

League of Women Voters of Concord Carlisle

invites you to attend our

LWVCC ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 24, 2006
Harvey Wheeler Community Center
Main Street, West Concord

7:00 PM Reception

Cool drinks, dessert and conversation

7:30 PM Program

**Ann Dorfman, Program Manager,
Recycling & Waste Management Program, Concord Public Works**

Ann will speak about the new Concord Conserves initiative that highlights opportunities for residents to improve our environment through conservation.

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

Susan Sekuler, President

Dear Fellow League Members,
It has been a watershed year for the LWVCC. We began with a picture of our members marching with the LWVCC banner in the West Concord Fall Festival parade in the Concord Journal. We are ending on an even higher note, the record-breaking house tour: Room of Our Own. What a wonderful way to welcome Spring!

This fall our energetic Membership Chair, Barbara Lewis, initiated a new approach to member events. We held three parties : a brunch at the renovated Harvey Wheeler Center and soirees at the Carlisle Library and the Concord Art Association, complete with wine donated by Vintages in West Concord and cheese donated by the Concord Cheese Shop, where we caught up with old friends and made new ones amidst books and art exhibits. Several new members signed up on the spot. Anne Hayden, our stalwart Bulletin editor, and Mary Wilinsky organized another fun activity, a Book Discussion Group, where members and friends have enjoyed lively discussions about fascinating books including *Founding Mothers*, by Cokie Roberts and *Nine Parts of Desire* by Gwendolyn Brooks.

In November, in lieu of the traditional "Schools, Town, Money" program, we held a forum, "Concord Decisions" that featured Town Manager Chris Whelan and Schools Superintendent Brenda Finn who filled us in on their plans for the next five years. The event attracted 50 people and was broadcast on CCTV, thanks to the efforts of Vice President, Shawna Reid. We continued to educate ourselves on doings around town at the December Holiday Potluck Luncheon with an informative presentation by the

Concord and Carlisle Councils on Aging Directors.

In addition to local activities, LWVCC members participated in the LWVM/Common Cause Fair Districts Initiative petition drive collecting signatures for a referendum to promote redistricting reform in Massachusetts and raised over \$1,000 for the State League at Phonathon, from which we received ten percent of the proceeds.

Closer to home, Barbara Anthony and Ruth Lauer spearheaded a letter writing fundraiser for non-members, as they had done in 2005, and once again we were rewarded by many donations to support our services to the community.

As part of our continuing Voter Service, Sue Curtin coordinated the Concord Candidates Forum before the March local elections for Selectmen, School Committee and Town Moderator, which was moderated by former LWVM President, Dona Kemp, and also televised on CCTV. Cindy Nock, Barbara Lewis and Lauren Bakewell coordinated the Carlisle Candidates Forum.

As I write this, we are still making our way through Concord's Town Meeting and Carlisle's is about to begin. We prepared ourselves with many meetings with town officials and our own advisers, who shepherded us through the maze of the Warrants. Special kudos go to Cub Lauderdale, who, as always, helped us to decode the Concord Warrant.

Perhaps the most exciting event of the year was the House Tour, "A Room Of Our Own: Spaces That Bring Families Together,"

deftly organized by Di Clymer with the assistance of Holly Cratsley and her staff, Nancy Beeuwkes, Mary Chapman, Nancy Cronin, Anne Hayden, Ruth Lauer, Erica Morrison, Shawna Reid, Paula Vandever, and too many others to mention here. Citizens Bank, Coldwell Banker Real Estate, and Concord Lamp and Shade underwrote the event and many local businesses sponsored advertisements in the tour booklet. Following a sumptuous breakfast provided by LWVCC members and a talk by Holly, the group of 130 tour goers dispersed to seven houses in Concord, staffed by Leaguers, representatives of local businesses, and other volunteers. Many of the homeowners were on hand to help guide the tour goers. The tour raised close to \$12,000, an amount that will help to expand our activities in our two communities. We also have gained several new members as a result of this event as well as invaluable publicity from the frequent articles that appeared in the Concord Journal, Carlisle Mosquito and other local media.

As to the future, after the Annual Meeting on May 24th, our year will be capped in June with the River Stewardship Awards, to be presented for outstanding environmental achievement, once again organized by Betsy Sluder and Debbie Barr. Also in June, the LWVUS Convention will be held in Minneapolis, where our delegates will vote on the national 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 fiscal policy reform.

Finally, a note on next year's leadership structure. For the first time we will not have a traditional hierarchical Board, headed by President(s) and VPs. Instead, pending approval of the members at Annual Meeting, there will be an "Executive Committee" which will work together as a joint leadership group. We hope that this new structure will make it possible for more members to be active in League. To this end, I am personally asking each of you to consider giving your time to at least one event, program, book group meeting, letter writing campaign, registration drive—whatever fits into your schedule—to help make the League the fully functioning, grass roots organization it has the potential to be.

It's been an exciting, educational, fun year for all of us; I thank those who have given of their time, talents and tenure to help lead LWVCC forward and hope all of you will continue next year to make it even better.

Have a Happy Summer.
Susan

ORDER OF BUSINESS

7:00 Social and Program

8:15 Call To Order

Business Meeting

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

Local Program Report

Adoption of Program

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

MEMBERSHIP

Barbara Lewis, Membership Chair

It has been a good year for membership. Our numbers have increased slightly, to 164 members in Concord and Carlisle, and it has been exciting to welcome quite a few interesting and committed new people. There were three Membership Open Houses held in the fall, varying in times and locations in order to accommodate people with different schedules. These events were very enjoyable gatherings, but attracted only a few nonmembers looking for information and a way to become involved with the League. We will be working on new ideas for next year to connect with potential new members.

A new development has been the directory which was published this spring. This will serve as a handy reference for all members and hopefully be an asset in increasing communication and involvement. The directory will only get better as more information is added and suggestions are implemented. Your ideas are welcomed. The email list continues to be a valuable way to communicate in a very timely manner with our members. If you are not on the list and would like to be, send an email to Membership@lwvcc.ma.lwvnet.org

An important message for all members – when you renew you must send your membership form and dues to the Concord address, P.O. Box 34, or give it directly to a LWVCC board member. Members who have renewed online, on the LWV National or State websites, or through a mailing from the state or national organizations, find themselves registered as a U.S. member, or as a Massachusetts member, and no longer officially affiliated with the Concord Carlisle chapter. We want to keep you local, and in fact, that is what the other levels of the League desire also. But it is a big organization, run by busy volunteers, so things get confusing. We do treat and involve our national and state members who live in our towns just like our own, but let's keep it simple and remember to renew directly with the LWVCC.

Membership renewal forms will be sent out in June, and we love to see them flying back in. A great year means a strong membership we can all be a part of.

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, often 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!

BOOK GROUP

Anne Hayden, Chair, Mary Wilinsky, AM Co-Chair, & Melissa Saalfield, PM Co-Chair

This fall the LWVCC started a Book Discussion Group that has proved to be an extremely lively and stimulating activity. We have met every other month on Wednesday mornings in the Trustees Room of the Concord Free Public Library. It is open to all League members and their friends and one can attend as often as one's schedule allows. Those who have attended so far are very interested in discussion books that focus in one a particular issue – and we have explored a wide variety of issues so far. This year's books have been: *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts, *Nine Parts of Desire* by Geraldine Brooks, *Under the Banner of Heaven* by Jon Kraukauer, and

our May selection is *What's the Matter with Kansas?* by Thomas Frank.

The morning session will continue on next year in the same format. We are also hoping to get an evening session going, but we have not yet found a format that will easily work. LWVCC members and friends who have attended one or more sessions so far include: Nancy Beeuwkes, Jean Bell, Sue Cannon, Mary Chapman, Mary Clarke, Nancy Cronin, Kathleen Elcox, Anne Hayden, Janet Kennedy, Ginny Lamere, Barbara Lewis, T. Lovering, Erica Morrison, Kitsy Rothermel, Janet Rothrock, Tish Richardson, Rose Ruze, Melissa Saalfield, Becky Shannon, Mary Wilinsky.

LWVCC Book Group Meeting

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Trustees Room, Concord Library – 10-11:30 AM

***What's the Matter With Kansas?* By Tomas Frank**

League Members and their friends are invited to attend.

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 continued our practice, begun in the previous year, of publishing less frequently but including more material in each report, so that the reader can follow several meetings of a particular committee and thus have a better sense of the development of particular issues.

The report is mailed to all LWVCC members as well as to certain town officials. It is also placed on the website. Normally, placement on the website is done after the mailing has been delivered but this year's pre-town meeting edition was placed on the website earlier as there was a delay in getting the mailing to the post office.

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, and the Municipal Light Board. Active and constant observers for the past year have been Elsie Bracco, Gerald Lauderdale, Erica Morrison, Frances Neville, Jean Reinhardt, Tom Sisson, and Betsy Sluder. Barbara Anthony and Valerie DiRenzo have been faithful substitutes. We bid farewell to Reed Anthony, long time faithful observer of the Library and Library

Trustees committees. We have not yet found a replacement for him.

We do need more observers! In addition to the Library we need observers for the school committee, the recreation committee and others. It would be useful to have observers for some of the special purpose committees such as the committee which may be formed soon to consider the ramifications of Article 32 (the Strawberry Hill Rd. land).

For the first time in several years we have had no "mailing mistress" and the editor fondly hopes that among the members who have kindly offered to help fold, will be someone who would be willing to take over the task of getting the mailing to the post office.

The Report covers Concord only but we would be happy to include reports from Carlisle if volunteers from Carlisle would present themselves. The committee meets monthly between September and June and at least once during the summer. The only requirements for being an observer are that the Observer be a League member, that she or he not be a member of the committee being observed, and that she or he be able to attend the meetings of that committee on a regular basis. It is not necessary for an observer to attend the Observer Committee meetings, reports may be submitted by mail, electronic or otherwise.

LWVCC WEBSITE

Li-Jen Lin, Webmaster

LWVCC Web Publishing Policy and Web SPAM

After several months of revisions and discussions, our web publishing policy was passed in February's board meeting. This guideline was created to protect LWVCC members' privacy from web fraud and SPAM while looking for maximum exposure of our articles by providing the articles on the web. It simply states that we don't give out members' addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, and that any address listed will not be associated with a member.

This policy also asserts that the author or the sender of the article will have the responsibility of removing sensitive information before requesting web publishing from the webmaster. It also specifies that individuals' names will be published in the web photos, and stipulates

that all articles and photos must be approved by the president of the board or the executive committee of the board before web publishing. You can find the entirety of this policy on our web site.

info@lwvcc.ma.lwvnet.org is an information email address of our league. It doesn't receive solicitations or SPAM emails. We will be very happy to answer any questions you have on meeting places or requests of league info using this address. Happy web surfing!

RIVER STEWARD AWARD PROGRAM

Debbie Barr and Elizabeth Sluder

The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle is pleased to announce the fourth annual River Stewardship Awards Program for 2006. 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 Friday, June 9 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.

ENVIRONMENT

Elizabeth Sluder, Advisor

Concord does very well by its natural environment in comparison to many municipalities in our state and in the our nation.

I have been attending the public meetings of the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) that take place on the first and third Wednesday evenings of every month.

Most of the NRC's work is fairly routine. Intrusions into the wetlands and the wetlands buffer area are discouraged to the extent that the law will allow. This is the state wetlands law and it seems fairly generic and vague. One size is to fit all wetland related situations. The NRC is responsible for enforcing the state law. Unfortunately, it did not give authority to the NRC to prosecute adequately a violation at Fairhaven Bay on the Sudbury River. A local wetlands bylaw for Concord could give the NRC permission to impose fines on such violations. All surrounding towns have local bylaws to protect their wetlands. Concord does not.

Concord faced a major environmental challenge with Middlesex School's athletic field project. It consists of reconfiguring a steep slope area located on the further side of a large wetland. Access to the site was to be on a bridge that would cross over this wetland. The land was part of Estabrook Woods, an outstanding natural area, which the School owns.

The issues had been in front of the Concord community since 1993. It has been very controversial. The school needs more athletic facilities if it is to compete with other private secondary schools. Athletics have importance with academics among these institutions. Middlesex owns this land and has the constitutional right to develop it as it sees fit.

Many residents of Concord are outraged at the massive intrusion into the wetlands and reshaping of the landscape from a steep slope to flat ground to accommodate two additional soccer fields and two tennis courts.

In recent years, the matter came before the Planning Board which recommended passage to the Zoning Board of Appeals. At its meeting the Zoning Board of Appeals decided that the school was within its right to develop the slope on what was called Lot A. However, there was Lot B, which was part of Middlesex School property and the school representatives at the meeting said that they had no present plans for the land. They would wait until 2017 to decide. The Zoning Board of Appeals considered extending that time for decision to 2027.

Another matter of environmental concern was the status of Chamberlin Park in Concord Center. It is a "pocket park" of less than an acre donated to the Town by the Chamberlin family. It follows a path from Lowell Road where the land was originally gardened with park benches, flowering shrubs, and apple trees, down to and over the Mill Dam Brook to the Keyes Road parking lot. This part of the park was to be maintained in a natural state. The little park has a generous endowment for preserving the gift to Concord. The NRC is the Town committee responsible to maintain the park according to the donor family's wishes.

The NRC has as "routine matters" large as well as small projects. The Concord Country Club renovated its golf course and Emerson Hospital petitioned for additional parking space in a wetland buffer. The small projects, among many, involve additions to existing homes in the wetlands, and many failed septic systems that must be repaired. The NRC does its job conscientiously within the limits to its authority.

2006 HOUSE TOUR

Di Clymer, Chair

Our League's second House Tour and Talk on Wednesday, April 12th established what many hope will be a biennial fundraising tradition. Building on the success of "A Room of One's Own" in 2004, this event featured the theme "A Room of Our Own, Spaces that Bring Family and Friends Together." Did any of you notice how Donna Thomas, Concord artist and illustrator, adapted her design for our '04 program book cover to fit this year's event? Perhaps we now have an event logo!

Could we also have a signature breakfast as well.....warm croissants and pastries from Edelweiss and Starbucks coffee with other coffee cakes and cut up fruit prepared and organized by Erica Morrison, Becky Blodgett, and Sue Cannon with helpers Rebecca Purcell and Gayle Kaufman. Nancy Beeuwkes outdid herself with the red, white and blue table and flower arrangements.

Holly Cratsley, principal of Nashawtuc Architects and long standing league member, gave a fascinating power point presentation on "New Trends in Family Rooms". She had us laughing and taking notes. Holly had lined up the houses for our tour and suggested how we should look at each for ideas.

Our gracious homeowners were : Cynthia and Bryon Deysher, Susan Larson, Nancy and John Huggins, Ellen and John Denison, Merrill Comeau and Richard Eifler, Gretchen and Paul Nelson, and Alden and Richard Perkins. In all seven homes, the homeowners and staffers answered questions and pointed out design elements, solutions to each family's needs, and special

finishing touches. Susan Sekuler wrote the marvelous house word portraits for the program book to further insure we didn't miss anything. And, Paula and Woody Vandever created the detailed map that guided us from house to house.

Shawna Reid oversaw the production of our handsome program book full of resources, mostly relating to the home. Ruth and Hugh Lauer did a superb job designing the book's layout and Anne Hayden generously took charge of the printing. The book contains 62 advertisements from businesses that support the league. Please support them to continue this beneficial partnership!

Top of the list of businesses to thank are our Sponsors: Concord Lamp and Shade, Citizens Bank, and Coldwell Banker. Without their major contribution we would not have exceeded our goal. We raised \$12,000.

Nancy James not only placed a full page ad, Nancy P. James Insurance Agency, in our program but also helped Mary Beth Jones and Lauren Bakewell make the registration process go smoothly. Other full page advertisers were : Susan Larson Interior Architecture and Design, Saffon Salon and Day Spa, Hands-On Construction, JR Gallery on Thoreau Street specializing in hand cleaning and repairing rugs, Barrett & Co., Upstairs Aniques, Forever Tile, Staples, Chamberlain Schaefer Photography, Michael Poisson for clock and watch restoration, Bowen Marketing Consultants, Circle Furniture, Rare Elements, and Thoreau Antiques. Please thank them for their support when you are in contact with them.

Half page advertisers in the program book include: Waterman Design, Nashawtuc Architects Inc., A&P Lock Service, The Window Trimmer in Weston, Concord Lumber, Jones Upholstery, Anne Rarich for personal coaching and mentoring, Harold F. Nichols Insurance Agency Inc., Patriot Electrical Contracting and Service, The Four Walls in Newton Highlands for fine wall coverings and design, Joseph Perry Plumbing & Heating in Acton, Richard M. Stremeckus Carpenter in Acton, Phillips Design, Terminix for termite and pest elimination, City Lights for antique lighting in Cambridge, Powers Gallery, Country Concierge for party planning plus, and Mr. Handyman.

Businesses that placed a quarter page ad were : League member Mary Chapman at Coldwell Banker, Tables to Teapots, Post Road Carpet a family run business for 20 years, Feng Shui and Space Clearing by Christine Wojnar, Galdi Construction in Billerica, Quill and Press, Organizing WORKS by Karen L. Kenney in Bedford, Concord Oil Company, R. Smight Furniture Attic in Littleton, ComEnt for communications and entertainment system design, Concord Provisions on Thoreau Street, Colony Florists now owned by Karen Maines, The Gatehouse with new owner Stephanie Bunker Shepard, Iris Lee Marcus

for interior decorative painting, C& D Glass in Acton, Vintages Adventures in wine, John Bakewell arborist, Olive and Branch for the home located in West Acton, Concord Bookshop, Harvard Art for museum quality frame conservation, Enclave, Lexington Alarm Systems, Sanderson Piano Services, and Porta Design by Sally Lanagan.

The homes on our tour were staffed by League members and others: Thank you Nancy Beeuwkes, Ginny Lamere, Ardis Bordman, Anne Hayden, Barbara Anthony, Jill Herold, Missy Olsen, Liz Harvey, Katie Barbarisi, Anne Standish, Andrea Maloney, Sue Barron, and Mary Chapman and Rosemary Shaw from Coldwell Banker and Gayle Kaufman, Jean Sandford, Jeannie Burton, Audrey Cicchetti, Eileen Jackson, Nancy Nygard, Jackie Wayland, K.C. Winslow and Pamela Woodward from Barrett & Co. Lauren Bakewell staffed and managed the finances for the event. Fran Neville printed up the name tags.

What a great team ! We are grateful to one and all! This concludes another successful House Tour and Talk in League fashion with some education from Holly and some study of our own as we explored each home and asked questions so that we can now Take Action in our own homes just as the Spring fever for change occurs.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Fran Neville and Lauren Bakewell, Co-Treasurers

WINTER FUNDRAISER

Barbara Anthony, Chair

2006 ANNUAL APPEAL LETTER TO LEAGUE FRIENDS

Once again we have had a heart-warming response to our annual appeal letter which we sent in January to many local friends of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle. We asked for financial support so we could continue to provide broad-based programs and educational services at no cost to the community. Thank you to these generous donors:

Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Barrett Jr.
Cliff and Dorrie Bean
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Birge III
Agnes C. Brengle
Peter and Pam Callahan
E.G. Downes
Mr. & Mrs. Mario Favorito
Winifred Ferguson
Cline and Gretchen Frasier

Sarah C. Garth
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Grace
Claire Greene
Mrs. Mary Kemp
Mr. & Mrs. George Kidder
Sherry F. Litwack
Lal Minton
Kerry Munro
Shirley Osepchuk
Barbara Pike
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Shaw
Leli Sudler and Walter D. Littell
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Woodman Jr.
Derek and Patricia Till
Mr. & Mrs. Victor M. Tyler II
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Wilkins
Sally Williams

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Nancy P. James

PROPOSED LOCAL PROGRAM

MAINTAIN ALL CURRENT LOCAL POSITIONS

STUDIES : None Proposed

(There will be two LWVMass studies/consensus: Fiscal Policy and Affordable Housing)

RECOMMENDED INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Affordable Housing

Pursuant to LWVCC Positions 11.1, 11.2, 11.3

School Building Agenda: Programs and Finances

Pursuant to LWVCC Positions 2.1 and 2.8

Land Use Topics:

Schools, agriculture, recreation, housing, financing and pesticide awareness

Pursuant to: LWVUS Position on Natural Resources (1986) and LWVCC Positions 4.8:

Distribution of information on conservation land; 13: Land Acquisition and Management; 14:

Land Use; and 15: Agricultural Land Use.

LWV CONCORD CARLISLE

LOCAL PROGRAM 2006-2007

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 2005 Annual Meeting

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Sue Cannon, Mary Chapman, Barbara Lewis, Susan Sekuler

The Nomination Committee is pleased to present to the Annual Meeting the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters for Concord Carlisle for 2006-2007.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Lauren Bakewell, Nancy Beeuwkes, Ruth Lauer, Barbara Lewis,
Shawna Reid, Tish Richardson

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS WITH PORTFOLIO:

Lauren Bakewell	Treasurer
Nancy Beeuwkes	National
Nancy Cronin	State/Fiscal Policy
Louise Haldeman	Observer Corps/State Rep
Anne Hayden	Bulletin
Barbara Lewis	Membership
Erica Morrison	Hospitality
Cindy Nock	Carlisle
Shawna Reid	CCTV Liaison
Tish Richardson	Recording Secretary
Susan Sekuler	Candidates Forum Coordinator
Betsy Sluder	Environment
Paula Vendever	Health/Elderly

DIRECTORS AT LARGE:

Barbara Anthony
Nancy Beecher
Ruth Lauer
Evin Phillips

OFF BOARD ADVISORS:

Christy Barbie	Carlisle School Committee
Di Clymer	House Tour Fundraiser
Sue Curtin	Education Specialist
Renee Garrelick	Tourism
Nancy James	Domestic Violence/Rachel's Box
Toby Kramer	Housing/Planning
Gerry Lauderdale	Warrant Information
Li-Jen Lin	Webmaster
Virginia McIntyre	Town Affairs
Fran Neville	Administration
Sara Rolley	Carlisle Candidates Forum
Janet Rothrock	Voter Registration/Concord Candidates Forum
Becky Shannon	Concord School Committee
Judith Sprott	Wastewater Planning
Marian Thornton	Open Space/Concord Land Conservation Trust