

## **Local Virginia Leagues Can Now Earn Money While Promoting a Some Good Causes**

**LWV-VA recently received a grant to advocate for AVR (Automatic Voter Registration). We're excited about this grant and how our LLs (local leagues) can benefit by advocating for AVR, with promotion of redistricting reform and no-excuse-needed absentee voting (NEAV) as an added benefit.**

### **HOW MUCH MONEY DO WE GET?**

Because time is so short, rather than ask each League to submit a grant proposal ahead of time, we have decided to provide each League with \$600 if you have under 100 members, and \$750 for Leagues over 100. **You will receive this amount the minute you tell our treasurer ([phurst@embarqmail.com](mailto:phurst@embarqmail.com)) you will participate and give her contact information for your designated liaison.** If it appears you will successfully utilize most of the money, please ask Pat Hurst for up to the **same amount again. It is in the budget.**

### **WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO?**

#### **Option 1: Richmond**

Promote our causes during GA session by doing the following:

1. Fund members to come to Richmond for at least one of the WLRT days—**Jan. 18 and 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15**,—the night before, as they start at 8:30 a.m. You will have a special rate at the Berkeley Hotel ([804.780.1300](tel:804.780.1300)) and \$10 valet parking. Come to a “strategy session” (with heavy snacks) between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. at our new office board room, 1011 E. Main St., one block from hotel. If you arrive by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, visiting the Senate P and E committee meeting is a valuable experience as they deal with election issues and it can earn you more money.
2. Attend the WLRT's,\* before or after which you visit your Delegates and Senators (should definitely make appointments ahead of time), try to see the Member in person but at least the Legislative Aide, and leave behind the materials provided. You will also have FAQs to help with your presentation. This may take only a few minutes.. Definitely try to schedule a meeting before 8:30, though some legislators have committee meetings at 7:30 or 8:00. \*The location of the WLRT may not be known until the day of. Ask the ladies at the information desk where you enter.
3. Attend either a committee meeting (see P and E above) or observe the legislative session at noon. (*Morning committee meetings end in time for legislators to go to caucus at 11:30.*) You can buy a lunch in the deli one level up and eat in House Room 3 on the main floor of the Visitors Center and watch the session with other Leaguers and compare notes. You cannot eat in the Senate room across the hall but the Senate session can be viewed there.
4. **Complete the simple online survey forms as soon as you can. Copies of the surveys will come both to your liaison and the state League. We need to know how we are doing. You would need two copies of any paper forms; one for your liaison, one for any state board member present. Best to do it online. Here is the link to complete it online:**

**[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVVA\\_Election\\_Modernization](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVVA_Election_Modernization)**

#### **Option 2: Your locality**

Promote AVR and other election causes (if you have not been briefed in Richmond, your

envoys will need to have the strategy materials on hand) in your locality by doing some of these:

1. Visit your legislators in the local offices to explain AVR and other election related issues and leave behind the information sheets provided. **Complete survey and submit.**  
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVVA\\_Election\\_Modernization](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVVA_Election_Modernization)
2. Check in with your local registrar to ask about what their biggest challenges are, what legislation they would suggest or support to improve the process, and ask their reaction to AVR. **Complete survey and submit.**  
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVVA\\_Election\\_Modernization](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVVA_Election_Modernization)
3. Respond diligently to Action Alerts that will come to you via our online newsletter. Alerts will come to you with a script so you know what to say or email (calls preferred.) Pay yourselves at least \$10 for each Action Aler. Fill out this simple form:  
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWV-VA\\_Action-Alert](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWV-VA_Action-Alert)
4. Provide state League, especially Carol Noggle, with a list of the House and Senate districts in which their LL members reside. Just let Carol Noggle know you plan to do this right away so we don't duplicate efforts. Pay yourselves an hourly rate (\$15?) for doing this.

#### **WHAT CAN WE USE THE GRANT MONEY FOR?**

1. We suggest you pay your League \$75 for each member who completes the 3 step Richmond experience, \$25 for each step.
2. We suggest you pay your League \$25 for each of the local components completed. You can decide what is "payment" for Action Alerts
3. **You can also provide hotel, food and mileage for your Richmond attendees**, or if they donate these expenses, you can pay your League what it would have cost.
4. You may have other expenses to promote these causes, such as printing and mailing costs, that can be paid out of grant money.
5. Obviously this is an honor system, but we would like to know how you spent your money for future reference (such as grant applications), so would appreciate a simple accounting of the categories used when you send in your final online forms.
6. Some local League members have already visited their registrars and should take "payment" for these visits out of the grant money and fill out the survey forms about to come your way retroactively.

#### **HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS?**

- 1) Information about this project can be accessed in the new **Information for Members** section of our state website [www.lwv-va.org](http://www.lwv-va.org). It does not require a password. Look for "**Election Modernization Initiative**"
- 2) People planning to come to any of the WLRT events will have a chance to sign up via a Sign Up Genius invitation: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d48afa82fa7f94-lwvvirginia>
- 3) **Reduced rate hotel reservations must be made by the Friday before the event.**
- 4) Join the LWV-VA Facebook group. It's a secret group -- email Beth Tudan at [beth.tudan.lwv@gmail.com](mailto:beth.tudan.lwv@gmail.com) to request joining the group, "LWV-VA Election Advocacy."