

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ® OF THE FAIRFAX AREA

BULLETIN

Founded in 1925

Meeting Continuously Since 1946

October 2006

4026 Hummer Road #214 Annandale, Virginia 22003

Volume 59 Issue 2



Juries in Virginia

This follow-up program will focus on the operation of the state jury system in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax & Prince William County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. The federal district court in Alexandria will also be covered.

LWVLC/LWVFA are sponsoring a 10th District Congressional Candidates Forum at the Dulles Hyatt, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., off Route 28 near the airport at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 17, 2006.

What's On The Ballot (WTOB) can be found where page 9 & 10 would normally be in this Bulletin.

	Calendar					
October						
01	Kingstowne Library Day (Outreach)					
02	o					
03						
07	Briefing Jury System (Upper Conf. Room)					
09	Columbus Day/Schools Closed/U.S. Sen. Debate					
9-12	Unit Meetings - Jury System					
10 Voter Registration (Last Day)						
17	LWVLC/LWVFA 10th Dist. Cong. Forum					
18	Board Meeting/Nov. UC Letter Deadline					
21	RCC Election					
22	UN Program, Sherwood Library					
23	Voters Guide Published					
24	United Nations Day					
30 - Nov	7 Voters Service Phones					
31	Halloween					
Novem	ber (Important Dates)					
01	Dec Bulletin Deadline					
04	Briefing Redistricting (Large Conf. Room)					
6-7	Schools Closed					
07	Election Day					
8,9,13,1	8,9,13,14 Units Redistricting Consensus					
10	Veterans Day					
14	14 Sequoyah Condo Election					
15	Board Meeting/ Briefing for Dec Units					

Dec. UC Letter Deadline

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President's Letter

WOW, what a month September was! We had a very successful Units' Kick-Off meeting, staffed an outreach event in Burke, invigorating discussions on Virginia's "Proposed Marriage Amendment" at the unit meetings the following week, attended LWVVA Training Workshops in Charlottesville and staffed outreach events in Centreville & Reston and at the GMU Service Fair, and ran the election for Channel 10 (F.C.A.C.). After the board meeting, I took another vacation but I was back in time to participate in the Fall for Fairfax outreach event at the end of the month!

AND we held a Debate for the 11th Congressional District candidates. Many thanks to moderator **Anne Kanter**, **Channel 10** for taping and broadcasting and to **John Jennison** and the Federation for much help.

So, on to October which looks to be just as active and interesting. Two more candidate events: **October 9**, at **8 PM**, the LWVVA-sponsored U.S. Senate Debate which should be broadcast on PBS stations in Virginia; and **October 17**, **7 - 9 PM**, for the 10th Congressional District Candidates' Forum, cosponsored with LWV of Loudoun Co. I hope to see **many of you** there – the district includes part of Fairfax & Prince William Counties, all of Loudoun and the City of Manassas. The event will be held at the Dulles Hyatt Hotel, off Route 28 near the airport.

Other events include outreach at the Kingstowne Library on Oct.1, Reston Community Center (RCC) Board of Governors Preference Poll on Oct. 21st and on Oct. 22nd – a special program on the UN, sponsored by LWVFA, at the Sherwood Library at 2 PM.

The Fall 2006 What's On The Ballot? is out-your copy is in this Bulletin. Oct. 10th is the last day to register to vote in the November election and the 2006 Voters Guide will be published in the Connection Newspapers the week of the 23rd, as well as being on our website (www.lwv-fairfax.org). Note: Our website also links to the state and national League websites. And don't forget unit meetings for October! The subject is a follow-up to our "Juries" topic of June; we will examine the jury systems in Fairfax City & County and in Prince William. See you there!



LWVVA NEWS



At their meeting on August 19, 2006 the board agreed to cooperate with the Library Association of Virginia to urge all libraries to make a room with internet coverage of the

General Assembly available for patrons to view the Senate in action each day while they are in session. More information on this project was given at the action workshop in September. Cheryl Graeve, LWVUS Staff Director for Organization, was one of the presenters for the membership workshop on September 16, 2006. Mary Houska, of Montgomery County LWV was appointed budget chair for 2007-09, with Jean Sagan, Marge Cox and Lulu Meese (exofficio) as members of committee.

The board also agreed the April 28-29 Convention will be held at the Episcopal Conference Center in Richmond. Many hotels including the Jefferson were considered but the costs per night were too high. Each room at the Conference Center will have a view of the James River and beautiful grounds. Cost will be \$124 per double room, and food is reasonably priced. Thirty-five rooms have been reserved for our use.

The General Assembly Pre-Session meeting will be held on December 6, at the Patrick Henry Building in Richmond from 9:30 am to 12:30 PM with luncheon to follow. The training session "Running & Winning" in Norfolk, has been postponed until the first weekend in January, 2007.

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This newsletter is published 10 times from September to June each year by the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, 4026 Hummer Road, Suite 214, Annandale, VA 22003. Subscriptions to the newsletter are available **only** to other than Fairfax League members for \$15.00 per annum. Send your check to the above address and request a subscription.

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Board Notes

Lavinia Voss

At the August 16, 2006, board meeting, **Leslie Vandivere** and **Lavinia Voss** were appointed as the two board members to serve on the nominating committee. The board, after reviewing the LWVFA Nonpartisan Policy, adopted the 12/20/05 version for this year; it appears in it's entirety elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

Program Co-Director **Rona Ackerman** updated the board on a grant from LWVUS for a program on the United Nations in the People Speak Series. It will be held at Sherwood Library on October 22, at 2:00 pm. Call 703-765-3645 to reserve your seat.

The board approved Action Director **Jane Hilder's** action proposal, to oppose passage of the Proposed Marriage Amendment to the VA Constitution. Two Action Alert emails were sent out to all members on August 16 and September 11, 2006, explaining how they could accomplish this successfully.

Discussion followed on who would be attending the LWVVA workshops on September 16 in Charlottes-ville and the registration form was completed and sent in for all attendees. Fall Kick-off plans were discussed. Set-up will be at 9:30 AM at the Mason District Government Center on September 9, 2006.

 Sherry Zachry and Lavinia Voss attended a lunch meeting at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Chantilly on August 24, 2006. Sharon Lynn from the Fairfax County Agency on Aging was there. Both Zachry and Lynn spoke on what issues were coming up in the election that impacts seniors lives.



Erecting historical roadside markers was started in 1927 and by 1931 more than 1,000 of them stood on Virginia highways. Many more than in any other state.

Source: Virginia Living June 06

Unit News

We are sorry to report both Jean Hill (GSV) and Elizabeth Mark (HHE) lost their husbands dur-

ing the summer. Each had been suffering from Alzheimer's for some time, cared for at home by their wives; and both passed away suddenly. Our thoughts go out to the two of them at this sad time. Olga Hernandez (CHD) is home after recent surgery. Connie Houston (VID) is relaxing after her daughter's wedding in August.



We are adding a teak bench to the site of the historical roadside marker outside the Griffith Water Treatment Plant on Rte. 123 in Lorton. A brass plaque on the back of the bench will honor some League members, who

are no longer with us, starting with Janet Hays, Dottie Ganahl and Carol Steere. It will be similar to the one shown here. If you or your unit would like to contribute to this project, please send your check to the office, specify it is for the bench and list any other past member's name that you would like recognized on the plaque. Please do this by mid-November as we would like to get the bench installed before winter weather is upon us. Thank you.



The final test of a leader is that she leaves behind in other women the conviction and the will to carry on.

Walter Lippmann

The Nominating Committee is looking for a few leaders for the 2007-09 board of directors. Are **YOU** up to the challenge? Are **YOU** one of them? Let us

hear from **YOU**! Call Dianne Blais at 703-830-1998 or email <u>dianneblais@aol.com</u>

The mark of a good book is it changes every time you read it.

Anderson Cooper

Community Election Projects

Una White 703-922-8721 unawhite@earthlink.net

We completed the first community election of the fall season with **Fairfax Cable** on September 17, 2006. Thank you to all of you that helped with this one. **RCC** is next, an all day event on Saturday, October 21; lunch is available, if desired. Then it will be the **Sequoyah** on November 14, 2006, an evening event. If you would like to volunteer for either of these projects and haven't signed-up, please contact me to see if help is still needed.





NEWS

On Friday, October 6, 2006, (regular board meeting day) at 11:00 am the Annual President's Brunch will be held in the LWVUS Board Room at 1730 M Street, Washington, DC. Those who would like to make a gift in memory of Francis Gemmill should make the check out to LWVDC and mail it to them.

All interested members are invited to a reception on Friday, October 27, 2006, to meet the new LWVUS Board and the staff at the Sumner School, 17th & M St. from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Cost \$20 each, reservations contact **Andrea Gruhl** listed below by Oct. 14.

LWV-NCA committees: Airports Update: (to be presented at March 2007 unit meetings) Co-Chair: Carol Hawn, 703-266-6872, cahawn@att.net

Clean Air/Power Plants: Contact: Naomi Glass, 202-686-0124, naomisol@juno.com Affordable Housing-Regional: Contact: Melpi Jeffries, 301-530-5452, melpijeffries@msn.com Homeland Security Regional: Chair/contact: Andrea Gruhl, 301-596-5460, andreagruhl@aol.com A DVD of the March 25, 2006, program is now available from Andrea. It provides an overview of the current issues associated with Homeland Security and civil liberties and runs about an hour.

Membership Update

Leslie Vandivere - 703-222-4173 LVandivere@cox.net

Please welcome Mary Cussatt (UAM), who joined at the local level and the following new national members: Luz-Maria Bhanji, Amy George, Jill Manske, Vivian Morgan-Mendez, Denise Rosa, Sara Wachspress.

Does the League have your correct e-mail address? Because the League at all levels is relying more and more on email for communication, we want to make sure that our records are current. We never sell or trade the email addresses of our members, so you can be confidant that this information will not be shared. Further, LWVFA office practice is to shred all documents with member information. If you do not want to receive email communication from the League, please advise the LWVFA office so that your record can be properly annotated.

X

Voters Service

Carol Hawn

(703) 266-6872 or cahawn@att.net

The upcoming November 7, 2006, election will offer a variety of campaigns and issues to bring voters to the polls. Voters Service wants to ensure that the educational materials are in place for everyone to make informed decisions prior to going to the polls.

Our Fall 2006 Voters' Guide will again be published in all editions of The Connection Newspapers the week of October 23, 2006. It reaches most households in Fairfax County. We are also looking for volunteers to staff the LWVFA telephone for ten days leading up to the election. This is done from your home, on a one day at a time basis, with call forwarding. You receive instructions prior to your day.

In October, we will begin review and proofreading of our signature voter education effort, the 2007 Facts for Voters. If you would like to volunteer and there is not a sign-up sheet at your October unit meeting, contact me at the above email or telephone.

If you need additional copies of *What's On The Ballot (WTOB)* please contact me. The LWVFA *WTOB* is included in this *Bulletin*, the PWA Unit has created their own *WOTB*, however, it was not completed at press time. But will be available on the LWVFA website in October.

Each year, the LWVFA Board reviews and re-adopts a nonpartisan policy. The following was approved for 2006-2007. (Printed in *LWVFA Policies and Procedures*.)

LWVFA NONPARTISAN POLICY

The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues. The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan in that it does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. However, it does take action on public issues based on positions reached by member agreement.

While the League urges its members to be politically active as individuals, board members' activities must be limited to preserve the League's nonpartisan position. Only to the extent that the public and its elected officials are convinced of the League's genuine nonpartisanship will the League be able to render effective voters service and gain a wide base of support for its positions on government issues.

All members are expected to keep their League activity and their political activity, both partisan and nonpartisan, completely separate and distinct. For example, at League-sponsored activities and meetings, members may not discuss partisan political matters, distribute partisan information or petitions or display campaign buttons or insignia for a candidate or a political party. They should not display League bumper stickers or signs along side those for partisan political candidates.

The LWVFA shall not elect or appoint to the board any member who has, within the prior six-month period, held or run for an elective political office. Board members shall not run for or hold elective office. Any member who declares for such an office must resign from the board.

Public notices released by the League announcing the resignation of a board member to run for political office should be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning board member's candidacy.

The president(s); voters service, action, public relations directors; and all board and off-board directors and committee chairs who regularly testify for or represent the League publicly shall not participate in any political campaign or political party activity. They may attend informational political meetings and campaign/party events in a non-

leadership capacity; make financial contributions in an inconspicuous way; perform administrative or clerical work in a campaign office; attend nominating meetings in the absence of primaries; and serve as election officials.

Other board members may participate in political activity only if it is done in an inconspicuous, non-public manner which would not cause them to be identified publicly as supporting any candidate for public office or any political party.

No board member may hold an official position in any party organization or in any organization whose purpose is to endorse candidates for political office; chair or administer fund raising or political campaigns; chair campaign events; sign political endorsement ads or write candidate support letters to be published in the local press; or work in a conspicuous way in the campaign of a candidate.

A board member may serve on any public board, commission, committee, or coalition; however, that member does not represent the League unless officially designated as the League representative by the board.

No member may not speak or in any way work against a League position.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the board member.

Board members who have any doubts about appropriate activities should request a decision from the board at its next meeting.

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the incoming board.

Revised 12/2005



Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.

Sir Richard Steele

Random Questions and Answers From the Unit Officers Wrap-up

Much feedback was received at the Units' Wrap-up meeting in June. The Board discussed it at their Retreat and responded to the concerns. Following are highlights of the feedback with very brief answers, indicated by a **.

Several members acknowledged that LWVFA no longer has the committees working on program we once had. Despite this, they felt the quality of the programs has been extremely high but did ask; are we spreading ourselves too thin? (1.) Is it possible for an individual unit to skip a meeting topic? *We've agreed not to do this. (2.) Is global warming an issue that has been considered for local program? *No one has suggested it so bring it up at program planning at December unit meetings. (3.) Is there any info that tells us where and how active members are joining the League and when? %No. (4.) Do we really need Action chairs? While we continue to have members without E-mail, there is still a job for them to do. (5.) Can we put discussion questions in the Bulletin? * The two or three people who are creating the program have all they can do to get the program ready by the Bulletin print deadline, discussion questions usually come much later. (6.) How do we find out how testimony is decided upon and where can we get copies of it? * Contact the office for help here. (7.) If program information was sent to units at least six weeks ahead of meeting, individual units could do some local publicity. * We will try to implement this. (8.) Why don't we change our name? * This comes up at every LWVUS convention, and is defeated. "LWV" is widely known and members don't want to loose that recognition..

The rest of the questions, were a little more complex to answers here. What happens after we study something? People would like action to come out of study. Please relate program to positions. We think that no changes are needed for unit officers. System works fine. Blogging would appeal to younger members. Sometimes the Fairfax League seems too structured.

If you have questions, please call or email the office at lwvfa@ecoisp.com or lwvfa@aol.com



Action Faction

Jane Hilder, Action Director jc.hilder@verizon.net 703-960-6820

The Virginia General Assembly is currently scheduled to meet in special session September 27 to 29 to deal with transportation and judicial appointments. This is the special session Gov. Kaine requested. The House of Delegates leadership has continued to insist there will be no new taxes to pay for transportation so it will be interesting to see whether anything will be accomplished. Possibly some new funding will come from user fees to pay for some transportation improvements. Another possibility is legislation to allow regional taxes or fees to pay for transportation improvements in specific areas such as Northern Virginia.

The United States Congress came back from summer recess on Sept. 5. Another attempt to authorize drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was anticipated. Everyone should be watching for and responding to Action Alerts from LWVUS on this issue. Those of you on the LWVUS Action Alert network may receive two notices—one from LWVUS and one forwarded by LWVFA. Please respond to one of them and delete the second after making sure the Alert is dealing with the same issue. Just be sure to ACT when asked!

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors came back from their August break to deal with the year-end review of the county's 2006 budget. County Executive Tony Griffin recommended that \$24 million of the surplus be carried over into next year's budget to help cushion the county from the effects of the slowing real estate market and flat assessments.

In addition to the carryover amount, Griffin recommended allocating \$31.55 million as part of the 2006 year-end review. This would include additional funding for the FCPS No Child Left Behind initiatives, for planning and transportation studies to guide redevelopment, for the county reserve fund, for environmental improvement projects, and for four outreach teams to help provide health care to homeless people not in shelters. Review of the Community Services Board's mental health program and development of programs to prevent gang violence were also recommended for funding. The Board held a public hearing Sept. 11 to solicit public input on the allocation of the budget carryover.

Reaching a Verdict: Serving on a Jury in Virginia

Committee Members: Rona Ackerman, Pat Brady, Judy Leader, Therese Martin, Lois Page, Arthur Rosen, Inta Sraders

Introduction

One of the most valuable services that a citizen can perform is to be a juror. Because the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to a jury trial in criminal and civil cases, citizen participation in juries is a critical part of our justice system. The discussions at the LWVFA June Unit Meetings raised many questions about how jury systems in Virginia actually work. Therefore, this follow-up program focuses on the operation of the Virginia jury system, particularly in the Fairfax County and Prince William County Circuit Courts, and in the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

The Court System in Brief

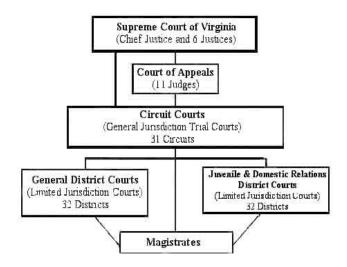
There are two judicial systems in the United States. One is the federal system created by Congress under the authority of the U.S. Constitution. The other, for the District of Columbia and the 50 states, is established under the authority of the various state governments. The authority of the federal courts is enumerated in the Constitution (Article III, § 2). It includes all cases arising under the Constitution and federal laws, such as cases in which the U.S. Government or one of its officers is being sued or is suing someone; controversies between states and between citizens of different states; and cases involving treaties and foreign governments. The state courts handle most criminal matters and the bulk of legal business, including commercial contracts, probate of estates, and marital matters.

In the **federal** court system, the Supreme Court is the top level. On the next level are the 12 (Circuit) Courts of Appeals and the U.S. Court for Military Appeals; Virginia is covered by the 4th Circuit Court. On the next level are the 94 Federal District Courts that are the trial courts of the federal court system. Fairfax and Prince William Counties are served by the Federal Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, located in the city of Alexandria. There are four other court locations in the Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk, Fredericksburg, Newport News, and Richmond.

The structure of the Virginia court system is reflected

in the following diagram. Jury trials are heard only in the circuit courts.

The Virginia Court System



Fairfax County and Fairfax City comprise the 19th circuit; Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park comprise the 31st circuit. Although the circuit court judges are Virginia employees, the circuit court staff are county employees, and their salaries and other administrative costs of running the court and its jury management system are included in the county budgets. For example, the Fairfax County Advertised Budget for 2007 gave the average cost per juror as slightly less than \$50 in 2005.

Types of Cases

Criminal cases are those in which individuals or organizations are charged by the state or federal government with breaking criminal laws. Typical criminal charges in a federal court are those involving the violation of the federal income tax and narcotics laws, mail theft, and counterfeiting. In the state courts, typical charges are shoplifting and drunk driving, which are misdemeanors; and murders, rapes and robberies, which are felonies. Convictions result in jail time, fines, and/or restitution.

Criminal cases filed in 2005*:

Fairfax (19th Circuit) 4,751

Prince William (31st Circuit) 3,451

Civil cases are suits between persons over their rights and duties; e.g., a dispute over a broken contract. Typical remedies include: enforcing contracts, issuing injunctions, and/or ordering monetary judgments. **Federal** courts have exclusive jurisdiction in specialized areas such as bankruptcy and maritime cases, among others; **state** courts handle divorce, disputes about wills, and controversies about property, among others.

Civil Cases filed in 2005*:
Fairfax (19th Circuit) 13,828
Prince William (31st Circuit) 3,859

Types of Juries

There are two types of juries: grand juries and petit juries. A grand jury decides if there is probable cause to indict (accuse) individuals or corporations on criminal charges for felonies (discussed later in this study). The focus of this program is petit (trial) juries, which participate in criminal and civil trials and render verdicts of guilty or not guilty.

The Right to a Jury Trial

Amendment VI to the U.S. Constitution guarantees all defendants in all <u>criminal</u> prosecutions the right to a jury trial in the state and district where the crime was committed. Amendment VII preserves the right of trial by jury for defendants in a <u>civil</u> trial. There is a presumption against waiving the fundamental right to a jury trial, which can only be done if the party knowingly, intentionally and voluntarily waives the right to a jury trial. Waiver may be requested either orally at arraignment (when a criminal defendant must plea either guilty or not guilty) or in writing.

In **Virginia**, Article I, § 8 of the Virginia Constitution guarantees the right to a jury trial in <u>criminal</u> cases. Article I, § 11 of the Virginia Constitution states that trial by jury is preferable in <u>civil</u> cases and the right should be held sacred. Under Virginia law (§ 8.01-336), the case may be heard and the judgment given by the court (judge) if both parties and the court agree.

Obviously, if a criminal defendant pleads guilty or agrees to a plea bargain agreement, or if a civil defendant agrees to a civil settlement, there will be no jury trial. Also, if a person charged with a crime fails to appear for trial, he/she shall be deemed to have waived trial by jury and the case will be heard in his absence as if he/she had pled not guilty.

In 2005, 104 criminal cases went to jury trial in Fairfax Circuit Court, while 70 went to jury trial in Prince William Circuit Court. In that same year, 143 civil cases went to jury trial in Fairfax, while only 26 went to jury trial in Prince William.

The Jury Pool

Jury Pool Source Lists: The Jury Selection and Service Act (Jury Act), 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1861 et seq., provides the judicial structure for the selection of **federal** juries and establishes two important general principles: random selection of potential jurors from a fair cross section of the community; and opportunity for all qualified citizens to be considered for jury service. The list of prospective jurors summoned for a particular term of a court is called the venire. In the **Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia**, the venire is chosen from a jury pool generated by a random selection of citizen's names from lists of registered voters, or combined lists of voters and people with driver's licenses.

In **Virginia** courts, the venire is randomly selected using lists designated by the courts. Fairfax and Prince William currently use only voter registration lists, which are updated annually. Fairfax previously tried to use lists from the Department of Motor Vehicles as well but found that the number of inaccurate addresses was an impediment.

Jury Pool Creation: Before potential **federal** jurors are summoned for service, they receive questionnaires to complete and return to the clerk's office, which then screens them to determine eligibility for jury service. The Clerk's Office uses a statistical process to establish certain percentages of each county or city represented in the jury pool to try to ensure that the jury pool is representative.

In **Virginia**, also, questionnaires are sent to prospective jurors. In 2005, Fairfax sent 44,408 and Prince William sent 11,000 questionnaires to prospective

jurors. In Fairfax, they can be completed on-line. The completed questionnaires are reviewed by jury commissioners to determine which citizens will serve as jurors during the coming year.

Role of the Jury Commission in Virginia

Under the Virginia Code (§ 8.01-343), the judge of each circuit court appoints, by July 1 of each year, between two and fifteen persons to serve as jury commissioners for the following year. Those appointed must be competent to serve as jurors and "shall be citizens of intelligence, morality, and integrity." No practicing attorney-at-law can serve as a jury commissioner, and no jury commissioner can be reappointed for at least three years after the expiration of the year for which he was appointed. Using random selection techniques—either manual, mechanical or electronic—the jury commissioners select the persons whose names will be placed on the master jury list. Then, the list is reviewed and the names of those who, according to statute, cannot serve are removed.

Jury Commissions are not used in federal court.

Eligibility for Jury Service:

To be legally qualified for **federal** jury service, an individual must:

- be a United States citizen;
- be at least 18 years of age;
- reside primarily in the judicial district for one year;
- be able to read, write and speak the English language with sufficient mastery;
- be physically and mentally capable of service;
- not be currently subject to felony charges;
- and never have been convicted of a felony unless civil rights have been legally restored.

The following three groups are exempt from **federal** jury service: (1) members of the armed forces on active duty; (2) members of professional fire and police departments; and (3) "public officers" of federal, state or local governments, who are actively engaged full-time in the performance of public duties. Persons belonging to these groups may not serve on **federal** juries, even if they so desire. Also, under **federal** law, a person cannot be required to serve on jury duty more often than once every two years.

In Virginia, a juror must meet the federal qualifications and be a resident of Virginia and the locality for at least 6 months, and not be incompetent or incapacitated. The Virginia Code exempts the following from jury service: the President and Vice President of the United States; the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General of Virginia; members of both houses of Congress; members of the General Assembly while in session or entitled to a legislative continuance; licensed practicing attorneys; judges and members of several state commissions; magistrates; sheriffs, police and other law enforcement officers; penitentiary and jail officers. Persons who have been called and reported to any state court for jury duty during the previous three years are also exempt.

Excuses and Deferrals: In addition to exemptions, both **federal** and **Virginia** courts allow excuses from service, upon individual request, to designated groups of persons or occupational classes. Such groups include: persons over age 70; persons who have, within the past two years, served on a **federal** jury; and persons who serve as volunteer fire fighters or members of a rescue squad or ambulance crew. Individuals may also be excused if they are blind or have a medical condition that would impede jury service.

The Jury Act allows **federal** courts to permanently excuse or temporarily defer a juror from service at the time he or she is summoned on the grounds of "undue hardship or extreme inconvenience," among other reasons. Temporary deferrals for jurors are granted at the discretion of the court and cannot be reviewed or appealed to Congress or any other entity.

In **Virginia**, the list of persons who may be excused from jury service upon request is lengthy and includes those whose services are so essential to the operations of an enterprise that it must close or cease to function if the person is required to perform jury duty. The courts may defer any person from jury service for a particular term of a court, or limit that person's service to particular dates of that term, if serving on a jury would cause such person a particular occupational inconvenience. However, once the "occupational inconvenience" has ended, the deferral will end.

<u>Failure to Appear</u>: In **Virginia**, any juror who has been given due notice to appear in court and fails to do so without sufficient excuse will be fined between \$50

and \$200. In **federal** cases, a person could be escorted to the courthouse by a deputy U.S. marshal to explain to a judge why he/she did not report and could also be fined up to \$100 or imprisoned for up to three days or both.

Length of Jury Service

Jurors in **federal** court are "on call" for two weeks, during which they call the recorded telephone message each day to learn whether they need to report to the courthouse the following day. They rarely need to report to the courthouse every day of their two-week term of service. Once selected for a jury, a juror must serve until the conclusion of the trial, even if it lasts longer than two weeks. If the trial ends before the conclusion of the two-week term of jury service, the juror is excused from further service. The average trial lasts one to three days.

In Virginia, the number of jury duty notices mailed to make up the jury pool for each term of the court depends on the anticipated need for jurors for that term. Each term in Fairfax normally lasts two weeks. Jurors are assigned to a particular day of the week and are asked to call a recorded message (or check the court website) on the evening before their assigned day to determine whether they are needed. A formula is used to ensure that a sufficient number of jurors are available for each case. The average number of jurors called each day for jury selection was 67.2 in 2005. Until 1992, jurors in Fairfax were on call one day a week for 8 weeks. This had a negative impact on jurors' employment and personal lives and was changed to the current two-week term. Normally, jurors are required to appear one time or for one trial during their term of service. The term and jury management process provide, in effect, a one day/one trial system.

In **Prince William**, a term of the court is a two-month period, beginning the first Monday of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Prior to each term of the court, 900 jurors are summoned to serve for a portion of the two-month term--for example, all Mondays of February. A juror is only asked to serve on a specific day of the week for one month. As in the other courts, jurors call the jury recording the evening before their assigned day to determine if they are needed the next day. On average, jurors will be required to come in for jury duty only two days out of the time period assigned.

Environment

At the present time in **Fairfax**, the jurors' assembly room is next to the cafeteria in the Jennings Courthouse. In recent years, amenities such as a fax machine, free local telephone lines, wireless Internet access, a microwave and a refrigerator have been added to the existing tables and chairs. The **Prince William** jury assembly room has a fax machine, a television, a refrigerator, coffee, and a microwave, and will soon be adding tables to the existing room. After the jury is selected, a small room off the courtroom is made available to jurors to use for their deliberations and if/when sent from the court during special legal queries.

Both **federal** and **state** court facilities are accessible to those who are physically handicapped. In **Fairfax**, all courtrooms will be ADA accessible once the current renovation is complete; currently, if a juror requires special seating, the case is assigned to a compliant courtroom.

In **federal** court, no type of camera or cell phone is permitted in the courtroom. In **Fairfax** and **Prince William**, the public is not allowed to carry cell phones with cameras into the courthouse. Other cell phones must be turned off.

Juror Pay and Time Off From Work

In **federal** court, jurors are paid a taxable attendance fee of \$40 for each day they report to the courthouse. Employees of the **federal** government are not entitled to be paid for attendance in **federal** court unless they are in a non-pay status. All jurors are reimbursed for travel expenses. Jurors in **Virginia** are reimbursed \$30 for each day they report to the courthouse. The amount is set by the legislature and is considered reimbursement for travel and other expenses.

Federal and Virginia law protect all permanent employees who serve on juries from discharge or adverse action, as long as they have given reasonable notice of their court appearance or summons to their employer. They cannot be required to take sick leave or vacation time. Employers who fire, threaten to fire, intimidate or coerce an employee who wishes to serve his/her jury duty, may be prosecuted. In Virginia, any employer convicted of violating these provisions is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor. While the private employer does not have to pay the employee while he serves, most do, either in full, or with the amount of

juror pay deducted from the juror's regular wages.

Orientation

In federal court, the jury clerk provides prospective jurors with a jury handbook that describes how the jury system operates, how trials are conducted, the role of jurors and other matters related to juror service. The clerk gives jurors a brief orientation on topics such as: payment process, certificates of attendance, parking and Metro reimbursement, etc. Information is also provided on the court website.

In **Fairfax**, prospective jurors may watch a televised orientation program featuring judges on Channel 16 prior to their service and in the jury assembly room. In both **Virginia** courts, prospective jurors are also instructed about their role as jurors and what they should and should not do while in the courthouse and while serving on a jury. The state and local court websites provide information about jury selection and service as well.

Juries impaneled in 2005*:	
Fairfax (19th Circuit)	259
Prince William (31st Circuit)	66

Impaneling the Jury

The process for impaneling a jury is much the same in both **federal** and **Virginia** courts. When potential jurors arrive at the courthouse, their identity number is scanned into the jury management system, which is used to randomly create the jury panels to be sent to the courtrooms. In **Prince William**, the assignments are made the night before and processed the day of the trial.

The panel of prospective jurors is first led to a reception area outside the courtroom and is then called into the courtroom (20 for criminal cases and either 11 or 13 in civil cases). In criminal trials, alternate jurors may be chosen to take the place of jurors who become ill during the trial. The alternates sit with the jurors throughout the trial and will not be excused until the jury retires to decide the case. The panel members are sworn to answer questions about their qualifications to sit as jurors in the case. In criminal cases, twelve jurors are selected in felony cases and seven are selected in misdemeanor cases. In civil cases, five jurors are selected when the amount involved does not exceed \$15,000; seven are selected in other civil cases. The numbers are prescribed in the Federal Rules relating to criminal and civil procedure and the Virginia Code.

At the outset of the impaneling, the judge delivers preliminary instructions that: (1) explain the purpose of *voir dire*; (2) explain the difference between peremptory challenges and removals for cause; (3) summarize the nature of the case; (4) estimate how long the trial may last; and (5) indicate whether it is anticipated that the jury will be sequestered.

Voir Dire

The judge will then conduct the "voir dire" ("to see to speak"), which is the process of interviewing potential jurors to assess their ability to decide a case fairly and impartially. During voir dire, the judge will attempt to weed out those whom he/she deems unsuitable. The judge will explain the nature of the case; give the names of the parties and their attorneys; and ask prospective jurors if they are related to anyone in the case; have any financial or other interest in the outcome of the case; or have formed an opinion or have any personal bias or prejudice that will affect their decision in the case. The attorneys for each side may also ask questions. Any potential juror having knowledge of the case should explain this to the judge, in front of the group or privately.

Parties on either side in a case may ask that a member of the panel be exempted from service on a particular jury. These requests are called challenges. Any person may be challenged for cause if the examination shows he or she might be prejudiced. The judge will determine if the cause raised in the challenge is sufficient. After the judge has completed his determinations, the clerk compiles a list and gives it to the attorneys. In a criminal case, each side removes three names from the list without a need for a reason. These are called "peremptory challenges," a legal right giving both sides some choice in the make-up of a jury. In **Virginia** courts, each side alternatively removes one person from the panel until the number required for a jury is reached.

In **federal** court, a juror biographical report is prepared consisting of the following information: name, city and zip, date of birth, gender and race, occupation and employer, education, marital status and spouse's occupation, number of children. This is provided to the attorneys. However, anonymous juries are used in cases involving notorious criminal defendants with a history of violence or intimidation against witnesses or

jurors. In **Virginia**, attorneys are provided with a list of potential jurors, which includes names, addresses, and occupations. After a jury is selected, the court in Fairfax does not retain a paper copy of this information but only the list of jurors' names for the trial.

Change of Venue and Venire

In **federal** and **Virginia** courts, if the trial judge believes that an impartial jury panel cannot be obtained locally, e.g., because of extraordinary pretrial publicity in a high profile case, he/she may order a change of venue to another judicial district or circuit, upon the request of the defendant. A change in venire occurs when the jury list is obtained from another district or circuit and these non-resident prospective jurors are transported from their own community into the original court for juror selection.

Instructions to the Jury

After *voir dire* and prior to impaneling the jury, the court gives jurors preliminary instructions as to how the trial will proceed for the rest of the day. The instructions go into detail regarding how each step in the trial process will work. These preliminary instructions and the written instructions (see "Charge to Jury" below) cover the jury's role, trial procedures, nature and evaluation of evidence, and legal terms and principles.

In **Virginia**, the jury may take notes and are given legal pads and pencils, which are returned to the court at the end of the trial. In **federal** court, jurors may be provided with trial notebooks, depending on the judge, and the length and complicated nature of the trial.

During the Jury Trial

The juror takes an oath to decide the case "upon the law and the evidence." The judge makes the legal determinations. The jury decides the questions of fact, i.e. what really happened in the case, based upon the evidence. The evidence includes the testimony of witnesses and the exhibits admitted in evidence. What evidence is proper for the jury to consider is based upon the law of evidence.

Juror Conduct

Jurors are asked not to discuss the trial with anyone – not even their fellow jurors - until the jury begins its deliberations. They are also asked not to loiter in the corridors or elsewhere in the courthouse to prevent contacts with persons interested in the case. If any outsider attempts to talk with a juror about a case in

which he or she is sitting, the juror should refuse to listen and report the incident to the judge or bailiff. Jurors have the duty to report to the judge any improper behavior by any juror. They also have the duty to inform the judge of any outside communication or improper conduct directed at the jury by any person.

In **federal** court, juries may be sequestered during meals. Except in extraordinary circumstances, juries are allowed to go home at night. In **Virginia**, juries are rarely sequestered overnight during either the trial or the jury deliberations. Instead, the jury is told not to discuss the case with anyone or watch, read or listen to news reports about the case. Reasons for sequestering a jury include: security concerns or media issues in a high profile case.

If there are allegations of juror misconduct, they are handled by the judge in open court and could result in a mistrial. However, jurors can also be struck from the jury for cause and hardship. Dismissal for misconduct is rare in Fairfax.

Jury Deliberations

The Charge to the Jury: Immediately before the closing arguments in the case, the judge gives the jury its instructions. In **Virginia** felony cases, these are both oral and written. Jury instructions tell the jury what the laws are that govern the case. Sometimes the judge may point out or explain what basic facts are in dispute, and what facts do not actually matter in the case. The judge may impartially summarize the evidence bearing on the questions of fact. In lesser offenses, the instructions also cover the punishment to be determined by the jury.

<u>In the Jury Room</u>: In all juries, a foreperson is selected to preside over its deliberations, and to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to participate and that the discussion remains orderly. The judge will advise jurors how to select a foreman.

During its deliberations, the jury decides the facts and applies the facts to the law as instructed by the judge. It is the jury's duty to reach its own conclusion or verdict based upon all the evidence. The verdict is reached without regard to what may be the opinion of the judge as to the facts, though as to the law, the judge's charge controls. Jurors have a duty to give full consideration to the opinions of their fellow jurors and have an obligation to reach a verdict whenever possi-

ble. However, no juror is required to give up any opinion which he or she is convinced is correct. The members of the jury are sworn to pass judgment on the facts in a particular case and violate this oath if they render their decision on the basis of the effect their verdict may have on other situations.

In federal courts, the judge has discretion to make excerpts from the court reporter's transcript available to the jury during deliberations if requested. Jurors in Virginia courts may request admitted exhibits for use during its deliberations but are not always given an exhibit list. If the jury has questions, they are submitted to the judge for consideration. Both the plaintiff/Commonwealth and the defendant have the opportunity to view the question and assist in giving the response to the jury. Generally, however, the court will instruct the jury that they must rely on their collective memory and the evidence they have in the jury room to assist them in their deliberations. If a trial transcript is necessary in a criminal case, one can be done in 24 hours. However, this is very expensive and transcripts are generally not provided to jurors.

Reaching the Verdict: In all courts, the burden of proof in a criminal case is "beyond reasonable doubt." This is the highest possible burden of proof. In contrast, the burden of proof in a civil case is usually a "preponderance of the evidence;" i.e., the plaintiff must merely prove that it is more likely than not that the defendant is liable. In certain types of civil cases, e.g., fraud cases, there is a higher burden of proof: "clear and convincing evidence." Case law interprets what this means in particular cases. In a criminal case, the jury's decision needs to be unanimous. In a civil case in the federal courts, the jury's decision needs to be unanimous, unless instructed otherwise by the court. In Virginia, all jury verdicts must be unanimous.

If there is an apparent impasse in jury deliberations, the judge (in both **federal** and **Virginia** courts) will send the jurors back to deliberate further and encourage them to reach a verdict. The instructions used are required by law and called the "Allen Charge" (named for a court case). If they still cannot reach a verdict, the judge will declare a mistrial.

Occasionally, jurors struggle with their responsibility to the law and what they consider to be fairness or justice. When juries do what they feel is just and ignore the law, it is called jury nullification.

After the Verdict

After the jury reaches its verdict, it writes it down on the form provided and notifies the bailiff. Once back in the courtroom, the clerk will ask for and read the jury's verdict out loud. The jury may be polled.

In **Virginia** civil cases, the jury not only decides on a verdict but also awards damages. That is, if the jury decides that an award of money should be made, it decides the amount, generally at the same time as it issues its verdict.

Jury Sentencing

As of 2004, **Virginia** was one of only six states where the jury determines sentences in non-capital criminal trials. The other states are Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. In lesser misdemeanor cases, the jury sets the punishment along with the verdict. In non-capital felony and other misdemeanor cases, there is a separate proceeding to determine the punishment which is held as soon as practicable before the same jury.

The judge provides the jury with sentencing ranges but may not make state sentencing guideline information available to them. The jury also has the opportunity to review relevant background information about the defendant before pronouncing a sentence. According to the 2005 Annual Report of the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, "Virginia jurors typically have handed down sentences more severe than the recommendations of the sentencing guidelines." Although judges are permitted by law to lower a jury sentence, typically they do not do so.

Jury sentencing in jury trials can be waived only when the jury cannot agree on the punishment or when a sentence has been set aside due to an error in the proceedings. In both instances, the defendant, Commonwealth's attorney, and court must agree to the waiver.

After the Trial

After the jurors return their verdict and are dismissed by the judge, they are free to go about their normal affairs. They are under no obligation to speak to any person about the case and may refuse all requests for interviews or comments. While they are generally free to speak about their views concerning the case, the court may enter an order in a specific case that during any such interview, jurors may not give any information with respect to the vote of any other juror.

Grand Juries

The Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides in part that "(no) person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a ... indictment of a Grand Jury " This clause applies to all felony prosecutions in federal courts. A grand jury hears only the government's side of the case, and decides if there is a probable cause to indict based upon the evidence presented and whether the defendant must stand trial. Federal law requires that a grand jury be selected at random from a fair cross section of the community. The names of prospective grand jurors are drawn from lists of registered voters or lists of actual voters, or other sources when necessary. Persons who are not exempt or excused from service are summoned to appear for duty. The judge will then direct the selection of 23 qualified persons to become the members of the grand jury. Grand jurors in the Federal District Court in Alexandria serve for 6 to 18 months. They generally meet only one to three consecutive days per month.

After the grand jurors have been sworn in, the presiding judge advises the grand jury of its obligations and how best to perform its duties, including the duty to conduct their inquiry without malice, fear, hatred, or other emotion. The law imposes upon each grand juror a strict obligation of secrecy; even the name of the target of the grand jury cannot be disclosed. This protects the grand jurors from pressure by persons (or associates of such persons) who may be subjects or targets of the grand jury. As a result, it prevents the escape of grand jury targets and encourages witnesses before the grand jury to give full and truthful information as to the commission of a crime.

In Virginia, the circuit court also has the authority to impanel grand juries. A grand jury is composed of five to seven citizens of the city or county where the circuit court is located. It is convened at each term of the court for two purposes: (1) to consider indictments prepared by the Commonwealth's Attorney, and (2) to investigate and report concerning any condition which involves or tends to promote criminal activity, either in the community or by any governmental authority, agency, or official.

Members of the grand jury must be citizens of Virginia, suitable in all respects to serve as a grand juror. Between 60 and 120 persons are selected annually by each circuit court to serve as grand jurors during the year. The Clerk of the Circuit Court summons from the Grand Jury list between five to nine persons to serve as Grand Jurors for that term of the court. The judge may dismiss several jurors to assure a jury of not more than seven. In **Fairfax**, the grand jury meets on the third Monday of odd numbered months; in **Prince William**, it meets on the first Monday of each month

Sources

*Statistics are the Fairfax County Circuit Court and the "State of the Judiciary Report" found on the Virginia courts web page.

"2005 Annual Report of the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission:" www.vcsc.state.va.us/reports.htm

Fairfax County, FY 2002 and FY 2007 Advertised Budget Plans

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} Fairfax & County & Circuit & Court & web & site \\ \hline www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts & \\ \end{tabular}$

National Center for State courts web site: www.NCSConline.org

Prince William Circuit Court web site: www.pwcgov.org, and the Virginia courts web site

"Resolving Disputes...," http://privatejudge.com

"State Court Organization," (The Jury), Bureau of Justice Statistics: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs

Supreme Court Rules (of Virginia) (can be accessed through $\underline{\text{http://leg1.state.va.us}})$

United States Constitution

United States Courts web site: www.uscourts.gov

United States Federal District Court web site, including the Handbook for Jurors: www.vaed.uscourts.gov

Virginia Constitution (can be accessed through http://leg1.state.va.us)

Virginia Code (can be accessed through http://leg1.state.va.us)

Virginia Courts web site: www.courts.state.va.us, including the Answer Book for Jury Service; also www.courts.state.va.us/ed/resources

 $\underline{\text{http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/trials/zenger/nullificaatio}} \\ \underline{\text{n.html}}$

E-mail correspondence, conversations and interviews with:

Bonnie Olsen, Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia: Bonnie Olsen@vaed.uscourts.gov

Barbara Kenney, Chief Deputy, Court & Records, Fairfax County Circuit Court: Barbara.Kenney@fairfaxcounty.gov

Robert Marsh, Court Administrator, and Maria McCaleb, Jury Clerk, Prince William Circuit Court: mmccaleb@pwcgov.org

VIRGINIA HAPPENINGS

Visiting Nurses & Social Workers Bernice Colvard, League Historian

Early 20th century Richmond was ripe for reform. A bustling and diversified commercial and industrial city with a swiftly expanding population (from 38,000 in 1860 to 127,000 in 1910). Rapid growth, however, was prey to unanticipated consequences--insufficient housing and inadequate water and sewer lines, police protection, and street lighting, i.e., a shortage of essential services. The water supply was contaminated, and the mortality rate was higher than any other city of its size in the U.S. These conditions were exacerbated by the lowest average weekly wage in the nation (1888). This left thousands of working class families teetering on the brink of poverty.

At the same time, this "New South" economy had produced a larger, better-educated and more prosperous middle class which felt compelled to join in a host of reform efforts that would become known nationally as the Progressive Era. Middle class women especially were motivated to recognize the extremes of an industrial economy and to feel a sense of obligation to assist its victims. Women's benevolent associations had been active in Richmond since the beginning of the 19th century. They were often criticized by conservatives but remained undaunted and expanded their efforts.

It was in this milieu that the first Nurses Settlement, patterned after Northern examples, opened in the city in 1900. One of its leaders was Nannie Minor, who had trained under Sadie Cabaniss at the Old Dominion Hospital, where Cabaniss had created the first nurses training program in Richmond. For moral and financial support, Minor sought to tap into an integrated network of activist women in Richmond through her friend, novelist Mary Johnston. Other notables included Suffragist Lila Meade Valentine, Mary-Cook Branch Munford, artist Adele Clark (first LWVVA president) and Dr. Kate Waller Barrett. Minor, Cabaniss, and Agnes Randolph (great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson) also drew upon the resources of their own connections.

continued next month......

Source:

Green, Elna C. "Gendering The City, Gendering the Welfare State." Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. Vol. 113, No. 3, 2005.

Prince William County

Prince William County (PWC) is celebrating its 275th birthday in 2006. When PWC was formed from Stafford and King George counties, it included Fairfax, Arlington, Alexandria, Loudoun, and Fauquier counties. It was reduced to its current size in 1758, according to "Discover Prince William County."

Officially, Prince William County was "born" March 25, 1731; however, the county's creation began before that year. A bill passed by the Virginia General Assembly on July 9, 1730, actually established the county; it went into effect on March 25, 1731, according to "Landmarks of Old Prince William."

Prince William, the second son of King George II of England, became Captain-General of the British Army, according to "A History of Prince William County." Even though the county was named for him when he was only 10, he never came to America.

But, even before the county was named for Prince William, Native Americans lived there. The Manahoac Indians are said to have settled in the Piedmont, the vast wilderness in the western end of the county.

Source: Baumstark, Heidi. The Bull Run Observer, 8/11/06

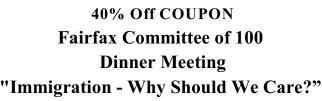
Election Predictions

It used to be "soccer moms" who held the key to elections. Then it was the opinion of NASCAR dads that gave the best indicator of who would get elected, followed by the "investor class." Now there's a new electoral predictor: the retail giant you prefer. According to a pollster, who discovered the trend, Democrats prefer Bloomingdale's & Neiman Marcus. Republicans trek to J. C. Penney, Sears, and Target. And then there's Wal-Mart. More than any other store in the nation, its GOP-leaning customers can accurately predict which candidate will sell. They did in 2004. Wal-mart shoppers matter, because they represent small-town America.

Source: U.S. News & World Report, 7/17/06.

Election Officers Needed for November 7, 2006

The Fairfax County Electoral Board is looking for election officers to work at polling sites for the Tuesday, November 7, 2006, General Election. Applicants must be registered to vote in the Commonwealth of Virginia and cannot hold elective office or be an employee of an elected official. They must be available to work the entire day, beginning at 5:00 a.m., until all tallies have been completed and all voting equipment secured. All officers are required to attend a training class, lasting about two hours, prior to the election. The full-day pay ranges from \$100 to \$200, depending on responsibilities. Working one-half of election day (a shift of about eight hours) is available, for information on the requirements go to: (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/ splitshift requirements.pdf). The County needs over 3,000 to serve in its 225 precincts. The greater the shortage of officers, the longer it takes to vote at the polls. If you are interested in working on Election Day and would like an application or need more information, please contact the Electoral Board at 703-324-4735 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/.



Thursday, October 19, 2006

at JR's Stockyard's Inn
8130 Watson Street at Tyson's Comer
(across International Drive from
Tyson's I Shopping Center)
6:30 Registration and Social Hour
7:00 pm Dinner
(\$40 less 40% = \$24 with this coupon)

7:45 Panel Discussion
Reservations between October 1-16
to 703-813-5577



2nd Annual Appreciation and Awards Breakfast

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

Hilton McLean Tysons Corner 7920 Jones Branch Drive McLean, VA 22102

Registration: 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast and Awards Program: 8:00-9:30 a.m.

Tickets \$35 per person
For Reservations contact Jennifer Guerra at:

jguerra@habitatnova.org

(703) 521-9890 ext. 105

For additional information contact: Angela Booker (703) 590-6654 angelabooker@comcast.net

Where There's a Will There's a Way

\$100,145 is the amount an employee at the Australian Mint stole over 10 months of hiding bills and coins in his lunch box and boots. 150 was the average number of coins he spirited from the mint in each boot every day.

Source: Time, 7/3/06.



Unit Meeting Locations - Topic: Local Jury System

Members and visitors may attend any meeting convenient for them. At print time the locations were correct, please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend. Some meetings at restaurants need reservations.

Monday, October 9

Tuesday, October 10

Wednesday, October 11

Thursday, October 12

1:30 pm Greenspring Vill. (GSV) **Hunters Crossing Craft Room** Spring Village Drive, Springfield

Call Jane 703-569-0079 for info.

9:45 am Annandale/Barcroft (AB) Mason District Govt. Center

6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale Call Emily 703-346-9684 for info.

12:30 pm McLean (McL)

McLean Community Center, Rm # 2 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean Call Anne 703-448-6626 for info.

7:45 pm Vienna Evening (VE)

9511 Rockport Road, Vienna Call Bill or Anne 703-938-7304.

The Daughter Factor

How a male in the U.S. House of Representatives votes on bills involving women's safety and reproductive rights may depend on how many daughters he has. Ebonya Washington, a Yale economist, found that legislators with just girls—or more girls than boys—take a more liberal position on issues such as abortion and access to birth control This held for Republicans as well as Democrats.

Source: Washington Watch, Parade Magazine, The Washington Post, 5/25/06

9:00 am Pr. William Area (PWD)

1st Floor Conference Room., City Hall 9027 Center St., Manassas Call Sheila 703-492-4574 for info.

9:30 am Fairfax Station (FXS)

12200 Cliffwood Ct., Clifton Call Marilyn, 703-830-8189 for info

9:30 am Hollin Hills Day (HHD)

Mount Vernon District Gov. Center 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria Call Joan 703-765-0799 for info.

9:30 am Vienna Day (VID)

To Be Determined Call Mary Elizabeth, 703-280-5186 for info.

12:00 Chantilly/Herndon (CHD)

Sully District Governmental Center 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Centerville Call Olga 703-815-1897 for info.

6:15 pm Dinner Unit (DU)

Yen Cheng Rest. Main Street Center 9992 Main Street, Fairfax Call Pier 703-256-1019 for info.

7:30 pm Reston Evening (RE)

Reston Museum 1639 Washington Plaza, Lake Anne Village Center Call Baba 703-437-1901 for info.

7:30 pm Pr. William Area (PWE)

Great American Buffet Company 8365 Sudley Road Manassas Come at 7.00 pm for dinner. Call Sheila 703-492-4574 for info.



9:00 am Reston Day (RD)

663 Nalls Farm Way, Great Falls Call Silvia 703-948-7975 for info.

9:15 am Fairfax City Day (FXD)

10912 Warwick Ave, Fairfax Call Jeanne 703-591-4580

9:30 am Springfield (SPF)

Packard Center (Lg. Conf. Rm.) 4026 Hummer Rd, Annandale Call Nancy 703-256-6570 or Peg 703-256-9420 for info.

7:45 pm Hollin Hills Eve. (HHE)

7409 Recard Lane, Alexandria Call JoAnne 703-768-3543 for info.

November Unit Meetings

Topic

Redistricting - Consensus



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) 4026 Hummer Road, Suite #214 Annandale, VA 22003-2403 703-658-9150. E-mail: lwvfa@ecoisp.com

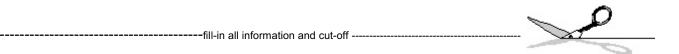
Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Woodbridge, VA Permit No. 70

Time Sensitive Material

The LWVFA Bulletin © October, 2006

Sherry Zachry, President Lavinia S. Voss, Editor

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state, regional and national levels, the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any citizen of voting age, male or female, may become a member.



LWVFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Current member dues thru June 30, 2007. Check all that apply: Individual \$50 Sustaining Member \$75 Advocate Member \$100 Household (2 persons–1 <i>Bulletin</i>) \$75 New Renewal Reinstate Donation Subsidy Student Coll. Attending Enrolled full/part-time student–half individual dues. <i>We value membership—a subsidy fund is available, to use it, ✓ subsidy line and include whatever you can afford.</i> Dues are not tax deductible. Tax deductible donations must be on a separate check made payable to LWVFA Ed. Fund. Please Print Clearly!							
Name _	Name Unit						
Address	s						
	CityStateStateState						
Phone (H)			_(W)		E-Mail		
Please mail your check and completed application to: LWVFA 4026 Hummer Rd. Suite 214, Annandale, VA 22003-2403							
Thank you for checking-off all your interests:							
	Fx. Cnty Govt. Fiscal Public Libraries Transportation		Voting Procedures E.Q Land Use Planning Water				Schools Other (write-in below)