



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE FAIRFAX AREA

Fairfax VOTER

May 2009

Volume 61, Issue 9

Annual Meeting: Gather With Friends, Conduct League Business, Learn About Sewell-Belmont House

Be part of the action and join your fellow League members at LWVFA's Annual Meeting. You will enjoy an interesting speaker Jennifer Krafchick who will shed some new light on the women's suffrage movement with memorabilia from that era. What do the Schools Committee members have on their minds for a change in local Program? Read page 7 of the enclosed kit and find out, then come and cast your vote on their recommendations. How should we allocate financial resources? Read the proposed budgets so you can decide about a dues change and putting funds where you want the League to focus. Would you enjoy seeing old friends? Of course! See you on May 16.

Calendar

<u>May</u>	No Units – LWVFA Annual Meeting
01	<i>Law Day/June Fairfax Voter</i> Deadline/NCA Board Meeting
2-3	LWV-VA Convention in Fairfax
05	Cities and Towns Elections
09	LWV NCA Annual Convention
12-13	FCPS Budget Hearing (2 nd)
16	LWVFA Annual Meeting - Greenspring
16	McLean Community Center Election
20	Board Meeting/June UC Letter Deadline
25	Memorial Day

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2009 ANNUAL MEETING KIT IS INSIDE!

Look for the 'blue' pages and take them with you to the 60th LWVFA Annual Meeting on May 16, 9:45 AM



The President's Message

May brings flowers, League conventions and Annual Meetings! As you have noticed, this *VOTER* includes the 2009 Annual Meeting Kit for the 61st LWVFA and 27th LWVFA Ed Fund Annual Meetings on Saturday, May 16; note it contains proposed budgets for FY2009-10; bylaws amendments and a proposed change to the LWVFA program. Remember to take this *VOTER* with you to the meeting; also there is information and additional material posted on our website at lwv-fairfax.org.

Our Annual Meeting speaker is Jennifer Krafchik from Sewall-Belmont House and Museum. She has some interesting memorabilia to share about women's suffrage in the early 1900's. Again, we will meet in the Hunters Crossing Conference Center of Greenspring Retirement Community. Deadline for luncheon reservations is **May 4**, so be sure to send in yours to Jean Hill—see page 7 for the form.

I want to say a word (or several words) about League nonpartisanship and League advocacy; not surprisingly, sometimes there is very fine line between the two concepts. As you know, the League of Women Voters never endorses candidates or political parties; however, we do advocate, or lobby, our government officials on issues of importance to us on which we have taken a position. Usually, our advocacy (which can also mean taking action “against” a proposal) is tied to a particular piece of legislation, regardless of its sponsor. This means that the “person” or name of the person attached to bill is not part of our advocacy, other than to identify the sponsor or sponsors of the legislation along with the number assigned to it (such as House Bill or “HB 482”).

Recently, we received an Action Alert from the national League, LWVUS, asking that League leaders (usually presidents) contact our congressional delegation to urge support for “President Obama’s budget” because it included proposals on health care and climate change [global warming]—issues that the League supports. I chose to not share this Alert with the LWVFA membership because I thought attaching the President’s name to the legislation implied that we were urging support for the entire budget

proposal of the President – not specific parts of the budget. To me, the wording of the Action Alert “crossed that fine line” between supporting a political figure and supporting particular legislation. I registered my opinion with the LWVUS staff and was told that the LWVUS board had approved the Action Alert because national health care and climate change are the two main issues of the LWVUS Action Agenda for this session of Congress. I accept that the alert was clearly well intended but in this time of words having several meanings or interpretations based on one’s own perception, I believe the choice of words in the Action Alert presented an “unclear” message to those who do not understand or may be skeptical of the League’s nonpartisan stance. What do you think?

See you at Annual Meeting on May 16th!

Sherry

A Special Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to two new members who joined at the national level: Kathleen Snow and Mrs. Williams Cover.

LWVFA Fairfax *VOTER* 2008 - 2009

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

Peak Oil Discussion Leads to More Questions: Suggestions for Further Study from Units

By: Lois Page, Program Director

LWVFA Units found this topic interesting and said the information was clear and well written. Discussion was lively. Generally members favored trying several alternative approaches to solving energy needs although they recognized that many solutions (e.g. electric cars) were in their infancy. Infrastructure improvements were supported as was a federal gasoline tax increase and a carbon tax. Public funds could be used to support and encourage development of innovative technologies and for infrastructure upgrading. Here are excerpts from unit reports.

CHD

We thought the date [when we reach peak oil] was arbitrary as circumstances change daily. Need a good selling point to get people to accept investment for the future. Was uneasy regarding carbon tax and didn't know enough about it, especially in reference to commercial versus individual. We need to be sure of the trade offs.

VIENNA EVENING

We understood the topic and but we found ourselves wanting info about other energy sources (LNG, coal, nuclear, etc). Major question: although we did see the source for the chart, it simply didn't seem to track at all with the info given in the study. Percentages were not the same; we couldn't find plastics, etc. We figured we should "believe" the study and not the chart. Right? Oil use is market-driven and increasing cost will eventually lead people to "mend their ways."

DINNER UNIT

Question on The World's Diminishing Oil: Has anyone done a study of what is the energy used to produce new energy efficient appliances, cars, and other manufactured products? Also, is there information about the energy use and type of material waste generated by the disposal of old appliances, cars and other manufactured products that are being replaced by the more energy efficient ones?

GREENSPRING

The use of gasoline decreased and Metro ridership increased when prices went up last year. What about the mileage tax instead of the gas tax? Is mass transit the solution? The dense development around Metro stations and other sites is a positive step. We also discussed other energy problems-carbon emissions and wind mills which we support, no matter that they spoil the view. It is time for consensus and action.

FAIRFAX STATION

O.G. Harper provided an overview/context. Dr. Jack Harper led an interesting discussion, providing information additional to briefing materials. At the end of the lengthy discussion we found that we had actually covered all of the points -- perhaps in a rather free-form fashion, but certainly comprehensively. Of greatest concern, was the fact that so many do not seem to grasp the immediacy of the problem. We discussed how to push/lead people to see that we're running out of time; and that even small accommodations, if implemented by everyone, can help a great deal.

MOUNT VERNON DAY

[Could use] more explanation of terms. [Would appreciate] examples of "permaculture." We need to know more. The 2012-15 crunch sounds reasonable, the economic downturn decreased oil demand but population explosions will continue to increase it

RESTON DAY

Several of our members had interesting facts to offer about the history of energy & the government over the past 20 years.

RESTON EVENING

It would be interesting to understand how other countries are addressing this issue -- with conservation and/or alternative energy. How is mass transit funded for those nations that use trains heavily? Are the trains electric? We would like to know more about the topic. There was a great deal of discussion of the last oil crisis in the '70s for those of us who lived through it. An interesting expansion of this might be to study how ARRA is going to impact transportation and alternative energy research.

SPRINGFIELD

Clear, relevant info--a pleasure to read and discuss! We'd like updates. Our group had suggestions on simplifying lifestyle, changing expectations and perceptions on what is the best lifestyle.

MT VERNON EVENING

[Would like] a pro and con study of nuclear energy drawing on experiences in Europe. (Ed note: pro and con articles on nuclear energy appeared in last year's Voter and were prepared by this committee.) Interest was expressed on energy audits. Group felt an oil crunch is more likely from 2012-2025. We expect tele-working and concentrated communities

See **Peak Oil**, Page 6, Col 1

Comment Focus on Various Human Services . . .

Zachry Testifies in Response To Fairfax County's Budget Proposal

President Sherry Zachry testified at the March 31, 2009 public hearing on Fairfax County's budget. She recognized the difficulty of current circumstances and commended the Board "for the extraordinary efforts that you have made to seek citizen input before making your decisions." She encouraged the supervisors who were working to preserve the penny allotment for affordable housing noting the continued need for this program especially in light of foreclosures. She said, "If the penny is halved, you are essentially dropping the program since one half of the penny is currently allocated for debt on housing already purchased."

The League supports the proposed increases in user fees "for a wide range of county services, including re-imposition of the automobile "decal" fee. Especially now in tough budget times, it is appropriate to increase fees for those who can afford to pay them."

Most of the testimony focused on various human services, pointing out "that whether the proposal is to cut staff or to cut programs, or both, the result will be the same to the citizens of Fairfax County since a needed service—something that is important to our quality of life—will no longer be available."

- "We oppose the proposed cuts in services for senior citizens that limit senior transportation and close some senior centers... According to a League study in the County, our aging members are most alarmed about the cuts in transportation, a service that allows them to remain in their own homes in spite of not being able to drive for groceries and doctor appointments. In fact, our members were hoping that senior transportation services would be increased since the current income threshold leads to hardships and outrageous taxi service expense.
- The proposed elimination of the Supervised Visitation and Exchange Center—which serves to protect vulnerable women and children in situations of uncooperative or potentially violent exchanges of child custody-- is very troubling to the League...In our opinion, none of the proposals offered for replacement services are satisfactory.
- Other concerns are cuts to services for young children, such as Head Start and subsidized child-care, and cuts to the victims of crime through reductions in staffing for the Victims Services Unit. Again, these proposals will

affect some of the most vulnerable in our community, disadvantaged children and families, as well as victims of crime.

- We think it is not very wise to decrease support for anti-gang and anti-drug initiatives by cutting funds for successful after-school activities in middle schools... and cutting the School Resource Officers Program... In the March 27, 2009 article in *The Washington Post*, Metro Section, which reported the arrests of seven Chantilly-area teenagers, it was county officials who said: 'the episode serves as a reminder that middle school-age youths are the most vulnerable to being lured down the path of delinquency, drugs and even violence.' County officials further...noting that more than 70 percent of the county's seventh and eighth grade students attend after-school programs and those who attend the programs see sharply improved academic performance. Quoting the article further, 'police report a 32 percent drop in youth gang activity from 2006 to 2008.'
- As we have stated in past years, the League believes that supplements for magistrates, the entry point to the courts and justice system in Virginia, are essential. The State's recent legislation requiring that magistrate salaries be the same across the Commonwealth, which is a low level for this area, and restricting future supplements will make it very difficult to staff these important public safety positions in Fairfax County. We understand that no newly hired magistrates will be able to receive supplements, but currently paid supplements are grandfathered. If the supplements are cut for those in the county who currently receive them, as is proposed in this budget, they cannot be reinstated in the future according to this legislation. It seems to us that cutting current supplements would inflict further hardship on the people filling these positions and ultimately on the citizens of the County who benefit from these services.
- The League has been concerned about the availability of mental health services in the Adult Detention Center (ADC) since it first studied the Fairfax jail 40 years ago. Since it appears impossible to keep persons with mental illnesses out of the jail and in more appropriate facilities or programs, we have supported bringing the services to those in the ADC who need them. Most recently, this

See **Testimony**, Page 5, Col 1



The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area

61st LWVFA [General Fund] & 27th LWVFA Education Fund

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 10:15AM

Greenspring
Hunters Crossing Conference Center,
7410 Spring Village Drive
Springfield, VA

Directions are on back cover of this Kit

*Luncheon Reservation Form, can be found on
Page 7 of the May Fairfax VOTER.*

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to allow members to collectively consider and adopt proposed bylaws changes; consider and adopt an annual budget, and to elect officers and directors for the organization. Members may also give direction to the board.

Please take this Kit with you to the May 16 Annual Meeting.

The Rules of Procedure, when consented to by the members, become the tools which permit a majority to accomplish its purpose within a reasonable period of time, but only after allowing the minority a reasonable opportunity to express its views on issues.

PROPOSED RULES OF PROCEDURE

- I. The Bylaws of the League of Women Voters and Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised ("Parliamentary Procedure") will generally guide the proceedings.
- II. Only members in good standing in the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area will be permitted to speak and vote.

III. Discussion

- Speakers shall identify themselves by **name** and **unit**.
- Each speaker will be allowed two minutes, unless otherwise announced.
- The chair will not recognize a person the second time until all who wish to speak have done so.
- Debate must be germane to the subject.
- Members may request an extension of time.

IV. Motions and Amendments

- Lengthy motions and amendments shall be written and submitted to the Secretary.
- An amendment may be amended only once.
- As all agenda items require prior member notice, motions to amend the bylaws or program, which change the intent or enlarge the scope, will not be permitted.
- Current Positions. Members have an opportunity to reaffirm or reject current positions. After an item listed is moved for adoption, a MOTION TO STRIKE OR AMEND a particular position may be made.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE FAIRFAX AREA
61st ANNUAL MEETING
PROPOSED AGENDA

9:45a.m.	Registration and Coffee Bar
10:15 a.m.	Call to Order President's Welcome & Introductions Announcements
10:20 a.m.	Adoption of Rules of Procedures Adoption of Agenda Appointments of Parliamentarian and Reading Committee
10:30 a.m.	Treasurer's Report - 3 rd Quarter LWVFA FY08-09 (Therese Martin)
10:35 a.m.	Presentation of Proposed FY 2009-2010 LWVFA Budget (Bill Thomas) Consideration & Questions
10:45 a.m.	Presentation of Proposed Amendment to LWVFA 2008-10 Program – Elementary School schedules (Lois Page, Program Director & Ginger Shea, Schools Committee Chair)
10:50 a.m.	Presentation of Proposed LWVFA Bylaws Amendments (Mary Grace Lintz) Consideration & Questions
11:00 a..m.	<i>Break</i>
11:05 a..m.	Speaker: Jennifer Krafchik, Director of Special Collections at Sewall-Belmont
12:00 p.m.	End Question & Answer Session & Recess for Lunch
12:15 p.m.	Lunch Served
1:30 p.m.	Report of the Nominating Committee & Nominations from floor Election of Officers & Directors for LWVFA
1:25 p.m.	Adoption of LWVFA FY 2009-2010 Budget Adoption of LWVFA Bylaws Amendments Adoption of Amendment to LWVFA 2008-10 Program
1:35 p.m.	Adjourn LWVFA Annual Meeting

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE FAIRFAX AREA
EDUCATION FUND – 27th ANNUAL MEETING
PROPOSED AGENDA

1:40 p.m.	Call to Order Adoption of Rules Adoption of Agenda
1:45 p.m.	Treasurer's Report - 3 rd Quarter FY 06-07
1:50 p.m.	Presentation of Proposed FY07-08 LWVFA Ed Fund Budget Consideration, Questions & Adoption of EF Budget
1:55 p.m.	Presentation of LWVFA EF Bylaws Amendments Consideration, Questions & Adoption of EF Bylaws
2:00 p.m.	Report of Nominating Committee Election of Officers & Directors for LWVFA EF
2:05 p.m.	Direction to the Boards
2:15 p.m.	Closing Remarks
2:30 p.m.	Adjourn

Memo From Budget Committee regarding LWVFA & LWVFA EF FY2009-2010 Proposed Budgets

TO: Members of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area
FROM: 2009-2010 Budget Committee: Bill Thomas, Chair; Diane Hardcastle; Carol Hawn, Una White; Therese Martin (*ex officio*) and Sherry Zachry (*ex-officio*)
SUBJECT: Proposed budgets for General Fund and Education Fund for fiscal year 2009-2010

The proposed General Fund and Education Fund budgets for 2009-10 appear on the following pages. The Ed Fund spends \$14,365 for operations, a decrease of over \$900 from spending projected in this fiscal year. The Voter Service budget, the largest category of spending in the Ed Fund, actually receives an increase this year, reflecting a projected increase in the number of candidates for State positions this fall. The savings come from administrative expenses.

General Fund expenses are projected at \$32,350 plus \$6,500 in support for the Ed Fund. General Fund administrative expenses are about the same as this year, while Ed Fund support is increased by \$1,500

Last year, we held the line on dues. **But this year, we have been forced to increase dues to \$65 a year for regular members and \$90 for joint memberships.** This increase is prompted by several factors: (1) a likely decrease in Community Election income as the Reston Comm. Center changes its election procedures, (2) the cost of the National Convention in the spring of 2010 vs. the State Convention this year, and (3) the fact that we have nearly used up accumulated surpluses from previous years (see below).

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area Proposed Statement of Condition at End of Fiscal Year

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Actual FY 07-08</u>	<u>Adopted FY 08-09</u>	<u>Projected FY 08-09</u>	<u>Proposed FY 09-10</u>	<u>Notes:</u>
General Fund	A.	Operating Balance	12,125	5,720	8,062	2,752	Eqpt. Res. comb. w/ Oper Bal
	B.	Reserve Funds					
		Equipment purchase	1,300	1,300	1,300	-	
		Contingency					
	1.						
	2. *	Reserve	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	
	D.	Special Funds	65				
		Subtotal	20,490	14,020	16,362	9,752	
		Pre-paid dues**	8,880	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
		Total Cash	29,370	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
Education Fund	A.	Operating Balance	514	#N/A	(106)	529	
	B.	Special Funds	836	-	600	-	
		Total Cash	1,350	#N/A	494	529	

* LWVUS recommends a reserve amount equal to at least two months' operations (for both GF and EF)

* Pre-payment of dues not considered in the budget

**League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area
General Fund Budget for FY 2009-2010**

<u>Line</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Actual FY 07-08</u>	<u>Adopted FY 08-09</u>	<u>Projected FY 08-09</u>	<u>Proposed FY 09-10</u>	<u>Notes:</u>
I. INCOME & TRANSFERS						
A.	Dues					Regular Joint
1.	Current Year	12,700	13,575	12,290	14,440	Dues @ 65 90
2.	Prepaid for next year	0				Assumptions for dues
B.	Member contributions					200 Regular memberships
1.	Direct	1,305	750	1,500	1,000	16 Joint memberships
2.	Unit projects	996	2,500	1,500	2,000	0 Student memberships
C.	Community contributions	540	500	500	500	
D.	Community elections	13,050	10,000	12,700	10,000	
E.	Interest	636	750	300	300	
F.	Special projects	0	0	0		
G.	Miscellaneous income					
1.	Meeting income	3,591	4,000	4,000	4,000	Item II.C.6 reflects exp.
2.	Other	268	0	0	0	
	Total Income	33,086	32,075	32,790	32,240	
G. TRANSFERS IN						
1.	From equipment reserve					
2.	From special funds reserve			65		
3.	From operating balance resv	3,581	6,405	4,063	6,610	
	Total Transfers In	3,581	6,405	4,128	6,610	
I. TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS		36,666	38,480	36,918	38,850	
II. EXPENSES & TRANSFERS						
A. GENERAL OPERATIONS						
1.	Equipment maintenance	0	100	0	0	
2.	Gen'l office supplies, incl postage	406	700	300	400	
3.	Communications					
a.	Telephone (1)	397	400	330	440	
b.	Internet (1)	270	400	245	325	
c.	Web site (1)	106	150	120	80	
4.	Liability insurance	250	250	250	250	
5.	State corporation fee	25	25	25	25	
6.	Bulk mail (1)					
a.	Mail permit	175	175	180	180	
b.	Mailing expenses	650	850	450	550	
7.	Equipment & PC software	443	200	75	200	
8.	Rent (1)	1,307	1,310	1,368	1,400	8 mo. @175
9.	Employee compensation	3,042	5,000	5,000	5,000	Incl soc sec & empl related costs
10.	General office copying (1)	405	600	500	450	Incl costs for other line items
	Subtotal: Gen'l expenses	7,474	10,160	8,843	9,300	
B. BOARD & ADMINISTRATION						
1.	President	13	250	125	150	
2.	Secretary	0	100	25	25	
3.	Treasurer	105	75	100	75	
4.	Board Tools, orientation	87	200	125	150	Retreat
5.	Finance/Director	3	100	25	25	

NOTES: (1) Expenses shared with Education Fund

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area
General Fund Budget for FY 2009-2010

<u>Line</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Actual FY 07-08</u>	<u>Adopted FY 08-09</u>	<u>Projected FY 08-09</u>	<u>Proposed FY 09-10</u>	<u>Notes:</u>
B.						
6.	Membership					
a.	Postage & Supplies	182	250	225	250	
	Membership Materials &					
b.	Outreach	95	200	250	200	
7.	Program director	80	150	50	100	
8.	Unit coordinator	80	200	75	75	
9.	Public relations	0	100	50	50	
10.	Historian	38	50	50	50	
11.	Miscellaneous	0	25	25	25	
	Subtotal: Board & Admin	684	1,700	1,125	1,175	
C.	CONVENTIONS/MEETINGS					
1.	Workshops/spec meetings	330	500	400	400	
2.	LWVUS convention	4,212	0	0	3,200	
3.	LWVVA convention	0	2,700	2,700	0	
4.	LWVVA council	105	0	0	100	Alternate years with LWVVA conv
5.	LWVNCA convention	175	140	150	150	
6.	Meetings: Annual & General	3,234	4,000	4,000	4,000	
	Subtotal: Conv & Mtgs	8,055	7,340	7,250	7,850	
D.	AFFILIATIONS					PMP Amt.
1.	LWVUS PMP (2)	6,314	6,170	6,170	6,160	29.20 -5.00 credit
2.	LWVVA PMP	3,525	3,560	3,555	3,510	15.00
3.	LWVNCA PMP	254	250	250	230	1.00
	Subtotal: Affiliations	10,093	9,980	9,975	9,900	
E.	VOTER/Ann. Mtg. Kit					Membership for PMP calc. (3)
1.	Printing (1)	3,704	3,300	3,500	3,500	# Cat
2.	Supplies	0	250	100	100	206 Local indiv.
	Subtotal: Bulletin	3,704	3,550	3,600	3,600	13 1st Household
F.	ACTION					15 2nd Household
1.	Director/Unit action	0	75	25	25	0 Student
2.	Activities & support pubs	0	200	25	25	85 National
	Subtotal: Action	0	275	50	50	
G.	SPECIAL PROJECTS					
1.	Community elections	73	300	300	300	Costs related to admin of elections
2.	Coalitions/sponsorships	50	75	75	75	
3.	Other	312	0	65	0	
	Subtotal: Special Projects	435	375	440	375	
H.	MISCELLANEOUS	156	100	135	100	
	TOTAL OPERATIONS	30,601	33,480	31,418	32,350	
I.	ED FUND Support	6,000	5,000	5,500	6,500	Based on Ed Fund requirements
	Total Expenses + EF Support	36,601	38,480	36,918	38,850	
J.	TRANSFERS OUT					
1.	To equipment reserve fund		0	0	0	
	To contingency & reserve					
2.	funds	65	0	0	0	
3.	To pre-paid dues	0	0	0	0	
4.	To operating balance	0	0	0	0	
	Subtotal: Transfers Out	65	0	0	0	
II.	TOTAL EXPENSES & TSFR	36,666	38,480	36,918	38,850	

NOTES: (1) Expense shared with Education Fund

(2) LWVUS gives a credit of \$5.00 for each national member we serve

(3) Our 13 Honorary Members do not count for PMP purposes.

**League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area
Education Fund Budget for FY 2009-2010**

<u>Line</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Actual FY 07-08</u>	<u>Adopted FY 08-09</u>	<u>Projected FY 08-09</u>	<u>Proposed FY 09-10</u>	<u>Notes:</u>
I.	INCOME & TRANSFERS					
A.	Member contributions					
1.	Direct	660	1,000	2,000	1,500	
2.	Through unit projects	2,799	3,500	2,500	2,500	
B.	Community contributions	3,250	3,200	2,900	3,500	Facts for Voters
C.	Voter service reimbursements	85	100	450	300	
D.	Publications	33	50	300	100	
E.	Memorial & spec funds	670	0	600	0	
F.	Miscellaneous	600	0	175	0	Incl. grant income
G.	From LWVFA General Fund	6,000	5,000	5,500	6,500	
	Total Income	14,097	12,850	14,425	14,400	
H.	OTHER TRANSFERS IN					
1.	From operating balance	895	1,075	620	0	
2.	From memorial funds	448	700	670	600	
3.	From restricted funds			166	0	
	Total Transfers In	1,343	1,775	1,456	600	
I.	TOTAL INCOME & TRANSFERS	15,440	14,625	15,881	15,000	
II.	EXPENSES & TRANSFERS					
A.	OPERATIONS					
1.	State corporation fee	30	25	25	25	
2.	Liability insurance	250	250	250	250	
3.	Gen'l office & admin cost	8	50	25	50	
4.	Office copying (1)	22	200	150	200	Incl. costs for other line items
5.	Rent (1)	653	650	685	700	
B.	ADMINISTRATION					
1.	Communications					
a.	Telephone (1)	366	200	340	240	Cox will provide both services
b.	Internet (1)	108	200	245	160	under a bundled contract
c.	Web Site (1)	106	100	120	80	Easy Web contract
2.	Mail - bulk mail (1)	250	300	250	250	
C.	PROGRAM					
1.	Study committees & director	42	100	50	50	
2.	Printing studies (in Bulletin) (1)	2,614	3,000	2,910	2,500	
3.	Special Projects	0	0	166	0	
D.	PUBLICATIONS	0	50		0	
	Subtotal Items A-D	4,449	5,125	5,216	4,505	
E.	VOTERS SERVICE					
1.	Director expenses	27	100	100	100	
2.	Facts for Voters	5,692	6,000	6,325	6,000	
3.	Projects: Voters Guide	2,698	1,000	1,225	1,860	
4.	Projects: What's on the Ballot	1,725	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5.	Forums and other projects	0	500	500	500	
6.	Voter Service Outreach	0	200	200	200	
	Subtotal Voters Service	10,142	8,800	9,350	9,660	
F.	MISC & SPECIAL PROJECTS	13	700	715	200	Uses for memorial funds
	TOTAL Expenses - Operations	14,604	14,625	15,281	14,365	
G.	TRANSFERS OUT					
1.	To operating balance	0	0	0	635	
2.	To memorial funds (2)	670		600	0	Voss & Ormsby 2008-9 contrib
3.	To restricted (grant & Facts) fnds	166		0	0	
	Total Transfers Out	836	0	600	635	
II.	TOTAL EXPENSES & TSFRS	15,440	14,625	15,881	15,000	

NOTES: (1) Expense shared with the General Fund

(2) The special funds are not spent in the proposed budget; their use is governed by the Board

Amendment to Change LWVFA 2008-2010 Adopted Program

According to LWVFA Bylaws, after the members have adopted the LWVFA biennial program, it can be changed as follows:

Article IX – Program, Sec.3 Adoption

5. Changes in the program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made by a **three-fifths** vote at a general meeting, provided that:

- 1) Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least 30 days before the general membership meeting at which the change is to be voted upon, and
- 2) The change has been discussed at unit meetings preceding the general meeting.

Therefore, the LWVFA Board approves the Schools Committee offering at the May 16, 2009 Annual Meeting the following amendment to the 2008-2010 Program:

The Schools Committee moves that the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area conduct a study of issues regarding the elementary school day, week, and year in Fairfax County, with the possibility of developing a consensus. Presented by Ginger Shea, LWVFA Schools Committee Chair

PROPOSED 2009 AMENDMENTS TO LWVFA & LWVFA Education Fund BYLAWS

Following is a summary of proposed changes to the LWVFA [GF] Bylaws. To view the proposed wording in the text of the Bylaws, please go to the LWVFA website www.lwv-fairfax.org where the complete Bylaws with proposed changes are shown in red font. Copies of the complete Bylaws with changes printed in red ink will be available at the Annual Meeting, also. If you would like to have an electronic file of the Bylaws sent to you, contact the office at league@lwv-fairfax.org.

Report of the 2009 Bylaws Committee of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

The 2009 Bylaws Committee makes the following recommendations that affect both the General Fund and Education Fund Bylaws. These changes can be seen in the red lined copies of the Bylaws available on the LWVFA website and at Annual Meeting on May 16, 2009.

1. Reduce the elected directors from ten to eight.

For several years, nominating committees have either been unable to find a complete slate or have done so with great difficulty and/or arm-twisting. Members are willing to do what they regard as small jobs or duties that involve a short duration of time but there is a continuing reluctance to assume the monthly meeting responsibilities inherent in a board position.

- **GF provisions affected:**

Article IV – Officers, Sec. 1 Enumeration and Election of Officers;

Article V – Board of Directors, Sec. 1 Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office.

- **EF provisions affected:** Article V, Board of Directors, Sec. 1 Number, Manner of Selection, Term of Office and Vacancies.

2. Provide for electronic decision-making.

Should we need to make decisions by electronic means, our Bylaws must so authorize. The new language is taken from recommendations of the LWV-VA Bylaws committee. We discussed the wording thoroughly and believe it is excellent. Procedural refinements should be adopted and included in the League's Policies and Procedures document (See LWVUS website for ideas). Electronic decision-making affects sections dealing with meetings and quorums.

- **GF provisions affected:**
Article V – Board of Directors, *new* Sec. 6 Electronic Board Decisions;
current Sec. 6 Quorum renumbered to Sec. 7, Sec.7 Executive Committee renumbered to Sec. 8.

- **EF provisions affected:**
Article V – Board of Directors,
Sec.2 Regular Meetings renamed “Meetings” and language of GF, Article V Sec. 5 - Meetings is added for consistency between the two documents;
Sec. 3 Special Meetings (current) is deleted and replaced with wording of new GF Section 6 Electronic board decisions;
Sec. 4 Quorum reflects same wording as in proposed GF Bylaws quorum section.

3. Delete language in both Bylaws about waiving the one-month notice of annual or special meetings “...but such notice may be waived in writing at any time, by the person entitled to such notice.”

As we reviewed meeting language, we could not figure out how this would be implemented nor could we discern why it became a part of the Bylaws.

- **GF provisions affected:**
Article VII – Meetings, Sec. 5 Notice of Annual or Special Meetings.

- **EF provisions affected:**
Article VII Sec. 4 Notice of Annual or Special Meetings.

4. Clarify the effective date for a dues increase, changing the wording from “the first day of the fiscal year” to “immediately following the vote on the budget at the Annual Meeting.” Over the past several years, the board has approved making dues increases effective at annual meeting after the budget was approved, which could be construed as violating the by-laws, which were written before accepting and recording pre-paid dues became the general practice. There is no corresponding section in the EF Bylaws.

GF provision affected: Article VI. – Finance, Sec. 2 Dues – last sentence

5. Further, we recommend that the GF and EF Bylaws be thoroughly reviewed and re-worded so that the various articles and sections are consistent with one another as appropriate. The next Bylaws Committee should start meeting several months before the next Annual Meeting to allow time for a coherent re-alignment of both documents.

As a start, this committee recommends the following **changes for the last three sentences of the EF Bylaws, Article 5 – Board of Directors, Sec. 1: insert a comma** between “...terms” and “appointed annually” for clarity and consistency with GF Bylaws; **delete:** “Any director may resign at any time.” We saw no reason for this wording; and **insert** “board of” before “directors” in the last sentence.

- **EF provision affected: Article V – Board of Directors, Sec. 1.**

Respectfully submitted:

2009 Bylaws Committee: Edith Appel, Virginia Shea, Therese Martin, Mary Grace Lintz – Chair

2009 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee recommends the following slate for consideration by members at the Annual Meeting on May 16, 2009. The slate is to be elected to serve as Officers and Directors of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area and the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area Education Fund.

To Be Elected to Serve Two-year Terms Beginning July 1, 2009:

Officers:

President: Janey George
Secretary: Rona Ackerman

Directors:

Lois Page (Program Director)
Anne Thomas (Public Relations)
Carol Hawn (Voters Service I- Publications)**
Membership – *Vacant*
Voters Service II (Outreach)** - *Vacant*

To Be Elected to Serve One-year Term, Beginning July 1, 2009:

2010 Nominating Committee Chair: *Vacant*
Nominating Committee members (two): *Vacant*

Respectfully submitted, 2009 Nominating Committee:
Anne Thomas, Chair
Gloria Haher, Barbara Matthews, Janey George, Leslie Vandivere

** Serves on the LWVFA [GF] Board without portfolio

MEET YOUR NOMINEES

Janey George - President

After joining the League in April 2006, Janey became a member of Court Watch and the Justice Committee. Then in October of that year she was appointed to finish the term of Unit Coordinator and again appointed as Unit Coordinator in 2007. One of the things she enjoyed most about being Unit Coordinator was visiting all the units and matching names with faces. She was elected as the Voters Service Outreach Director for the 2008-2010. Janey was able to arrange one live televised debate for the 8th Congressional District race last fall 2008. Two others, for the 10th and 11th Districts, fell by the wayside. Janey was elected as the LWVFA co-representative of the AHOME Foundation Board until 2011. . Janey has attended state workshops, a state convention, a national convention and WRT Pre-session meetings. She chaired the 60th Anniversary Committee, as well as the Sunshine Committee that planned the Panel discussion held in March 2009. she has been involved in the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Committee and has been Membership Chair for the Chantilly Herndon unit, unit,since 2007-08 League year. Janey is looking forward to many more years of being a “Leaguer”.

Rona Ackerman – Secretary

Rona received an MS in Management from Purdue University. She subsequently worked in various positions in college administration and joined the League in 1988. She served in several board positions in the Mid-Ulster (NY) League until she and her husband moved to an area without a local League. Two children and several moves later, Rona came to Fairfax, where she promptly joined the League again. She was LWVFA’s Voters Service Director for two years, served as Program Co-Director from 2004-2007 and has been filling the Secretary’s position

since October, 2007. Rona was a member of the LWVUS lobby corps, a delegate to the 2003 LWVVA Convention and the 2004 & 2006 LWVUS Conventions. Rona attends the Reston Day unit.

Carol Hawn - Voters Service, Publications

Carol lives in Centreville, and has served as the LWVFA Voters Service Publications Director since 2003. She is also active with the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, the Western Fairfax County Citizens Association, the Old Mill Community Association, is a Sully District Representative on the Human Services Council, and serves on the Fairfax County Airports Advisory Committee. She holds a BS in Psychology from Iowa State University and a MA in Sociology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Lois Page – Program Director

Lois is currently completing her third year as either Program Director or Co-Director of LWVFA. She is a graduate of Dickinson College (B.A.) and West Virginia University (M.A.) and has spent many years in the education field, most recently with Fairfax County Public Schools. Upon retiring in 2001, Lois worked part-time for GWU's Graduate School of Education and Human Development doing teacher training. She currently works with a program in GW's School of Media and Public Affairs that assists scholastic media programs, principally in the District. Lois first joined the League in Harrisburg, PA, and also has been a League member in Syracuse, NY, and Hightstown, NJ. Lois has served as chair for the Fairfax Station Unit for a number of years.

Anne Thomas – Public Relations Director

Anne joined the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area in 1978 after moving to Vienna and has been a member ever since. She previously served on the LWVFA Board as the Voter [then called the *Bulletin*] editor. Over the years, Anne has served in various unit officer positions for the Vienna Evening Unit including unit chair, voter service and membership. She is active in GLBT rights and is the help-line coordinator for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Anne holds BS and MS degrees in Materials Engineering and has always been a champion of the Women's Movement.

DIRECTIONS TO GREENSPRING

(now known as “Greenspring – an Erickson Retirement Community”):

Note: There is limited visitor parking in front of the Hunters Crossing Conference Center - Car pools are suggested. At the Greenspring Gate: Ask for directions to Hunters Crossing Conference Center. If no parking is available in front of the Conference Center, return to Parking Deck to park and take the shuttle to Hunters Crossing Conference Center. The meeting is held in the banquet room on the lower level.

From Alexandria and Arlington: Go SOUTH on Van Dorn St., becomes S. Van Dorn as you pass over the beltway. Turn RIGHT onto Kingstowne Blvd., which becomes the Franconia-Springfield Pkwy (Rt. 7900). Go 2 miles, turn RIGHT onto Spring Village Drive. Proceed to the Greenspring entrance.

From Annandale, Falls Church and locations inside the beltway: Go SOUTH on Backlick Road, passing under the beltway. Exit from Backlick Road heading WEST onto the Franconia-Springfield Parkway (Rt. 7900). Drive 1 mile and turn RIGHT onto Spring Village Drive. Proceed to the Greenspring entrance.

From 1-95: Take exit 169A, Franconia Rd. Go EAST on Franconia Rd., past Springfield Mall. Turn RIGHT on to Frontier Drive, which borders the mall. Turn RIGHT onto Franconia-Springfield Pkwy. (Rte 7900) west (just before an overpass). Go just over 1 mile and turn RIGHT onto Spring Village Drive. Proceed to the Greenspring entrance.

From Western Fairfax County (outside of the Beltway): Go SOUTH on the Fairfax County Parkway (Rt. 7100), which becomes Franconia-Springfield Pkwy (Rt. 7900) at Rolling Road. Turn LEFT onto Spring Village Drive. Proceed to the Greenspring Entrance.

League Testimony, From Page 4

has been the role of the Community Services Board, which has provided forensic mental health and alcohol and drug services at the ADC. We are opposed, therefore, to the proposed 50 percent cut in these services, which were already stretched too thinly.

- Finally on a subject near and dear to our hearts—elections. The League is unhappy about the proposed cuts for in-person, absentee voting at satellite locations, along with proposals to decrease the number of election officers at the polls on election day. The satellite voting was very popular in the most recent general election... We believe that it is unrealistic to expect that citizens who live far from the Government Center will make the trip to vote absentee in person; therefore, voter turn out will likely be reduced. Or, the inability to conveniently vote absentee at satellite centers may produce longer lines at the polls which, when coupled with reduction of election officers, will make matters even worse.”

In closing, Zachry noted “that it is in the best interest of the county and its residents to vote the maximum advertised tax rate of \$1.05 to prevent the most serious cuts in staff and services.”

An Introduction To Instant Runoff Voting

by Shelley Tamres

2nd Vice President, LWV of Loudoun County, VA

There will be an opportunity at the Virginia League State Convention in May to vote for a study on Instant Runoff Voting (IRV), which is a type of ranked choice voting system. There are many reasons for supporting such a study.

The League is an important and respected voice on election processes. Since the 2000 election, the electorate has become more aware of how election systems can affect the outcome of close races. A number of issues that are already of concern to the League are directly or indirectly affected by our choice of voting system. These issues include, but are not limited to: cost of elections; voter turnout; negative

Schools Committee Invites Leaguers to May Meeting

The Schools Committee welcomes League members to attend a meeting Friday, May 15, 9:30 a.m. in the first floor conference room of the Packard Center, 4026 Hummer Road, Annandale, VA. We will discuss the revised budget proposal that Superintendent Jack D. Dale will present as new business at the May 7 school board meeting. The public hearings on the budget are scheduled May 12-13. The school board will vote on the approved budget May 21.

The Schools Committee will prepare a draft budget statement for consideration by the LWVFA board at its May 20 meeting. This will allow time to deliver a written statement to the school board prior to the May 21 budget vote.

A second agenda item will be a brief consideration of the scope of a projected study of issues related to schedules of elementary schools. This will help us prepare to answer questions that may be brought up at the LWVFA Annual Meeting the following day, which will include a vote on whether to conduct this study.

Please contact Ginger Shea ginger.shea@verizon.net; (703) 642-0075, if you plan to attend the meeting or if you cannot attend the meeting but would like to be on the email list for the Schools Committee.

campaigning; “spoilers”; minority representation; and competition for public office.

Currently in Virginia, most elections are for single-member districts with plurality voting. In other words, most elections consist of candidates running for a position for which there is only one winner (single-member district), and the winner is whoever receives the most votes...no majority is required (plurality, aka “first past the post” or “winner take all”). IRV is the ranked choice voting system that works with single-member districts. However, IRV provides a winner supported by a majority, rather than a plurality.

IRV works by allowing the voter to rank all candidates in a particular race from 1 to n, with n being the number of candidates. If no candidate is the first choice of at least half the voters, a “runoff” is conducted. The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and those votes redistributed to those voters’ second choices. Runoffs are continued until a candidate receives at least 50% of the votes.

LWV of the National Capital Area Annual Convention

Join fellow Leaguers from the DC metropolitan area on Saturday, May 9, 2009
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Ft. Myer Officer's Club, 214 Jackson Avenue Ft. Myer, VA
22211

Agenda: Registration 9:30 a.m. Seated, served Breakfast at 9:40 a.m. Keynote Address will be a presentation on Health Care Reform. Q & A session follows. NCA Annual Business Meeting convenes. Adjournment by 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$40

Transportation: For directions and map type above address on template at www.mapquest.com. Ft. Myer has generous parking available. Carpools are encouraged. Melpi Jeffries (melpijeffries@msn.com) will organize carpools. Please contact her if you will need transportation or are offering to drive.

RSVP to andreagruhl@aol.com signifying intent to attend. Make check payable to LWFVNA. Mail check with completed registration form (below) **by May 2** to: Andrea Gruhl, 5990 Jacob's Ladder, Columbia, MD 21045-3817. Questions? 301-596-5460.

~~~~~(cut & mail)~~~~~

Registration for LWFVNA Convention, Sat., May 9, 2009

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

League: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate? Circle "Yes" or "No."

Make check for \$40 payable to LWFVNA. Mail form and check by May 2 to: Andrea Gruhl, 5990 Jacob's Ladder, Columbia, MD 21045-3817

### Peak Oil, From Page 4

to catch on. Support increase in gasoline and carbon taxes right now. Make it revenue neutral.

### FAIRFAX DAY

We don't understand carbon tax and cap and trade and how they would be implemented. Would you like to know more about the topic because knowledge about the world oil depletion and how to solve this world problem is necessary if we are to survive as a country and species.

### BRIEFING

We discovered that the National Petroleum Council, chartered by Truman in 1946, is a group composed of industry leaders, government officials, and think tanks whose sole responsibility is to advise the government about oil. We agreed that an oil crunch would occur later than 2012-2015. Things that might affect supply and demand not mentioned in the study, are the effect of rust on crops, producer countries hoarding and manipulating stocks of oil, the role of natural gas, and producer countries that do not have refineries or transportation.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® Of The Fairfax Area

~You are Invited to the~

61<sup>st</sup> LWVFA & 27<sup>th</sup> LWVFA Education Fund Annual Meetings

*Saturday, May 16, 2009*

At Greenspring's Hunters Crossing Conference Center  
7410 Spring Village Drive, Springfield VA

Registration & Coffee bar: 9:45 a.m.  
Annual Meeting begins: 10:15 a.m.

Speaker: **Jennifer Krafchik**, Director of Special Collections  
Sewall-Belmont House & Museum,  
(A museum in D.C. about the suffragist movement)

Lunch served at 12:15 p.m.

Menu:

Fresh Garden Salad, Asparagus Spears, Chicken Cordon Bleu,  
Roasted Red Potatoes, Cookies, Coffee & Tea

*Cut-off and send in this reservation form with your check.*

-----  
**Reservation Deadline (with payment) – May 4, 2009**      Cost: \$25 per person.

Please make checks payable to LWVFA and mail with form to:  
**Annual Meeting, c/o Jean Hill, 7418 Spring Village Drive, Apt. 407, Springfield, VA 22150**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number & Email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

No. lunches \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 25.00/per lunch \_\_\_\_\_ (Total enclosed)  
For special dietary needs, questions or directions, **Call Jean Hill at 703-569-6659**

\* *Note: Greenspring requires payment 8 days before the luncheon- so please send your check with your reservation by the deadline date.*



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

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**The LWVFA Fairfax VOTER ©  
 May, 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 \_\_; Advocate Member \$100 \_\_\_\_;  
 Student \$37.50 \_\_\_\_ Coll. Attending \_\_\_\_\_ (Amounts shown are as of this printing.)

**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 |                                          |