

League of Women Voters of Concord Carlisle

invites you to attend our

LWVCC ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Harvey Wheeler School

Clock Tower Room

Main Street, West Concord

7:00 PM Reception

Cool drinks, dessert and conversation

7:30 PM Program

Court Booth, President CCTV, Inc.

Court is Director of Concord Community Education and President of Concord's new non-profit Community Access Cable station.

8:15 PM Business Meeting

Conduct the annual business of our organization.

If you need a ride to attend the Annual Meeting
call (978) 371-7293

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cindy Nock & Susan Sekuler, Co-Presidents

Dear Fellow League Members,

It has been a very busy and fruitful year for the LWVCC with national elections, get out the vote activities, our annual showing in the West Concord Family Fest parade and voter booth, and a LWVCC sponsored candidates' forum for the contested state representative and senatorial races held in the auditorium at Concord Carlisle High School and taped for broadcast on CCTV cable channel 8 and the CCHS radio station WIQH. And that was just the fall season!

In January and February, once we caught our breath over the holidays, we continued to inform the public about local issues through our Superintendents' Night, which included the three superintendents from the Concord, Carlisle and Minuteman Technical school districts and a local Concord candidates' forum moderated by Sue Curtin. Both events were taped for broadcast on CCTV and radio station WIQH.

In March we held an informational and advocacy forum on the health care crisis and single payer health insurance, organized by Paula Vandever and held in the new Alcott school auditorium and also televised on local channel 8 cable television. We participated in the LWVMA annual Day On The Hill, which included lunch with state representative Cory Atkins. A successful fundraising effort led by Barbara Anthony and Ruth Lauer netted \$1600 of donations from non-members supporting our local league.

April was consumed by town meeting warrant reviews, state and local league

program planning meetings and nominating committee meetings.

May began with our third candidates' forum of the year. The Carlisle local candidates' forum was moderated by Ellen Harde of the Westford LWV. Also, in May we look forward to the LWVMA state league convention in Westborough and the LWVCC local league annual meeting at the new Harvey Wheeler community building in Concord.

Our year will be capped in June with the Riverfest award, organized by Betsy Sluder and Debbie Barr, to be presented for an outstanding environmental achievement.

Barbara Lewis hosted a splendid membership breakfast at the Colonial Inn where we met some new faces, and Nancy Beeuwkes hosted our annual holiday luncheon at October Farm where we heard from the Concord and Carlisle town librarians. Both events were very welcoming, relaxing and very much appreciated.

All the while our regular activities continued: the league observed town boards and commissions, issued the bulletins, and initiated membership email alerts for our programs. Thanks to webmaster Li-Jen Lin we now have a fully functioning website.

Currently, with the help of Shawna Reid, we are forging a strong relationship with the new local cable network and look forward to using the CCTV facility to help fulfill our mission of fostering informed voters by building a contingent of volunteer videographers to tape and broadcast local public meetings.

As we write this letter we are preparing for the LWVM state league convention, where our delegates will vote on the state program for the next two years and attend workshops where we will learn about even better ways to serve our members and our community. Next year we hope to put some of these ideas into practice as we tackle issues ranging from affordable housing to healthcare issues to local school concerns.

It's been an exciting and educational year for us and we thank all who have given of their time, talents and tenure to help us lead the LWVCC forward.

With immense gratitude from Cindy Nock stepping down from two years as LWVCC Co-President and Susan Sekuler, Co-President looking forward to next year as President.

We hope all of you have a happy and healthy summer! See you in the fall!

Cindy and Susan,
LWVCC Co-Presidents 2004-2005

The annual report for the Voter Service committee will be in the next issue of the LWVCC Bulletin.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

7:00 Social and Program with speaker Ruth Lauer

8:15 Call To Order

Business Meeting

- Credentials Report
- Budget Committee Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Proposed Budget
- Audit
- Program

Local Program Report

Adoption of Program

- President's Report
- Nominating Committee Report
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Introduction of New Board
- Direction to the Board
- Any New Business
- Closing

MEMBERSHIP

Barbara Lewis, Membership Chair

Big news for this year's membership committee has been the implementation of a new system to maintain records for all levels of the League, local, state and national. Everything is recorded on a website, which means that communicating information about the membership list is constantly accurate and immediately available, as long as we continually update from the local level as members join and renew. It has been exciting to establish this new system, and gratifying to see how easy it was to have everything in order by the deadline of February 1.

We had a wonderful Membership Breakfast at the Colonial Inn in January. Everyone

enjoyed themselves so much that it was decided that this kind of event will need to be held more than once a year. So look for information about an Autumn Membership Breakfast late in the summer.

An email list of members has been created, which has made communicating to those who are interested in keeping updated on League activities, easy and very timely. If you would like to join this list, please send an email to Membership@lwgcc.ma.lwvnet.org

MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

Anne Hayden, Bulletin Editor

The Membership Bulletin continues to be one of the major ways that information is transmitted to our membership. The Bulletin's goal is to provide both Concord and Carlisle members with a variety of materials and information on important issues at the local, state and national levels that would be of interest to League members.

Many thanks to all who supplied articles for the Bulletin this year. Also thanks to Fran Neville who willingly produced the mailing labels on short notice. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your suggestions, ideas or thoughts regarding this publication. Together we can make it even better!

OBSERVER CORPS

Louise Haldeman, Chair

The League's Observer Corps continues to be the eyes and ears of the community, covering the proceedings of several of Concord's Boards and Committees in far more detail than can possibly be done by the newspapers. This year we have changed our publication schedule to one which covers two or three months at a time, thus making a longer publication but giving more continuity to the subjects before the Boards during that time. This past year we have covered the Board of Selectmen, the Natural Resources Commission, the Board of Health, the Public Works Commission, the Planning Board, the Historical Commission, the Municipal Light Board, and the Library and Library Trustees. The full report is now mailed to all LWV members as well as certain town officials and is placed on the LWVCC website.

Active and constant observers for the past year have been Reed Anthony, Elsie Bracco, Gerald Lauderdale, Erica Morrison, Frances Neville, Jean Reinhardt, Tom Sisson, and Betsy Sluder. Barbara Anthony and Valerie DiRienzo have been faithful substitutes. We also thank Alicia La Torres, the CCHS student who does the folding and mailing and her mother Linda. Alicia is off to college next year and we wish her the best of luck for the years to come...

In the coming year we hope to expand our committee and the list of Boards covered. We particularly wish to have observers for the School Committee, the newly formed Tourism Committee, the committee covering the CPA, and the Housing Authority. We also would like a replacement, perhaps two, for Reed Anthony who is retiring, and we always need substitutes.

LWVCC WEBSITE

Li-Jen Lin, Webmaster

Taking the Pulse of the LWVCC Web Page

Our web page <http://lwvcc.ma.lwvnet.org> went live 15 months ago. Statistics from the last six months indicated that our web site is very much alive and active. There were more than 6000 pages downloaded from our web page in the last 6 months alone. The single most active day was February 6, when 135 pages were downloaded. In the last 7 days, 299 pages were downloaded.

So what is in our web page? The single most visited page is [Calendar.html](#), followed by [pastcalendar.html](#), [Fundraising.html](#), [Information.html](#), [Riverfest.html](#), [Bulletin.html](#), [about.html](#), [Current_Event_Flyers.html](#), [elections.html](#), [contact.htm.](#), [join.html](#), and [renewal.htm](#) in descending order. Bulletin took the prize in the most pages downloaded category. It was followed closely behind by the Current Event Flyers, Riverfest and observer report (which has been on the web for only ten months).

If you haven't bookmarked our web page on your computer, or you are using a computer in the public library or in an internet café, you can find our page in less than 20 seconds by doing a simple web search. The most effective search engine is "Google", which provided the lion's share of referrals to our web page. At your web search page, type in "lwvcc+concord+ma" or "lwvcc+carlisle+ma" and then click on the relevant link. You probably find our calendar page first. Since this is the World Wide Web, you can find us and download

pages through web systems in many foreign countries as numerous people have done.

Our web page has a wealth of information. If you want to know where a meeting is being held, go to the Calendar page and click on the address link; MapQuest will come up and give you the map and the direction to this site. If you want to know what was discussed in some of the public town committee meetings, download our Observer Report. Our Bulletin page provides reports and announcements of League activities over a particular period of time. Our Current Event flyers give you simple descriptions of recent League-affiliated events, as well as of those taking place in the near future. You can also download application and membership renewal forms from our web page.

The internet is an information highway. Other than trying to providing timely information to you from our web page, we'd also like to hear from you. Please send us your questions and comments. For matters concerning our web page, please click the "webmaster" link at the footnote of our page. For matters concerning the League, please click on individual links on the "Contact Us" page and send an e-mail through the link. Please let us know how we can better serve you.

Happy (web) surfing,
Li-Jen Lin, LWVCC webmaster

RIVER STEWARD AWARD PROGRAM

Debbie Barr and Betsy Sluder

The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle is pleased to announce the third annual River Stewardship Awards Program for 2005. This effort is co-sponsored by the local Leagues of Women Voters located in the river drainage basin of the Assabet, Concord and Sudbury Rivers, and by Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council.

Among the local Leagues that are participating in this endeavor are the LWV of Acton, Billerica, Sudbury, Wayland, and Concord-Carlisle.

The awards are to honor the contributors who have helped preserve the environmental and historical integrity of our important river basin. The awards will be given out on June 10th in the early evening at the Minuteman National Historic Park's Visitors' Center in the Old Buttrick Mansion on Liberty Street

in Concord. It is a beautiful setting for the awards ceremony.

The Riverfest festivities will continue all weekend and the towns along the rivers will be celebrating in their own ways.

The river basin Leagues support wholeheartedly the individuals, local governments, institutions and businesses that share the goal of preserving the drainage basin with educational efforts, innovative strategies, and tools and technologies, and who oppose damaging development and polluting horticultural practices.

There will be an award given to each participating community and to special individuals and organizations.

HEALTH CARE FORUM

Paula Vandever, Chair

The LWV-CC held a forum on health care in the Alcott School Auditorium on March 30th. The three speakers Dr. Alan Sager, Margaret O'Malley, RN, and State Representative Cory Atkins discussed the state health care crisis and possible solutions, including current legislation being considered at the State House.

The League of Women Voters has studied health care reform for over ten years from local leagues through the national level. The national League reached a consensus position that supports: "an affordable health care system that provides equal access to quality health care for all." Under that position, the Massachusetts League supports the Health Care Trust bill (S.755), which is being discussed in the Massachusetts Legislature. This bill was explained by Margaret O'Malley, Director of MassCare, an association dedicated to health care

reform of which the LWVM is a member. Dr. Sager, professor at the Boston University School of Public Health and co-director of its Health Reform Program discussed the results of his recent studies of the health care crisis. Hon. Cory Atkins discussed the political realities of health care forum in the near term. A question and answer period followed the presentations. The forum was attended by about 40 people and was broadcast on the local cable station.

The LWV-CC members who organized this forum were Nancy Beeuwkes, Janet Beyer, Nancy Cronin, Louise Haldeman, Erica Morrison, Shawna Reid and Paula Vandever.

WINTER FUNDRAISER

Barbara Anthony, Chair

We have had a heart-warming response to our appeal letter sent in February to LWVCC friends. Our letter asked for support so that we could sustain our unique role of providing broad-based programs and educational services at no cost to the community. Many thanks to these generous donors:

Elsie J. Apthorp
Cliff and Dorrie Bean
Betsy Bilodeau
Mr. & Mrs. Walter W. Birge III
William H. Bond
Jane M. Brooks
Sarah Bull
Robert C. Butman
Mr. & Mrs. Stedman Buttrick
Paula and Seymour DiMare
Winifred Ferguson
Cline and Gretchen Frasier
Sarah C. Garth

Lloyd and June Grace
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kemp
Marian Korbet
Katharine S. Munro
Cathy Parmelee
Gordon H. Shaw
Marjory and Donald Stevenson
Joe and Verona Wheeler
Joan P. Wood
Roxanne E. Zak
Alice B. Zamore
in memory of Dorothy Winsor Bisbee
(past president of the Concord LWV)

EDUCATION REPORT

Shawna Reid, Education Chair

In January 2005 the LWVCC sponsored “A Conversation with our School Superintendents”, an open meeting with Concord and Carlisle’s three superintendents. Panelists Dr. Brenda Finn, Concord Public and Concord Carlisle Regional School District, Marie Doyle, Carlisle Public Schools and William Callahan, Minuteman Regional High School, discussed issues facing their school systems in the immediate future and then took questions from the audience. Both Ms. Doyle and Mr. Callahan are in their first year as Superintendent for their districts, and Dr. Finn is in her second year as the administrative chief. The event was held in the Corey Auditorium of the Carlisle Public School in an attempt to attract Carlisle members and save them a trek to Concord!

In April the League invited representatives from the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the School Committee to outline and provide clarity on town and school budgets and Town Meeting articles. Virginia McIntyre, Hugh Lauer, Janet Friedman and Becky Shannon made

presentations and answered questions. Becky Shannon, CPS Chair, outlined the restorative budgets for CPS and CCHS, stating that state funding is still well below the FY2001 level. The rebuild of the Willard School and questions about plans for the High School dominated a major portion of the discussion period.

The Board voted unanimously to support the CPS Budget at \$227,000 over the levy limit and the CCHS Budget at \$234,000 over the levy limit. The Carlisle share of the High School budget is \$97,222 over the levy limit. All Concord town boards recommended and supported the budget overrides for FY05-06. All the town and school budget questions, including building improvements & design funds, passed at Town Meeting and will be on the ballot Tuesday, June 7.

The Board reviewed the Willard proposal very carefully over two successive Board meetings, but in the end decided to take no position at Town Meeting because there were too many unanswered questions.

CARLISLE REPORT

Cindy Nock, Co-President

The following League of Women Voters activities took place in Carlisle during the year.

In July a LWVCC booth was operated during the Old Home Day festivities. Many new member forms were handed out and several new voters registered for the November Elections. Red, white and blue balloons were plentiful.

LWV signs reminding Carlisle citizens to vote were placed at strategic locations in town prior to elections and town meetings. Carlisle often has a fall Town Meeting as well as an annual spring Town Meeting. The Carlisle Spring Town Meeting is May 23 and elections are being held May 31.

In January the evening informational meeting "A Conversation with our School Superintendents" was held at Corey Auditorium in the Carlisle Public School.

On May 1 from 1:30-3:30 PM the League of Women Voters Concord-Carlisle sponsored

a Carlisle Candidates' Forum in the Clark Room at Carlisle Town Hall. The Board of Selectmen, Board of Health and Housing Authority each had contested races. Other uncontested candidates were Town Moderator, Board of Assessors, Planning Board, Library Trustee and School Committee. The Forum was moderated by Ellen Harde from the Westford LWV, video taped for airing on local cable TV and reported on in the Mosquito. Barbara Lewis and Sara Rolley helped coordinate and run the Forum. Overall, about 50 Carlisle residents including 10 of 17 candidates participated directly in the Forum. All of the candidates in contested races participated. It is hoped that local cable channel 8 CCTV will air the Candidates Forum video during the weeks prior to the election on May 31.

We hope to have two new LWVCC board members next year increasing the Carlisle Board members to four.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Nancy P. James

Summary of Domestic Violence Prevention activities in Concord - Service Year 2004-2005

Introduction: national and state League chapters have made a significant commitment to domestic violence prevention. Our newsletters have contained reports each month on the activities within Concord and surrounding towns about this issue. Included in these reports: the Network for Women's Lives (Network), Concord-Carlisle Domestic Violence Roundtable (Roundtable), Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program (DVVAP), an umbrella organization, Domestic Violence Services of Central Middlesex (DVVAP – Citizen's Council). A Carlisle man's group Men Against Domestic Abuse and Control meets monthly.

Rachel's Box Project: **Rachel's Box Project** has continued during the year, providing materials for domestic violence prevention in over 40 locations within Concord and surrounding towns. **Network for Women's Lives** volunteers visit with various fillers, flyers, and recent Network newsletters. Domestic violence prevention advocates continue to be grateful to our institutions, churches, Town House, libraries and all our faithful hosts and volunteers.

Network for Women's Lives *The Network continues its primary mission to provide education and outreach with special programs and events. This past year The Network was very active with: The Yellow Dress performance in ABHS and BedfordHS, Doing the Right Thing in CC middle schools, purchased "Second Step" (a violence prevention program) for Stow and Carlisle schools, hosted Michelle Bograd, PhD on "Should Women in Abusive Relationships Turn to Couples Therapy?," participated in Concord's Alliance for Teen Safety, published The Safety Net quarterly newsletter, participated in vigils, Town Days in Concord, Bedford, West Acton and Stow, as well as supporting church and community domestic violence prevention programs.*
www.networkforwomenslives.org

Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program (DVVAP) DVVAP's Kiersten Warning received this year's Human Rights Council Award at a celebratory gathering on December 6, 2004 at TriCon church. 5 volunteers working with the Victim Witness Advocate in the Concord District Court assist victims through the Court Intervention Project (CIP). Lawyer for a Day (LFAD) program connects survivors with attorneys through South Middlesex Legal Services for free legal consultations about probate court. Seven towns are now part of the DVVAP collaborative, having held mandatory training for all police officers and dispatchers. Contact KWarning@concordnet.org, DVVAP@concordnet.org for volunteer information. www.DVVAP.org.

The Board of the Concord-Carlisle League of Women Voters offers continued support of our mission and carries a newsletter page in every issue on Network, DVVAP, and other local domestic violence prevention activities.

Other Domestic Violence Prevention Programs *Churches and community groups address matters of abuse pertaining to their organizational focus (elder abuse, child abuse issues, etc.) Interested League members can find a host of programs within our community.*

PROPOSED LOCAL PROGRAM

MAINTAIN ALL CURRENT LOCAL POSITIONS

STUDIES : None Proposed

ACTION:

1. Work with Town Selectmen, Boards and Commissions regarding Committee member appointments:
 - 1.1.5 Fair and Responsible Appointment Process with special attention to green card process
 - 1.1.2 Increased citizen participation
 - Better publicity about appointment opportunities
 - 1.1.3 (a) Lobby for adherence to specific term limit policy
2. Follow legislation and federal and state action in regard to Hanscom Airport. Inform membership and take action pursuant to positions (8.1, 8.2, 8.3).
3. Publish "Getting Elected in Carlisle" in web and print versions.
4. Follow Educational Facilities (MSBA) funding legislation in relation to Concord and Carlisle and inform membership.

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Affordable Housing

CPA

School Building Agenda and Progress

Burke Land Alternatives: School, agriculture, recreation, housing, financing

DIRECTIONS TO THE BOARD

1. Follow new Concord CPA Committee, report to members and take action as appropriate pursuant to National, State and LWVCC positions.
2. Follow new Concord Tourism Committee, report to members and take action as appropriate pursuant to National, State and LWVCC positions.
- 3.
- 4.

LWV CONCORD CARLISLE LOCAL PROGRAM 2004-2005

Summary of Positions

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Town Government | 10. Town Facilities |
| 2. Education | 11. Housing |
| 3. Public Health/Condom Availability | 12. Growth |
| 4. Recreation | 13. Land Acquisition and Management |
| 5. Animal Control | 14. Land Use |
| 6. Crime Prevention | 15. Agricultural Land Use |
| 7. Tourism | 16. Environmental Health |
| 8. Hanscom Field | 17. Wetlands |
| 9. Long Range Planning | 18. SuAsCo River Basin |

Detailed Positions

1. Town Government, Concord

The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle supports a local government which is based on the fullest possible participation of informed citizens in its policy and decision making processes. The League finds that Town Government as now practiced in Concord is both democratic and effective. To make it more responsive, open, and fair, we would support the following improvements:

1. 1. 1 Increased communications between:
 - a) committees and their appointing authorities, including periodic review and supervision, as well as more explicit definition of committee's charges
 - b) committees and the public
 - c) committee chairmen and members, including once yearly training/orientation sessions, and detailed and written orientation information for new members. (Modified 2001)
1. 1. 2 Increased citizen participation through:
 - a) more publicity of hearings
 - b) early notices of committee meetings and hearings with agendas
 - c) use of all available media to inform public on town affairs
 - d) distribution of town information package to newcomers
 - e) wider distribution of green cards.
- 1.1.3 Committee procedures made more effective by:
 - a) specific term lengths for committee members
 - b) use of sub and ad hoc committees for specific studies and to relieve overburdened committees
 - c) informative minutes, publicly available
 - d) termination process for unneeded committees
- 1.1.4 Adequate clerical and financial support with information given to committees by the Town Manager on services available.
- 1.1.5 Fair and responsible appointment process strengthened by:
 - a) expanding use of green cards, with regular updating and review by citizens and the Town Manager's office.
 - b) posting vacancies with at least two weeks between posting and appointment
 - c) flexible, informal interviews with prospective appointees

- d) prompt appointments
 - e) reasonable use of recommendations from committee members
 - f) geographical distribution of committee members for those committees whose functions warrant it.
 - g) use of the following criteria in appointing committee members: availability for attendance at committee meetings; eagerness to serve; expertise; work and/or volunteer experience; ability to work with others; stamina (not in order of priority).
- 1.2 League members were firm in opposition to:
- a) use of green cards as an exclusive source of appointees
 - b) use of a search committee to nominate appointees
 - c) election of more town committees (adopted March 1977, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.3 The League supports the continuation of the Town Meeting as the primary deliberative and legislative body of the Town (adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.4 The League supports open Town Meeting as currently practiced with voting on Town Meeting issues taking place within the sessions of the town meeting. (Adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.5 The League believes that it is the obligation of the Town to provide all citizens seeking to attend Town Meeting, the opportunity to participate. If it should become impossible, on a regular and frequently recurring basis, to accommodate all of the persons wishing to attend Town Meeting, then the League would support a representative form of town meeting as an alternative to the present open Town Meeting. (Adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.6 The League opposes any change in Town Meeting Voting that would separate the vote from the deliberative process. (Adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.7 The League opposes any voting method that would constrain participants from having full access to information about the questions on which they are voting. (Adopted Feb. 96 reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.8 To further ensure that the residents of Concord are informed participants, the League urges that the Town take greater measures to:
- a) Increase the understanding of citizens about their local government.
 - b) Offer a fuller explanation of committee and board duties along with the Green Cards. Advertise committee vacancies promptly and widely.
 - c) Give wider distribution to the Town Report. (Adopted Feb. 1996, reaffirmed 1999)

Town Government, Carlisle

That the town of Carlisle should continue its present form of government, strengthening its effectiveness by improved communication and cooperation among boards and by the use of administrative and technical support when needed.

- 1.9.1 Support the use of administrative and technical assistance to foster the effective use of volunteers' time and expertise.
- 1.9.2 Support an annual meeting, chaired by the Selectmen at which all town committees present their accomplishments and goals.
- 1.9.3 Support issue-oriented meetings as needed, among pertinent boards. The ultimate responsibility for these meetings lies with the Selectmen.
- 1.9.4 Support timely distribution of pertinent information by committees to townspeople. (Adopted 1980, amended 1983, reaffirmed 1999)

2. Education

Concord and Carlisle in pursuit of quality education in the public schools:

- 2.1 Support a school organization that encourages the following: stability—requiring few major changes and little redistricting in order to preserve a sense of school community; low pupil-teacher ratios with the lowest in the primary grades; respect for parental preference among a range of teaching styles; broad uniform program aims; sound fiscal management. (Reaffirmed 1999)

- 2.2 Support for a system of guidance and social work that allows for department flexibility and staff mobility and interaction, particularly with the elementary schools. (Adopted July 1980, reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.3 Support for a system of guidance and social work which has as its primary role maintenance of the climate of learning of the student body as a whole and the consideration of the needs of the individual student; and which communicates openly with parents and provides information through channels such as workshops, written material, PTG meetings, etc. (Reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.4 Support additional, vocational education in the school system. An ideal system would include a) adequate up to date facilities; b) flexibility in time, choice, program, and amount of concentration on vocational or academic courses by each student; c) coordination with instruction in the Concord and Carlisle systems; d) full use of facilities for the whole community after regular school hours, evenings and summers; e) expansion of an improved work-study program; f) career awareness beginning in the elementary grades. (Reaffirmed 1999).
- 2.5 Support at Concord-Carlisle High School a curriculum development process utilizing inputs by departments, cooperation between departments, citizen input, and administrative and school committee review. Curriculum to afford flexible scheduling of student and teacher time to create opportunities for course options. Curriculum to emphasize interdepartmentally a sampling of many areas; development of analytic skills, written and oral communication skills; preparation for citizenship; and requirements for graduation in courses in many disciplines. (Adopted 1971, amended '78, '79, '83, '85 and Reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.6 Support a program of staff development and teacher evaluation to be reviewed regularly by the School Committees (adopted 1971, modified and reaffirmed, 1999)
- 2.7 Support the availability of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for students of Concord-Carlisle High School and at the Concord and Carlisle Middle Schools. (Adopted 1971, reaffirmed 1999, amended 2001)
- 2.8 Support a budget that includes adequate funding. (Adopted 1971 modified and reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.9 Support efforts by the schools and the parents associations to improve communications with the community. (Adopted 1971 reaffirmed 1999)

3. Public Health: Condom Availability

The Concord-Carlisle League of Women Voters recognizes that AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) has become a major health problem in this country, particularly for young adults and is now the leading cause of death for men between the ages of 18 and 40 and the fourth leading cause of death for women in the same age category. The League also recognizes that sexual intercourse is the most frequent mode of transmission for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), although there are other ways in which the disease may be transmitted.

Because of the potential threat to the young people of our community, the League urges the citizens of Concord and Carlisle, in conjunction with their Boards of Selectmen, The Regional School Committee, The Boards of Health, and other public and private agencies to embark upon a program of making condoms available to young people under conditions that include counseling and education as to inherent risks. This program should be undertaken in the knowledge that while properly used, condoms reduce the risk of AIDS, hepatitis B, other venereal diseases, and unplanned pregnancies, they do not remove all risk. The League believes that recognition of such risk falls on the individual. Every individual engaging in sexual intercourse must assess the risks involved and assume responsibility for his/her actions. (Approved by Board January 1995 reaffirmed 1999, language updated 2002)

4. Recreation, Concord

- 4.1 Support a comprehensive public recreation program in Concord.
- 4.2 Support a master plan for recreation in Concord.
- 4.3 Support the acquisition of land to meet the active recreational needs of the Town.

- 4.4 Support the development of public swimming facilities, with priority for the construction of an indoor pool, and the improvement of natural bodies of water.
- 4.5 Support the improvement and extension of Concord's present bike/foot path system including the preparation of a long-range construction plan.
- 4.6 Support the additional facilities for bicyclists, including a bike/foot path map, marked paths and street crossings, and safe racks well-placed around Town.
- 4.7 Support recreational activities on conservation lands that do not alter the integrity of the land for conservation purposes.
- 4.8 Support the increased distribution of information on conservation lands to townspeople.
- 4.9 Support making information on conservation land available upon request to visitors to Concord. (Reaffirmed 1999, amended 2000)

Bike Footpaths Carlisle

- 4.10 Support the development of bike/foot ways in Carlisle and the promotion of bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- 4.11 Support a pilot project for the development of bike/foot ways (1982, reaffirmed 1999)
- 4.12 Support a master plan for bike/foot ways for all existing town roads.
- 4.13 Support the Planning Board regulations requiring developers to build bike/foot paths in all new developments. (Adopted 1973, amended, 1980, 1982, reaffirmed 1999)

5. Animal Control, Concord

- 5.1 Support a dog control by-law that: is consistent and easy to understand; defines "under control by owner"; prohibits dogs from school property during classroom hours except with express permission of the principal; included a limited leash law for the business areas of Concord, school property outside of classroom hours, and town playgrounds; includes a "pooper scooper" provision for the business areas of Concord, playgrounds, and school property
- 5.2 Support enforcement of Concord's animal control by-law that: is based on a complaint responsive system; includes limited patrolling by dog officer in problem areas such as playgrounds, business districts, and school property plus areas that have a high number of complaints; encourages dog licensing by charging higher fines for unlicensed dogs; encourages citizen participation by expedient and appropriate response to legitimate dog-related complaints.
- 5.3 Support license fees to be set at a level to encourage neutering. (Amended 2000.)
- 5.4 Support an innovative approach to dog licensing that: encourages licensing by mailing reminders to owners of all dogs reported on the Town census; follows up on known unlicensed dogs; has mail-in license forms; has a flexible licensing schedule—perhaps every three years when dog is due for rabies shot; encourages prompt licensing by charging late fees.
- 5.5 Support educational activities such as: information packets prepared by the town and widely distributed to town citizens explaining law and responsibilities of dog owner; community programs on animal care, possibly through the schools. (Adopted May 1985, reaffirmed 1999)
- 5.6 Support the immunization of cats against rabies (in accordance with state law) and strongly urge the immunization of all domestic animals against rabies and other contagious and potentially life-threatening diseases.

6. Crime Prevention

- 6.1 Support efforts to heighten public awareness about crime prevention, including educating citizens to report suspicious incidents to the police, and establishing neighborhood groups both to prevent crime and as a method of developing a stronger sense of community.
- 6.2 Support efforts to prevent juvenile crime by identifying youth needs and concerns, and coordinating the development and implementation for services for youth.

- 6.3 Support police Department crime prevention efforts, particularly educational programs in the schools and in the community at large, including an active “Operation identification” program.
- 6.4 Support increased use by the Concord district court of restitution and alternative sentencing, including the community service work program in Concord.
- 6.5 Support effective methods of identifying and publicizing the costs of vandalism to Town property.
- 6.6 Support effective methods of supervising heavily used Town conservation land. (Adopted December 1980, reaffirmed 1999)

7. Tourism Concord

In order to provide a pleasant experience in Concord for visitors to the revolutionary and literary sites and to maintain and improve the quality of life for residents in Concord, the League

- 7.1 Supports visitors' services with adequate public parking and toilet facilities located in the vicinity of the Milldam and at the West Concord shopping district. (Revised 2001)
- 7.2 Supports improved directional signs. Mini- informational maps of the vandal-proof roadside type are especially needed.
- 7.3 Supports public or private groups publishing maps or tapes which will direct visitors taking walking or biking tours of the Town. (Reaffirmed 1999)

8. Hanscom Field

- 8.1 Oppose extension of Hanscom field into a major airport
- 8.2 Support maintenance of general aviation activity at Hanscom Field at no higher than the 1973 level.
- 8.3 Support the participation of Concord and other Towns in the solution to problems associated with Hanscom Field

9. Long Range Planning

- 9.1 Support of local and regional long-range planning. Cooperation in the development of comprehensive planning criteria for the towns. (Reaffirmed 1999)

10. Town Facilities

- 10.1 Support for the re-use of surplus buildings: (a) consistent with the character of the neighborhood; (b) consistent with the current zoning; and (c) consistent with the preservation of architectural features.
- 10.2 Support for the reuse of surplus buildings which: (a) use private funding whenever possible; (b) satisfy a need within the community; (c) are sound economic investments for the community; and (d) which are planned to be self-supporting when possible.
- 10.3 Support for rehabilitation of Stow Street surplus buildings for: (a) elderly housing; (b) low income and family housing; (c) recreation; and (d) education.
- 10.4 Oppose extensive retail or commercial development on Stow Street. (Reaffirmed May 1999)

11. Housing, Concord

- 11.1 Support housing at all income levels in Concord. In particular, there should be a supply of low and moderate income housing in Concord to ensure inclusion of the elderly, those on fixed incomes, young people, families, disabled/handicapped persons, teachers, and town employees.
- 11.2 Support the following criteria to support implementation: (a) sound planning should be the basis of such development; (b) private and public efforts to provide such housing should be encouraged, especially if they provide economic mix within neighborhoods rather than a “ghetto” development; (c) low rise, low density, multi-family dwellings would fulfill the

Town's need and would be most in keeping with the desire to preserve the "open land" character of Concord. (Revised and reaffirmed 1999)

Housing, Carlisle

- 11.3 Support mixed income housing (low, moderate, and fair market) in Carlisle with priority to housing needs for the elderly. We recommend that consideration be given to rehabilitation and/or conversion of existing buildings and new construction of housing units that will be in keeping with the rural character of Carlisle. We further recommend the use of rent subsidies and tax abatements where applicable. (Adopted 1978, reaffirmed 1999)

12. Growth

- 12.1 Support development of a land use plan in Concord that 1) has land capacity as a key component, 2) defines specific principles and policies, and 3) utilizes appropriate data maps.
- 12.2 Support positive action towards the achievement of Concord town planning goals in the conversion of any municipal buildings.
- 12.3 Support the regular updating the Concord accessory apartment conversion bylaw. (Modified and affirmed 1999)
- 12.4 Support strengthening Concord flood plain and wet land by laws (adopted March 1981, reaffirmed 1999)

13. Land Acquisition and Management, Concord

- 13.1 Support Town acquisition of land for
- a. subsidized housing
 - b. municipal use
 - c. stewardship of our historic and literary past
 - d. recreation-active and passive (conservation)
- Decisions about purchases should be made by weighing acquisitions against an overall plan with
- 13.2 Support land taking by eminent domain as a last resort when it satisfies the public need and the public good; this could also be useful in clearing title to a property when ownership is unclear.
- 13.3 Support the concept of land banking
- 13.4 Support a land transfer tax.
- 13.5 Support the principle of acquiring land with the intention of later leasing or selling parts of it if the intent to do so was made clear at the time of purchase or if the land was found to be surplus to Town needs.

(Criteria to be considered for Town land acquisition includes the ability to be developed, location, linkage, potential uses, preservation, access, public safety and health. Each parcel of land is unique, therefore it is difficult to establish priorities in criteria for purchase, but the ability to be developed may be the most important.) (Adopted 1987, reaffirmed 1999)

14. Land Use

- 14.1 Support the protection of wetlands and lands in the flood plain through strong enforcement of legislation regulating wetlands, flood plains, and conservation lands; through such methods as percolation tests and Town acquisition of such Concord lands.
- 14.2 Support acquiring open land in densely populated areas of Concord. Support visibility of land as an important criterion of Town Acquisition.
- 14.3 Support a mix of housing to meet the needs of a variety of age and income levels.
- 14.4 Support strategic land management to achieve: preservation of open space, a diversity of housing types, and land for municipal uses

15. Agricultural Land Use

- 15.1 Support preservation of farmland in Concord by the following methods: The Farmland Assessment Act, conservation restrictions, purchase of development rights, land trusts, and tax reform.
- 15.2 Support Concord acquisition of farmland where other methods of preservation could not be used and the alternative would be the likely loss of the land to development.
- 15.3 Support the agricultural use of MCI-Concord agricultural land, and public education on the problems and potentials of farming in Concord (Reaffirmed 1999)

16. Environmental Health

Solid Waste Disposal

- 16.1 Support a solid waste disposal method that is safe and protects the health of the community and the environment; any method must be economically feasible and well managed.
- 16.2 Support improved methods of operation at existing landfill sites.
- 16.3 Support regionalization of solid waste disposal facilities
- 16.4 Support recycling education programs in the schools

Sanitary Sewage Facilities

- 16.6 Support improvements needed to maintain present systems at their peak performance.
- 16.7 Support first priority for tie-ins for those areas contiguous to the existing collection line, which are in dire need of service. (Reaffirmed 1999)

17. Wetlands

- 17.1 Support preservation and/or acquisition of wetlands and related uplands in the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord River Basin as well as other actions by appropriate federal state and local agencies.
- 17.2 Support the preservation and/or acquisition of the wetlands and related uplands in the Shawsheen River basin in Concord (Elm Brook). (Reaffirmed 1999)

18. SUASCO River Basin

The SuAsCo River Basin Group represents nine Leagues in the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord River Basin. The SuAsCo River Basin Group allows the Leagues to approach water resource problems on a regional basis.

- 18.1 Support (a) comprehensive long range planning and coordinated action for use of water and related land resources in the SuAsCo Basin (b) measures to protect and maintain water supply, floodcontrol, fish and wildlife, state and local agencies to accomplish the above; (c) adequate funding for federal, state and local agencies to accomplish the above; (d) federal, state, and local action to achieve flood plain zoning, stream encroachment planning, conservation easements, and the improvements of river flows.
- 18.2 Oppose high power transmission lines running overhead through areas zoned for residence. (Reaffirmed 1999)

LWVCC Program Reaffirmed at 2004 Annual Meeting

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Christy Barbee, Cindy Nock, Shawna Reid, Susan Sekuler

The Nominating Committee presents to the Annual Meeting the slate of candidates for the Officers and Directors of the Board of the League of Women Voters of Concord Carlisle for 2005-2006

Officers

Susan Sekuler, President
Shawna Reid, Vice-President (Cable-TV Liaison)
Fran Neville, Co-Treasurer
Lauren Bakewell, Co-Treasurer
Sara Rolley, Recording Secretary
Nancy Beecher, Corresponding Secretary

Directors

Nancy Beeuwkes, National Action
Nancy Cronin, State Action
Anne Hayden, Bulletin
Louise Haldeman, Observer Corps (Liaison to LWVM Board)
Barbara Lewis, Membership
Erica Morrison, Hospitality
Paula Vendeaver, Local Action/Health

Barbara Anthony, At Large
Ruth Lauer, At Large
Cindy Nock, At Large (Carlisle Liaison)
Evin Phillips, At Large

Advisors to the Board

Christy Barbie, Education/Carlisle
Debbie Barr, Elder Affairs
Pam Bracco, Cable TV
Diana Clymer, Fundraising
Sue Curtin, Candidates Forum/Voter Service
Renee Garelick, Tourism
Nancy James, Domestic Violence/Rachel's Box
Toby Kramer, Affordable Housing/Planning
Gerry Lauderdale, Warrant Information
Li-Jen Lin, Webmaster
Virginia McIntyre, Town Affairs
Becky Shannon, Education/Concord
Pat Sinnott, Auditor
Betsy Sluder, Environment
Judith Sprott, Wastewater Planning
Marian Thornton, Open Space/Concord Trust