



Countdown to Spring Events...

Facilitator Training Part I and Part II

“Facilitating Community Conversations” was, not surprisingly, a very successful March 2nd event with fifteen people participating in a lively training and conversation. We talked about facilitation skills, communications skills, and dealing with unruly people. In fact, we ran out of time and all the participants asked for another session to allow more time to practice the new skills. The Part II session will use a fictional community profile to conduct a mock community meeting where we will practice reframing and neutralizing challenging conversations. We hope to see all the “veterans” of the Part I training at the Part II session.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 29th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

WHERE: Martin’s Point Jewell Room (same as part I)

Bring your dinner or snacks to share and rsvp to tiffgreco@gmail.com .

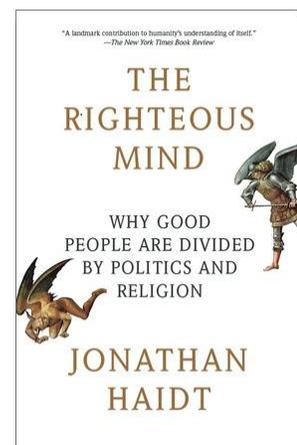
This training event will be held in lieu of the March 29th Westbrook Community Conversation that was announced in the February newsletter. Look forward to announcements of more on Community Conversations in the future.

Next Book Discussion: The Righteous Mind

WHEN: Thursday, April 20, 2017 from 12–1 PM, bring lunch!

WHERE: Portland Public Library, Congress Street

Join the LWVPA and Portland Public Library as we discuss Jonathan Haidt’s [*The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion*](#). This book offers many insights that complement issues raised at the facilitator training sessions and furthers understanding of the LWVPA’s focus on civil discourse. A look at this [NYT review](#) is sure to encourage you to join the discussion. No need to have read the book to participate.



Other Dates to Note on Your Calendars

Friday–Sunday, April 7–9 New England States Leadership Development Conference.

Details and registration materials available at <http://lwwme.org/Quad.html>

Thursday, April 13, 2017 Next LWVPA Board Meeting

from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at DiMillo's Restaurant, Long Wharf, Portland

Thursday, May 11, 2017 LWVPA Annual Meeting

From 5:30 to 7:30 pm at American Legion, Falmouth

Guest speaker and agenda will be announced in April.

Friday–Saturday, May 19–20, 2017 LWVME Biennial State Convention

Details soon to be announced at <http://lwwme.org/calendar.html>

2017 Voter Registration

Good news! Our LWVME applied for and was accepted for a grant from LWV, to help expand our efforts to register new citizens as voters in 2017. We are excited about the possibilities and will be looking for your ideas soon. Stay tuned!

We have had three Naturalization Ceremonies this year, and registered 36 new citizens to vote. There are six ceremonies scheduled through May, so volunteers will receive an email soon about helping with those events. To volunteer for future ceremonies, contact Peg Balano at peg.balano@gmail.com.

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