



THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 58 ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2019

CALENDAR

Monday February 4--Congressman Keating "Town Hall" Brewster First Parish 6-7pm RSVP

Tuesday February 5
9:30am

BOARD MEETING
Cape Cod Five, Rte 134, Dennis

Saturday February 9
9:30 - 11:30

VISA SHORTAGE & THE CAPE ECONOMY
Harwich Cultural Center, Sisson Road
Note: this is a new venue; see directions inside

Monday February 18

PRESIDENTS DAY Holiday*

**There is no apostrophe; the day is in honor of two presidents, it is not owned by them*



UPCOMING

Tuesday March 5
9:30am

BOARD MEETING

Friday March 8

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Friday March 22

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST
Cape Cod Community College

www.lwvcapecod.org

www.members.lwvcapecod.org

www.facebook.com/LWVCCA

PUBLIC FORUM -- SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9 H-2B VISA SHORTAGE AND ITS EFFECT ON OUR CAPE ECONOMY

The waiter in your restaurant, the cashier at your market, the staff members who clean your hotel room. . . all those who make a holiday on Cape Cod possible, whether for business owners or summer visitors. . . are most likely here among us because of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services H-2B Visa Program.

The program allows “U.S. employers or U.S. agents who meet specific regulatory requirements to bring foreign nationals to the United States to fill **temporary non-agricultural jobs**. A U.S. employer, or U.S. agent as described in the regulations, must file Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker, on a prospective worker’s behalf. The current cap on H-2B visas in a fiscal year is approximately 66,000 for the entire U.S.

Needless to say, the guidelines and regulations covering the program are numerous and often difficult to maneuver. Additionally, in recent years, tightening government regulations have caused numerous challenges for Cape employers, particularly those who run small businesses.

Our February 9 panel discussion, open to the public, will explore the issues and provide the most recent information. The panel will include:

Wendy Northcross, Executive Director, CC Chamber of Commerce

Andrew Nelson, aide to Congressman William Keating

State Sen. Julian Cyr, Cape & Islands District

A representative from **Mac’s Seafood**

Note: This event will be held at the Harwich Cultural Center (formerly the Harwich Middle School) on Sisson Road, intersection with South St., just outside Harwich Center. (Mid-Cape Exit 10).

SAVE THE DATE 2019 LWVCCA LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

Friday, March 22, 2019

9 AM to 11 AM

Cape Cod Community College

Lorusso Building, Solarium

Legislative Chair **Renate Sands** reports that ALL of our Cape legislators have responded positively to our invitation to attend. This is a first, and we thank all our Cape legislative aides who helped to make it happen.

Further detail and RSVP Form will appear in the next VOTER

JANUARY NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST AT HYANNIS GOLF CLUB



*From Membership Co-Chairs **Phyllis Walsh & Mati Ligon***

LWVCCA's newest members were welcomed on January 23 at an orientation breakfast on January 23 at the Hyannis Golf Club. The occasion provided an opportunity for new members to socialize with existing members, gain insight into the League at the local, state and national levels and learn about the many opportunities to participate and to make an impact. . **Mati Ligon**, co-chair of membership, spoke movingly

about how she joined the League of Women Voters in honor of the 50th anniversary of the death of civil rights worker Andrew Goodman -- a classmate at Queens College who went to Mississippi to work in the civil rights movement and was one of three young men who were murdered during the upheavals. Mati's statement and those of our new members and others will be featured on the

LWVMA Facebook page celebrating the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters. Committee chairs including **Anita Rogers**, co-chair of Voter Service welcomed the new members and explained what they do and how a new member can participate. New and current members receive frequent informational electronic publications from the local, state and national leagues. These announce upcoming events, provide background information on a variety of legislative topics, urge advocacy on league supported topics and educate members through these publications and webinars. Each new LWVCCA member received a Member Directory and Handbook when they joined. This handbook was reviewed during the orientation and will be helpful as an ongoing reference.

Membership Co-chair **Phyllis Walsh** welcomed new and old members.



Voter Service Co-chair **Rosemary Shields** demonstrates the new LWVCCA banner for voter registration sites.



Welcome to new member Marianne McCaffery (Cacciola)

The familiar story of having spent youthful summers on the Cape describes Marianne's move here from Pleasantville, New York, back in 1980. Her first job, which lasted eight years, was as Circulation Manager at the *Cape Codder*. Her second job, from which she recently retired, was with the Cape Cod National Seashore. She now works part time as Administrative assistant for the Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore...as a founding member of Cape Rep Theatre in Brewster and as an active member of the Studio Art Quilters Association. Marianne and her husband Joe live in Wellfleet, where Joe owns and operates Narrow Land Pottery on Route 6 just south of the turn into the village.

Marianne joins LWVCCA wanting to participate as a citizen without the burden of politics. "There seems to be so little one person can do to influence the big picture. I see membership in the League as an opportunity to make a difference." **Welcome Marianne!**

Marianne McCaffrey (Cacciola)
P.O. Box 1622, Wellfleet MA 02667
m.mccaff222@gmail.com
508.517.4103

Please add Marianne's name to your Member Handbook

OUR THOUGHTS GO OUT

In Memoriam Dorothy Duquet From Nancy Curley

Dorothy Duquet, an active member of the community and of our League, died on November 11th at the home of her daughter in Asheville, North Carolina. Dorothy's special interests were environmental and educational issues. With Laura Goldsmith, she served from 2000 to 2002, as our League "Mentor", a leadership structure that carried the organization through a difficult period. As her daughter wrote to Nancy, she was "an exceptionally patient and kind person" as well as "strong and resourceful". . .caring, honest and non-judgmental.

Dorothy moved to Asheville after the death of her husband Ernest, who was a driving force behind the movement for sustainability and for preservation of the Cape's natural beauty.

Dorothy's family has suggested donations in her memory to LWV or the Audubon Society.

HEALING WISHES TO JARI RAPAPORT AND PAT RYLE.

Jari is now recuperating at The Terraces in Orleans after a bad fall and weeks of therapy at Pleasant Bay. Cards can be sent to her at 60 Daley Terrace, Orleans 02653.

Pat is with her daughter in Maryland undergoing therapy for ovarian cancer. She remains, as ever, upbeat and optimistic: "*I am becoming active for legislation on awareness of ovarian cancer. ...I saw five professionals in 2017 and not one mentioned ovarian cancer! I guess I will carry on League tradition from here!*"

Pat Ryle c/o Kelly Farrell, 817 Trafalgar Rd., Towson MD 21204

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

From Legislative Chairs Renate Sands and Elaine Dickinson

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION UPDATE www.nrc.gov

On January 15, a public hearing was held with Entergy Corporation, owner of Pilgrim ... Holtec International Inc...and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) at Hotel 1620 in Plymouth. Entergy is trying to sell Pilgrim to Holtec, who would carry out the decommissioning process and NRC has to approve the license process.

The main concerns expressed by attendees were

- the problems Holtec has had with decommissioning the San Onofre Nuclear Plant.
- safe storage of nuclear waste on site after Pilgrim is closed this June
- the trust fund of \$1.05 billion that would be transferred to Holtec, would it be sufficient?
If not, how would that problem be addressed?

The following evening, January 16, the **Nuclear Decommissioning Advisory Panel**, made up of local leaders (Dan Wolf and John Flores are members), and the **Nuclear Regulatory Commission** (NRC) met at the Plymouth Community Intermediate School.

Holtec International Inc. is planning to create a separate, *Limited Liability Company* (LLC), called **Holtec Pilgrim** to oversee the decommissioning process. Almost the whole evening was spent by the Advisory Panel asking questions and seeking answers from the NRC about the limited trust funds. . .what oversight the NRC would provide. . . and what would happen if the funds proved inadequate. At the end of the meeting, the NRC representative did acknowledge that the funding concerns expressed by the public would be given serious consideration during the licensing review process.

JANUARY BOARD MINUTES - SUMMARY

The Board approved posting minutes on the website. In the coming weeks, this year's Board meeting minutes will be posted on the members-only area of the website.

Steering Committee update (Suzanne Brock):

The following ideas for attracting new LWVCCA members were submitted to Suzanne:

- Civics game night
- Get Out and Vote Signs
- Tag sale
- Speaking at outside groups; e.g., Community Center, Senior Centers, Rotary, women's/men's groups, Young Professionals, community volunteering efforts/events such as the Family Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, Nauset Newcomers, providing rides.
 - Kathleen Schatzberg, who is on the Program Committee for the Rotary Club, emailed the League requesting a speaker for April. Florence Seldin volunteered to speak and will contact Kathleen Schatzberg to arrange a date.
 - Laura Samuels asked that the Board provide a speaker February 18 at the Southport on Cape Cod condos in Mashpee. Laura is in charge of programs there

and this visit would be in line with their goals and with the LWVCCA mission. Suzanne Brock volunteered to speak. *Continues...*

Exploring these options will be an ongoing activity. If you have additional ideas and/or would like to be involved in these activities, please contact Suzanne.

Membership stands at 95.

Town contacts: The following members have been identified as town contacts. A job description will be created and will include emailing and/or calling members before events.

Mashpee - Mati Ligon
Barnstable - Phyllis Walsh
Harwich - Elaine Dickinson
Dennis - Suzanne Brock
Chatham - Nancy Erskine
Orleans - Richard Utt
Sandwich - Renate Sands
Yarmouth - Jan Hively
Brewster - Barbara Wellnitz
Truro, Eastham, Wellfleet - Scotti Finnegan

Voter Service Committee update: Anita Rogers, Rosemary Shields

The reports are just in from the national League of Women Voters regarding the results of League efforts on National Voter Registration Day last September:

- **400** LWV chapters
- in **47** states
- mobilized **4,318** volunteers (*20 on Cape Cod*)
- who registered **32,376** new voters! (*291 on the Cape!*)

The LWVCCA registered and pre-registered a total of 291 voters in 2018.

Nationally, the LWV registered 865,015 voters. Nationally and locally, we believe the League plays a key role in advancing democracy.

Environment Committee: update: Suzanne Brock, Richard Utt

Suzanne, Richard, Paula Bacon, and Renate Sands met to brainstorm going forward. They agreed that the Committee cannot move forward unless more members join. Another “call out” will be sent to all members.

Carbon Pricing: Rosemary Shields will report on a meeting held by environmental groups asking Sarah Peake to support a carbon pricing bill (H.1726) introduced last session which will be reintroduced in the new session.

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station Update Elaine Dickinson will report on the letter written by the Cape Downwinders’ Re: Citizens’ Petition for Investigation for Failure to Protect the Public” which was sent to Sen Markey and Warren, Rep Bill Keating, and delivered to Gov. Baker and achieved some success.

LWVMA office has moved: 90 Canal Street, Suite 414, Boston 02114. Phone 857.452.1715.



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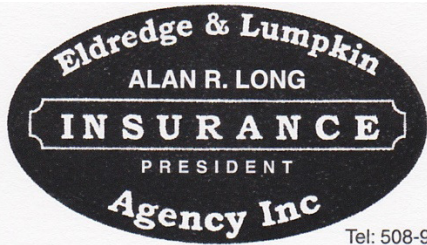


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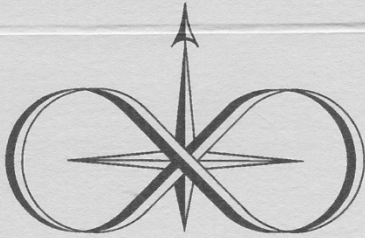
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Jon Vaughan

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