



Moving into summer...

LWVPA 2017–2018 Planning Retreat

“A huge thank you to the best all-volunteer LWVPA Board yet!” says Barbara Kaufman, Board President. Board members met on June 10th at the Yarmouth Public Library to work out the details of our 2017/18 calendar. First, however, we aligned our work with the LWVME new strategic plan and then appropriately edited the goals approved at the annual meeting in May. Board members created a committee organizational plan which will allow us to implement these goals. The draft calendar, revised goals, and the committee structure will make their way to the web soon! Please [check in](#) during the summer to see how YOU can best focus your volunteer energy.

And, please join the LWVPA Board for its September 14 meeting at Martin’s Point at 5:30. You’ll get more information in early September.

4th Annual LWVPA Meeting Highlights



At the May

11th Annual Meeting, LWVPA president Barbara Kaufman (center) introduces guest speakers **Jane Field** (right), Executive Director of the Maine Council of Churches, and **Ann Luther** (left), chair of the LWVME Advocacy Committee and LWVME treasurer. The speakers

reviewed the work their organizations are doing to further democracy and civil discourse.

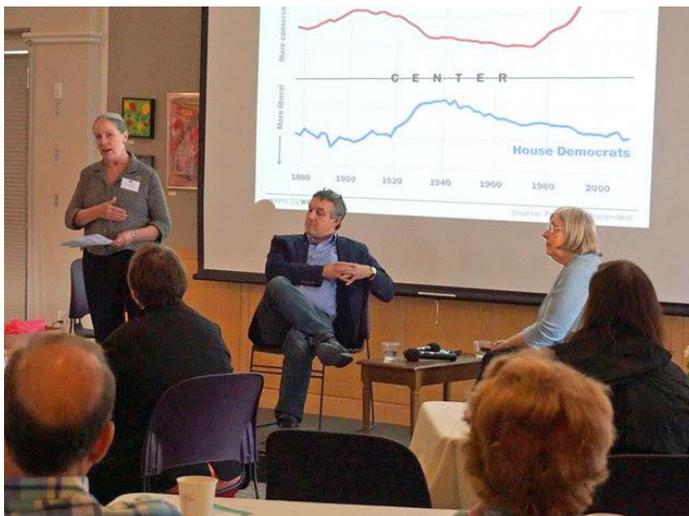
The Maine Council of Churches represents 9 denominations but “acts as one voice to advocate for the disenfranchised, the downtrodden and the protection of God’s creation”. Jane Field described working with such a diverse group of members as well as with a wide range of other organizations to meet MCC goals of promoting civil discourse, economic justice, environmental justice and human rights. Begun in 1938, MCC spreads its message today by working with partner organizations throughout the state, volunteers and parishioners in 550 churches. Visit their [website](#) here.

LWVPA members know a bit about the LWVME Advocacy Committee work through the “Under the Dome” emails that have been reporting on League advocacy work during this very packed 128th Legislative session with [many bills being supported and opposed by the LWVME](#). Ann provided us with more detail on how the Committee works and ways in which we can participate.

The highlight of the evening was bestowing the Emily Farley Foundation award on a very surprised Ann Luther (right). Ann’s many accomplishments and personal attributes mentioned during the award ceremony illustrate that she far exceeds the criteria established for a recipient of the EFF award. Check out the [EFF](#) section of our website for the award criteria and Ann's accomplishments.



Maine State Convention Highlights



LWVPA was strongly represented at the Maine State Convention in Brunswick on May 20th, with many new members actively participating in the Convention. In the morning we listened to a lively discussion of *Political Polarization* by Theda Skocpol and Colin Woodard.

In the afternoon Ann Luther received another award! This was followed by a panel discussion on “Fake News and the Informed Citizen” featuring Irwin Gratz, Producer and anchor of Maine Public’s

Morning Edition, and Judith Meyer, Executive Editor of the Sun Journal. President Jill Ward then managed to efficiently move members through votes on the budget, goals, and other program planning details.

Photo: Ann Luther introduces Colin Woodard and Theda Skocpol

Dates to Note on Your Calendars

Board meetings for the 2017/18 year will continue to be on the second Thursday of the month. The next planned meeting will be at 5:30 on September 14th at Martin's Point Health Center.

2017 Voter Registration

LWVME volunteers have participated in eleven Naturalization Ceremonies this calendar year, and have registered 180 new citizens to vote following their ceremony. In addition, we now ask new voters if they would like to receive a reminder to vote in the next election. For this year's June election, we sent out text messages and email reminders to 22 new voters.

Are you are looking to get more involved? [*Click here for a list of ways to make a difference.*](#)