



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
1890 Dixwell Avenue, Suite 203
Hamden, CT 06514-3183

203-288-7996 Fax 203-288-7998 www.lwvct.org

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Please forward this update to your local League members. Many will appreciate knowing what LWVCT is doing on their behalf.

TWO FALL CONFERENCES – ONE CRITICAL TOPIC

“Voting Fraud, Voting Suppression: Myths and Realities”

Saturday, October 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Darien Library

Moderator - Cheryl Dunson, LWV Greenwich

Panelists

- **Lorraine Minnite**, Assoc. Professor of Political Science and Director of Undergraduate Urban Studies Program, Rutgers University
- **Michael J. Brandi**, Executive Director, CT State Elections Enforcement Commission and General Counsel
- **Adam Gitlin**, The Brennan Center for Justice, NYU

Saturday, November 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the UCONN Law School, Hartford

Moderator - Carole Mulready, LWV Greater Hartford

Panelists

- **Erin O'Brien**, Assoc. Professor and Chair of Political Science, UMass, Boston
- **Douglas M. Spencer**, Assoc. Professor of Law and Public Policy, UCONN School of Law
- **Paul Herrnson**, Professor of Political Science, UCONN Storrs

The events are free, thanks to our sponsors:

- The Darien Library
- UCONN Law School
- The American Constitution Society of the UCONN Law School

Registration information for each event will be sent separately via e-mail and on www.lwvct.org. All League members will receive 2 (two) registration forms as e-mails – one for each date. Complete one or both -- you decide.

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

The state board has been in touch with the National League regarding National Voter Registration Day and the consistent conflict with High Holy Days for our Jewish members. NVRD is the project of a number of organizations that promote citizen participation in the political process. The collaborative includes but is not limited to LWVUS and the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). While the date for NVRDs are already set for the next five years, LWVCT will also send a letter to NASS about the conflict.

STRATEGIC AND FORWARD THINKING

The themes of both our convention keynote presentation and LWVUS Council held in June focused on innovation, risk taking and the development of partnerships. With those challenges in mind the LWVCT Board has established a working group to develop both short- and long-term strategic plans. The Board is concentrating on assessing the challenges faced by the League, particularly declining membership and relevancy. Watch E-News for developments!

WEBSITE STATUS

LWVCT:

Wendy Skratt, LWV Stamford, is working on the new website. She anticipates that the new site will go "live" in late September or early October. In the meantime, our current site is still active and we are in the process of updating it.

LWVUS:

Our LWVUS liaison reports that the LWVUS took down the old national membership database before testing the new one, so that the first Leagues whose roster managers were asked to work with it found that it had major flaws; and LWVUS is not sure when the new database will be available. However, if you have membership changes, we can at least update the state database if you send the information to Jean at lwvct@lwvct.org.

REGIONAL MEETINGS TO INSPIRE AND SUPPORT

Two regional leaders meetings have been held so far – Fairfield County and central CT. LWV NE, LWV East Shore and LWV SE are meeting with Jara Burnett, League Services Director, on Tuesday, September 29, noon to 2:00 p.m., East Lyme Senior Center. Call Judy Dolphin (860-464-0485) for more information and to reserve your spot.

A fourth meeting in the NW area of the state is in the planning stage. Stay tuned.

MEMBERSHIP IDEA: ORGANIZE A "SUFFRAGETTE" EVENT

The word is out! The film "*Suffragette*," with Meryl Streep and Carey Mulligan, will be in theaters on October 23rd. Perhaps your League can organize a group to attend the film together. Maybe you can create an exciting before or after event – a tea, a discussion, a cocktail party? This could be a great opportunity to increase visibility in your community. Let us know if you are planning something and we'll share it with other Leagues.

SAVE THE DATES:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

"Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First Hundred Years" at Long Wharf Theatre, New Haven

The sisters were civil rights pioneers, but their stories were largely unknown until Amy Hill Hearth, a reporter for *The New York Times*, interviewed them for a feature story in 1991, then expanded her story into book form. It is now a fascinating and lively play. Join us for fun and help to support LWVCT.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

SIR (Symposium on International Relations) "Social Media: Role in Elections, Civic Engagement and Privacy." This is the working title at the moment, but you get the idea.