



Natasha Barrett, from WJLA (ABC 7) and host of "Let's Talk Live" on News Channel 8, presides over the program.



Logo developed by Diane Olson and Joan Pennington. The TPSM committee encompasses a number of partnership organizations.



Morag Cole relates how her grandfather supported his wife's suffragette activities in 1912. Morag is about to move to Atlanta, Georgia. Committee member Nancy Sargeant looks on.



Eleanor Clift, keynote speaker, writer, panelist, and author of *Founding Sisters and the 19th Amendment*.



Morag is surrounded by Clift and members of the Fairfax Station Unit (l-r Jane Barker, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Kathleen Pablo, Lois Page and O.G. Harper) who presented her with a going-away gift. Present but not in the picture: Diane Blais and Ron Page.



Guests arrive in a Model A Ford (circa 1920), in keeping with the times.



State Senator George Barker is on hand to lend his support to the project.



John Houser, Manager Occoquan Regional Park, site of the TPSM, relates to the audience plans for the memorial and invites contributions to make it a reality.



Photographs courtesy of Kathy Strauss

An Economical Suggestion for Wellness

AARP has teamed up with Walgreen's to do a Wellness Tour of the country this year. The AARP/Walgreen's Wellness Tour will be visiting over 3,000 communities across the United States in 9 customized traveling education and health-screening vehicles. Available free health screenings are worth over \$140 per person, and no appointment is necessary.

Screenings include: Total Cholesterol Levels, Blood Pressure, Bone Density, Glucose Levels, Waist Circumference, Body Mass Index.



The Wellness Tour bus will be coming to Fairfax and Alexandria at the end of May.

- May 28, 2009 Noon-6 P.M. Walgreens 10320 Main St Fairfax, VA 22030 703-591-1025
- May 31, 2009 Noon-6 P.M. Walgreens 6717 Richmond Hwy Alexandria, VA 22306 703-721-0912
- June 1, 2009 Noon-6 P.M. Walgreens 7629 Richmond Hwy Alexandria, VA 22306 703-768-5901

More information can be found at <http://www.walgreens.com/dmi/bustour/default.jsp>

Skyline Plaza Condo Election Needs LWVFA Workers

By Una White, Elections Coordinator

League fundraising needs you. The Skyline Plaza election will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2009. Registration starts at 8AM until noon and again from 3PM until about 8:15 plus another hour or two to count the ballots and report to the condo association.

To volunteer call Doris James at 703-451-1268 or Kay McQuie at 703-765-7104. We need all the help we can get.

News Flash! LWVFA Secures Three-Way Tie For Naumann Award

LWVFA's Turning Point Suffragist Memorial project was named one of three winners of the Madeline Naumann Achievement Award at the LWV of the National Capital Area's annual convention in May 9. The award was accepted by Sherry Zachry, LWVFA's president.

The award was established in December 1998, in honor of the first president of LWNCA. It recognizes outstanding achievements of local Leagues, whose efforts, applicability, or interests transcend local League boundaries. The award is presented biannually in odd numbered years and consists of an award certificate and an unrestricted grant of \$300. Because of the three-way tie, each winning League was awarded \$100. Other winners included one in Maryland and one in D.C.

The National Capital Area League includes the following Leagues: from Virginia--Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax Area, Falls Church, Loudon; from Maryland-- Anne Arundel, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties; D. C. and the State Leagues of Maryland and Virginia.

Jane Barker, chair of the TPSM Steering Committee, submitted the lengthy proposal in February, with some help from Lois Page. In addition to several pages of explanation, the proposal included an extensive collection of clippings and press releases. Jane has indicated that the plan is for the award money to become a contribution to the memorial construction. A percentage of all TPSM contributions is returned to LWVFA to help with Voter Service activities.

According to President Zachry, [the NCA selection committee] "mentioned that the TPSM project sounded very intriguing and some folks said they wanted to go see the memorial... However, I persuaded some to make it a field trip and lunch in Occoquan!"

In the application, the title of the project is defined as follows: "Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, the establishment of a community-wide organization that is defining, designing, and raising funds to expand a current memorial to the suffragists who were incarcerated in the Lorton Workhouse and the D.C area during the fight for women's suffrage."

 Last Month's Topic Responses . . .

Middle East Unit Discussions Enhanced by First Hand Experiences

By Lois Page, Program Director

The briefing/at-large gathering was greatly enhanced by the presence of Alice Pickering whose husband has served as both Ambassador to Jordan and Israel. Alice pointed out that Libya and Sudan are not usually included as Middle East countries and are not included in the peace treaties. Generally Alice was concerned that the upcoming information on the Middle East (next year's program) include all the efforts the U.S. has made to bring about peace. The background material this time did not include recent developments. Other briefing participants had read and studied the issues extensively and had books to recommend.

One participant observed that so many significant civilizing developments seem to occur in desert climates. She concluded that the need to provide irrigation for crops leads to a need to create government controls and cooperation. Another pointed out that we should consider the Middle East the cradle of *Western Civilization*.

Regarding the long-time divisions between Sunni and Shiite Muslims, part of the background is that Mohammed's grandson was killed by the Caliphates, with the Sunnis siding with the Caliphs and the Shiites still considering the direct descendant to be the only recognized leader. The book *Infidel* was recommended for insight into the differences. Karen Armstrong in her book *Islam* points out that Mohammed was trying to get rid of tribal law and expand the rights of women.

Western influence was greatly in evidence as a result of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, which greatly destabilized the Middle East. The collapse of the Ottoman Empire led to much meddling by Western powers, including drawing new lines for countries. The book *Paris 1919* illustrates how the unfortunate provisions of the treaty continued to fester through the 30's. The group agreed that Europe is greatly

to blame for the Middle East situation. India and Pakistan today are the result of British meddling. Russia, Romania, and Poland have a great responsibility as well.

Saudi Arabia was founded as an extremist Muslim power, united politically rather than tribally, and as a result of huge profits on oil has been able to fund madrassas all over the Muslim world. In most cases, this extremist education is the only education young Muslim males receive. Even Pakistan, that had something of an education system in the past, has allowed it to deteriorate and the madrassas have taken over. One participant felt that Egypt is another major source of terrorist thinking and the real brains behind Al Queda.



Where we are now is the promotion of a two-state solution, something not much mentioned before the second George Bush. The issue of "right of return" is not an easy one. Who should have that right? The original settlers (now quite old)? Their descendants?

One of the participants quoted an article stating the roots of Islamic rage lie in envy, and in the humiliation of young Arab men who are under employed and educated in the madrassas. A vivid illustration of this can be seen in the film *Syriana*.

Another unit was greatly enriched by the experiences of one of its members, Kathleen Pablo, having been sent to Palestine several years ago on a State Department grant to teach conflict resolution. One encounter stands out in her mind. Included in the group of participants was a Palestinian named Hassan who asked the group one day to stop and have tea with his family. Hassan's family owned 1,000 acres of land before the Jewish state was set up in 1948. Now he has control over 8 acres and is involved in a long-standing attempt to attain some compensation for the land

(See **Middle East**, Page 10, Col.1)

(Middle East, From Page 9)

he lost. He holds out little hope for this. His well-educated and promising son, whom Kathleen met, has no prospects for future advancement. He is not allowed to serve in the Israeli army because they do not trust him; he is not Jewish. Without serving in the army, he has no ability to advance his career. Hassan pointed out some recent refugees to Israel from Russia and said they have more rights than his family who have thousand year old roots in the area. This is an illustration of the thorny "right of return" issue currently being debated.

Kathleen observed many miles of covered barbed wire corridors. She says each side is terrified of the other and made an interesting comment; one half of the Arabs in Israel are Roman Catholic. Muslims still hold on to the key to the Church of the Sepulcher because competing Catholic sects cannot agree on whose responsibility it is.

A number of unit participants agreed that many of the Middle East problems are economic. For example, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Saudis are very poor and very tribal. As for American

Muslims, some claimed that a number of fundamentalist Muslims simply disapprove of American social norms, but are not terrorists.

Among sources suggested by unit members is *Abraham* by Peter Feil.

Fairfax Day unit members reported they "had a good discussion which brought to mind information we had forgotten over time and information that was new to us. Our future as a country and peace in the Middle East depends on understanding the history of the area, the part the U.S. played in that history and what motivates people in this part of the world.

"We believe this is the type of timely topic that league should include in our discussions in the future. It is somewhat of a departure from the type of study we usually have, but topics such as this that are so important to our future need to be explored. Perhaps meetings which include the public on such topics could increase interest in the league and bring some growth in membership."

(State Convention, From Page EF-8)

state League coffers; winners were announced at the end of Sunday's session. Although rainy and dreary weather prevailed during the weekend, it did not dampen the spirits and enthusiasm of the Leaguers who gathered, made new friends and enjoyed each other's company while doing the League's business.



Incoming LWVFA president Janey George, outgoing president Sherry Zachary, and program director Lois Page are all smiles at the conclusion of the two-day convention.

(Hernandez, From Page 3)

Lawyers for Civil Rights and the military. "It will provide an opportunity for voter registration groups to work hand in hand with those responsible for administering elections in Virginia to better the election process," Cunningham said of the task force in a media advisory released April 23, 2009.

Again, Olga brings recognition and honor to the league of Women Voters with her good work, dedication, and visibility in the community.

(Andrews, From Page 3)

Throughout all of her "career" Anne has served on many League of Women Voters committees and advisory groups. Quoting the COY Banquet program, "There are few people who take the time and energy to affect a community so greatly and as positively as Anne. Because of her outstanding contributions and persistent efforts, Fairfax County is a healthier community," and the Fairfax Area League is proud to count Anne Andrews as one of its

This Month's Unit Meeting Locations –

Topic: Aging in Fairfax

Members and visitors are encouraged to attend any meeting convenient for them, including the “At Large Meeting” and briefing on Saturdays. As of May 12, 2009 the locations were correct, please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend. Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations.

Saturday, June 6, 2009

10:00 am ‘At Large’ Unit meeting & Discussion Leaders’ Briefing

Packard Center Conference Room
4026 Hummer Road,
Annandale 22003

Contact: Lois Page 703-690-0908

Monday, June 8

1:30 pm Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Classroom
Spring Village Drive,
Springfield 22150

Contact: Kay, 703-644-2670

Tuesday, June 9

12:30 pm McLean (MCL)

(note new meeting place)

Star Nut Gourmet
1445 Loughlin Avenue,
McLean 22101

Contact: Anne, 703-448-6626

7:45 pm Vienna Evening (VE) & Dinner Unit – Joint meeting

1835 St. Boniface St.,
Vienna 22182

Contact Gail: 703-281-1143

Wednesday, June 10

9:30 am Fairfax Station (FXS)

7902 Bracksford Ct., Fairfax Station
22039

Contact: Lois 703-690-0908

9:30 am Mt. Vernon Day (MVD)

Luncheon meeting at 10:30 a.m.
Pema’s Restaurant, 8430 Richmond
Hwy

Contact: Gail 703-360-6561

12:00 noon Chantilly/Herndon (CHD)

Sully District Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd.,
Centreville 20151

Contact: Susan, 703-391-0666

6:15 pm Dinner Unit (DU)

Will meet with Vienna Evening Unit
on Tuesday, June 9

Contact: Tin 703-207-4669

7:30 pm Reston Evening Unit (RDU)

Place: TBA

Contact: Lucy 703-757-5893

Thursday, June 11

9:00 am Reston Day (RD)

Luncheon meeting
2615 John Milton Drive
Reston 20171

Contact: Rona, 703-476-5758

9:15 am Fairfax City Day (FXD)

10022 Lochness Ct.,
Vienna 22181

Contact: Bobbie 703-938-1486

Or Jeanne 703-591-4580

9:30 am Springfield (SPF)

Packard Center (Lg. Conf. Rm.)
4026 Hummer Rd,
Annandale 22003

Contact: Nancy 703-256-6570
or Peg, 703-256-9420

7:45 pm Mt. Vernon Evening (MVE)

Paul Spring Retirement Community
Mt Vernon Room
7116 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria 22307

Contact: Marge, 703-768-5212

**This is our last issue for the league year.
Have a safe and prosperous summer!**



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
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703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org

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June, 2009

Sherry Zachry, President
Ron Page, Editor
Mary Grace Lintz, 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 June 30, 2010.)

Membership Category: Individual \$65 ____; Household (2 persons–1 *VOTER*) \$90 ____; Donation \$ ____
Student \$34.50 ____; (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 (Specify)
<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	