



Choosing League Program Returns to Unit Meetings in December

It's time to think about what you would like the Leagues of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA) and the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) to pursue in their 2017-19 biennium. This year we return to our tradition of December unit meetings for our discussion, rather than at a General Meeting. We learned in September that "program planning" is the **first step** in the process of determining a League's "Program" for the next two years. This month, LWVFA members will weigh in on statewide issues and regional issues.

Guidance and each League's positions are included in this *VOTER*. Response forms are on the website and will be available at the meetings. If you cannot attend the At-Large meeting on December 4 or any of the unit meetings, feel free to respond as an individual—instructions are on the form.

Calendar

December 2016

- 2 LWVNCA Board meeting
- 3 **LWVFA Briefing and At-Large meeting**
- 5 *Fairfax VOTER* deadline
- 6 LWV-VA Board meeting, Richmond
- 7 LWV-VA Women's Roundtable Pre-session, Richmond
- 8-14 **LWVFA unit meetings**
- 12 **LWVFA Board meeting via conference call**
- 15 Fountain Condominiums community election
- 15 Bill of Rights' Day
- 19 Electoral Votes officially cast at the Virginia Capitol Building, Richmond
- 24, 25 Christmas Eve/Day
- 24 Chanukah begins at sundown
- 26 Kwanzaa begins
- 31 New Year's Eve: Happy New Year!

Inside This Issue

Presidents' Message	2
LWVUS Statement on Election Results	2
Fracking Follow-up	3
Domestic Violence Hotline	4
New Members Welcomed	4
Program Planning for 2017-2019	EF-1
Voter Service Locally and Beyond	EF-8
Electing a President: October Summary	5
WLRT Pre-Session Registration	6
Unit Discussion Meeting Locations	7



Presidents Message



We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving! We are so thankful for everything that you do for our League of Women Voters. Our greatest strength is our volunteers.

We are thankful for all of your help with the voter registration drives throughout Fairfax County and your help with our numerous community elections. We especially thank Sheila Iskra for a great job with the Voter's Guide and VOTE411. Even though our voter drives are over, don't worry. We have more community elections for you. Reminder: our next community election is in Alexandria on December 15 from 4 to 9 p.m. If you can volunteer, please sign up on our website or contact Anne Thomas.

We are thankful to Adarsh Trehan for allowing us to use her lovely home for our general meeting. Wasn't it nice to not have snow or ice for this year's annual meeting?

We are also grateful to our new TV stars! Lois Page, Beth Tudan, Peggy Knight, and Diana Watkins all debuted on Fairfax Public Access TV. Lois Page, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Virginia, appeared on the "Inside Scoop" TV program. Lois discussed the improbability of a rigged election, voter ID, meals tax, and the two proposed Constitutional Amendments. On the same program, Beth Tudan, our fearless Executive Director, talked about the *Under the Gun* film and the need for gun violence prevention. Co-president Peggy Knight explained what was on the ballot for a Public Service Announcement, and Diana Watkins explained it in Spanish! View their superstar performances on our website: <http://lww-fairfax.org/>

We hope to see you soon on December 7 in Richmond for the LWV-Virginia Women's Roundtable Pre-Session Discussion. It is well worth attending. If you have never attended, it is a lot like speed-dating, where you hear rapidly from like-minded action groups about issues that will likely arise during the legislative session.

We are looking forward to the upcoming state Fracking Study and consensus materials in both January and February. The study is so comprehensive that we will cover this material over both months. We are dividing the material into Part I in January and Part II with consensus in February.

We also are so thankful to our nominating committee, which is meeting to fill vacancies for the upcoming year. PLEASE consider running for an open board position or off-board position. We need you. Please contact nominating committee chair, Rona Ackerman, at ackermanrona2@gmail.com to learn how to get more involved!

Happy holidays,

Peggy & Wendy

LWVUS Statement on Election Night Results

Washington, DC – The League of Women Voters president Chris Carson released the following statement on Tuesday night's election results: "The League of Women Voters congratulates the American people for turning out to participate in our democracy. Unfortunately, in too many cases, voters had to overcome significant barriers that were erected by elected officials and other political operatives. These ongoing threats to voters' rights are unacceptable."

Domestic Violence Hotline
(703) 360-7273

LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2016 - 2017

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or call 703-658-9150

Fracking Follow-Up . . .

What's Happened Since Our 2014 Fracking Study?

By Elizabeth Lonoff

Before we consider the state League study for reaching consensus on hydraulic fracturing, let's review what has happened since our introductory 2014 LWVFA study.

Gas Exports. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is natural gas super-cooled to liquid form for ease of storage or transport, mainly consisting of methane. LNG's energy input makes its carbon footprint as dirty as coal's. Siting LNG terminals often requires dredging sensitive estuaries and constructing hundreds of miles of pipelines while encouraging reliance on fracking. The first U.S. LNG export occurred in February 2016, from a Louisiana terminal. The little-used Dominion Cove Point LNG import facility on the Chesapeake Bay is being converted for liquidification and exporting. According to Global Risk Insights, "In today's saturated, low-price environment, the U.S. has a long way to go before it establishes a foothold in the global LNG market. In the short term, its impact will be less significant than some would have hoped, but in the long term, it could impact global natural gas prices, ease Russian energy domination in Europe, and strengthen energy security in Asia-Pacific."

George Washington National Forest Decisions. The Forest's November 2014 revision of its 1993 land management plan covering 1.1 million acres, the largest federal landholding in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, established a framework for potential development on about 10,000 acres with existing leases, as well as on 167,200 acres subject to private mineral rights. Any drilling proposed on leased land would require both federal and state permits, which would entail additional environmental analysis and opportunities for public comment. No oil and gas activity is expected on the Forest at current prices.

However, on September 18, 2015, Dominion applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for permission to construct and operate the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, a 550-mile interstate natural gas pipeline crossing this Forest for 13 miles. The joint venture would move Marcellus Shale gas from Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania to supply growing consumer and business markets in Virginia and North Carolina. Surveying a 300-foot-wide study corridor will refine the proposed route and provide input to FERC's drafting an environmental impact statement. Construction could take place in 2017

and 2018. In addition to concerns about a 75-foot cleared permanent right-of-way, locals fear that eminent domain will be used to confiscate their property, which a judge approved on Iowa farmland for the Dakota Access Pipeline. According to a report for the American Petroleum Institute, U.S. pipeline investments increased by 60 percent between 2010 and 2013.

Legal Loopholes. The oil and natural gas industry continues to be allowed to ignore basic environmental and health protections, even though the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) calls it "the largest industrial source of the potent greenhouse gas methane and smog-forming volatile organic compounds." On March 19, 2015, the LWVUS cosigned a letter asking U.S. Senators and Representatives to cosponsor legislation known as the "Frack Pack" to close the oil and gas industry's unprecedented exemptions. The bills will need to be reintroduced in the next Congress.

Air Impacts. In October 2016, the EPA issued nonbinding guidelines for states, limiting ozone emissions from existing oil and gas operations impacting selected areas prone to smog. Maryland, Washington D.C., and portions of northern Virginia fall within the Ozone Transport Region, where air-permitting authorities are required to implement Reasonably Available Control Technology.

Water Impacts. According to Food & Water Watch, "More than 7,500 accidents related to fracking occurred in 2013, negatively impacting water quality in rivers, streams and shallow aquifers." In June 2015, the EPA issued its draft Hydraulic Fracturing Drinking Water Assessment, which stated "Between 2000 and 2013, approximately 9.4 million people lived within one mile of a hydraulically fractured well." The Center for Biological Diversity complained to the EPA in October 2016 that the draft permit for water pollution discharges in the Gulf of Mexico fails to properly consider how dumping wastewater containing chemicals from offshore fracking and acidizing operations would impact water quality and marine wildlife.

Induced Earthquakes. USGS maps now identify potential hazards from both human-induced and natural earthquakes. As Anna Kuchment reported in *Scientific American* on March 28, 2016, scientists are increasingly confident about the link between earthquakes and injecting wastewater from oil and gas production, yet regulators are slow to

“Before the Flood”: (free viewing online)

This critically-acclaimed documentary follows Leonard DiCaprio across the globe observing climate change impacts and discussing risks and solutions with politicians and activists for the U.N. As a result, he calls climate change “the most important issue of our time.” Individuals can help by changing their lifestyles to reduce demand for palm oil, beef, and fossil fuels. See <https://www.beforetheflood.com/explore/the-solutions/> for societal solutions like a carbon tax. The movie is available on your favorite digital and streaming platforms.

react, and quakes could continue even when injections are stopped because pressure changes already induced in deep rock can migrate for years, possibly encountering faults. Oklahoma is experiencing fewer earthquakes since peaking last year, a change geologists say might be linked to stricter state regulations started in 2013 on wastewater created by the oil and gas industry. However, fracking contributes “only a small percentage of the total volume of wastewater injected in disposal wells in Oklahoma,” according to the Oklahoma Geological Survey. Meanwhile, the Virginia Tech Seismological Observatory says West Virginia has experienced an increase in significantly-sized earthquakes due to human activity.

LWVFA Gains 25 New Members Since July 1

We are delighted to welcome 26 new members to the Fairfax Area League. The following people have joined us since July 1.

Wendy Dawson, Alexandria (GSP)
Sharon Featherstone, Springfield, (GSP)
Lynn Irby, Alexandria, (UAM)
Linda Kato, Springfield, (GSP)
Tepy Kong, Annandale (SPR)
Margaret O’Neil, Reston, (UAM)
Sandra Sterne, Alexandria, (UAM)
Candy Friedlander, McLean, (MCL)
Frances Schulz, Springfield, (GSP)
Doris Persh, Springfield, (GSP)
Rachel Roberts, Herndon, (RE)
Melanie Fedri, Washington DC, (UAM)
Clare Shea, Alexandria, (MVE)

Domestic Violence Hotline

By Barbara Nunes, Domestic Violence Chair

We hope you have noticed the small hotline number 703-360-7273 in our *VOTER*. Who uses it, what information is given, how does it work? The DV Hotline is staffed by Fairfax County personnel 24/7, providing confidential information for victims, family members, neighbors, friends or teachers, giving options, assistance, safety information, counseling, and the easiest way to get help for victims or survivors.

The Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy & Coordinating Council held its Annual Meeting Oct 28, 2016, with reports from the two subcommittees, Housing and External Messaging. In addition, awards were given to agencies for their outstanding contributions this past year.

The External Messaging Committee on which I serve is planning a #MakeTheCall tweet to the Domestic Violence Hotline. We hope to show that if we can encourage victims, family members, neighbors and friends to call, we can make a difference to get help for those who need it. One of the objectives of this committee is to prevent domestic violence and raise awareness that domestic violence is the No. 1 safety issue facing Fairfax County. One of four families in Fairfax is affected by domestic violence. Your call is anonymous. #MakeTheCall!

Matthew Huffman, Fort Belvoir, (MVD)
Joni Jordan, Centerville, (CC)
Jennifer Lowe, Clifton, (FXS)
Eleanor Matter, Fairfax, (CC)
Tina Mancuso, Fairfax, (FXV)
Margaret Wise, Vienna, (FXV)
Meredith Galman, Fairfax, (FXV)
Yasmin Shafiq, Fairfax, (FXV)
Larysa Gumowskyj and husband,
 Alexandria, (MVE)
Laura Anderko, Annandale, (SPR)
Erin O’Meara, Vienna, (FXV)
Anne Nowrouz, Annandale, (SPR)



PROGRAM PLANNING FOR LWV-VA AND LWFNCA FOR 2017-19: What's Your Opinion?

By Sherry Zachry, Program Director

It's time to think about what you would like the Leagues of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA) and the National Capital Area (LWFNCA) to pursue in their 2017-19 biennium. This year we are returning to the tradition of having this discussion at our December unit meetings, rather than at a General Meeting. We ask the units to combine this discussion with any special meeting plans they may have for December.

September's *VOTER* article on "The League Is Changing" explained that League Program includes the **process by which positions are adopted** (selecting an issue, studying the issue, consensus / formulating a position, and using the position to influence public policy) **and the existing positions of that respective League**. The "program planning" stage is selecting an issue or position(s) for study, restudy and/or advocacy in the respective League's next biennium. The process culminates in delegates **adopting a program** for the next biennium at a Convention or Annual Meeting. The LWV-VA Convention will be June 10-11, 2017; and LWFNCA's Annual Convention will be May 6, 2017.

Remember that "League Program" includes **both study and action** and sometimes can be composed entirely of advocacy (action) on the League's positions. Advocacy can be holding a forum or seminar on a "hot-button" issue in the community (**on which the League has a position**) and/or organizing a lobbying effort composed of letters to the editor, lobbying elected officials on legislation and other efforts.

When considering items to propose, be guided by the following: Is there widespread member interest? Is this a timely issue? Are there already League positions (at the LWFNCA level) on the issue? Is government action the most effective way to address the problem? Are there members willing to work on the issue? Response forms will be handed out at the briefing on December 4, are posted on the LWFNCA website (www.lwv-fairfax.org) and will be available at the unit meetings. An official recorder should be appointed at the unit meeting and the responses returned promptly (as usual). Members who do not attend a unit discussion meeting can give input by using the response form as an individual, following directions on the form.

For both LWFNCA and LWV-VA program planning, members are asked to review the positions of each League and decide: 1) are there any **new issues** that should be studied; 2) do any of the current positions need **updating** (restudy); 3) are there any positions/issues that should have **priority for action**; 4) are there positions that **should be abandoned** (deleted) because they no longer apply or have been accomplished; and 5) **who is willing to work** on the issue? The positions are included in this article.

We will need to recall the LWFNCA Program for 2016-2018, titled "League-wide Campaign for Making Democracy Work®" that was adopted at the June 2016 Convention. LWFNCA intended that the Campaign be incorporated into **all Leagues' future program planning**. The narrowed focus of the LWFNCA Program emphasizes the **core missions of the League** for keeping our democracy strong through **voter protection and mobilization, election reform, reducing money in politics, nonpartisan redistricting**, and awareness of **potential constitutional amendment proposals** by state legislatures. The League has positions on all of those issues and thus the Campaign is composed of "doing something" to advance our mission of educating and protecting voters. We will explore how to adapt those goals to both Leagues in the following segments.

LWFNCA PROGRAM PLANNING FOR 2017-19

When thinking about items to suggest for LWV of Virginia, we must also apply this test: "Is this a statewide issue for the League?" In other words, LWV-VA interacts with officials serving in State government (Governor's Office, Cabinet and associated agencies, the members of the General Assembly, etc.) as well as with the U.S. Senators and Representatives from Virginia. So issues that affect **all** of the Commonwealth of Virginia are appropriate as topics for the state League.

A new study on the effects of hydraulic fracturing in Virginia was adopted at the 2015 LWV-VA Convention; research has been completed and questions have been approved for reaching a consensus on the topic. LWFNCA will consider the questions at the February 2017 unit discussion meetings (with a "preview" in January). If there is consensus among

all the local Leagues and MAL Units in Virginia, the LWV-VA Board will present a **new League position** on “fracking” at the LWV-VA Convention in June 2017.

Members may also wish to **review** or even **delete** one or more current LWV-VA positions. Delegates to the 2015 Convention voted to review for possible deletion the LWV-VA position on “**Women’s Rights and Virginia Law**” because it is obsolete. So, **now** is the time to suggest this position be **deleted** from LWV-VA’s positions, if you agree. Others have suggested that the entire **current category** of “Natural Resources” positions (on Air Quality, Land Use, Water Supply & Distribution) needs to be **updated** with language that is accurate and appropriate for today’s environmental quality (EQ) best practices in Virginia. *Note:* if a position on “fracking” results from the current study, it would most likely be listed under LWV-VA Natural Resources and would be incorporated into any updated language.

Keeping in mind the LWVUS Adopted Program, proposing **action** on fairer **redistricting** in Virginia would be one topic to emphasize. The LWV-VA already is very active in this area, including being a coalition partner of OneVirginia2021, but we can always double-down on our efforts to advocate for our position.

Below are the *LWV-VA Positions-in-Brief*, as of July 2015, with dates the position was adopted or amended. The full wording of the positions, with historical background, is in *Positioned for Action* (LWV-VA’s booklet of positions) and is available on both LWVFA and LWV-VA websites (www.lwv-va.org, Action & Advocacy page), direct link: <http://www.lwv-va.org/files/positions-2015-positions-full-zachry.pdf>. One paper copy per unit of *Positioned for Action* will be available at the Briefing on December 4 for each discussion leader.

League of Women Voters of Virginia Positions-In-Brief, Updated July 2015

GOVERNMENT

Delegation of Power (aka Dillon Rule)

Support for a balanced partnership between state and local government, including:

- Policies and incentives that promote regional coordination and local action.
- Establishment of uniform powers and responsibilities of local governments by changing the distinctions between cities, counties, and towns.
- Coordination of activities and programs of local jurisdictions. (1972 & 1991)

Election Laws

The League of Women Voters of Virginia believes that democratic government depends on the informed and active participation of its citizens; that voting is a right and responsibility; and that election laws, regulations and administrative procedures should be uniformly designed and applied, and adequately funded to facilitate and increase voter participation throughout Virginia.

Specifically, the League supports measures to ensure the availability of voter registration and to encourage and facilitate increased voter participation in elections, including: absentee voting by mail and in-person without a reason; an adequate number of voting machines and trained election officers; the use of satellite voting; split shifts for election officers when needed; and measures that take advantage of technological advances such as online voter registration and the use of electronic poll books. The League also supports the shared funding of statewide registration and voting systems by the localities and the Commonwealth; providing adequate authority and resources to the Department of Elections (ELECT) and the State Board of Elections (SBE) for oversight and enforcement of laws and standards for registration and elections uniformly throughout the Commonwealth; and the use of secure electronic means to facilitate voter registration and absentee voting for Virginia’s military and overseas voters. (2011, 2015)

Fiscal Policy

Support for a responsible state fiscal policy that includes:

- A flexible and diverse tax structure that is based on a progressive income tax.
- Continuous evaluation of all programs for need, effectiveness, efficiency, and economy.
- Flexibility in developing local sources of revenue.
- Increased state commitment to funding of state-mandated programs.
- Opposition to constitutional or statutory limits on state/local government spending or revenue sources. (1964, 1977 & 1979)

Reapportionment and Redistricting

Support for the establishment, in law, of a politically balanced and independent Reapportionment Commission for each decennial redistricting to prepare, with the Virginia Department of Legislative Services, a plan for submission to the legislature as specified by the Virginia Constitution. The Commission should be bi-partisan and be composed of individuals who are not elected officials; they should represent the geographical distribution and demographic diversity of the state, and consist of an uneven number of members.

In addition to the Virginia constitutional requirement of equal population, contiguous and compact districts and the need for protecting the voting strength of minority groups, the League supports the following considerations in redistricting:

- Natural geographic boundaries;
- Jurisdictional boundaries;
- Communities of interest; and
- Competitiveness

The Virginia constitution should be amended to provide that redistricting will occur on a decennial basis only. (1985, 2007)

Transportation

Support for regionally balanced transportation systems which efficiently and economically meet regional needs without adversely affecting planned growth or the environment.

- Regional organizations that set policy for a multi-modal public transportation program, that plan, co-ordinate, and are the designated recipients of federal and state funds, that operate or contract for services, and that could have taxing power.
- A mixture of public (federal, state, and local) and private funding for public transportation.
- Increased local participation with some public funds utilized to encourage private support and the use of innovative financing methods, such as tax incentives to encourage private sector participation.
- Provide a variety of incentives to increase the use of public transportation. (1996)

Women's Rights and Virginia Law

Support for the legal recognition of marriage as an equal partnership, including:

- Policies that recognize non-monetary as well as monetary contributions to a marriage by each partner.
- Surviving spouse policies that specify that if one spouse dies without a will, the surviving spouse should inherit all property.
- Divorce policies that recognize separately acquired property before marriage and during marriage through gifts or inheritance.
- Elimination of the concept of "fault" in the court's division of marital property.
- Legal recognition of valid pre-nuptial contracts. (1980 & 1983)

NATURAL RESOURCES

Air Quality

Support for achieving and maintaining acceptable air quality through:

- Adoption of strict vehicle emission standards.
- Development of less polluting alternative fuels.
- Programs and regulations that foster efficient transportation modes. (1993)

Land Use

Support for state policies that include:

- Creation of a state long-range comprehensive land use plan coordinated with local and regional plans.
- State protection of critical environmental areas (i.e. wetlands, agricultural lands, unique wildlife habitats) through some land use controls.
- Assistance to and increased flexibility for localities in land

use planning and control. (1975)

Water Supply and Distribution

Support for a comprehensive state effort to protect the water supplies, including:

- Recognition of the connection between ground and surface water.
- Decision-making based on the concept of sharing in the use of ground water.
- State responsibility for the collection of information on water resources and planning for future use.
- Land use policies that guarantee protection of water resources.
- Moratorium on uranium mining until modern, enforceable and effective best practices are approved by an independent assessment team. (1983, 2014)

SOCIAL POLICY

Adult Domestic Violence

Support for addressing the crime of adult domestic violence through:

- Uniform law enforcement including mandatory arrest, reporting.
- Educational and training programs for medical, clerical, law enforcement personnel, and the public on the problem of adult domestic violence as well as conflict resolution.
- Assistance and job training programs for victims. (1992)

Child Care

Support for state policies that promote quality childcare that is affordable, accessible, and available, including:

- Minimum comprehensive state license standards for child care facilities.
- Incentives for development of child care programs.
- Financial assistance for low-income families.
- Coordinated resource and referral systems.
- Training for caregivers and parents.

Also, support a requirement that professional childcare givers report child abuse /neglect. (1988, 2013)

Children at Risk

Support for state and local policies that recognize the basic needs of all children including shelter, family, and community support, health care, food, education, and personal safety, including:

- Fund preventive services, rehabilitative programs, family support programs, crises services, court costs, and detention.

- Evaluations of programs and services.
- State mandated case planning and case management systems to assure timely access to services.
- Internal and judicial grievance procedures. (1989, 2013)

Education

Support for state funding for public schools that insures a high quality education with equal educational opportunities for all children, including:

- Full funding for the Standards of Quality and state mandates
- increasing the state's share of education costs;
- funding for half-day pre-kindergarten programs for at-risk children, and full-day kindergarten programs;
 - funding some portion of capital costs; and
 - improving the funding formula for determining local ability to pay, using it as a basis for distribution of state education funds. (1993)

Support a challenging curriculum, high expectations of students and teachers in mastering that curriculum, and appropriate assessments of student achievement for a quality education in the public school system K-12.

Essential curriculum elements include:

- core disciplines (English, Math, Science, History and Social Studies);
- Art, Music, Physical Education, Health, and Foreign Languages;
- analytical skills;
- integrated technology; strong remedial programs;
- programs for at-risk, gifted and special needs students;
- education for students with limited English proficiency, in which emphasis is placed on teaching English; and
- career and technical education.

Support professional education for principals and teachers and on-going staff development; class size appropriate to instructional goals; a safe environment for students and staff; and discipline, preventative programs and a consistently enforced, well-defined system of rules; guidance counseling for academics and support services; and parental and community support and involvement. Support opportunities to select a specific program or school. These opportunities should be based on a system of equity so that all qualified students have equal access. (2003)

Elements of a quality education also include: school-based teamwork, goal setting and decision-making, application of learning to life experiences, and incentives, recognition, and awards for both students and teachers (1999)

Justice - Adult Justice

Support for an adequately funded judicial and corrections system that serves all people without discrimination, and incorporates restorative justice practices. Such a system includes:

- Judicial selection by the General Assembly with use of a

- nominating commission of lay-persons and lawyers.
- Sentencing by judges, not juries, with the availability of a pre-sentencing report.
- Corrections system that is adequately funded, efficiently administered, and humane.
- Corrections system that protects society and rehabilitates offenders, while offering deterrence, diversion, protection, and restitution programs.
- Local jails and community-based corrections facilities that are professionally administered and use of alternatives to incarceration and community resources in the rehabilitation and treatment of prisoners. (2013)

Juvenile Justice

Support for an adequately funded and separate Department of Juvenile Justice that emphasizes prevention and rehabilitation, to include:

- Prevention programs should be provided for children identified with certain risk factors (i.e. parental incarceration, household history of drug/sexual abuse)
- Rehabilitation programs that provide treatment and training to meet the needs of each child and include counseling, vocational training and accredited academic programs.
- Alternative education programs or community service for juveniles who have been expelled or suspended from school or paroled from correctional facilities.
- In- and out-patient mental health and substance abuse programs oriented to the needs of juveniles.
- Pre- and post-dispositional community-based services.
- Establishment of small therapeutic group or foster homes.
- Removal of juveniles from adult jails.
- Development of activities/programs/training consistent with the principles of restorative justice. (2013)

Mental Health

Support for a comprehensive state public mental health care system of quality, statewide and community based services that meets the mental health needs of all Virginians, including:

- Long-range planning, coordination among agencies, and the use of established criteria for allocation of funds.
- Assistance in providing adequate and appropriate housing for the mentally ill.
- Comprehensive and consistent service delivery in all local communities.
- Advocacy programs that ensure patients' rights at all levels. (1987, 1988, 1989)

Offender Re-Entry - Removing Barriers to Employment

The League of Women Voters of Virginia supports the removal of barriers to employment for persons with criminal records. This includes support of what are known colloquially as "Ban the Box" efforts. (2015)

Restoration of Civil Rights for Virginia Felons

Support for the automatic restoration of the civil rights of felons, regardless of the nature of their crime, upon their release from incarceration or upon completion of probation or

parole. The process should be easy to understand, accessible, transparent and fair with information about the process made available to all. (2009)

LWVNCA PROGRAM PLANNING FOR 2017-19

Turning to the LWV of the National Capital Area's (LWVNCA) positions, we will consider suggestions for topics that affect **the entire region** of the District of Columbia and its surrounding jurisdictions (and Leagues) in Maryland and Virginia. As members of the LWVNCA ILO, we have the opportunity to give input to LWVNCA's Program Planning for 2017-19. We need to apply the same test of appropriateness.

LWVNCA Program Director Diane Hibino mentions the following recent and planned LWVNCA activities: a forum on regional transportation issues entitled "Crossing Boundaries" in March 2015 and an MLD (Membership and Leadership Development) training with the LWVUS in August 2015. A regional forum on Homelessness and Affordable Housing is planned for spring of 2017. Previous suggestions for LWVNCA **informational forums** included: Charter Schools vs Public Schools, Human Trafficking, Fracking and Consequences, and Alternative Energy Sources. The LWVNCA Board has approved preliminary plans for a forum on Funding Sources for the Metro System, based on the LWVNCA position of a dedicated funding source for Metro. This event could be suggested as an **action priority** for LWVNCA 2017-19 Program.

Other than regional voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts, which LWVNCA conducted during the 2016 presidential election season, most components of the LWVUS Adopted Program seem best suited for individual local and state League guidance.

A response form for LWVNCA will be handed out at the December 4 briefing and is available on the LWVFA website. LWVNCA **full positions** follow. They were edited in 2016 for grammar and clarity.

LWV of the National Capitol Area (LWVNCA) Full Positions, (As Readopted May 7, 2016)

AIRPORTS

1. Use of the three major metropolitan Washington airports [Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI), Washington Dulles International (IAD), and Ronald Reagan Washington National (DCA)] should be balanced based on overall airport infrastructure and capacity. Good ground transportation is necessary to all airports.

2. It is necessary to place limitations on the use of DCA. We support the enforcement of:
 - a. The current High Density and Perimeter Rules, and noise abatement procedures.
 - b. Other methods to limit aircraft types.
3. With regard to all three airports, jurisdictions should:
 - a. Enact responsible, comprehensive planning and zoning policies that limit development to industrial and/or commercial uses in the immediate vicinity of the airports.
 - b. Restrict residential development within the area directly affected by the presence and operations of the airports.
 - c. Consider potential development height when evaluating land use changes. (1985, 2007)

BELTWAY SAFETY

1. In order to control speeding and unsafe driving on the Capital Beltway and its feeder roads, we support:
 - a. the use of additional patrol officers for visibility and enforcement
 - b. the use of automated photographic speed enforcement devices as an additional system of speed enforcement.
2. We support measures to increase truck safety on the Capital Beltway and its connector roads that include:
 - a. mandatory commercial vehicle safety inspections in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia,
 - b. increased fines for truck safety violations
 - c. limiting hazardous material carriers to certain hours.
3. Weight and length limitations for commercial vehicles using the Capital Beltway and its feeder roads should not be increased.
4. Efforts among federal, state and local governments to improve coordination of inspection and enforcement activities on the Beltway should be an ongoing process (1991, 2016).

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLANNING

1. LWVNCA supports:
 - a. governmental regulations of health planning (1976, 89),
 - b. regional coordination among healthcare systems and agencies in the Washington Metropolitan Area to include gathering data, sharing information, avoiding duplication of facilities and services, and controlling costs (1976, 89),
 - c. regional health education and information services to the public (1977, 89, 2016).
2. In order to increase the availability of medical services, LWV supports the concept of 24-hour clinics & the use of para-professionals (1977, 89).
3. There should be improved care for the elderly and an emphasis on community support as an alternative to long-term institutional nursing care (1977, 89).

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

1. We support legislation to permit the use of marijuana and heroin for medicinal purposes (1989).
2. We believe that testing for illegal drug use is a justifiable invasion of privacy when required as part of the hiring process for jobs affecting public safety and national security (1989).
3. Employees who test positive should be:
 - a. retested prior to any disciplinary action (1976, 89),

- b. allowed to continue working or put on administrative leave,
 - c. required in each case to participate in an employee assistance program,
 - d. subjected to random drug tests for a one-year period following a positive test (1989).
4. Measures for solving the drug problem should include interdiction, enforcement, education/prevention, and treatment. Education and treatment should receive special emphasis and should be stressed over criminal justice sanctions (1989, 91).
 5. Drug treatment programs that should be given public funding priority include detoxification and self-help programs, outpatient care, and the use of therapeutic communities, with aftercare as part of all programs (1991).
 6. Treatment programs for drug users under 18 and for pregnant women should receive priority for public funding (1991).
 7. Drug treatment should be incorporated into the sentence for any juvenile or adult convicted of a crime who tested positive at the time of arrest (1989).
 8. Pregnant drug users should not be subjected to criminal prosecution just because they are pregnant. Pregnant drug users who are before the court for crimes other than the use of drugs should be placed in mandatory treatment through a justice system diversion program. We support the use of outreach nurses and counselors for pregnant drug users without the threat of legal penalties (1991).
 9. Financial responsibility for drug treatment should fall, to some extent, on all of the following: insurance, patients, patients' families, governments (federal, state, and local), employers, and labor unions (1989).
 10. Each jurisdiction in the metropolitan Washington area should set up its own treatment programs for drug users (1989).
 11. The area jurisdictions should establish a public/private partnership through the Council of Governments (COG) to develop a long-range plan to meet treatment needs and to identify financial and in-kind resources. This partnership should include the private sector and citizen groups (1989).

D.C. FINANCING

1. Budget Autonomy. The District of Columbia should have autonomy in budgeting locally raised revenue. The League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) supports legislation eliminating the annual Congressional D.C. appropriations budget-approval process.
2. Federal Payment. To address the District of Columbia's need for a stronger revenue base, the LWVNCA supports Congressional legislation setting forth the factors for determining an annual, predictable federal payment. The most important factors to be considered are:
 - a. taxes that the District of Columbia cannot levy because of Congressional prohibitions on the District's ability to tax; and
 - b. the cost of services provided by the District to the federal government

Other factors might include the cost of state services provided

by the District and the percentages of revenue that other U.S. cities receive from external sources. (2003)

LAND USE/HOUSING

1. Regional land use planning for the Washington Metropolitan area should include a coordinated and comprehensive approach to meet housing needs. The goal of the housing component of a regional land use plan should be to:
 - a. provide adequate housing for all income levels,
 - b. promote a balanced distribution of housing and employment for all income levels,
 - c. improve the quality of housing and neighborhood environments (1975, reaffirmed 1989).

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

1. We accept the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) as the basic instrument for cooperative regional planning. (1966, 82, 2016).
2. We support granting COG sufficient authority so that it can resolve governmental problems that cannot be solved by local governments, planning boards and agencies (1973, 82, 87, 89, 2016).
3. Because COG should have some funding powers, we support assessments of member jurisdictions, user fees, and state and federal grants.
4. We support citizen participation at the regional level for COG and other inter-jurisdictional agencies (1973, 83, 2016).

TRANSPORTATION

1. In support of the concept that there be some form of public transportation available for all, we endorse public policy in services and planning that:
 - a. supports a coordinated public transportation system which includes bus and rapid rail transit (1964, 70, 83, 89),
 - b. promotes and improves the present and proposed public transportation systems to encourage the use of mass transit (1963, 70, 89).
2. Priorities in transportation services and planning should include:
 - a. transportation systems services that are convenient, frequent, regular, speedy, and economical to the user and for the benefit of the larger community (1963, 64, 70, 83, 89),
 - b. reduced air pollution through the promotion of mass transportation systems (1970, 89),
 - c. allocation of road space for use of high-occupancy vehicles (buses, carpools, vanpools) to speed services, including traffic control measures.
3. We support public participation and supervision in determining information needed and in evaluating transportation proposals, transportation planning, and operations. Public involvement and decision-making should include
 - a. appointment of citizen members to decision-making boards with full authority to participate in their functions, and enough tenure to master the subject. (These members

- should be residents of the jurisdictions involved and include consumer advocates who do not have business connections or official roles in the transportation and appropriations process) (1971, 89),
- b. every effort by local governments to include minorities, senior citizens, economically and/or physically challenged persons and other traditionally under-represented citizens on transportation and land use advisory committees and to facilitate this participation (1997),
 - c. open public meetings of all regulatory and public management boards (1971, 89),
 - d. compulsory paid publications in general circulation newspapers or proposals on which public review is to be held (1971, 89),
 - e. decision-making on the level of services for the regional mass transit system by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA) with local input, including citizen input early in the decision-making process (1981, 89).
4. We support financial measures that include:
- a. informing the public of the total costs of auto use and full public disclosure of the costs of transportation service, of who pays for service and who receives it, and of full cost/benefit information,
 - b. public investment to finance public transportation systems, to encourage substantially greater use of mass transportation, to increase resources for bus and rail transit, to achieve a realistic alternative to private auto use, to provide funds for bus shelters and information services (1971, 83, 89),
 - c. reduction of subsidies to auto use, such as tax favors which support parking and free parking for employees paid out of public funds (1971, 89).
 - d. the use of a dedicated tax to help fund public transportation. The objective of such a tax should be to spread the costs of mass transit among the total population and to encourage the use of mass transit instead of the automobile. A sales tax which excludes such necessities as food and medicines would be the best means of financing mass transportation in the metropolitan area. The most important criteria to be used in evaluating particular taxes dedicated to transportation should be revenue potential, timeliness, and reliability (1980).

Note: the above position applies only to the Washington metropolitan area, and may be acted upon within the context of interstate regional cooperation, despite its partial conflict with the LWVMD, LWV-VA and LWVDC positions.

5. We support the integration of transportation and land use planning on local and regional levels (1997).
6. We support an interstate compact authority for regional transportation.
 - a. Members representing corporate, environmental,

- b. social, and political jurisdictions would best promote a regional approach to transportation planning.
- b. Members representing political jurisdictions would best produce cooperation among/between local jurisdictions and would best promote efficiency and flexibility in meeting transportation needs.
- c. The following areas of transportation planning should come within the jurisdiction of a regional transportation authority: Roads and highways; urban and suburban transit, including bus and rail; interstate rail, including connections among systems, i.e., Amtrak, Marc, etc.; pedestrian/bike paths; water, i.e., water taxis, ferries, etc.; bridges and tunnels.
- d. Approved projects should be funded through: Federal funds appropriated through transportation authorization act; state and local contributions; user fees, including tolls, fares, and other fees; private funding; bonds; gasoline tax (2004).

WATER RESOURCES

1. In order to ensure a safe and adequate water supply for metropolitan Washington and to restore the quality of our streams and rivers, we support:
 - a. conservation and protection of drinking water and supply sources. Sources of drinking water serving the metropolitan area, such as the Potomac River and Occoquan and Patuxent Reservoirs, must be maintained and protected against pollution from both point and non-point sources,
 - b. regional demand reduction and water conservation measures to reduce annual per capita use --
 - i) Contingency plans should be developed on a regional basis to provide for mandatory restrictions on water use in time of emergency.
 - ii) Measures to recycle treated waste water in industrial, agricultural, and other non-potable systems and measures to reduce the use of water of drinking water quality as a conveyer of wastes should be encouraged to the extent consistent with public health and hydrological requirements
 - c. water-sharing measures to meet emergencies and to protect the physical and biological integrity of the sources,
 - d. protection of ground water,
 - e. official consideration of new drinking water sources
 - i) Sources within the metropolitan region should be investigated as possible adjuncts to existing water sources
 - ii) Construction of major upstream dams on the Potomac or its tributaries for the purpose of providing additional water supplies for the metropolitan region should not be undertaken unless other options have been found insufficient to meet the essential needs of the region.
2. We support regional planning to improve wastewater

treatment management. Final selection for new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities should be based on meeting national clean water objectives, protecting public health, and minimizing environmental, energy, and cost impacts (1979, 89, 2016).

Voters Service, From Alexandria to the Loudoun Border and Beyond

By Sidney Johnson

During this electrifying campaign season, our local League held voter registration tables at 34 events and reached beyond our usual range. We registered directly 165 people and gave away forms or information about registering online to many more. Kathleen Henry, at Greenspring, steadily registers all new residents. At a rate of five or six a week, she accounted for about 50 of the registrants this season.

Eleven of these events were ones to which we were invited, from Hayfield High School in Alexandria to FACETS in Chantilly. Sometimes we got very short notice, but we appeared at every one. Special thanks go to Pat Nelson-Douvelis, Rachael Hamlet, and Janice Yohai, who went to the ADAMS Fairfax Center, and Bob Meredith and Betty Ellerbee, who, with notice of only a day and a half over a weekend, went to the Arab American Political Forum.

Beyond? Yes, we joined the National Capital Area League's initiative to publicize the region's key dates and events through social media and Vote411 using eye-catching messages appropriate to each week during the campaign season. Dianne Blais was Virginia's point person, and Olga Hernandez put the information out through our network. Also, Sheila Iskra now tutors other local Leagues in posting information to Vote411. Thanks to Wendy Fox-Grage and Beth Tudan, we obtained a grant to help with the expenses of participating in National Voter Registration Day and scheduling more events than usual.

Because of that registration, we were invited by Fox/Searchlight to join a nationwide campaign for voter registration at movie theaters during promotional showings of the new version of *The Birth of a Nation*. We were at Cinema Arts at the Fair City Mall and Bow Tie in Reston. Thanks to Sue O'Neill and Donna Blake, Bob Meredith,

Olga Hernandez and Therese Martin, we now have a foothold in a new type of venue. Even if we are not invited, we have a precedent for asking theater managers locally to let us set up a table when they are showing a serious film relating to the history or governmental culture of our country.

Starbucks outlets are generally more willing than other shops to let us have voter registration and Get Out the Vote tables outside their doors. Bob Meredith and Liz Brooke had a table at the Starbucks in the Pan Am Shopping center for weekends in September and October, assisted by other Fairfax-Vienna unit members, high school students and volunteers from our partner organizations.

We now have a regular connection with the Northern Virginia Community College campuses and George Mason University. Janice Yohai, whose passion is educating students on how and where to register and vote, is sharing her energy with us.

We continued the association with the Fairfax County Adult High School facilities begun last February when we were invited to register voters for the primaries. Ronna Pazdral, Kathleen Pablo, and Bob Meredith responded; now we are regulars.

Donna Blake created a chart of the contact information for all the senior residences in Fairfax City and County to send a letter reminding them that Office of Elections staff would come to the residences to register voters, provide absentee ballot applications, and create free photo IDs. We can now send that letter every year.

Thanks to Diana Watkins, we are reaching out to the Spanish-speaking community with a PSA on the importance of voting, posted on our website. She and Stephen Watkins are creatively thinking of opportunities for us to connect with the Hispanic/Latino population in our area. That will further our efforts to engage with this and other communities through nonprofit agencies.

Sue Worden successfully organized the Candidates Forum for the Eighth District Congressional race at the Fairfax Public Access TV Station. It was on our website for the whole season. We could not have a forum for the Eleventh District because the candidate had no challenger. We tried very hard to have one for the Tenth District, but one of the candidates said that she could not find time for us in her schedule, even though we started asking her in August.

Sharone Lathrop left us with a gift. At her suggestion,

Ronna Pazdral designed an information card about voting in Virginia to be given to title agencies and real estate agents for their clients. We will give out cards and an online version.

For years the Mount Vernon units have gone to the Huntington Metro Station the weekend before the election and handed out "What's On the Ballot." The Board did not know until this year that members actually hand out about 2,000 of them, making Ronna Pazdral's condensation of all the information into four pages well worth the effort.

We could not have done voter registration and the forum without the generous offers of help from the American Association of University Women, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, as well as several high school students who were earning their civic participation hours. We also had many offers of help from members of the public who wrote us or phoned. In fact, the enthusiasm of these volunteers pushed us to find enough opportunities for them to serve. All of these people came together on Sign Up Genius, thanks to Beth Tudan, who has mastered the mysteries of this online service.

Sometimes it seems that the response to our efforts is tepid. We do not register very many people at any of our individual tables. We wonder if it is worth the effort to turn out every year. Whenever this happens, an unexpected request shows us how far we reach. A student at William and Mary asked for a copy of Sheila Iskra's Voters Guide as it appeared in the *Fairfax Times* to use as a model. We are unique. Our reputation is not gauged by the number

of voters registered, but by everything we offer to support voter education and enhance civic life. We are invited where others are not because we are trusted. We hope to say *yes* to every invitation.

Next year the races for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General will be the responsibility of the state League. Locally, however, we have all the candidates for the House of Delegates and the Town Council of Vienna. The public now counts on us to produce Candidate Forums. We will need to work harder to register voters, since we will not have the furor of this national race to excite the public or attract new volunteers. But we know that the fate of redistricting, firearms legislation, restoration of rights, environmental protection and so much else lies in the hands of the state delegates. It will be our job to make sure that citizens know when and where to vote and where to find information on the issues.

Maggi Luca's team will start us off running with the new "Facts for Voters." Where will we go from there? How will we keep all our new partners? Not all campaign seasons will be as demanding as this one, but we will be asked to extend our resources. We can have more effective teamwork. We can keep looking for more fruitful places to register potential voters. We can adopt new methods. Pat Nelson-Douvelis's table was next to the New Virginia Majority's at the ADAMS Center. They had laptops. All the young women were over there. A lesson to learn.

Electing a President: October Unit Discussions

By Karole McKalip

The 2016 presidential campaign is over, and a U.S. president has been elected. The processes associated with electing our president this year have challenged all nominees and the electorate. In October, our members reviewed the steps that the candidates and the voters followed that allowed our country to again complete this quadrennial event. Because the U.S. has a federal governing system with powers divided among the various states and the central government, voting for a president in our country is a more complicated process than occurs in most countries.

At our October unit meetings, more than 90 League members reviewed the established state and federal procedures required of individuals running for the

highest office in our land--from the selection of the major party candidates to the constitutional basis of the Electoral College in the final determination of the winner. Some members expressed interest in how individuals were selected to be on the ballots in state primaries. Several units spent some time in reviewing the term "natural born" as one requirement for candidates; they were surprised by its broad definition.

As members discussed the Electoral College, questions arose concerning how electors were selected in the various states. No consensus was reached by the members regarding keeping the current system or abolishing it in favor of a direct popular vote. Some members were persuaded by the arguments for using the College, while others supported the National League's position for a direct popular vote. While some members saw the need for some Electoral College reform, no practical suggestions were made.

Several issues that have had an impact on the presidential election and not included in the October article arose. These included:

- Influence of social media
- Electronic communication (i.e., Twitter)
- Current economic conditions
- Power/influence of political parties (state and national)
- Influence of non-news media stars
- State voting requirements (ID laws, early voting, absentee voting)
- Types of voting machines in various localities
- Political Action Committees (PAC) money
- Debates
- More information on procedures for a vacated candidacy

Several units discussed events occurring in October that were relevant to the election. These included: WikiLeaks revelations, charges of hacking possibly by foreign interests, widespread media coverage, concerns about the seeming lack of civility and party unity in the campaign with possible future implications.

Some units included comments/questions that members had. The Mount Vernon Day unit indicated that several members were very disappointed that there are no monthly meetings after the election to discuss the

issues related the election processes, i.e., problems with the voting process, paper trail, intimidation of voters, discrepancies in how voter ID was applied from precinct to precinct, and any breakdown of electronic voting machines. The Centreville/ Chantilly unit wanted to have a definition of the National Popular Vote compact and how it works. Members at the Briefing voiced confidence in our voting procedures, regretting the use of such negative terms as “hacking” and “rigging.” Also, discussed at the Briefing was how we could shorten the election period. Reston Day members would like to know more about how to change or influence the primary process currently being used to be more reflective of the broad range of voters in each state, rather than empowering a small interest group to influence the vote in caucuses or primaries. Reston Day also would like to know about the “Fair Vote” process. Fair Vote is a non-partisan, 501(c)(3)h non-profit organization that seeks to make democracy fair, functional, and more representative. And some of its members expressed the opinion that the League seems contradictory when it supports the direct election of the president by popular vote, while the League process used to form positions is a “sense of the group” or consensus and not a direct vote.

The voters have spoken. It will be of interest to our members to note how our citizens and the political parties react to concerns raised by them as a result of the latest presidential campaigns.

WLRT Pre-Session Registration Form Now Available

Plans continue to evolve for the 2016 Pre-Session event scheduled for December 7 in the Capitol’s Senate Room 3. Ric Brown, Secretary of the Virginia Department of Finance and Molly Ward, Secretary of the Virginia Department of Natural Resources as well as representatives from 15 organizations we collaborate with are planning to participate.

Find out what is planned for the 2017 Legislative session and what areas of concern various organizations will be pushing.

To register for this important event, go to lwv-va.org/files/wlrt_2016_10_20_registform.pdf



Unit Discussion Meeting Locations

Topic: Program Planning

Members and visitors are encouraged to attend any meeting convenient for them, including the “At Large Meeting” and briefing on Saturdays when a briefing is listed. As of November 1, 2016, 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, December 3

10 a.m. At-Large Unit and Briefing

League Conference Room
Packard Center
4026 Hummer Road
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: Sherry 703-730-8118

Tuesday, December 6

7:45 p.m. Mt. Vernon Evening (MVE)

Paul Spring Retirement
Community
Mt. Vernon Room
7116 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria, VA 22307
Contact: Jane, 703-960-6820

Thursday, December 8

9 a.m. Reston Day (RD)

11624 Sourwood Lane
Reston, VA
Contact: Margo, 703-620-9054

9:30 a.m. Springfield (SPF)

4469 Edan Mae Ct.
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: Marge, 703-451-0589

10 a.m. Centreville-Chantilly (CCD)

Sully District Government Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd.
Chantilly, VA 20151
Contact: Leslie, 571-213-6384

1 p.m. Fairfax/Vienna (FX-V)

Oakton Regional Library
Oakton Conference Room
10304 Lynnhaven Pl.
Oakton, VA 22124
Contact: Bob 563-299-5316

Monday, December 12

1:30 p.m. Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Classroom
Spring Village Drive
Springfield, VA 22150
Contact: Edith (703) 644-3970 or
Gloria (703) 852-5113

Wednesday, December 14

9:30 a.m. McLean Day (McL)

StarNut Café
1445 Laughlin Ave.
McLean, VA 22101
Contact: Adarsh (703) 795-7281
or Anjali (703) 509-5518

9:45 a.m. Mt. Vernon Day (MVD)

Mt. Vernon District Government
Center
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306
Contact: Gail (703) 360-6561 or
Diane (703) 704-5325

10 a.m. Fairfax Station (FXS)

8739 Cuttermill Place
Springfield VA 22153
Contact: Kathleen, 703-644-1555

7:30 p.m. Reston Evening (RE)

Hunter Mill District Community
Room B
1801 Cameron Glen Drive
Reston, VA 21090
Contact: Kelly, 202-263-1311

January Meetings:

Fracking Part I



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403
 703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org

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 Peggy Knight, Co-President
 Wendy Fox-Grage, Co-President
 Ron Page, Editor
 Liz Brooke, Content Editor**

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 person at least 16 years old, male or female, may become a member.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

LWVFA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Dues: Individual \$65 _____ Household \$90 (2 persons, 1 Voter) _____ Student \$32.50 _____
Dues year is July 1 – June 30 (A subsidy fund is available; check here _____ and include whatever amount you can afford.)
Membership Status: New _____ Renewing _____ Reinstatement _____ Donation _____
(Dues are not tax deductible. Tax-deductible donations must be written on a separate check or PayPal Payment to “LWVFA Ed Fund.”)

(Please print clearly)

Name _____ Unit (if renewing) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

Phone (H) _____ (M) _____ E-Mail _____

Please make checks payable to “LWVFA” and mail to: LWVFA, 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003-2403.
OR Join Online at: www.LWV-Fairfax.org/join.html

I am interested in becoming involved in (please indicate by circling the appropriate bullet(s)):

- **Providing organizational support** (graphics design, website development/maintenance, fundraising/ grant writing)
- **Voter Services** (e.g., voter registration drives, candidate forums, developing Voters’ Guides)
- **Researching/writing about issues in which LWVFA has an interest** (e.g., environment, firearms safety, mental health, schools, domestic violence, criminal justice; or, chairing an LWVFA study committee on voter turnout or human trafficking).
- **Representing the League in governmental fora** (e.g., serving as LWVFA representative on Fairfax County citizens’ committees and agencies, such as affordable housing, Fairfax County Public Schools).
- **Other** _____