issues
- informs though in-depth objective analyses
- monitors government activities on local, state and national levels
- registers millions to vote
- sponsors candidate debates and offers forums on issues of public concern
- teaches citizens and non-citizens about their rights and responsibilities

TAKES ACTION/LOBBIES/TESTIFIES

Westwood-Walpole League of Women Voters at Work



At Fall Kick Off subjects of great interest and political significance are presented. Pictured is Nan Crossland, Event Coordinator, introduces Timothy Reardon, Regional Planner with the Massachusetts Area Planning Council. Mr. Reardon spoke on Future Regional Growth Trends that will affect Westwood and Walpole land use.



At National Program Planning with bread and soup Jane Wojick leads Westwood Walpole LWV members as they review LWVUS Positions. From this discussion members will send directions to the LWVUS regarding issues upon which they should focus their educational campaigns and lobbying efforts.

LOCAL PROGRAM

● SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR 2008-09

This year Fall Kick off focuses on Health Care, a subject of vital interest to us all. In August, September and Early October League members will staff tables at local locations to help college student get absentee ballots and new residents get registered. Later in the year the League will remind people that Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport by holding programs that focus on educating people on how to read a ballot and run for office.

● VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service is the heart of the league. The LWV grew out of the Suffragette movement with a mission to see that all people are informed on political issues and able to vote.

The LWV holds Candidate's Forums to introduce the candidates and inform people of the campaign issues. League members put VOTE signs on their lawns to remind people to vote and hand out voter materials at various locations around both towns helping people to register or vote by absentee ballot.

● STUDY AND CONSENSUS

If the heart of the League is Voter Service, its muscle is in its positions derived by studying issues and then coming to a position from which all members speak with "one voice." In 2007 the LWVUS studied and developed a position on Immigration while the Massachusetts League studied and developed positions on Fiscal Policy and Affordable Housing. Now League members will take action on these positions by lobbying their senators and representatives

● MEMEBERS TAKE ACTION

2008 is a presidential election year. Leagues all over America are working to ensure that all who wish to vote can without any unfair restrictions. Leagues are lobbying for election reforms that will make it much easier to register and vote. Members do this by answering "Alerts" both from state and national.

● THE LEAGUE REACHES OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

Each year the League Budgets \$1000 for community outreach. Westwood gives a \$500 scholarship to a graduating student interested in political science.

Walpole's share is used by Walpole High Social Studies department for various voter education topics and civic projects.



Annual Meeting Chair, Virginia Fettig, introduces Judy Barrett who spoke on Affordable Housing in Massachusetts focusing on the controversial housing law 40B. At Annual Meeting members come together to socialize, to hear an interesting speaker, and to have their annual business meeting.



Voter Service is the heart of the League. Candidate Forums are held before most primary and general elections. Pictured is LWV member, Erin Pastuszewski, moderating a primary candidate event with republican candidates William McKinney and Douglas Obey presenting their views.