



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE FAIRFAX AREA

# Fairfax Voter

May 2008

(Formerly LWVFA Bulletin)

Volume 60, Issue 9

## LWVFA Begins Process of Clarifying Issue of Restoration of Voting Rights For Felons

Did you know that Virginia is one of a few states that denies the right to vote to felons who have paid their debt to society? Former felons can have that right restored only by waiting for several years after serving a term and then applying to the governor. The Fairfax Area League of Women Voters will begin the process of



studying this issue that was adopted in the spring of 2007 by the League of Women Voters of Virginia. Background material considered now should lead to a more informed consensus in the fall of this year. Please read this material before attending your unit meeting to enable you to more fully participate in the discussion.

### Calendar

#### May

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 01      | Law Day                                      |
| 02      | June Bulletin Deadline                       |
| 02      | NCA Board Meeting                            |
| 03      | Briefing/Felons' Rights –<br>upper conf room |
| 03      | LWVFA Council - Charlottesville              |
| 06      | Cities & Towns Elect.                        |
| 11      | Mother's Day                                 |
| 8,12-14 | Units - Felons' Rights                       |
| 17      | NCA Annual Convention                        |
| 21      | Board Meeting/June UC<br>Letter Deadline     |
| 26      | Memorial Day/SCHOOL CLOSED                   |
| 28      | Tour of Capitol Square in Richmond           |

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## The Acting President's Message . . .

# A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS!

By Mary Grace Lintz

Our 60th Anniversary celebration began on March 31st when the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) honored the Fairfax Area League with a Proclamation making April 15, 2008, "League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area Day" in the County. This picture, taken in the Board Auditorium at The Government Center, shows Chairman Connolly and the Supervisors with League members who attended the ceremony.



In front with banner (L-R): Therese Martin, BOS Chairman Gerald Connolly, Mary Grace Lintz, Bernice Colvard, Jane Hilder; First row: FXC Commission for Women Chair Diane Hoyer, Executive Director Ina Fernandez, Jane Barker, Sarah Mayhew, Lorraine Hart, Sheila Musselman, Sherry Zachry, Bette Hostrup, Janey George; Second row [Supervisors standing in back]: Supervisors- Catherine Hudgins, Michael Frey, Linda Smyth, Gerry Hyland, Sharon Bulova, John Foust, Jeffrey McKay, Penny Gross.

## Membership News . . .

### LWVFA Adds New Members

By Leslie Vandivere, Membership Director

Welcome to the following new local members: Kay Vandenburg (GSP), Jean Auldrige (GSP), and Marjorie Lynam (VE).

And to the following, who joined at the national level: Judy Corbett, Catherine Teri, Cynthia Miller, Sharon Harmon, and Shelley Simonen.

### Did You Know. . .

. . . that you can save up to 70% on your electric lighting bills if you use compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)?

### LWVFA Fairfax Voter 2008

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Please e-mail address corrections to the office  
or call 703-658-9150

# School Officials Answer Questions from the March 08 Schools Positions Update Meetings

By Therese Martin,  
Schools Update Committee Chair

The Schools Positions Update Committee plans to respond to questions that were asked at the March unit meetings on the LWVFA schools positions update. We begin this month with the following answers to some of your questions received from FCPS (Fairfax County Public Schools) employees and its web site

## ***Why aren't seat belts required in school buses?***

Seat belts are not required in school buses because research by DOT and others determined that compartmentalization was a better solution (see next column). Some of the key arguments favoring compartmentalization over seat belts are as follows:

- a) Compartmentalization is more manageable. The protective surfaces exist in place without depending on any action by the children or any extra special supervision by the drivers. Seat belts require discipline and supervision to keep them clean, unraveled and in use.
- b) Compartmentalization works equally well for 1, 2 or 3 students per seat. Today's 39" wide standard seats may contain three small children or two large ones, or any combination in between. Arranging seat belts to properly handle any combination is difficult, if not impossible; the best known solution with seat belts is to restrict each seat to two students and two belts, which has the disadvantage of sharply reducing the carrying capacity of bus fleets.
- c) Compartmentalization works whether students have fully developed abdominal areas or not. Conventional seat belts, which are lap restraints only, are not suitable for small children whose abdominal area and bone structure are not adequately developed to take the force of a lap belt alone. They need the help of chest harnesses also, which adds to the complexity of a proper seat belt solution.
- d) Compartmentalization, once it has done its energy-absorbing job, leaves the student free to escape the bus. Seat belts could leave students strapped in, upside down, perhaps unconscious, in burning or flooding buses.
- e) Compartmentalization is most affordable. Although not a part of the DOT reasoning, this is a factor to be considered. In evaluating the cost of seat belts alone, one should include the cost of retractors and chest restraints

also, since those appear needed. Even more important is the probability that a seat belt solution should lead to two students per seat and greater spacing between seats, thereby requiring more buses for the same student load.

## ***Compartmentalization or "Why are school bus seats spaced so closely together?"***

The basic purpose in spacing school bus seats so closely is to contain the child in a cushioned compartment with only a minimum amount of space between energy-absorbing surfaces.

After extensive research during the 1970's, the Department of Transportation and its agency, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) determined that the safest and most practical arrangement for school bus seating would be a "compartmentalization" concept. Accordingly, the new safety regulations established in 1977 included this requirement among many other improvements made that year. Under the compartmentalization concept, seat backs in school buses are made higher, wider and thicker than before. All metal surfaces are covered with foam padding. This structure must then pass rigid test requirements for absorbing energy, such as would be required if a child's body were thrown against the padded back. In addition, the equivalent of a seat back, called a "barrier," is placed in front of the first seat at the front of the bus.

In addition to padding, today's seats also must have a steel inner structure that springs and bends forward to help absorb energy when a child is thrown against it. The steel frame must "give" just enough to absorb the child in the seat ahead. Also, of course, the seat is required to be anchored to the floor so strongly it will not pull loose during this bending action. The floor itself must be so strong that it will not be bent or torn by the pulling action of the seat anchors

Finally, the requirement is added that seat backs can be no farther apart than a distance that is deemed safe. Clearly, if the backs were too far apart, the child could be thrown too far before being cushioned and/or could be thrown outside the compartment altogether. Today's rules call for a seat back to be no farther than 24" away from a defined point in the middle of a child's abdomen (the seat reference point).

See **School Officials Answer**, Page 8, Col 1



## Older Victims of Domestic Abuse Require Different Approach

By Judy Leader, Justice Committee Chair

The needs of older victims of domestic violence differ greatly from younger victims, according to William Lightfoot from the Virginia Center on Aging at Virginia Commonwealth University. Speaking at a recent meeting of the Domestic Violence Policy and Planning Coordinating Council, Mr. Lightfoot urged the criminal justice system and social service agencies to recognize the differences, adjust their approaches accordingly, and train their staffs to act appropriately and effectively.

Most 80-year old women grew up in an era when domestic abuse was a secret, family matter, he further explained. A 25-year-old police officer will have to gain her trust before she will discuss such matters. She may not show up for a court date. In some cases the victim may have Alzheimer's or Dementia, posing special problems of proof in developing

court cases. In such cases, law enforcement must try to develop forensic evidence (e.g., look for fractures and evidence of sexual abuse) and interview neighbors, friends and family. In an interesting twist, sometimes it is the long-suffering wife who abuses her bedridden husband.

Social service workers sometimes struggle to find appropriate shelter for victims of domestic abuse; some hospitals will do a 24-hour emergency admissions, but more respite care centers are needed, if no relatives can be found to assume responsibility. Henrico County has a model program, including a respite center with medical professionals on staff.

Another problem affecting elders is financial abuse by children and grandchildren who have taken over their financial affairs. Even if it is uncovered, the abused elder is reluctant to testify against her kin.

Mr. Lightfoot was with the Richmond Police Department for many years and is now a consultant for secure home

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## LWVFA to Tour Capitol Square in Richmond Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Tour the newly renovated Virginia State Capitol. The oldest part of this building was designed by Thomas Jefferson, beginning in 1785; and the cornerstone was laid that year while Patrick Henry was Governor. The beautiful new Capitol Extension, which is underground, was opened in 2007, along with the renovated Capitol Building. You will see the historic old Senate chamber, the current Senate and House chambers, and the new extension which contains meeting rooms and facilities for visitors, including a nice gift shop. Sadly, the General Assembly will not be in session. LWVFA has two (2) one-hour tours of the Capitol building scheduled, limit 40 people each.

Tour Virginia's Executive Mansion, home of Virginia's Governor and First Family since 1813. It is the oldest governor's residence in the United States which is still used for its original purpose. This building was renovated and restored in 2001. LWVFA has three (3) 25-minute tours of the Executive Mansion scheduled, with a limit of 25 people each.

The Capitol Building contains elevators and ramps, but these tours will involve some walking and hill climbing. Lunch will be purchased individually from the Meriwether Cafe in the General Assembly Building, adjacent to Capitol Square.

Free time between tours can be used to explore Capitol Square and visit the gift shop.

There is no charge for the tours. Transportation will be by chartered luxury motor coach departing from the Lorton Park-and-Ride lot, **leaving at 8:15 a.m. and returning by 4 p.m.** Charge for the bus is \$38 per person and priority on the tours will be for those who take the bus. Lunch will be purchased separately (in Richmond) from Meriwether Cafe.

Lorton Park-and-Ride is a free, safe VDOT facility at 9300 Gunston Cove Road with 170 spaces that does not fill on weekdays. Leaguers will probably want to carpool to the Park and Ride, but there is space for many individual cars.

**Directions:** Interstate 95- Exit 163; Turn east on Lorton Rd.- Route 642. (Left at traffic light if coming from the north). Go under I-95 and turn right at first light which is Gunston Cove Rd. Park and Ride lot is on left, 9300 Gunston Cove Rd. Distance from I-95 exit is less than a quarter mile.

To reserve a space on these tours, complete the reservation form [on page 6] and **send check for \$38 per person made out to LWVFA; to LWVFA c/o Jane Hilder, 5707 Norton Rd., Alexandria, VA 22303**. Checks must be received by **May 7**. If not enough people reserve, it may be necessary to cancel the tour and return the checks.

# LWVVA Begins Process of Clarifying Issue of Restoration of Voting Rights For Felons

By Lois Page, Program Committee Co-chair

## STATE AND LOCAL COMMITTEES BEGIN TWO-YEAR STUDY

At the 2007 League of Women Voters of Virginia Biennial Convention, a two year study titled "Study of the Restoration of Civil Rights of Felons in Virginia" was approved. An active committee, under the leadership of Molly McClenon, has been at work preparing background information and gathering local input.

The materials reproduced in this *Fairfax Voter* were largely those given to participants in the State Program Workshop last fall. They will inform you of the LWVUS position on the topic, what constitutes a felon, the history of felon voting and disenfranchisement in the United States, and other material of interest. In Virginia's Constitution, only the governor is empowered to restore civil rights to a felon. This study will be important in helping Virginia League members determine how to address this restriction without proposing a constitutional amendment. Or we may, as a League, decide we wish to support the lengthy process of amending the Virginia Constitution.

A small LWVFA committee has been interviewing local officials with the goal of combining their findings and formulating consensus questions. A summary of their interview findings and additional material will appear in the *Voter* next fall in preparation for our consensus meetings, but we wanted to provide a head-start on the background of this issue.

## LWVUS POSITION URGES PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS

*The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that voting is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed.*

### The League's History on Voting Rights

The right of every citizen to vote has been a basic League principle since its origin. Early on, many state Leagues adopted positions on election laws. But at the national level, despite a long history of protecting voting rights, the League found itself in the midst of the civil rights struggle of the 1960s without authority to take national legislative action on behalf of the Voting Rights Act of 1965,

Stung by the League's powerlessness to take action on such a significant issue, the 1970 convention adopted a bylaws amendment enabling the League to act "to protect the right to vote of every citizen" without the formality of adopting voting rights in the national program. This unusual decision reflected member conviction that protecting the right to vote is indivisibly part of the League's basic purpose. When the 1974 convention amended the bylaws to provide that all League principles could serve as authority for action, the separate amendment on voting rights was no longer needed.

The 1976 Convention's adoption of Voting Rights as an integral part of the national program and the 1978 confirmation of that decision underlined the already easing authority under the Principles for the League to act on this basic right. In May 1982, the LWVUS board made explicit the League's position on Voting rights, and the 1982 Convention added Voting rights to the national program. The 1986 convention affirmed that a key element of protecting the right to vote is encouraging participation in the political process. The 1990 convention affirmed that the LWVUS should continue emphasis on protecting the right to vote by working to increase voter participation...<sup>1</sup> [See table below for historical information.]

## VIRGINIA VOTING RIGHTS: A GIVE AND TAKE SITUATION

The Virginia Constitution regarding this issue reads as follows: Article II Section 1. Qualifications of voters. *In elections by the people, the qualifications of voters shall be as follows: Each voter shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be 18 years of age, shall fulfill the residence requirements set forth in this section, and shall be registered to vote pursuant to this article. No person who has been convicted of a felony shall be qualified to vote unless his civil rights have been restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority.*

Over 400 years in Virginia, voting rights have been gradually extended to, and sometimes taken from, various groups of citizens by both state laws and amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Originally granted to all freemen in Virginia, the franchise became limited to property owners, then was

See **Rights For Felons**, Page EF-3, Col. 1

## U.S. HISTORY OF FELON VOTING / DISENFRANCHISEMENT<sup>2</sup>

Date	Event
<b>Ancient and Medieval History</b>	<p>“In Greek city-states, the status of atimia [loss of civil rights] was imposed upon criminal offenders. This status carried the loss of many citizenship rights, including the rights to participate in the polis (polity). ... only elites had those rights to begin with, so disenfranchisement was a penalty imposed on deviant elites.</p> <p>“In ancient Rome, the related punishment of infamia could be imposed on criminal offenders. In this case, the principle penalties were loss of suffrage and the right to serve in the Roman legions (a desired opportunity). [...]</p> <p>“In medieval Europe, the legal doctrines of ‘civil death’ and ‘outlawry’ carried forward similar notions. As with atimia, those punished with civil death generally suffered a complete loss of citizenship rights (in some early Germanic texts, outlaw status meant a ‘loss of peace’ that was comparable to becoming a wolf, since the outlaw had to ‘live in the forest’). In extreme cases, civil death could be injurious or fatal, since outlaws could be killed by anyone with impunity, or have their property seized. In most medieval contexts, political rights held little substantive meaning. But the civil death model carried over into parts of modern criminal law.”<sup>3</sup></p>
<b>pre-1776</b>	<p>“Criminal disenfranchisement has its roots in the punishment of ‘civil death,’ imposed for criminal offences under Greek, Roman, Germanic and later Anglo-Saxon law. English law developed the related punishment of attainder ... loss of all civil rights. These principles were transplanted to the British colonies which later became Canada and the United States.”<sup>4</sup></p>
<b>pre-1776</b>	<p>“[A]side from property qualifications, there were no firm principles governing colonial voting rights, and suffrage laws accordingly were quite varied.... In practice, moreover, the enforcement of application of suffrage laws was uneven and dependent on local circumstances. [...]</p> <p>[T]he revolutionary period [...] witnessed heated public exchanges and sharp political conflict over the [voting] franchise. [...] Implicit in these arguments was the claim that voting was not a right but a privilege, one that the state could legitimately grant or curtail in its own interest. [...]</p> <p>Yet there was a problem with this vision of suffrage as a right [...] there was no way to argue that voting was a right or a natural right without opening a Pandora’s box. If voting was a natural right, then everyone should possess it. [...]</p> <p>[S]everal important legal and jurisdictional issues also were shaped, or structured, during the revolutionary period. The first was that suffrage was defined as a constitutional issue [...] Implicit in this treatment was the notion that suffrage requirements ought to be durable and difficult to change.”<sup>5</sup></p>
<b>1830</b>	<p>Virginia’s state constitution is ratified. It specifically bars from voting those “convicted of an infamous crime.”<sup>6</sup></p>
<b>1870</b>	<p>The U.S. Constitution’s Amendment XV is ratified by the states. It stipulates: “Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.</p> <p>Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”<sup>7</sup></p>
<b>1957</b>	<p>The Civil Rights Act of 1957 is passed. “The bill created a national Civil Rights Commission, elevated the Civil Rights section into a full-fledged division of the Justice Department, and authorized the attorney general to seek injunctions and file civil suits in voting rights cases [...]”<sup>8</sup></p>
<b>1965 Aug. 6</b>	<p>“President Johnson signed the [Voting Rights Act] into law on August 6, 1965. Section 2 of the Act, which closely followed the language of the 15th amendment, applied a nationwide prohibition against the denial or abridgment of the right to vote on the literacy tests on a nationwide basis.”<sup>9</sup></p> <p>[Editor’s Note: The Voting Rights Act was renewed in 1970 for five years, 1975 for seven years, 1982 for 25 years, and in 2006 for an additional 25 years.]</p>

<b>1972</b>	The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in <i>Dillenburg v. Kramer</i> that “courts have been hard pressed to define state interest served by laws disenfranchising persons convicted of crimes.... Search for modern reasons to sustain the old governmental disenfranchisement prerogative has usually ended with a general pronouncement that a state has an interest in preventing persons who have been convicted of serious crimes from participation in the electoral process or a quasi-metaphysical invocation that the interest is preservation of the ‘purity of the ballot box.’... Earlier in our constitutional history, laws disenfranchising persons convicted of crime may have been immune from attack. But the constitutional concepts of equal protection are not immutably frozen like insects trapped in Devonian amber.” <sup>10</sup>
<b>1972-1985</b>	A 1974 Supreme Court case, <i>Richardson v. Ramirez</i> , 418 U.S. 24 (1974), held that California’s felon disenfranchisement clause was constitutional. In the Supreme Court case of <i>Hunter v. Underwood</i> , 471 U.S. 222 (1985), the provision in the Alabama constitution that mandated voting disenfranchisement for people who committed “crimes of moral turpitude” was struck down, because it was found that that provision was passed with a racially biased intent; whether a law was passed with a racially biased intent became the litmus test for whether a disenfranchisement law is constitutional. <sup>11</sup>

### Rights For Felons, From Page EF-1

restricted to persons holding certain amounts of property and wealth. Next, negroes were barred from voting simply because of their race. Immediately after the Civil War, black citizens were very active in Virginia political life. But their participation was soon impeded by poll taxes and literacy tests, and remained disproportionate to their numbers until after the national reforms of the 1960s civil rights movement.

In Virginia, as well as in most other states, convicted felons also lost their voting rights in the post-Civil War period. The franchise was greatly expanded by the addition of women less than 100 years ago and most recently, in 1971, 18 year olds were given the right to vote.

The greatest remaining voting rights issue in Virginia is the disenfranchisement of ex-felons. Their loss of voting rights is not related in any way to punishment imposed by the criminal justice system, but is a by-product of their felony conviction. Nationwide, a patchwork of different state rules and laws prevents an estimated 5 million citizens from voting. There is increased momentum to reform state felony disenfranchisement laws: 16 states have enacted reforms in the past decade.

- Virginia and Kentucky are the only states that bar people with felony convictions from voting for life.
- A nationwide survey in 2002 shows very high levels of public support for restoring voting rights to most categories of ex-felons: 80% of respondents to the survey stated that all ex-felons who have served their entire sentence and are now living in their communities should have the right to vote.<sup>12</sup> Public
- policy has not caught up with public opinion on this issue. And while recent Virginia governors have restored voting rights to an increased number of ex-felons who filed the necessary paperwork, Virginia has not yet reformed its constitution and laws.
- In 2000, legislation required the Virginia Department of Corrections to inform inmates about their loss of voting rights and the process of restoration. In 2002, Governor Mark Warner streamlined the paperwork required for ex-offenders to regain their voting rights and reduced the waiting period for non-violent offenders to begin that process. During his four-year term, he restored voting rights to 3,414 Virginians, exceeding the combined total for all governors in the previous 20 years.
- In Virginia, only the Governor can restore voting rights. Former felons may begin the paperwork required 3 or 5 years after completing their sentence, parole and/or payment of fines. A one-page application to the Governor after 3 years begins the process for a non-violent felony while a 6-page form after 5 years, including three letters of reference, is required for someone convicted of a violent felony.
- An estimated 240,000-300,000 Virginia citizens are unable to vote because they are ex-felons: this represents 4-5% of Virginia citizens who are age 18 or older. About half of these citizens are African-American.
- A constitutional amendment would be required to allow a different method of restoring voting rights in



Virginia. Legislation authorizing a change must be passed by two sessions of the General Assembly before a constitutional amendment is placed on the ballot. Although legislation to begin this process has been introduced in the Senate for many years, and did pass again in 2007, it was blocked in the House of Delegates. The amendment which passed the Senate 29-10 in 2007 (SJR 307) would add this sentence to the text of the Constitution quoted above: *In addition, the General Assembly may provide by general law for the restoration of civil rights to persons who have been convicted of nonviolent felonies and who have completed service of their sentence including any period or condition of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence.*<sup>13</sup>

- For the 2008 session Senator Yvonne B. Miller introduced *SJ 7 Constitutional amendment; restoration of civil rights for certain felons*. The full text is as follows:
- *Constitutional amendment (first resolution); restoration of civil rights. Authorizes the General Assembly to provide by general law for the restoration of civil rights for persons convicted of nonviolent felonies who have completed service of their sentence including any period or condition of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence. The present Constitution provides for restoration of rights by the Governor. The amendment retains the right of the Governor to restore civil rights and adds the alternative for restoration of rights pursuant to general law.*
- *12/05/07 Senate: Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections*
- *01/15/08 Senate: Continued to 2009 in Privileges and Elections (15-Y 0-N)*<sup>14</sup>

Thus the amendment proposal ended up the way it has for many years.

## STATE WEB SITES PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT RESTORATION

**The following material on a state-sponsored website is entitled “The Restoration of Civil Rights in Virginia.” We reproduce it here to illustrate what information is available to a felon seeking restoration of rights:**

### Clemency

Solely the Governor has the authority to grant clemency and he may do so at his discretion. This discretionary power allows each governor to establish his own guidelines and policies regarding the eligibility of those seeking clemency.

There are two types of clemency: Restoration of Civil Rights and Pardons.

A restoration of rights restores the rights which are lost upon a felony conviction. These include the rights to vote, to run for and hold public office, to serve on juries and to serve as a Notary Public. It does not include the right to possess or transport any firearm or to carry a concealed weapon. [If the Governor restores your rights, you may petition the circuit court of the jurisdiction in which you reside for a permit to possess or carry a firearm. The court may, in its discretion and for good cause shown, grant such a petition and issue a permit.]

There are three types of pardons: simple, conditional, and absolute. All three types require the petitioner to write a letter to the governor stating why the pardon should be granted. If you have been convicted of a felony you must have your rights restored before the Governor will consider a petition for a pardon.

Under Article V, Section 12, of the Virginia Constitution and Section **53.1-229** through **53.1-231** of the Code of Virginia, all clemency authority is vested solely in the Governor. Clemency is not guaranteed and if a petition is denied, the petitioner has no right of appeal.

Petitions for the restoration of rights and pardons are processed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Files are reviewed according to the order in which a completed application is received. The petitioner is notified by mail as to whether his or her petition has been granted or denied by the Governor.<sup>15</sup>

A second section of the website provides information of “Restoration of Rights “ as follows:

### General Information

A **restoration of rights** restores the rights which are lost in Virginia upon getting a felony conviction. These include the rights to vote, to run for and hold public office, to serve on juries and to serve as a Notary Public. It does not include the right to possess or transport any firearm or to carry a concealed weapon.

There are two different applications/petition processes to follow for restoration of rights, depending on the nature of the felony convictions. **Non-violent felony offenders** may use the short form to apply for restoration. **Violent or drug-distribution felony offenders** must use the longer application form.

### General Requirements

Certain requirements must be met in order to be eligible for the restoration of your rights, regardless of felony type:

- You must be a resident of Virginia **OR** have

See **Rights For Felons**, Page EF-6



**FELONY ACTS AS DESCRIBED IN THE VIRGINIA CODE****§18.2-8. Felonies, misdemeanors and traffic infractions defined.**

“Offenses are either felonies or misdemeanors. Such offenses as are punishable with death or confinement in a state corrections facility are felonies; all other offenses are misdemeanors. Traffic infractions are violations of public order as defined in & 46.2-100 and not deemed to be criminal in nature.”

**[Editor’s Note:** The real world is not so neat. Some felons end up in non-state facilities and some non-felons end up in state facilities. Misdemeanors range from Class 1 to 4 and felonies from Class 1 to 6 with 1 being the most serious.]

**Examples:**

§ 18.2-90. *Enter dwelling...*

“If any person in the nighttime enters without breaking or in the daytime breaks and enters or enters and conceals himself... which offense shall be a Class 3 felony. However, if such person was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of such entry, he shall be guilty of a Class 2 felony.”

§ 18.2-92. *Entering dwelling with intent to commit other misdemeanor.*

“... he shall be guilty of a Class 2 felony.”

§ 18.2-181.1 *Issuance of bad checks.*

“It shall be a Class 6 felony for any person, within a period of ninety days, to issue two or more checks ... aggregate value of \$200 or more and which (i) are drawn upon the same account... and (ii) are made payable to the same person, firm or corporation.”

§ 18.2-96 *Petit larceny defined.*

“Any person who: 1. Commits larceny from the person of another of money or other thing of value of less than \$5, or 2. Commits simple larceny not from the person of another of goods and chattels of the value of less than \$200...Class I misdemeanor.”

§ 18.2-104. *Punishment for conviction of misdemeanor larceny.*

“...and for a third, or any subsequent offense, he shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony.”

§ 18.2-94. *Possession of burglarious tools, etc.*

“If any person have in his possession any tools, implements or outfit, with intent to commit burglary, robbery, or larceny upon conviction thereof he shall be guilty of a Class 5 felony.”

§ 18.2-51.3. *Prohibition against reckless endangerment of others by throwing objects from places higher than one story.*

“...with intent to cause injury...any object capable of causing any such injury. A violation of this section shall be punishable as a Class 6 felony.

§ 18.2-175. *Unlawful wearing of officer’s uniform or insignia; unlawful use of vehicle with word “police” shown thereon.*

“...Any violation of this section shall be a Class 1 misdemeanor.

§ 18.2-57.2. *Assault and battery against a family or household member.*

“A. Any person who commits an assault and battery against a family or household member shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. B. On a third or subsequent conviction... be guilty of a Class 6 felony. C. ...shall issue an emergency protective order...”<sup>16</sup>

## Rights For Felons, From Page EF-4

been convicted of a felony in a Virginia court, a court in any other state (including the District of Columbia), a U.S. District Court, a military court, or any court of an associated Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.

- You must have been released from **supervised** probation for a minimum of three (3) years for a non-violent offense or five (5) years for a violent, drug distribution, or drug manufacturing offense and have no other convictions (felonies or misdemeanors) during that time.
- You must have paid all costs, fines, and/or restitution or any obligations to any other court, including traffic courts.
- You cannot have a conviction for DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) within the past five (5) years immediately preceding your application.

The Secretary of the Commonwealth will conduct a criminal history check on all applicants. This restoration process **takes at least six months** from the time an application is considered complete. Petitions are reviewed in the order in which they are received AND complete; therefore it is in your best interest to make sure that all required documents are included with your petition from the start.

Again, granting a restoration of rights is solely at the discretion of the Governor; it is not guaranteed. **If your petition for restoration of rights is denied, you have no right of appeal – but you may reapply after a two-year period.**

### Non-violent / Non-drug Felonies

If your felony convictions did not involve charges for violence or for drug manufacturing or distribution, you may fill out the short application for the restoration of your rights. Drug possession offenders are eligible for this form as long as there were no attendant convictions for distribution, sale, manufacturing or accommodation.

### Violent / Drug Distribution Felonies

If you have been convicted of a violent offense, a drug manufacturing or distribution offense, or an election law offense (voter fraud), you must use the longer form below to apply for restoration of rights.<sup>17</sup>

## RECENT GOVERNORS HAVE INCREASED RATE OF RESTORATION

In 2003, Governor Warner implemented an expedited application process for non-violent offenders seeking the right to vote. For non-violent offenses, a simple one-page application was required to be filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, who did a records check. The longer 13-page application form was still necessary for persons convicted of violent offenses.

Between January 2002 and January 2006, Governor Mark Warner restored civil rights to 3,414 people. During the same period 195 applications were rejected, generally based on seriousness of offense or overall criminal record. His predecessor Governor Gilmore restored rights to 238 people. Governor George Allen restored rights to 480. Governor Robb restored rights to 1180 people between 1982 and 1986.)<sup>18</sup>

In January 2006 incoming governor Timothy Kaine promised to continue the expedited policy established by his predecessor; he continues to fund the agency designed to handle applications. As of the end of 2007, Kaine had granted one absolute pardon; two conditional pardons; one commutation of sentence; 14 simple pardons; and 1,144 restorations of rights. Restoration of rights restores a felon's rights, such as the right to vote, but not the right to possess a firearm.<sup>19</sup>

## SOURCES

<sup>1</sup> From *Impact on Issues*, League of Women Voters of the United States

<sup>2</sup> Felon Voting ProCon.org

<sup>3</sup> 2006 Jeff Manza and Christopher Uggen, *Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy*

<sup>4</sup> Fall 2003 Debra Parkes "Ballot Boxes Behind Bars: Toward the Repeal of Prisoner Disenfranchisement Laws," Temple Political and Civil Rights Law Review

<sup>5</sup> 2000 Alexander Keyssar, *The Right to Vote: The Contested History of Democracy in the United States*

<sup>6</sup> 1830 Virginia State Constitution

<sup>7</sup> 1870 U.S. Constitution

<sup>8</sup> 2000 Alexander Keyssar *The Right to Vote: The Contested History of Democracy in the United States*

<sup>9</sup> 1965 U.S. Department of Justice

<sup>10</sup> 1972 *Dillenburg v. Kramer*

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.felonvotingprocon.org/legalcases.htm>,

<sup>12</sup> Manza, J. Brooks, C., and Uggen, C., *Public Attitudes Towards Felon Disenfranchisement in the United States*

<sup>13</sup> Written by Pat Bower for the exhibit, "History of

Voting Rights” prepared by The League of Women Voters of Lynchburg, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Human Rights and the Lynchburg Public Library. August 2007

<sup>14</sup> Jean Auldridge of Virginia C.U.R.E./ email to Judy Leader of LWVFA, 2.28.08.

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.commonwealth.virginia.gov/JudicialSystem/Clemency/clemency.cfm>

<sup>16</sup> Compiled from West’s Annotated Code of Virginia, Book 14 and 15; 2001 with 2007 Cumulative Annual Pocket by Molly McClenon

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.commonwealth.virginia.gov/JudicialSystem/Clemency/restoration.cfm>

<sup>18</sup> Relief from the Collateral Consequences of a Criminal Conviction: A State-By-State Resource Guide February 1, 2006 <http://www.sentencingproject.org/tmp/File/Collateral%20Consequences/Virginia.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> Frank Green, “Kaine Grants Woman Pardon in three-Time loser’ Case,” Time Dispatch ([fgreen@timesdispatch.com](mailto:fgreen@timesdispatch.com).)

### LWV-VA Council Meeting, May 3

The 2008 League Of Women Voters of Virginia [LWV VA] Council Meeting is **Saturday May 3, 2008, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the Doubletree Hotel in Charlottesville, 990 Hilton Heights Road, Charlottesville, Virginia, 22901; Tel: 1-434-973-2121 Fax: 1-434-978-7735; [www.charlottesville.doubletree.com](http://www.charlottesville.doubletree.com)

## League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area Annual Convention

Saturday, May 17, 2008

9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Jurys Hotel, Westbury Ballroom  
1500 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036

**Agenda:** Registration is at 9:30;. Seated Breakfast , served at 9:45. We will have an outstanding Guest Speaker (TBA),Q&A and our Annual Business Meeting. Adjournment will be approximately 1:00 p.m.

**Cost: \$35.**

**Transportation:** Hotel is located on DuPont Circle. If taking Metro, get off at Red Line’s DuPont Metro Stop and take North Exit. Walk to the right about 30 steps to traffic light on Connecticut Avenue. Cross avenue and walk right one block to DuPont Circle. Jurys Hotel is next left on circle. If driving, carpools are suggested. Street parking in area is available on Saturday morning. Good valet parking costing \$16.60 (\$15. + tax) is available from Jurys Hotel.

**RSVP** to [andreagruhl@aol.com](mailto:andreagruhl@aol.com) signifying intent to attend. Make check payable to LWWNCA. Mail check with completed registration form (below ) **by May 10** to: **Andrea Gruhl**. Questions? 301-596-5460.

~~~~~ (Cut & mail) ~~~~~

### Registration for LWWNCA Convention, Sat., May 17, 2008

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ League: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street, City/State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Delegate? Circle “Yes” or “No.”

Make check for **\$35** payable to LWWNCA. **Mail form and check by May 10** to:  
Andrea Gruhl, 5990 Jacob’s Ladder, Columbia, MD 21045-3817

VA Happenings . . .

## Grapes and Wine - Virginia's Rising Industry

By Bernice Colvard, League Historian

Virginians have been making wine since the Virginia Company arrived in Jamestown 400 years ago. Unfortunately, the product of the native scuppernong was neither aromatic nor tasty. By 1618, French vines were being imported but did not fare well with our heat, humidity, and insect population. Yet the House of Burgesses was determined to foster a local wine industry and in 1619 passed a law requiring every male colonist to plant twenty vines. The fine for every dead or non-fruit-bearing vine was a barrel of corn. A lot of corn was acquired.

**Thomas Jefferson** was convinced that Virginia was well suited to growing the vine and producing wine to rival Europe's finest. He spent years experimenting with vines and wine making at Monticello but never realized his dream.

Virginians persisted and by the 1800s cross-pollination of European *vitis vinifera* and American grapes had created the first American hybrids. These grapes included the **Alexander, Norton** (a Virginia native), **Catawba**, and others. The Civil War wreaked havoc in the Old Dominion and left many vineyards destroyed or abandoned. California then took over the American wine market, and Prohibition finished off any remnant of the Virginia industry.

Jefferson's conviction that Virginia could enjoy a thriving wine culture has more recently been vindicated. The mid-1970s saw a rebirth of viticulture based on new success with French hybrids and advanced agricultural techniques. The Commonwealth now boasts 90+ (and growing) wineries.

A strategic blueprint for the industry was developed by the Commonwealth in 2004. The aim of "Vision 2015" is to see Virginia established as a producer of world-class wines and major strides have been made toward achieving that goal. October was designated the official "Virginia Wine Month" in 2002 by then-Governor Mark Warner (who owns a vineyard on the Northern Neck) to encourage visits to our wineries and the drinking of local wines. In 2007, the VA Tourist Corporation jumped on board with a new campaign—"Virginia's Stomping Grounds"—to draw attention to our beautiful wine country and its expanding wine business.

While trying to encourage growth of the wine industry in Virginia, several recent legislative actions would seem to be working at cross-purposes to that endeavor. In 2006, the General Assembly passed legislation requiring Virginia wine to be sold through distributors—no more business-to-business sales would be allowed. This action hurt the smaller wineries—those that produce 2500 cases, or less, of wine annually and which account for 80% of the vineyards in Virginia—because distributors do not want to handle small lots. The General Assembly then tried to address this effect in 2007 by allowing individual wineries to "self-distribute" their product—up to 3,000 cases, annually—by going through a non-profit wholesaler established within the state Department of Agriculture. However, until that process is completely in place, those sales are in limbo.

In the meantime, "here's to the Old Dominion wine industry!"

### Sources:

Crosby, Ellen. *The Merlot Murders*. Scribner, New York, 2006.

Kiniry, Elizabeth. "Complex, with a fruity bouquet." pp169-172, *Virginia Living*, April 2007.

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### Registration form for Virginia Capitol Tour - May 28, 2008

Return to Jane Hilder by May 7th. 5707 Norton Road, Alexandria, VA 22303 with check:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Unit, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed @ \$38/per person for round-trip  
bus transportation to Richmond from Lorton Park-and-Ride Lot.



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**Action Faction . . .**

## Lintz Testifies on Behalf of the LWVFA at Fairfax County 2009 Budget Hearing

By Jane Hilder, Action Chair

On March 31, and April 1 and 2, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors held public hearings to solicit citizen input on the proposed county budget. LWVFA Acting President Mary Grace Lintz spoke for the League on Monday, March 31. She testified in support of adequate funding for county staff salaries and also sufficient funding for public schools to deal with rising enrollment. Mary Grace also spoke in support of efforts to protect the health and safety of low-income tenants in illegal boarding houses along with continuing the penny for affordable housing, because the two issues are closely connected. Knowing this was a tough budget year, the LWVFA did not push for increased funding for a number of truly worthwhile expenditures that League testimony has supported in the past. The League did push, however, for funding for additional voting machines to deal with the Presidential election year. Finally, the League did testify in support of user fees and of having the supervisors consider raising the property tax rate by 3 cents to cover ongoing costs of government. The supervisors will approve the final 2009 county budget on April 28. (for complete testimony, go to [www.lwv-fairfax.org](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org) )

Meanwhile the General Assembly did approve a Virginia state budget for 2008-2010. They will convene again on April 24 to deal with any vetoes by Governor Kaine. Still unresolved is the transportation funding crisis resulting from the Feb. 29 decision of the Virginia Supreme Court. That decision was that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, and a similar appointed group of local officials in the Hampton Roads area, did not have the authority to levy taxes or fees. The new sources of funding that had been expected were suddenly no longer available and money already collected had to be refunded.

The LWVFA, the LWVFA Redistricting Committee, and other groups in Virginia interested in reform of redistricting, formed a Redistricting Coalition in 2008 that was very vocal in support of Senate Bill 38, which failed to get out of the House subcommittee (see April *Fairfax Voter*). Again, this coalition will be organizing to support similar legislation in the 2009 General Assembly session.

Delegate Ken Plum of Reston pointed out to us that his name was omitted in April's *Fairfax Voter* Action column

that discussed redistricting legislation in the 2008 session. Del. Plum makes a good point as he has been introducing redistricting reform legislation in the House of Delegates for more than 30 years, regardless of which party controlled the General Assembly. Unfortunately, his legislation to establish an independent redistricting commission was killed very quickly by a House subcommittee of the Privileges and Elections Committee, preventing it from coming before the full committee for a recorded vote. We all need to remind our Virginia elected representatives that the time for reform of redistricting has come!

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### **Community Elections Update . . .**

## **Volunteers Needed For Spring Elections!**

By Una White, LWVFA Community Elections Coordinator

Come help the League and help your community! As many of you know, LWVFA runs condominium, homeowners' association and community elections for various communities throughout Fairfax County. The donations that we receive for our services are a *major source* of funding for the Fairfax Area League's many projects.

So, volunteer to help out with the following springtime events. Call or email me (Una White) at 703-922-8721, or [unawhite@gmail.com](mailto:unawhite@gmail.com), if you are interested and I will give you the 'particulars' about the day. I will be looking forward to hearing from you!

**May 17 (Saturday)** at McLean Community Center, staffing an election booth during the McLean Day Celebration, all day [which means there will be several shifts of 3-4 hours for the volunteers]. This is a NEW election!

**June 11 or 18 (Wednesday)** at Skyline Plaza Condominiums in Baileys Crossroads; morning, late afternoon and evening in 3-4 hour shifts.

Looking forward to Fall: Reston Community Center (RCC) Preference Poll will be on Saturday, **October 18, 2008.**

## “Do Your Own Thing” Unit Meetings in June – Attend Any or All!

As of press time, the following events have been planned instead of our regular June unit meetings, as each LWVFA Unit chooses its own topic—otherwise known as “Do Your Own Thing”—for the last month of the 07-08 League year. Anyone can attend these events, whether or not considered a member of the respective units; contact the person listed for details. More information will be in the June *Voter* regarding units not listed and further plans.

**Chantilly Herndon Day Unit – June 11**, luncheon – place TBD. Contact Susan at [SADILL@cox.net](mailto:SADILL@cox.net) or 703-391-0666.

**Dinner Unit** will not be meeting in June.

**Fairfax Day Unit – June 12** – tour of Fairfax City Regional Library with luncheon afterwards. Contact Jeanne at [jpagee@verizon.net](mailto:jpagee@verizon.net) or 703-591-4580.

**Fairfax Station Unit – May 28** - will join the tour of Virginia’s Capitol Square in Richmond. See Jane Hilder’s article elsewhere in this *Voter*. Contact: Lois Page at [loismpage@cox.net](mailto:loismpage@cox.net) or 703-690-0908.

**Mount Vernon Day Unit – June 11**, 11:00 AM, luncheon at Pema’s on Route 1 with local legislators. Contact Gail Richmond at 703-360-6561

**Reston Day & Evening Units – June 2, 2008** – A Report from Your Legislators. Senator Janet Howell and Delegate Ken Plum will report on the 2008 General Assembly session to Reston members of the League of Women Voters on Monday evening, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Reston Community Center at Lake Anne. The meeting will take

place in Room C, from 7 to 9 p.m. The meeting is free and no registration is required. Guests are welcome and encouraged. Contact: Therese Martin at [tbmartin4@verizon.net](mailto:tbmartin4@verizon.net) or 703-471-6364.

**Springfield Unit – June 12**, Potluck lunch at Anita Eitler’s, 727 Anson Court, Springfield, 703-451-1048. Discussion of The Bill of Rights.

**Vienna Evening Unit** is considering a tour of Greenspring Village Retirement Community as part of their interest in housing and services for the elderly.

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## LWVFA OFFICE JOINS THE HI-TECH AGE!

Finally, the LWVFA office on Hummer Road has high speed internet service! We recently had Cox Communications install a cable line to the office that provides both our internet service and our telephone service (they call that “bundling”). The office telephone number remains the same: 703.658.9150 and the email address is now [league@lwv-fairfax.org](mailto:league@lwv-fairfax.org) --the “Cox” email address is [lwvfa@vacoxmail.com](mailto:lwvfa@vacoxmail.com) (Note that “.COM” is on the end—not “.NET”—that is because it is a “business” account, not a residence). Either address will send an email to the office--the ‘league’ address will be our “public” email address that will not change, should we go to a different service provider in the future. The ‘ecoisp’ address will be terminated sometime within the next couple of months.

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### School Officials Respond, From Page 3

#### *Are Community Activities Held in Schools while School is in Session?*

No. Space in schools (and on school grounds) is not available for community use while school is in session.

#### *Are School Buses Rented Out?*

School buses, with their drivers, can be used to provide field trips for government entities, at cost, but that is the only non-FCPS use to which the buses can be put.

#### *Is the lease/purchase method of buying new school buses as economical as their outright purchase?*

No. The lease/purchase method of purchasing new school buses began about 6 years ago as a means of improving the chances of purchasing needed buses, especially in a difficult budget year. It locks FCPS into using a smaller amount each year that, over time, totals more than it would cost for annual outright purchases. This has been accepted as a means to an end.

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## This Month's Unit Meeting Locations – Topic: Restoring Civil Rights of Felons

Members and visitors may attend any meeting convenient for them. As of April 7, 2008 locations were correct; *please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend.* Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations

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### Thursday, May 8:

**9:30 AM Reston Day (RD)**

12106 Stirrup Road,  
Reston 20191  
Contact Shirley 703-860-0512

**9:15 AM Fairfax City Day (FXD)**

3133 Singleton Circle  
Fairfax 22030  
Contact: Jeanne 703-591-4580

**9:30 AM Springfield (SPF)**

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

**7:45 PM Mt. Vernon Evening  
(MVE)**

*(formerly Hollin Hills Evening)*  
Mt. Vernon District Gov't. Ctr.  
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria  
Contact: Susan 703-780-3902

### Monday, May 12:

**1:30 PM Greenspring (GSP)**

Hunters Crossing Classroom  
Spring Village Drive, Springfield  
Contact: Jane 703-569-0079

### Tuesday, May 13:

**12:30 PM McLean (MCL)**

McLean Community Center, Rm#2  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean  
Contact: Judy 703-524-0991

**7:45 PM Vienna Evening (VE)**

9516 Rockport Road, Vienna  
Contact Anna Marie 703-938-9336

### Wednesday, May 14:

**9:30 AM Fairfax Station (FXS)**

7902 Bracksford Court  
Fairfax Station 22309  
Contact: Lois 703-690-0908

**9:30 AM Mt. Vernon Day (MVD)**

*(formerly Hollin Hills Day)*  
Mt. Vernon District Gov't Center  
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria  
Contact: Gail 703-360-6561

**12:00 Noon Chantilly/Herndon  
(CHD)**

Sully District Governmental Center  
4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Centreville  
Contact: Susan 703-391-0666

**6:15 PM Dinner Unit (DU)**

Yen Cheng Restaurant  
Main Street Center  
9992 Main Street, Fairfax  
Contact: Tin 703-207-4669

**7:30 PM Reston Evening (RE)**

Reston Museum  
1639 Washington Plaza  
Lake Anne Village Ctr. Reston  
Contact Wendy 703-319-4114

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## June's Meeting:

## Unit Meetings Are "Do You Own Thing!"



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)  
4026 Hummer Road, Suite #214 Annandale, VA 22003-2403  
703-658-9150. Web address: [www.lwv-fairfax.org](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org)

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

## Time Sensitive Materials

**The LWVFA Fairfax Voter ©  
May, 2008**

**Mary Grace Lintz, Acting President  
Ron Page, Compositor  
Sherry Zachry, Editor/Coordinator**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the public 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

(Dues year ends thru June 30th.)

**Membership Category:** Individual \$55 \_\_\_\_; Household (2 persons—1 Bulletin) \$75 \_\_\_\_; Advocate Member \$100 \_\_\_\_;  
Student \$27.50 \_\_\_\_ (Coll. Attending \_\_\_\_\_)

**Membership is:** New \_\_\_\_; Renewal \_\_\_\_; Reinstate \_\_\_\_; Subsidy Requested \_\_\_\_

We value membership. A subsidy fund is available, check block above and include whatever you can afford.

**Dues are not tax deductible.** Tax-deductible donations must be written on a separate check payable to **LWVFA Ed. Fund.**

**Please Print Clearly!**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Unit** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip + 4** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 your interests:

|                                           |                                                |                                            |                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Govt      | <input type="checkbox"/> Voting Procedures     | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care       | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal           | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Write in Below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Systems  |                                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Water                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Problems |                                                 |