

LWVCT BOARD 2010-2011

President

Cheryl V. Dunson, LWV Greenwich



Cheryl currently serves as the President of the LWVCT. She has held a variety of other LWV positions including Publications Director, Action Vice President, Vice President of Public Issues and Greenwich League president.

For her work, she has received broad recognition including the Greenwich Time Community Leader of the Year Award, the American Planning Association CT Chapter Public Service Award, a Connecticut General Assembly Citation for Service and Commitment to Conservation of Open Space and Water Resources, and was the first winner of the LWVCT Percy Maxim Lee Advocacy Award, established to recognize the League member whose perseverance, research and persuasion has

effectively moved the CT legislature to accomplish League goals.

Cheryl holds a M.A. in Communication from the University of South Florida.

V.P./Public Issues

Christine Horrigan, LWV Litchfield County



For the past several years, Christine has served as the Election Laws Specialist and Director of Government Issues for LWVCT. She has been involved in a number of election reform initiatives and has undertaken a variety of lobbying efforts for the League, including the successful passage of a voter verified paper audit trail law and a sweeping campaign finance reform law, which includes public financing of campaigns. In 2006, Christine became the second recipient of the LWVCT Percy Maxim Lee Advocacy Award.

Christine was a member of the LWVUS Task Force on Internet Neutrality and is currently president of her local League.

A former practicing attorney, Christine is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College and the University of Connecticut School of Law.

Co-V.P./Communications

Carole Young-Kleinfeld, LWV Wilton



Carole has been a member of the Wilton LWV since moving to Wilton 11 years ago. She is currently the Wilton League's Co-Vice-President for Program and has participated in four local studies. She graduated from Wellesley College and the UConn School of Social Work and is a former program director in maternal and child health for both the Connecticut and New Hampshire state health departments. She has edited the LWVCT Voter for several years and manages the state League's CTTopics Yahoo news group. Carole works part-time as Wilton's Registrar of Voters and at her part-time free-lance writing business.

Co-V.P./Communications

E. Puanani Ford, LWV Amity



Pua Ford, 57, has been in League since 1997 and has served on the Board of LWV Amity in various capacities since 1999. She has been secretary on the state Board (2005-2009). She was a planner and moderator for regional Conversations on Education (2000, 2006), served as moderator in New Haven Citizen Forums (2002, 2003), and participated in LWVCT studies of the state spending cap (2002) and of media issues (2207). She joined the LWVCT Public Issues Team as the media issues specialist for the 2009 legislative session, tracking bills on broadband internet and on community access television. She coordinates government access television for the Town of Woodbridge and writes the minutes for the Amity Regional school board. She has one daughter starting law school, another daughter in college, and lives in Bethany with her husband, two guinea pigs and a dog.

V.P./Voter Service

Pat Donovan, LWV Litchfield County



Patricia A. Donovan joined the League of Women Voters of Litchfield County in 2006. On the local level she has been active in the Voter Service and Civics areas, working to increase informed and active citizen participation in government.

Ms. Donovan's previous career was spent in the financial services industry, primarily in the compliance area. She has served as an industry spokesperson and panelist for the National Association of Securities Dealers and the Futures Industry Association. Active in fund-raising, she served as a corporate coordinator for the United Way. Public Service work includes active participation in the NYC PAL program,

volunteering with the Reading Partnership, the Staten Island Zoo and the Staten Island Institute of Arts & Science. Currently she volunteers with the Litchfield Aid to the Connecticut Junior Republic.

Ms. Donovan studied at Hunter College, St. John's University and the New York Institute of Finance. She joined the LWVCT board as Voter Service Chair in 2007.

V.P./Program

position open

Secretary

Jane Eyes, LWV Westport

Jane Eyes is a member of the LWV of Westport, which she joined in 2004. She has served as their Voter Editor, Co-Chair of Program Advocacy, and co-chair of the Immigration Study and the NPV Compact Study. Jane has also served as a delegate to the past two LWVUS Conventions.

Jane graduated from Drew University in 1970 and received a Masters Degree in Education from St. Joseph College in 1989. She taught and was a curriculum specialist in West Hartford schools

for ten years. In addition to LWV activities, Jane is a fiber artist and volunteers tutoring undereducated women at the Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport.

Treasurer

Kathleen Burgweger, LWV Greenwich



Kath Burgweger has been a member of the League of Women Voters of Greenwich since 1989(?). She was a board member of her league from 1990-2008, serving as Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer and VP for Voter Service. She has served as Budget Committee Chair for the LWVCT for many years.

In addition to her League service, she has served on numerous community nonprofit boards, most recently as the president of Greenwich Adult Day Care. She has served on boards of Community Answers, Junior League, Greenwich Newcomers and the elementary, middle and high school PTAs.

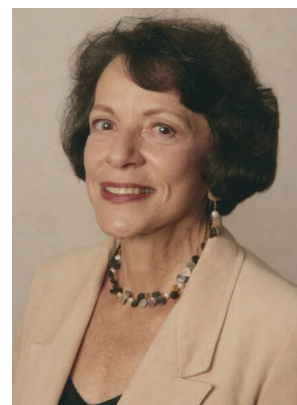
She has also served on the allocations committee of the Greenwich United Way. Kath was one of the recipients of 2001 YWCA Spirit of Greenwich Awards. She has a BA in Fine Arts from UC Irvine. A native Californian, Kath and her husband, Kip, moved from Los Angeles to Cos Cob in 1985. They have 3 grown children.

Director/Government

nomination pending

Director/Social Policy

Naomi Schiff Myers, LWV Greenwich



Naomi is currently the LWVCT's Director of Social Policy and is the President of the League of Women Voters of Greenwich.

Naomi has been a member of the LWV of Greenwich since 1981, but did not become active until after retirement in 2001. She served as VP for Advocacy of the LWVG from 2002-2005 and was a member of the Public Health Care Committee and the Board of Estimate (BET) Study Committee. Community involvement presently includes the Planning Council of the United Way of Greenwich.

After graduating from Barnard College, Naomi worked for the American Ambassador to Israel. When she returned to the US, she worked briefly for the Council on Foreign Relations and the United Nations Association. She then changed career direction and completed an MA in

Speech-Language Pathology at Teachers College and worked in hospital and university settings before earning a Ph.D. from Columbia University. She holds Professor Emerita Status from Montclair State University, where she was a professor for 25 years. In addition to her teaching, scholarly and committee activities, she was Program Director and Advisor for the graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology.



Director/Natural Resources

Karen Burnaska, LWV Bridgeport Area

Karen is a resident of Monroe, CT, and a member of the newly-merged LWV of the Bridgeport Area. Between 1995-2001 she served as First Selectman of the Town of Monroe; before that she was on the Monroe Town Council (1981-1987) and Monroe Board of Finance (1987-1991).

Her volunteer activities include: former president LWV of Monroe; former LWVCT Vice President for Citizen Information; current member of State of Connecticut Transportation Strategy Board; Co-Chair, Coastal Corridor Transportation Investment Area; and member, Board of Directors of RYSAP. She currently serves as Coordinator, Transit for Connecticut, Connecticut Fund for the Environment.

She earned her B.A. in Political Science at the University of Michigan, and her MS in Library Science at Wayne State University.

She is married to Robert F. Burnaska; they have four children.

Director/Membership

Elona Vaisnys, LWV Hamden-North Haven



Elona Vaisnys is a member of the Hamden-North Haven League. Before her recent retirement, she worked for 22 years as the editor for the departments of engineering at Yale University. Elona served on President Carter’s Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies and has worked in the Governor’s Office of Policy and Management in Hartford. She wrote a column for the New Haven Register on civic participation, produced a monthly show on health/medicine on WELI, and was a consultant to the Hospital of Saint Raphael “Better Health” program on CPTV. Last year she visited Lithuania for the LWVUS Global Democracy Program.

Elona holds a Ph.D. from Yale, has two adult children, and lives with her husband in North Haven.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

On Board Ex-Officio

Chair	Catherine Sturgess	New Canaan
Off-Board		
Member	Christine Lodewick	Ridgefield
Member	Theresa Gerratana	New Britain Area
from Board		
Member	Karen Burnaska	Bridgeport Area
Member		

OFF-BOARD APPOINTED DIRECTORSHIPS AND CHAIRMANSHIPS

Director/League Services

Jara Burnett, LWV Greenwich



Born in Prague, Czech Republic, Jara came to the United States via France and Canada. She attended Czech and French schools, receiving a Baccalaureate in Modern Languages and Philosophy from the College de Nice, France; she received a Certificate from the Harvard Radcliffe Graduate Program in Business Administration in Cambridge MA. Other studies included participation in Masters Programs in Juvenile Justice and Government Administration at the University of New Haven.

Jara became US citizen and League member in 1964 and has worked as community volunteer since then. She has served in various capacities on state and local League boards: most recently as Voters Services Vice President and prior to that as Membership Director, and President 1980-82. She was elected to the LWVCT board in 1982 and served in numerous capacities including Vice President/Public Issues and Director for Voter Service. She served as President of the League of Women Voters of Connecticut from 2005 to June 2010. Her other community activities include current membership on the board of directors of Greenwich Adult Day Care. She has also served two terms on the Greenwich RTM and five terms on the Greenwich Board of Estimate and Taxation.

Director/Development

Lynn Taborsak, LWV Danbury Area

Director/Special Events

Carole Mulready, LWV Greater Hartford

Archivist

Enid Oresman, LWV Darien

Budget Chair

position open

Bylaws Co-Chairs

Helen Pearl, LWV New Britain Area

Jean Rabinow, LWV Bridgeport Area

Jean Rabinow is a member of the Steering Committee of the League of Women Voters of the Bridgeport Area, and has previously served as their membership chair, Secretary, Vice-President, and President. She is the Administrator for the LWVCT and LWVCT Education Fund, has served as an election moderator in Trumbull for more than 12 years, and is an attorney in private practice with the firm of McMillan & Rabinow in Trumbull. As a volunteer, she serves on the board of the Friends of the Trumbull Library, and is a member and former Managing Director of the Trumbull Historical Society. She has been certified by Special Olympics Connecticut as a bowling coach, and coaches the Trumbull Special Olympics bowling and swimming teams. She was born in Washington, DC, raised in Maryland, attended college in Illinois, graduated from Yale Law School, and has lived in Trumbull for the last 32 years.