

THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY VOTER

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Champlain Valley

April 2006

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Website: <http://www.lwvofvt.org>

Calendar of Events

April 19 at 7:00 pm

" Redistricting and Gerrymandering: Innovative Solutions" — Terry Bouricius, Speaker
Fletcher Free Library, Burlington

April 26

Voter Registration + Lund Center Special Event

April 27 at 9:30 am

Board Meeting

Home of Mabel Buttolph

May 10-11

Quad State Council

Portland, Maine

Information in Green Mountain Citizen.

May 17

Annual Meeting

Mark your Calendar! Additional information further on in Voter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Leaguers,

On March 8, t the Ethan Allen Club, we had a very helpful, informative session for our General Meeting. It was led by Paula Cope, of COPE & Associates, a major leader in management consulting.

"Encouraging Grassroots Leadership" was the theme. Paula spoke of "the duty to act for the good of others, with boards requiring a mix of three elements-wisdom, wealth, and workers. She listed qualifications of effective leaders and asked us to decide which leadership style best suited each of us.

Ms. Cope talked of the knowledge of the organization you need before you decide if your abilities are a match. She then suggested ways to grow into a leadership role. It was a marvelously thoughtful and useful evening.

Saturday evening, March 4, the League volunteered at Vermont Public Television to answer telephones during their pledge period. Vermont Public Radio did a great deal better than they expected: approximately \$14,000 in pledges. We want to thank our hardworking participants: Barbara Bowen, Jean Hopkins, Sue Golden, Gail Feitelberg, Marge Gaskins, Beal Hyde, Ethel and Bill Scheule, Sonya Schuyler, and Edith Sanderson. The evening was fun, the food was good, callers delighted pledging towards their favorite program, and hopefully we will be able to assist the station in June.

April 19 at 7:00 p.m., at the Fletcher Free Library, Terry Bouricius will give a presentation about "Redistricting and Gerrymandering: Innovative Solutions." He is leading a Vermont League Study Group about this issue. Most recently, he designed Burlington's IRV Voter Education effort.

With elections in November, we of the Champlain Valley League are being asked to register as always, including Burlington High School and the Lund Center.

Come join us and help. Yours, Edith Sanderson, President

APRIL 19, 2006 PROGRAM: TERRY BOURICIUS, SPEAKER

Terry Bouricius works as an Elections consultant (most recently designing Burlington's IRV voter education effort). He is also a Senior Policy Analyst for the nonprofit organization FairVote: the Center for Voting and Democracy, focusing on instant runoff voting. Prior to his current work, he was a member of the Vermont House of Representatives from 1991 to 2001.

Terry was one of the prime drafters of Vermont's campaign finance reform law. Elected on the Progressive Party ticket, he was one of only a handful of third-party state representatives in the U. S. Prior to his election to the Vermont House, he served ten years on the Burlington City Council, where he was elected Council President for one term. He was recently on the state board of the League of Women Voters of Vermont. Terry is an expert parliamentarian, with a degree in political science from Middlebury College.

As a side interest Terry is also a swing dance teacher.

ANNUAL MEETING

On Wednesday evening, May 17th, we will gather at the home of Mabel Buttolph for our Annual Meeting. There is important business to be conducted, but this is also a time for good food and socializing. We will have a Salad Potluck Dinner, and guests are cordially invited. See full details in next month's Voter.

Please save the following information and bring it to the Annual Meeting:

- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Report of the Budget Committee
- Suggested Program for 2006-2007
- Minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting