

Prince William Area Members-At-Large Unit

League of Women Voters Virginia

<http://lww-va.org/pwc.html>

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In This Issue...

Roundtable Elections 2

Voter Services Update 2

Lobby Day 2

Member ship Application 3

See more updates on our
League Unit online at
<http://lww-va.org/pwc.html>

Celebrate Women's History Month at our General Meeting March 22

Don't miss our Unit's celebration of Women's History Month when we show and discuss "One Woman—One Vote," a film illustrating the history of American women fighting for—and finally winning—the right to vote in the United States. The film stars Susan Sarandon.

Attendees should include those interested in the women's suffragist movement, American history and late Victorian culture. One reviewer says, "...male viewers will be put at ease by this work. Not only were their [sic] supportive men at the Seneca Convention, it was a man who wanted to honor his mother that made the Amendment possible. The film shows supportive men of the time as well as having a male scholar chime in." (<http://www.amazon.com/One-Woman-Vote-Susan-Sarandon/product-reviews>)

"One Woman—One Vote" will be shown as part of our general meeting from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 22 in the Community Room at Chinn Library at 13065 Chinn Park Drive, Woodbridge. Chinn Library is located off of Prince William Parkway across from the Glen shopping center.

PWA Unit to Facilitate Community Election

The PWA LWV Unit has been asked to conduct the community election for *Four Seasons at Historic Virginia* in Dumfries, a housing development and designated 55+ community with golf course and clubhouse.

Four Seasons's homeowners association is changing from the builder directorship to a homeowner directorship, and we have agreed to help by facilitating the election.

LWV volunteers are needed for May 10, so we can fulfill this important obligation.

We will need volunteers for both the afternoon and the evening. Times will be announced as the election draws closer. Training and direction will be provided. No experience is necessary.

Community elections are an excellent way for the League to raise necessary funds by doing what they do best: conducting fair and honest elections by following guidelines.

Please volunteer by contacting Shirley White, Community Election Coordinator, at wandswhite@gmail.com or 571-261-1533.

Updates from the December 2009 Women's Roundtable. Richmond

"As always," our PWA President Joyce Ard said, "the Roundtable is informative." Partnering organizations from Interfaith organizations to the National Abortion Rights Action League and other grassroots groups presented issues and efforts at the December 2009 Women's Roundtable in Richmond.

The message was clear: we must become more sophisticated as our issues have become, and we must send notes—as individuals—to our representatives. These notes should not be form letters which are not being taken seriously.

The budget is always an issue, particularly for small agencies and organizations dealing with seniors, healthcare, education and transportation. New issues included preservation of VA scenic roads and sights. Legal Aid organizations and foreclosures were also discussed.

Luncheon speakers were members of the transition team for the then Governor –Elect McDonnell. Speakers assured attendees of "fairness and balance."

Voter Services: Making a Difference

For the third year in a row, our Unit has assisted the PWC Board of Elections in registering high school seniors to vote. As of now, we have registered 837 students. But, we need more help.

Volunteer days are always on Tuesday and Wednesday, also during which the Board of Elections and PWC Bar Association presents to the high school government classes "You Are 18," through which students learn how their rights and responsibilities change when they turn 18.

The following high schools are on the schedule: Freedom, Forest Park, Hylton, Garfield, Osborne Park, Potomac, Stonewall, and Woodbridge. The schedule goes to April.

Finally, we need a Voter Services Chair or two Co-Chairs (dividing responsibilities) to take over for Judy Anderson. The work is fulfilling, and no experience is necessary. Contact Joyce Ard at 703-580-8122 or ardj@verizon.net.

New Member Represents us at LWV Lobby Day

Thanks to new member Carol Noggle who attended the January 27 State League's Lobby Day in Richmond, our Unit has remained up-to- date.

According to Carol, the primary issues were extending the deadline for absentee ballots to 45 or 50 days out; how an extension of the deadline would mean extending the deadline for preparing the ballots; problems with voters mailing a copy of the absentee ballot (SB60); whether or not lists of registered voters can be disclosed to Commissioners of the revenue and treasurers because of the concern that this would be a "tool of discovery" for determining who is taxable (SB137); whether or not absentee ballots may be returned to a "drop-box" that would not be secure (SB 314); whether or not to permit localities to procure DREs (Direct Recording Electronic voting machines) already owned in other localities to make voting accessible to the handicapped (SB593, Patron Senator Puller). Continued use of DREs is being banned because there is no way to verify voting, but the DREs accommodate the handicapped voters. There is concern that a "verifiable election technology" is needed because the current wireless technology is not secure.

LWV VA President Olga Hernandez said the LWV opposes SB137 because this "tool of discovery" would mean an intersection of voting and taxes that could result in compromised confidentiality or cause some restriction to voting.

See Carol's full report at http://lwg-va.org/files/lwg_lobby_day_jan_2010.pdf

Welcome New Members!

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Since December, 2009, we have had the distinct pleasure of welcoming Alan Alborn, Dena Bost, Elaine Cash, Louise Morello and Carol Noggle to our membership. We look forward to working with you!

Thanks to our newest Voter Services volunteers, Dena Bost, Brenda Carswell and Carol Noggle, for helping us register 837 students thus far. And thanks to seasoned volunteers, Ilma Striker, Jessie Barringer and Joyce Ard. All our volunteers really do make a difference!

*Questions? Comments?
Ideas?*

Contact
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Prince William Area Members-At-Large Unit League of Women Voters of Virginia

www.lwv-va.org

Join and become a Member of the
League of Women Voters of the Prince William Area.
Or, renew your membership now!

Prince William County, Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park

Membership Application July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

The LWV is a non-partisan organization which neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate. The LWV is open to all citizens, female or male, who are 18 years of age or older. The purposes of the LWVVA are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip Code + 4 _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Annual Dues: \$60.00 single or \$90.00 household (2 persons). Dues include enrollment in the League of Women Voters of Virginia and the League of Women Voters of the United States. **Dues are due by June 30th for the coming fiscal year.**

Please make check payable to **Prince William Area MAL LWV VA** and mail to Prince William Area MAL LWVVA, 6010 Wheeler Lane, Broad Run, VA 20137.

Your ideas matter! Please list suggestions for programs and activities that you would find interesting if undertaken by the new League of Women Voters of the Prince William Area.
