

League of Women Voters® of Virginia 38th Biennial Convention

Honoring Our Legacy With Action



From This



To This

and Still Advocating . . .



**The Clarion Inn
Historic Leesburg, Virginia
June 10 – June 11, 2017**



League of Women Voters® of Virginia

38th Biennial Convention

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Schedule at a Glance

Saturday, June 10, 2017

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Registration & Delegate Check-In
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. Wares Tables

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Opening Plenary Session**
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Speaker: Jessica Jones Capparell,
Grassroots Advocacy manager, LWVUS

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **No-Host Networking Lunch at area restaurants**

2:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Wares Tables

Breakout Sessions

2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

- What's Next for Virginia Redistricting
- Fracking in Virginia
- Engaging New Activists with Sips & Civility

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions

- Voting Rights and Civil Rights in Virginia.
- Report on United Nations Commission on the Status of Women 2017
- ERA: 2 AWAY!!

4:30 – 5:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions

- Making Democracy Work with Action: LWV-VA's 2017-18 Budget
- Leadership for the League: Meet the LWV-VA Board Nominees
- Gun Safety: Can We Change the Tide?

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Reception (cash bar) & Banquet**
8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Speaker: Dahlia Lithwick, Sr. Editor, Slate

Sunday, June 11, 2017

7:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration & Delegate Check-In
7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Wares Tables

Breakout Sessions

7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

- Using Technology to Understand Members
- 2017 Transparency Virginia Report

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Closing Plenary Session**
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Speaker: The Honorable Nancy Rodrigues,
Virginia Secretary of Administration

12:30 p.m. **Convention Adjourns**

1:00 p.m. Passing the Torch to 2017-2019; Outgoing & Incoming Board

Proposed Rules and Procedures

A motion to adopt these rules will be made at the opening plenary session. Amendments may be offered at this time and require a majority vote to adopt.

The rules, as proposed or amended, require a two-thirds (2/3) vote for adoption. To suspend a rule at a later time requires a two-thirds vote (2/3).

1. Admission to the Convention shall be limited to persons displaying official badges, which must be worn at all meetings of the Convention.
2. Delegates, non-voting observers, and visitors shall sit in designated areas.
3. Only accredited delegates representing local Leagues, MAL (Member-at-Large) Units and ILO and LWV-VA Board members may vote.
4. Only accredited delegates and those authorized by the chair or the delegate body may address the Convention.
5. In debate, no person shall speak more than once until all others who wish to speak have done so; no person shall speak more than twice on the same motion; debate shall be limited to two minutes per speaker unless other procedure limits take precedence.
6. Each speaker shall use a microphone and announce their name and League when addressing the Convention.
7. Main motions and amendments of substantial length must be in writing on paper included in the folders or obtained from the ushers. One copy shall be sent to the presiding officer and one copy shall be retained by the maker of the motion.
8. When a vote is in progress, the doors to the meeting room shall be closed and no one may enter or leave.
9. Each delegate representing a local League or MAL Unit shall be entitled to vote only if that League has met its per member payment responsibilities. Representative from Leagues not paid in full will not have the privilege of the floor, the right to vote or the right to make motions unless a special consideration is given by the Convention. The Convention shall be the sole judge of whether a delegate is qualified to vote.
10. Thirty percent (30%) of the possible number of voting delegates, other than members of the state board, shall constitute a quorum provided that a majority of local Leagues are represented.
11. The minutes of the Convention shall be approved by the LWV-VA board after review by a committee appointed by the chair to review and correct the minutes.
12. Voting procedures during Plenary Sessions: Each delegate receives vote cards at the credentials table. The red and green vote cards are numbered 1-4, with green=yes and red=no. Generally, the first vote on an issue is a voice vote, or sometimes a standing vote. If the outcome is not clear, then there be a vote where delegates count off person by person. If the outcome still remains unclear, then there will be a card vote. The Presiding Officer will indicate the number of the card to be used and will announce the instructions for the vote. The appropriately numbered card must be used or your vote will be invalidated. The Elections Committee appointed at the first Plenary Session is responsible for collecting the voting cards, counting them, and reporting the result to the Presiding Officer.
13. Only announcements that relate to the business of the Convention or the welfare of the participants shall be made. Announcements shall be made only by persons designated to do so.
14. Cell phones shall be turned off or muted during Plenary, workshops, caucuses and the banquet.
15. The procedure for Program adoption shall be as follows: A program item that is submitted by a local league at least three months before convention, but not proposed by the state board, may be adopted only if its consideration is ordered by majority vote of the convention at the first Plenary session, and the proposal receives a three-fifths (3/5) vote at a subsequent session (this is considered a "not-recommended" program item).

- At the Plenary session on Saturday, the proposed {recommended} LWV-VA program shall be presented by an LWV-VA board member. Questions for clarification only will be in order. Delegates may move for consideration of not-recommended items, with their presentation limited to three minutes. A delegate may request a statement from an LWV-VA board member as to why an item was not recommended, with a limit of two minutes for the answer.
- After all of the not-recommended items have been offered, the vote for consideration of each item will be taken in the order in which the items were presented for consideration. Announcement of the vote result shall be made immediately after the vote on each item.
- Debate and action on not-recommended program items voted consideration and the proposed program will take place at the Sunday Plenary session. A three-fifths (3/5) vote is required to adopt non-recommended items. A simple majority is required to adopt recommended program items.

Basic Parliamentary Procedures

Putting a motion on the Floor

To make a motion or amend a motion, a delegate must go to a microphone, be recognized by the presiding officer, state her/his name and local League, then state the motion (or amendment to a motion). The motion (or amendment) is seconded from the floor. The presiding officer then places the motion before the assembly for discussion. The delegate may speak to the motion (or amendment) first. **Note:** Once a motion is placed before the assembly by the presiding officer, it is under the control of the assembly and does not belong to the delegate making the motion. For example, it cannot be withdrawn later without permission of the assembly.

Seconds to Motions

It is not necessary to agree with a motion to second it. A second only implies that there is more than one person who wishes to discuss the motion. Therefore, if a motion is coming from the Board or committee, it does not need a second from the floor.

Amendments to Motions

A motion that is on the floor may have two amendments pending at one time. However, the first amendment must relate to the main motion and the second amendment must relate to the first amendment to the motion.

Refer or Postpone

A motion to postpone or refer to a committee can be made while a main motion or an amendment to a main motion is pending.

Close Debate

A delegate must go to a microphone and move to close debate (call the previous question). The motion needs a second. There is no discussion, and it takes a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting to pass. After the motion to close debate is approved, there will be an immediate vote on the pending motion.

Table a Motion

A motion to table (lay on the table) should not be used to kill the motion on the floor and should not be used to postpone consideration of the motion.

Point of Order

If a delegate believes there was a breach of parliamentary procedures, she/he may rise to a point of order. If the point of order refers to an action made by someone other than the presiding officer, the delegate should give the presiding officer time to correct the problem before interrupting with the point of order. If a delegate wishes to make a motion and is not sure how to proceed, the delegate should ask the presiding officer.

To Limit or Extend Debate

This motion is used when debate needs to be limited as to time or number who wish to be heard, or extended in tie, etc. It is debatable, and requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote. For example,

I move that debate: be limited to one minute per speaker (or) be limited to five speakers pro and five speakers con (or) be extended to ten more speakers with one minute each, etc.

Miscellaneous Motions

The following motions have no rank and are usually incidental to the business pending or to Convention operations. Some may interrupt other business. There is no debate or vote, and motions are usually ruled upon by the presiding officer.

- **Question of Privilege** – this motion relates to the comfort of delegates or operation of the assembly.
- **Parliamentary Inquiry** – this motion is used to ask for direction or procedure to accomplish a parliamentary maneuver.
- **Point of Information** – this motion is used to seek urgent information necessary before decisions can be made.
- **Division of the Assembly** – this requires a standing vote if the voice vote seems inconclusive. A single delegate “calls for a division” and does not need to use a microphone but must be heard. If a counted vote seems necessary, the delegate makes such a motion, which requires a second and a majority vote.
- **To Reconsider a Vote** – This motion can be made only by a delegate who voted on the prevailing side and on the same or next day as the vote it proposes to reconsider. The motion can be moved within the time limits, although the vote on the motion may be delayed until a more appropriate time if other business is pending. This motion is usually debatable and requires a majority vote. If the motion to reconsider is adopted, the original motion is again before the delegate body as though a decision had not been reached. A vote can only be reconsidered once. Approved bylaws amendments may not be reconsidered.

Proposed Order of Business

*Plenary Session Saturday,
June 10, 2017 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Call to Order & Introductions

Lois Page, Co-President

Welcome by Local League Co-Hosts

Linda Larsen, LWVPWA Co-Chair, Local Arrangements & Priscilla Godfrey, President, LWVLC and Co-Chair, Local Arrangements

Welcome to Loudoun County & Leesburg, VA

**Phyllis J. Randall, Chair,
Loudoun County Board of
Supervisors**

Parliamentarian

Marty Rollins, LWV-VA
Secretary & Parliamentarian

Introduction of LWV-VA Board Members

Dianne Blais, Co-President

Roll Call of Local Leagues

Lois Page

- *Each local League President will respond by introducing self, stating number of current members, stating the number of delegates and observers present from her local League*

Appointment of Committee

Dianne Blais

- **Credentials – Pat Hurst & Ellen Heald**
- **Resolutions – Sherry Zachry, Frances Schutz, Elaine Head & Marty Rollins (adviser)**
- **Elections – Susan Pheiffer, Pat Widener & Mary Peskin**
- **Reading – Mary Houska, Kay Olivera & Mileva Hartman**

Report of Convention 2015 Reading Committee

Dianne Blais

Credentials Report

Pat Hurst, LWV-VA Treasurer

Adopt Rules & Procedures of Convention

Lois Page

- *A motion to adopt will be made; amendments may be offered at this time and require a majority vote to adopt. The rules, as proposed or amended, require a two-thirds vote for adoption. Suspension of a rule at a later time requires a two-thirds vote.*

Adopt Order of Business – a majority vote is required

Lois Page

Treasurer's Report

Pat Hurst

Report of Nominating Committee

Sherry Zachry, Chair,
Nominating Committee

- *Nominations may be made from the floor at this time, provided the nominee has consented. If more than one person is nominated for any one office, the Elections Committee will be in charge and paper ballots will be used.*

Break:

10 minutes

Presentation of Recommended Program

Frances Schutz, Program Director

- *Refer to Rules for Program Management; questions for clarification will be answered. No amendments will be in order at this time.*

10 minutes Frances Schutz, Program Director

Rosalie Simari, Budget Committee Member

Pat Hurst

Presentation of Not-Recommended Program

Frances Schutz

- *Refer to Rules for Program. Not-recommended items may be moved for consideration now. A majority vote is required for consideration.*

Presentation of Proposed LWV-VA Operating Budget

Rosalie Simari, Budget
Committee Member

- *Questions for clarification will be answered. No amendments will be in order now. Delegates who would like more information & an opportunity for discussion are urged to attend the "Making Democracy Work with Action: LWV-VA's 2017-18 Budget" breakout session at 4:30 p.m.*

Presentation of Proposed LWV-VA Education Fund (EF) 2017-2018 Budget

Pat Hurst

- *This budget is provided for information only; comments are welcomed. The LWV-VA Education Fund is an educational trust, with no members. Therefore, the budget is not voted on by the Convention; it is discussed, debated and adopted at the first meeting of the LWV-VA EF trustees after the convention.*

Presentation: Celebrating Our History; Envisioning Our Future

**Brenda Rogers, LWVUS Board
Member & Liaison to LWV-VA**

Presentation: LWV Grassroots Advocacy & Action

**Jessica Jones Capparell,
Grassroot Advocacy Manager,
LWVUS**

Recess 12:30 p.m. No host lunch at local restaurants.

- *Networking Lunches. Delegates & observers are encouraged to join with representatives of other Leagues and have lunch at local restaurants (list provided by local League Arrangements Committee).*

*Breakout Sessions Saturday,
June 10, 2017
2:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.*

Choose One Session in Each Time Slot

See handout for room assignments

Time	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
2:30- 3:15 p.m.	What's Next for Virginia Redistricting? Brian Cannon, OneVirginia2021	Engaging New Activists with Sips & Civility Judy Parente, LWVFC	Fracking in Virginia LWV-VA Fracking Study Committee: Meghan Dorsett, LWVRMA
3:30 – 4:15 p.m.	Voting Rights and Civil Rights in Virginia Carol Noggle, LWV-VA & Claire Guthrie-Gastanaga, Virginia ACLU	ERA: 2 Away! Pat Fishback, LWVRMA & Rally for Equal Rights	Report on U.N. Commission on the Status of Women 2017 Jill Follows, LWVFC & LWVUS Delegate to U.N. Commission
4:30 – 5:15 p.m.	Gun Safety: Can the Tide Be Turned? LWV-VA Gun Safety Task Force: Ruth Hoffman, LWVFA & Judy Helein, LWVFA	Making Democracy Work with Action: LWV-VA's 2017-2018 Budget Budget Committee: Rosalie Simari, LWV CVA & Pat Hurst, LWV-VA Treasurer	Leadership for the League: Meet the LWV-VA 2017/2019 Board Nominees All Nominated Board Members

5:15 p.m. Recess to 7:45 a.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2017,

*Saturday, June 10, 2017
Convention Reception & Banquet
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.*

• Reception (cash bar) • Banquet: Italian Lovers' Extravaganza & Pasta Bar

Speaker: Dahlia Lithwick, senior editor, Slate

9:00 p.m. Networking

Sunday, June 11, 2017
Breakout Sessions
7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Choose One Session

See handout for room assignments

Time	Session 1	Session 2
7:45 – 8:30 a.m.	Using Technology to Understand Members Beth Tudan, LWVFA	Transparency Virginia Report Becky Bowers-Lanier, Co-Chair, Transparency Virginia

Closing Plenary Session
Sunday, June 11, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Call to Order	Dianne Blais
Credentials Report	Pat Hurst
Adoption of 2017-2018 Operating Budget	Rosalie Simari
Adoption of LWV-VA Program, Recommended & Not-Recommended	Frances Schutz
Report of Resolutions Committee	Frances Schutz
Speaker: The Honorable Nancy Rodrigues, Virginia Secretary of Administration	
Comments on the Health of the LWV of Virginia	Lois Page & Dianne Blais
Recognition of Outgoing Board	Lois Page & Dianne Blais
Election of Officers & Board of Directors for 2017-2019	Sherry Zachry
Guidance to the New Board	Delegates
Incoming President’s Remarks	Sue Lewis
Date & Location for 2019 LWV-VA Biennial Convention	Marty Rollins, LWVSHR
2017 LWV-VA Biennial Convention Adjourns	12:30 p.m.
Meeting of 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 Board members	Outgoing & Incoming Board Members

Report of the Nominating Committee

**SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR LWV-VA 2017-2019
TO BE ELECTED AT LWV-VA CONVENTION, JUNE 11, 2017**

**NOMINATED FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM
BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 and ENDING JUNE 30, 2019.**

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Sue Lewis – LWVCVA (Charlottesville Area)
1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	Linda Garvelink- LWVFC (<i>will keep Membership portfolio</i>)
2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	Lynn Johnston - LWVRMA (<i>will keep Arrangements portfolio</i>)
SECRETARY	Martha (Marti) Rollins - LWVSHR
TREASURER	Patricia (Pat) Hurst – LWVCVA (Charlottesville Area)

DIRECTORS

Meghan Dorsett	- LWVRMA (Communications)
Valarie Fillgrove	- LWVRMA (Legislative Coordinator)
Maggi Luca	- LWVFA (Voter Service)
Carol Lindstrom	- LWVRMA (Communications)
Adarsh Trehan	- LWVFA (Public Relations)
<i>Vacant</i>	

2017-2019 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kathy Matusiak – Chair (LWVAr)
Dianne Blais – Member (LWVFA)
Anne Sterling – Member (LWVRMA)

Respectfully submitted:

2015-2017 Nominating Committee
Linda Garvelink, Mileva Hartman, Patricia Hurst, Melanie Perez-Lopez,
Sherry Zachry, Chair

2017-2019 Nominees

Officers

President



Sue Lewis

Sue Lewis has been a League member since she joined in Arkansas in the late '60's. She has served on both the Arkansas and Virginia State Boards, and on her local League boards in Camden AR and the Charlottesville Area. Her portfolios included Voter Service, Membership, Action, Treasurer, Bylaws, and Leadership Development. She has been the Virginia State Coordinator for the LWVUS MLD (Membership and Leadership Development) program and serves as a coach for the program. Sue is currently serving on the LWVUS Governance Committee. She is a retired Financial Advisor with 25 years of experience in that profession, and has computer programming and banking experience. She is a former chair of the Charlottesville Planning Commission, a Fellow of the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership, a graduate of Leadership Charlottesville, and a member of the Charlottesville Human Rights Commission. She has two children, four adult granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

1st Vice President



Linda Garvelink

Linda Garvelink is a committed member of the League of Women Voters. She joined the LWV of Falls Church in the early 1990s. She served on the LWVFC board of directors as Vice President and Program Director (FY2011-2016) and, for the past year (FY2017), as part of the Management Team with the portfolio of Inter-League Liaison. Linda was elected to the LWV-VA board in 2015 as Membership Director, and served as Co-Coordinator of the MLD (Membership and Leadership Development) Program, and as a coach. From 2012-2014, she served on the LWV of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) with the Program portfolio. Linda had a 30-year career in finance and administration and management and holds a BBA and MBA from the George Washington University.

2nd Vice President



Lynn Johnston

Lynn Johnston served two previous terms as Arrangements Chair, in 2009-2011, and in 2011-12, Lynn came back on the LWV-VA Board in 2015 to serve again in the same capacity. All terms were demanding but exciting years and because of this greater involved experience, I look forward to being an Officer as 2nd VP and continuing with the same portfolio. My bio includes a rich family life, a marriage of 50 years, with 3 grown children and 6 grandchildren. My paid profession has always been in Eye Clinics as an ophthalmic tech, and now I am an active volunteer at the CrossOver Ministries Clinic for uninsured and I have done other urban and overseas missions. My other big volunteer hat is for the Interfaith Council, as former president, and now an active board member. I remain deeply involved in the activities of the League of Women Voters, Richmond Metro Area and now serve as Healthcare Chair and on the Healthcare for All Virginians.

Secretary



Martha (Marti) Rollins

Martha Rollins joined the League after she and her husband moved from Syracuse University to join the history faculty at Old Dominion University in 1967--he as an Associate Professor and She as an adjunct. At Syracuse she earned a dual degree in Political Science and Journalism and a master's in History. In Norfolk, she discovered friends who were dedicated to League. She was a charter organizer of the Breakfast Unit; she remains as Unit Leader. She is a member of the Virginia Bar and local Bar Associations. She earned her law degree from William and Mary and practiced law in the Norfolk City Attorney's Office for over thirty years. She also taught Constitutional History at Old Dominion University and served two terms as President of Friends of the Library. She was the District Governor of Toastmasters in Virginia. She is the current District Governor of Toastmasters in Virginia. She is the current President of the Chesapeake Unit of Parleamentarians and serves as parliamentarian for League meetings, including LWV-VA. She served as LWVUS Parliamentarian for the 2011 Council and the National Conventions from 2012 to 2016. She is nominated as the President of the SHR (South Hampton Roads) League for the upcoming term. She was elected to fill a vacancy as Secretary of LWV-VA in September 2016, and is pleased to be nominated for a full term.

Treasurer



Patricia (Pat) Hurst

Pat is currently completing a two-year term as Treasurer of LWV-VA, and is looking forward to another term, if elected. She has been a member of the LWV of the Charlottesville Area for eight years. During that time, she served as its President, Treasurer, and Secretary. She retired from a 40-year career in computer software engineering which began at NASA Langley in Virginia and ended with the SBA in Washington, DC. In between, she worked for various companies in California, Georgia, New York, and London. As an instructor in software engineering, she travelled extensively in the US and other countries. For the past sixteen years, she has owned and actively managed multifamily properties. Pat has two daughters who live in upstate New York and five grandchildren.

Directors



Valarie Fillgrove (Legislative Coordinator)

Valarie is a third generation Leaguer, having joined in 1967 after membership was opened to those under 21. At age 23, she was President of a Provisional League in Ironton, Ohio! She has extensive experience with debates, having arranged several Congressional, Senatorial, Gubernatorial, state and local debates here in Virginia and elsewhere. She also was a panelist on a televised program on Debate Planning, sponsored by the LWVUS. She served on the Election Board of Posey County Indiana, and worked in the Voter Registrar's office in Virginia Beach. Valarie is a member of the Richmond Metropolitan Area LWV, and has served on their board.



Carol Lindstrom (Co-Communications)

Carol's league experience is mostly in the technology area, having served as Webmaster and in social media management for LWV-VA and the Montgomery County League. She has a wealth of computer and internet knowledge, and is passionate about finding ways to effectively utilize all forms of social media to get our message out. She has served LWV-VA as Action Chair, WLRT management and tracking legislation. Carol has a BS in Nutrition from Bastyr University and graduate work in Health Psychology and Phenomenological Research through Saybrook Institute. She has worked as a Child Abuse Investigator and a Forensic Mental Health counselor in Florida. She is co-owner of a charming toy store and used book store in Christiansburg, and enjoys gardening. Carol is a member of the Richmond Metropolitan Area LWV.



Meghan Dorsett (Co-Communications)

Meghan has served as the 2nd VP and Voter Service chair for the Montgomery County LWV,; the newsletter designer and current Editor for LWV-Richmond Metropolitan Area; and as the erstwhile graphic designer, newsletter editor and cartographer for LWV-VA (2011-2013). A comprehensive and environmental resource planner, she worked as the Senior Comprehensive Planner for Montgomery County VA, as well as a long-range planning consultant (environmental resources, tourism, park planning, and economic development) in Missouri, Arkansas, and West Virginia. She served as the newsletter editor and board member for the National Association of County Planners, and was a long-time member of the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Certified Planners, and the Virginia Planning Association. She spent four years on the Christiansburg Planning Commission, chairing the Comprehensive Planning Sub-Committee. Meghan co-owns Dorsett Publications, the Cambria Toy Station and Whistle Stop Books, all housed in the 150-year old Historic Cambria Depot in Christiansburg.



Adarsh Trehan (Public Relations)

Adarsh Trehan is completing a 2-year term as Public Relations Director for LWVVA (2015-2017) and looks forward to continuing in this position, if re-elected. She has served on the Board of Directors of the LWV of the Fairfax Area as the Publicity Co-Chair, and as Co-Chair of the McLean Unit. She is the Branch Secretary for the AAUW McLean Area Branch (2016-2018). She is a member of: the Kennedy Center International Committee for the Arts, the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy Advisory Committee of the University of Michigan. Adarsh's other volunteer activities include working with Head Start and kindergarten students, tutoring adult students, and serving hospice patients. Her work experience includes stints as a college professor, research analyst at the MITRE Corporation, and information technology planner at the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Veterans Affairs. She is a graduate of Philippine Women's University, (B.A in Social Work), University of the Philippines, (M.A. in Public Administration), and the University of Michigan (M.A. Political Science).



Margaret (Maggi) Luca (Voter Service)

Maggi Luca was elected to the LWV-VA Board as the Voter Service Director at the convention in 2015, and looks forward to continuing with that portfolio, if re-elected. She has been a member of the LWV since 1965. Joining the League, first in Williamsburg, VA, moving to Leagues in Maryland, California, and then, finally, to Fairfax in 1978. She feels the LWV was, and is, the most important way to be involved in your community. Maggi was the Secretary of the Fairfax County Electoral Board from 2002-2011. When she retired from Fairfax County Government, she again became an active member of LWV-FA and chose to edit Facts for Voters because she valued the publication so much as an election official. Maggi grew up on Long Island in Lynbrook, NY, graduated from Lynbrook High School, and from Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Education. She taught school for over 20 years. She served as Chief of Staff on the Hill and as a legislative aide for two Senators in the General Assembly. She has been on several State and County Boards and Commissions.

Nominating Committee



Chair Kathleen (Kathy) Matusiak

Kathy Matusiak first joined the League in 1972 after being part of a voter registration drive. For several years, she has served the board of directors of the LWVAR (Arlington) as co-chair of Voter Service, and for two years as Vice President for Administration. She is continuing on the board at President of LWVAR. Kathy is a research consultant with the firm of Lescaut and Walderman. She has a degree in Business Administration and has 30 years of executive experience in Accounting Statistical Analysis, Data Computation, and Membership Services. Kathy is a widow, with two daughters and six grandchildren.



Dianne Blais

Dianne has been active in the League for 15 years, and is completing a two-year term as one of our first Co-Presidents. A member of the Fairfax Area LWV, she served on its board and chaired both the Fairfax Redistricting Committee and the LWV-VA Redistricting study. Dianne is an active AAUW member, serving as Branch president several times and as the AAUW-Virginia president in 2008-2010. She has served on the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GWFC) committees and Fairfax county Advisory boards. She ran as an Independent candidate for the Virginia House of Delegates in 2011 and the United States Congress in 2014. She was a church organist, PTA president, Girl Scout leader, and an emergency foster mother for over 100 children. She is currently involved as a Dining for Women (DFW) mentor active at two local universities (George Mason and Virginia International).



Anne Sterling

After serving on the LWWUS Nominating Committee, Anne is happy to run for the same job here in Virginia. A former president of our state League (2013-2015) she learned to know and admire many LWV members. She organized the initial meetings of our new MAL Unit, Fredericksburg Area. She's also aware of how our LWV-VA Board functions. Starting out as a journalist (Hollister Newspapers, Gannett Papers and Columbia University publications) Anne's favorite job was Community Editor of the Rhinebeck Gazette-Advertiser. Her interest in public policy has tied together various volunteer jobs. She has served as president of: Bel Air Middle School, School Board of Harford County MD, Gifted Advisory Council of Henrico County, American Library Trustees Association, International Association of Torch Clubs and Friend of Boatright Library, University of Virginia. She co-founded and chaired Transparency Virginia, currently serves on the C-4 board of OneVirginia 2021, and as president of the Henrico County Parks and Recreation Commission.

LWV-VA Bylaws Dealing with Program

ARTICLE X. Principles and Program

Sec.1. Principles. The governmental Principles adopted by the national convention and supported by the league as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of program.

Sec.2. Program. The program of the LWV-VA shall consist of action to implement the Principles and those state governmental issues chosen for concerted study or concurrence and action by the convention or, if recommended by the board, the council. Information on governmental issues designed for member information and education may be prepared and disseminated by the board at any time.

Sec.3. Program Adoption.

- a) LWV-VA committees and task forces, local League boards, and voting members of the LWV-VA may make recommendations for new issues for study, amendment or elimination of current LWV-VA positions or concurrence with a new support position. Recommendations must be submitted to the state board at least three months before convention or council.
- b) Any such League board, LWV-VA study committee, task force or voting member shall send to the board accompanying background information on the issue proposed for study, concurrence, amendment or action, including the timing, need and importance of the issue for study or action, and the rationale for seeking the proposed form of obtaining member agreement.
- c) The board shall consider all properly submitted recommendations and formulate a proposed program, which shall be sent to the presidents of local Leagues and ILOs and to the chairs of member-at-large units at least four weeks before convention or, if the board recommends, the council.
- d) The convention or council shall adopt or amend the program proposed by the board by a majority vote of those present and voting.
- e) A program recommendation properly submitted by the deadline but not proposed by the board may be adopted by the convention only if its consideration is ordered by a majority vote of the convention and the proposal receives approval by a three-fifths vote of the convention delegates present and voting at a subsequent session of the same meeting.

Proposed Program, 2017-2019

Retain all current positions.

Board Recommended changes:

- Mental Health [WA] major update/restudy to include substance abuse, group homes, changes in courts to put mentally ill in treatment facilities not jails and inclusion of broader services provided by Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
- Women's Rights & VA Law [FA & CVA] task force to update based on current laws

Non-Recommended changes:

- Access to Women's Health Care Facilities [PWA]
- Air Quality [RMA] pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, incl. particulate matter from land disturbances & gases from volatile chemicals
- Climate Change [WC] Look at the effect of rising temperatures on health, environment, and species, on weather, on rising sea levels
- Delegation of Power [WA] add Transparency: **LWV-VA is partnering to improve transparency of GA proceedings. Position must include need for meeting notices, hearings on bills and recorded votes in sub-committee and committee hearings. Audio recordings of committee deliberations should also be supported.**
- Education [PWA] impact of vouchers and charter schools on public education Election Laws [CVA]; paper ballot backups available everywhere.
- Election Laws [RMA] voting machines should be protected from electronic interference from outside sources
- Gerrymandering [FRE MAL] independent commission
- Natural Resources [FA] outdated; include energy and energy transport modes

NATURAL RESOURCES

EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES: HYDRAULIC FRACTURING

Position in Brief:

The League of Women Voters of Virginia supports a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, until there have been sufficient studies to show that hydraulic fracturing will not have a negative impact on the health, safety, and well-being of citizens, local jurisdictions, or the natural environment.

Absent that, the League of Women Voters of Virginia believes that Commonwealth of Virginia, including all relevant state departments and state agencies, and local governments have a responsibility to safeguard Virginia's critical features and insure the public's safety, health, and welfare by: 1) adopting strict systems for monitoring, regulation, and oversight of the hydraulic fracturing, including all related facilities, and fracking impacts on critical features (e.g. ground and surface water resources and recharge areas; geologic resources and seismic zones; historic sites and districts), public facilities (e.g. recreation areas, schools, wildlife preserves), local and regional infrastructure, and local and regional economies; 2) developing systems of financial assurance so all fracking-related expenses incurred by the Commonwealth and the local jurisdictions are borne by the industry; 3) granting localities authority to regulate hydraulic fracturing operations; 4) providing state funding to local governments to offset the costs incurred by local governments; 5) developing a state-level system for long-term monitoring of local impacts and enforcement of regulation throughout the full life cycle of the hydraulic fracturing operation; and 6) creating programs and policies designed to help local jurisdictions address the long-term economic and social impacts of hydraulic fracturing and boom and bust cycles.

The League History

Neither the LWVUS nor the LWV-VA currently had a specific position on fracking. Both used their existing positions on natural resources. The study committee determined that these were insufficient given the variety of geologic regions found within Virginia and the greatly expanded potential complications created by horizontal drilling. Also, the study found that there were statements within the existing positions that could work counter to any efforts to control the impact of hydraulic fracturing in that the use of natural gas was encouraged as a way in which to address air quality concerns.

League of Women Voters of Virginia

In May of 2013, the League of Women Voters of Virginia was asked to sign on to the LWVPA Comments on the EPA Fracking Study. It was found that the Technical Round Tables done by the EPA focused on Marcellus Shale but, did not cover the impact of fracking on downstream locations. The recommendation to the LWV-VA President was that LWV-VA sign on to the comments in an effort to help improve the understanding of and the regulation of fracking operations. The Board did submit a letter of support.

The LWV of Virginia membership voted during their 2015 Convention to study the Impacts of Fracking in Virginia

Reason for Study of Fracking: The current LWV-VA natural resource positions do not address recent developments in Virginia of hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") and energy pipelines. Fracking affects health as well as natural resources. Fracking and pipeline effects go beyond the current LWV-VA positions. The effects should be included in Virginia positions and in the background/history.

The scope of the study may include: Impacts of water withdrawal on ground water and surface water supplies; impacts of inadequate treatment of wastewater from fracking on drinking water; health, safety and ecological effects of natural gas pipeline and/or rail transport of shale oil through Virginia.

The concluding thoughts of the committee responsible for the hydraulic fracturing study were:

"Hydraulic fracturing is a moving target. Every day, new legislation, lawsuits, and technologies are created. Every geology [and geologic formation] and well requires a different extraction method. Every piece of data has advocates and opponents. Industry, government, and citizens struggle to find a balance that will provide low- cost, environmentally clean energy in quantities that will support our current lifestyles and future energy requirements. The public's right to know, protection and management of natural resources, social and economic justice, and health and safety are all issues to be considered when examining hydraulic fracturing."

League of Women Voters of United States

In 2010 Delegates at the 2010 Convention of the LWVUS shared information about fracking. It was noted that State Leagues were using existing LWVUS positions on natural resources, particularly clean water and drinking water to reduce the environmental impact of mining processes that contaminate and pollute.

In 2012, the LWVUS responded to the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) and the FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) through testimony and letters.

In 2015, the LWVUS supported a set of five bills referenced to as the “Frack Pack”

The League's Position:

The League of Women Voters of Virginia supports a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, until there have been sufficient studies to show that hydraulic fracturing will not have a negative impact on the health, safety, and well-being of citizens, local jurisdictions, or the natural environment.

The Commonwealth of Virginia should prohibit fracking in state parks, state forests, and areas of state-recognized historic significance. The Commonwealth of Virginia should also insure that localities are free to exempt waterways, areas near waterways, and other sensitive areas such as schools, residential areas, parks, and places of historic significance from fracking operations. For those areas where hydraulic fracturing might occur, the Commonwealth and local jurisdictions should develop a system for the monitoring, regulation, and oversight of the hydraulic fracturing industry, including all related facilities and the impact on the critical features (ground and surface water resources, public and private drinking water recharge areas, historic sites, and public facilities), public parks, recreation areas; and wildlife reserves, geologic formations, local and regional infrastructure, and local and regional economies. Systems of financial assurance should be developed so all fracking-related expenses incurred by the Commonwealth and the local jurisdictions are borne by the industry.

1. The League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA) believes the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy and other applicable state agencies must adopt strict review processes and permitting standards for hydraulic fracturing in all areas of Virginia. The minimum review and permitting requirements for the hydraulic fracturing process, should include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Environmental impact statements for each well pad and specific drill site;
 - b. Geologic impact statement;
 - c. Infrastructure impact statement;
 - d. Economic impact statement, and a detailed cost/benefit analysis;
 - e. Baseline data for water and air quality;
 - f. A plan and methodology for periodic monitoring of water and air quality;
 - g. A detailed hazard mitigation plan and an emergency response plan;
 - h. Full disclosure of chemicals and the processes to be used, including any changes in these in perpetuity;
 - i. Sources of water, sand, and other resources used during the hydraulic fracturing process, including letters of approval from affected jurisdictions, including any changes in these in perpetuity;
 - j. A detailed plan for the disposition of waste water and other "after" products, renewed annually, along with letters from impacted jurisdictions where the waste water and "after" products will be disposed, including any changes in these in perpetuity;
 - k. GIS maps and full GIS data that show the precise location of the proposed well-pad, specific drill sites, and the location, depth, and extent of all horizontal wells, including any changes in these in perpetuity;
 - l. List of all property owners directly or indirectly (adjacent or abutting owners) impacted by the well pad, drilling sites, and horizontal wells, along with letters of approval from property owners directly impacted by the hydraulic fracturing facilities.
2. All costs of hydraulic fracturing, both direct and indirect, should be borne by the corporations, companies, and individuals who benefit from hydraulic fracturing. The State and all local jurisdictions in Virginia, regardless of

population or rate of growth, should be allowed to impose, but are not limited to, taxes, impact fees, performance bonds, other applicable bonds (sufficient blanket bonds, surety bonds, per-well bonds, etc.), and other financial tools to insure that the costs of siting, testing construction, operation, environmental restoration, and "in perpetuity monitoring and impact mitigation" are covered by the individuals and company or companies involved in the hydraulic fracturing operations. The financial obligations go with the operation (attached to the property), regardless of transfer of ownership of the site. In addition, financial assurance mechanisms should include growth mechanisms (i.e. annual payments adjusted to the rate of inflation or the consumer price index) in order to assure adequate financial coverage for future mitigation. All funds generated through taxes, fees, and bonds and paid directly to the State and local jurisdictions should be sufficient to cover the costs of site restoration and hazard mitigation, should be held in a dedicated fund, and should not devolve to the general fund for the Commonwealth or locale.

3. The most effective method for control and oversight of hydraulic fracturing is through the regulatory authority of the local jurisdictions, including through comprehensive plans, zoning, and other land use ordinances; and construction, operational, and post-operation inspections. Planning and zoning tools include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Special use/conditional use permits;
 - b. Land disturbance permits; performance standards;
 - c. Strict setback and buffer requirements, not subject to variances, from ground and surface water resources, public and private drinking water sources, historic sites and viewsheds, public facilities, and residences;
 - d. Nuisance provisions (light, sound, traffic, hours of operation); and
 - e. Other applicable local codes and standards.

When a hydraulic fracturing operation is proposed within a specific jurisdiction, the State and the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy should provide all relevant studies to local jurisdictions, including all impact statements, mitigation documents, economic and health related information, including applicable GIS data.

In addition, local jurisdictions, which provide most of the "on the ground" oversight of fracking operations, should be allowed to offset local and operational costs, including post-production monitoring and reclamation costs. Financial assurance mechanisms include, but are not limited to: local taxes; application, inspection, and impact fees; performance bonds; and proffers.

Because hydraulic fracturing is occurring primarily in lower population jurisdictions that do not always have access to the full range of planning and zoning tools in the toolbox, the Code of Virginia should be updated to provide uniform access across jurisdictions, rather than limiting access based on location, population size, or rate of growth.

4. Given that local governments rarely have the financial resources to cover the expenses incurred from the long-term impacts of hydraulic fracturing and long-term monitoring of post-production and reclaimed well sites, LWV-VA believes that the State should partner with and provide funding to local governments to cover the expenses incurred by local jurisdictions. Possible funding mechanisms include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Impact fees
 - b. Performance bonds
 - c. Permitting fees
 - d. Land disturbance permit fees
5. LWV-VA believes that the State and the Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy should monitor and enforce regulation of the effects of the hydraulic fracturing processes from permitting through post-reclamation monitoring using the following sources of information:
 - a. Water sampling;
 - b. Water level monitoring;
 - c. Surface and ground water quality monitoring both on site and within a proscribed buffer surrounding the site;
 - d. Seismic monitoring;

- e. Well integrity monitoring both during hydraulic fracturing operations and after well closure, including for abandoned and inactive wells;
- f. Air quality monitoring;
- g. NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials) levels;
- h. Compliance with wastewater recycling/disposal plan
- i. Periodic inspection and maintenance reports;
- j. Tests determined as appropriate by future scientific analysis;
- k. Infrastructure and community impact reports

6. Hydraulic fracturing operations, and other extraction industries, run the risk of creating "boom and bust" cycles in local economies and communities, creating potential social and economic damage. LWV-VA believes that the impact on the long-term health of communities can be minimized by implementing a range of proactive programs, developed in partnership between the local jurisdictions, regional planning district commissions, and the Commonwealth of Virginia, including, but not limited to:

- a. The creation of dedicated accounts, funded in part by state monies, as well as local extraction fees, taxes and other applicable fees, that help local jurisdictions plan for both potential industrial growth and eventual decline (boom and bust cycle);
- b. Development of local economic development programs to prepare jurisdictions for a future after the wells shut down;
- c. Provision of information on the life expectancy of the wells to local jurisdictions.

LWV-VA Operating Fund

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

	2016-2017		2017-2018	Note:
	Budget	Actual 6-30-17 (estimate)	Budget	
1	REVENUES			
2	Affiliations			
3	MAL Units/Individuals Dues	1,787	775	1,293 *1
4	PMP LLs	14,424	15,704	17,200 *2
5	Shared Insurance	448	469	480
6	Bequests & Memorials	200	0	0
7	Donations			
8	Members	3,700	2,965	3,000
9	Nonmembers	25	236	200
10	Special Events	0	0	0
11	Wares Sales			200
12	Grants			
13	AVR Grant	0	6,175	0 *3
14	EMP grant	0	1,101	0 *4
15	Interest	10	7	10
16	Statewide Meetings			
17	LWV-VA Convention (odd yrs)	6,000	6,000	0
18	LWV-VA Council (even yrs)	0	0	3,200
19	Fall Workshop LWV-VA	1,740	2,382	2,300
20	WLRT Pre-session Lunch	2,550	2,562	2,500
21	LWV-VA Ed Fund Expense Reimb.	1,833	1,833	2,943 *5
22	Miscellaneous	100	350	100
23	In-Kind Income	2,000	1,090	1,000
24	Carryover nonrestricted funds from Check Acct	300	2,293	7,818 *6
25	Transfer from Savings	4,347	0	7,413
26	TOTAL REVENUES	39,464	43,942	49,657
27				
28	EXPENSES			
29	Board & Administration			
30	Administrative Committees	700	200	300 *7
31	LL Liaisons Travel & Support	1,000	360	1,000 *8
32	LL Advocacy Rewards Program			100 *9
33	Membership & Organization	500	182	500
34	Meetings - BOD	7000	5,065	5,650 *10
35	President	200	456	500 *11
36	Public Relations/Media	200	0	200
37	Secretary & Treasurer	50	26	50 *12
38	LWV-VA Leadership Directory	525	150	300 *13
39				
40	Office Operations			
41	Equipment Purchase & Repair	200	595	500
42	Equip Supplies & Desktop Software	150	72	100
43	General Copying/Printing	400	205	725 *14
44	General Supplies & Postage	800	165	175
45	Insurance	1325	1,325	1,350 *15
46	Telephone&Internet tools/services	700	1,199	2,120 *16

4/20/17

	2016-2017		2017-2018	Notes	
	Budget	Actual 6-30-17 (estimate)	Budget		
47	Office Rent	4500	3,004	2,209	*17
48	State Corporation Fee/Solicitation Fee	80	55	55	
49	Admin Assistant	0	3,536	13,600	*18
50	Total Admin & Ops Expenses	18,330	16,594	29,434	
51					
52	Development				
53	Donations Solicitation	500	660	650	*19
54	Special Events	0	0	0	
55	Wares Purchases			300	
56	Other (inc travel & mileage)	200	0	0	
57					
58	Meetings (LWV)				
59	LWV-VA Convention (odd yrs)	7700	7,700	0	*20
60	LWV-VA Council (even yrs)	0	0	3,700	*20
61	LWV-VA Workshops	1400	2,024	2,000	
62	LWVUS Convention (even yrs)	0	0	3,000	*21
63	LWVUS Council (odd yrs)	2300	2,300	0	*21
64					
65	Position Support				
66	Advocacy & Action Coordination	50	20	25	
67	Coalition Dues/Support/Meetings	600	701	700	*22
68	Legislative Coordinator/Lobbyist	1500	1,610	1,600	*23
69	Positions in Brief & Other Publications	300	0	300	
70	WLRT/League Day	1700	1,500	5,550	*24
71	WLRT Pre-session Lunch	1600	1,455	1,500	
72					
73	VA MALs PMP TO LWVUS @ \$32	1184	1,876	848	*25
74	Voter Express & Other Publications	1850	0	0	*26
75	Miscellaneous	50	0	50	
76	Carryforward nonrestricted funds to Checking Acct	200	7,818	0	*27
77	TOTAL EXPENSES	39,464	44,258	49,657	
78					
79	Net Activity	0.00	-316	0	

80 Notes: 2017-2018 Budget

81 *1. Income MAL unit Dues: 15 full @ \$48, 2 half @ \$24, MAL individual dues: 10 full @ \$50,

and 1 half @ \$25, 1 life @ \$0

\$ 1,293

82 *2. Income LL PMP for 1219 total; 998 primary @ \$16,

83 140 additional @ \$8, 85 life @ \$0, 18 student @ \$8

\$ 17,200

84 *3. AVR - Automated Voter Registration grant

85 *4. EMP - Electronic Modernization Project grant

86 *5. Transfer from Ed Fund: Based on 10% of Expenses for Office Operations and Board & Admin

87 *6. At beginning of year, non-restricted funds in cking account were carried-forward as income for current year

88 *7. Financial Review/Audit, Nominating, Budget

89 *8. Travel/support to local LWVs; reimbursed for fees when attending LL annual meeting

90 *9. Potential program to reward LL for ALERT calls made

91 *10. Reimbursement to Directors: Mileage, Hotel (shared room), Parking for BOD meetings

92 Reimburse registration fees for LWV-VA Council/Convention (no other expenses covered)

93 Council year \$13 Directors *\$50 \$ 5,650

4/20/17

94	*11. Travel in capacity as President, Discretionary expenditures		
95	*12. Bank fees, discretionary expenditures		
96	*13. For Directory, printing costs & postage: mail to 1/LL and 1/Director (30 copies)		
97	*14. General Copying/Postage: \$225 General copying/postage		
98	Copy/mail Voter Express issues for events to members without email addresses (50):		
99	2 pp*50 people*5 events so allow \$150 postage, \$150 copying	\$	725
100	*15. D&O Liability; Liability/Property		
101	*16. Comcast phone & internet \$110/mo,\$30 Moniker Domain names, \$250 LEW Server/Website for VA & LLs		
102	MailChimp \$25/mo, SignUpGenius 9.99/mo, other \$100	\$	2,120
103	*17. Rent \$180 plus 3% increase in Oct.	\$	2,209
104	*18. contractor 8 hrs/ wk average for Admin work and 8 hrs/wk average Treas support		
105	For 50 wks @ \$17/hr	\$	13,600
106	*19. includes, letter print, stuff, mail, postage		
107	*20. VA Council/Convention; includes registration fees for Board members		
108	*21. US Council/Convention includes expenses for 2 Delegates (registration, travel, hotel, parking)		
109	*22. Includes VPCC * VCOG dues, special events & Meeting Travel		
110	*23. includes Lobbyist-in-a-box (\$800) and lobby badge (\$50)		
111	*24. 6-wks legislative session. Includes \$1500 for member's local accomodations		
112	and \$300 for Facebook boost (\$185 was used in 2017)	\$	5,550
113	Includes \$500/wk for am room rental (1.5 hrs) and \$125/wk for am coffee/pastries		
114	*25. Expense: 25 full MAL @\$32 and 3 half @\$18	\$	848
115	*26. Voter Express is not mailed to members without email addresses except as noted under General Copying/Posting		
116	*27. At end of year, non-restricted funds remaining in cking account will be carried forward to next year as Income		

LWV-VA Education Fund Budget, 2017-2018

LWV-VA Education Fund Budget 2017-2018

	2016-2017		2017-2018	Notes
	Budget	6-30-17 (estimate)	Budget	
1 REVENUES				
2 Bequests & Memorials	100	50	50	
3 Donations		0		
4 Members	5,100	5,403	5,400	
5 Nonmembers	10	99	100	
6 Special Events	100	220	100	
7 Grants		0		
8 Virginia G. Young Bequest Projects	200	295	600	*1
9 EMP Grant	1,250	1,250	0	*2
10 AVR Grant	25,000	25,000	0	*3
11 Interest	1	1	1	
12 Miscellaneous	5	0	5	
13 In-Kind Income	10	223	200	
14 Transfers & Prior Year Balances		0		
15 Carryover nonrestricted funds from Checking Acct	8,070	5,388	6,103	*4
16 Transfer from LWV-VA Savings	0	0	0	
17 TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFER	39,846	37,928	12,559	
18				
19 EXPENSES				
20 Administrative Expenses				
21 Reimburse Admin Expense to LWV-VA	1,834	1,833	2,943	*5
22 State Corp. Commission/Solicitation Fees	30	55	55	
23 Development Expenses	200	0	200	
24 Grants				
25 EMP Grant Expenditures	1,250	1,250	0	
26 AVR Grant Expenditures	25,000	25,000	0	
27 Educational Activities		0		
28 LWV-VA Studies	400	0	200	
29 LWV-US Studies	100	0	100	
30 Other Projects	1	0	1	
31 Voters Service Activities			5	
32 Informational Handouts/Online	1,500	100	100	*7
33 Candidate Debates	1,000	0	5,000	*8
34 Election Guides/Vote411	2,500	2,500	2,500	*9
35 Legislative Directory	100	195	600	*10
36 Voters Service Coordination	100	321	350	
37 Voter Protection Coordination	800	458	500	
38 Miscellaneous	50	0	5	
39 Carryforward nonrestricted to Checking Acct	4,981	6,103	0	*11
40 TOTAL EXPENSES	39,846	37,815	12,559	
41				
42 Net Activity	0.00	113	0	

Notes: 2017-2018 Budget

44 *1. VGY funds available for print full Legislative Directory \$600 (revision was \$195 in 2017)

45 *2 EMP- Election Modernization Project Grant

46 *3 Added Dec 2016; Automatic Voter Registration grant from NVMEF - income accounts for OF AVR grant reimburse

47 *4. At beginning of year, non-restricted funds in cking account were carried-forward as income for current year

48 *5. 10% of OF Office & Admin. 2017-2018

49 *6. AVR expenditures specific to grant;

expenses that would normally be paid without grant are charged to those Accounts

50 *7. Includes videos produced

51 *8 Oct 8 Governor Debate (partner with AARP)

52 *9 Vote411 state fees for fall 2018 election

53 *10 Legislative Directory printed for office, postage to mail some to LLs

54 *11. At end of year, non-restricted funds remaining in cking account will be carried forward to next year as Income

Proposal to Change: Policies & Procedures

July 2015 edition

Guidelines for Statewide Debates (starting on page 11)

It is proposed that this section be replaced in its entirety by a new policy stated as follows:

Statewide Debate/Forum Policy

The League of Women Voters of Virginia may give consideration to organizing and holding candidate debates or forums for statewide and national offices (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, U.S. Senator, or U.S. Representative). Every effort should be made to choose dates that are agreeable to candidates and not in conflict with other public meetings or events. All event locations will be neutral to candidates in the view of LWV-VA and all events are free and open to the public. In addition, the event may be videotaped and broadcast on community television and online via YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and other web locations.

All candidates qualified in accordance with Virginia law to have his or her name printed on the ballot shall be invited to participate in all candidate debates or forums, and similar events, sponsored by LWV-VA. If one qualified candidate is invited to an event sponsored by LWV-VA then all qualified candidates shall be invited to the event. If requested, a candidate must provide proof of meeting the above condition.

It is our policy to hold these events as scheduled and as planned if at least one invited candidate attends. If no invited candidate attends, the LWV-VA may cancel the event at their sole discretion.

Local Leagues may organize and hold candidate debates or forums, and similar events, for local offices in their region. A local league is expected to follow this LWV-VA policy as applicable. This includes policies for qualified candidates to be invited and when events may be cancelled.

DRAFT 9/13/16

Convention Resolutions Policy

Resolutions, other than of a courtesy nature, may be offered by any registered delegate to an LWVVA state Convention. Delegates are strongly encouraged to submit proposed resolutions together with background material at least three weeks prior to the start of Convention. Submitted material shall include:

- Wording for the proposed resolution;
- Background material, including both pros and cons for the issue addressed in the resolution;
- Explanation of rationale for this form of member understanding and agreement.

If material is not received in time for inclusion in Convention packets, it shall be the responsibility of the proposer to provide review copies for the Resolutions Committee by 2:00 p.m. on the afternoon of the first day of Convention, plus sufficient copies for all delegates by the start of the Sunday plenary session of the two-day Convention.

Resolutions Committee

Two weeks prior to Convention, the President of the LWV-VA shall appoint a Resolutions Committee consisting of one member of the LWV-VA Board of Directors and two registered Convention delegates with local or state board experience. The LWV-VA President will name the chair.

Action by Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee shall meet between the two plenary sessions of the Convention to consider whether the proposed resolutions meet the following criteria:

- The resolution is consistent with League Principles and with LWV-VA and LWVUS positions,
- The resolution does not circumvent normal League program processes,
- The resolution addresses a single, topical issue pertinent to Virginia,
- The resolution either (a) requires governmental action at the state level, or (b) pertains to the internal administration of the League, and
- The resolution can be implemented using existing League resources.

The maker of the resolution may make a presentation to the committee. The Resolutions Committee shall make an advisory report of its findings. The chair of the Resolutions Committee shall announce the committee's findings to the Convention at the outset of the Sunday plenary. The committee shall provide a written report to the Secretary.

Action by Convention

Motions to adopt resolutions shall be made at the Sunday plenary, following debate and action on proposed program. Any resolution that has been properly presented to the Resolutions Committee may be moved at that time. The President may rule a motion out of order. The delegates may override, by a two-thirds vote, the decisions of the President regarding the motions. A majority vote is required to adopt a resolution.

Vote "YES" for the Resolutions Committee report!

It includes a resolution in support of ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment in Virginia.

“Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.”

Today, contrary to popular belief, there is no gender equality protection in the U.S. Constitution. The Equal Rights Amendment, which passed overwhelmingly in both houses of Congress, with bipartisan support, in 1972, never finished the ratification process. Nevada recently voted for ratification but 2 more states are needed to make this the law of the land. **Virginia remains an unratified state!**

WHAT WILL CHANGE WHEN THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IS RATIFIED?

- The Equal Rights Amendment would add strict judicial scrutiny and enforcement to existing legislation. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg has also affirmed that the 14th Amendment (the post-Civil War amendment ratified to grant full citizenship to freed black male slaves) was never intended to convey gender equality.
- Women will be able to demand equal pay for equal work. *In 2011, the United States Supreme Court rejected the largest class action suit against gender based pay discrimination (Dukes v Walmart).* The basis for this decision was the fact that gender discrimination is not a constitutionally enshrined principle. The lack of gender equality is affirmed by Justice Antonin Scalia, who said, *“Certainly the Constitution does not require discrimination on the basis of sex. The only issue is whether it prohibits it, It doesn’t.”* - Hastings College of Law, September 17, 2010.

WHY HAS THE ERA NEVER BEEN RATIFIED IN VIRGINIA?

In recent years, the Equal Rights Amendment joint resolution has passed in the Virginia Senate five times in a row with bipartisan support, only to be stonewalled in the House of Delegates. Their reason was the deadline for ratification imposed by Congress. Currently, there are bills in both houses of Congress to remove this artificial deadline, co-sponsored by Virginia’s Democratic senators and representatives. With the recent ratification of the ERA by Nevada, Congress now has actionable reason to move the ratification process forward.

Resolution Proposing Endorsement of the Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment

WHEREAS, the United States Congress adopted the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, the so-called Madison Amendment, and

WHEREAS, the Madison Amendment was proposed by our first Congress and only recently ratified by three-fourths of the states, 203 years after it was first proposed; and

WHEREAS, the restricting time limit for the Equal Rights Amendment ratification is in the resolving clause and is not a part of the amendment proposed by Congress and already ratified by 36 states; and WHEREAS, constitutional equality for women and men continues to be a timely issue in the United States and worldwide, and a number of other nations have achieved constitutional equality for their women and men; and

WHEREAS, since Congress passed a time extension for the Equal Rights Amendment on October 27, 1978, Congress has demonstrated that a time limit in a resolving clause can be disregarded if it is not a part of the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, Congress is in a unique position to judge the tenor of the nation, to be aware of the political, social, and economic factors affecting the nation, and to be aware of the importance to the nation of the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, if an amendment to the United States Constitution has been proposed by two-thirds of both houses of Congress and ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures, it is for Congress to determine the validity of the state ratifications occurring after a time limit in the resolving clause, but not in the amendment itself; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the League of Women Voters of Virginia endorses ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution proposed by the United States Congress on March 22, 1972, and ratified by 36 state legislatures, upon ratification by 2 more states. "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." and be it

Resolved further that the League of Women Voters of Virginia will advocate for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment at the local, state and national levels.

Speakers



Brenda Rogers

A NC native, Brenda attended the University of NC at Chapel Hill where she was Phi Beta Kappa and earned a degree in English. After working as a social worker, she pursued advanced degrees at North Carolina State University, earning a M.Ed. in Adult and Community Education and a Ph.D. in Psychology with an emphasis in vocational psychology and research. Brenda joined the Wake LWV after retiring in 2001 and served on its board before moving to Chapel Hill where she joined the Orange, Durham, Chatham (ODC) League. She served on the LWVNC board (2005-2009) and was vice-president for three years. From 2011-2013 she was a SHUR Fellow with LWVUS. In 2012 she became leader of the local league and president from 2013-2015. LWVDODC received the award for the largest percentage increase in membership for large Leagues at the 2014 LWVUS convention. She received the Gertrude Wiel Award at the 2015 LWVNC convention for “leadership, dedication, vision, courage, and commitment to LWVNC”. She was elected to the LWVUS board at the 2016 convention and is board liaison to Virginia.



Jessica Jones Capparell

Jessica Jones Capparell is the Grassroots Advocacy Manager for the League of Women Voters of the United States. She works closely with the LWVUS senior staff and members on issues related to the League’s Priority Federal Issues, including Campaign Finance Reform, the Voting Rights Act, Natural Resources, Clean Energy, and the Paris Accord.



Nancy Rodrigues

In December 2013, Nancy Rodrigues was appointed the Secretary of Administration by Governor Terry McAuliffe. With an impressive record of more than 30 years in public service, Ms. Rodrigues has a wealth of executive expertise and strategic planning experience. Ms. Rodrigues served as Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections from 2007 to 2011, overseeing the largest election in Virginia history in 2008. For nearly a decade, she served as Executive Director of DRIVE SMART Virginia, a nonprofit organization. Ms. Rodrigues has previously served on the Board of Directors for the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Foundation, as a member of the Virginia State Bar’s Unauthorized Practice of Law committee, and is a former Girl Scout. She currently serves on the Women’s Monument Commission and is an active member of both the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and the YMCA. She graduated with honors from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, where she received a BA in Political Science. She attended graduate school at the College of William and Mary.



Dahlia Lithwick

Dahlia Lithwick is a senior editor at Slate, and in that capacity, writes the “Supreme Court Dispatches” and “Jurisprudence” columns. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Harpers, the New Yorker, the Washington Post and Commentary, among other places. She won a 2013 National Magazine Award for her columns on the Affordable Care Act. She has been twice awarded an Online Journalism Award for her legal commentary and was the first online journalist invited to be on the Reporters Committee for the Freedom of the Press. Ms. Lithwick has testified before Congress about access to justice in the era of the Roberts Court. She has appeared on CNN, ABC, The Colbert Report, and is a frequent guest on the Rachel Maddow Show. Ms. Lithwick earned her BA from Yale University and her JD from Stanford University.

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2015 Convention Minutes

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF VIRGINIA
MINUTES OF THE 37TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION
May 30 and 31, 2015

Holiday Inn – University Area Charlottesville, Virginia

Plenary Session – Saturday, May 30, 2015, 9:30 a.m.

Call to Order

LWV-VA President Anne Sterling called to order the 37th LWV-VA Convention at 9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn – University Area Hotel, 1901 Emmet Street North, Charlottesville, Virginia, 22901. The theme of the 2015 Convention was "Redistricting Reform: What It Is, Why It Is Needed, and How You Can Help."

Introductions and Recognitions

President Sterling introduced **Sue Lewis**, LWV-VA 1st Vice President and Conference Chair, and **Martha Rollins**, Conference Parliamentarian.

President Sterling recognized LWV-US Liaison **Peggy Appler** and LWV-US intern **Elizabeth Ehrens**, as well as past LWV-VA President **Olga Hernandez**, current and incoming local League Presidents, and LWV-VA and local League officers.

Conference Chair **Sue Lewis** introduced **The Honorable Ann Mallek**, member and former chair of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors who welcomed the Convention attendees to Charlottesville.

Kerin Yates, LWV-Charlottesville/Albemarle President, welcomed the Convention attendees, reminding everyone of the importance of the League's mission and commitment to public service, noting that three members of the LWV-CA are currently serving as members of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors.

Ron Page introduced the members of the LWV-VA Board.

Roll Call of Local Leagues

Sue Lewis led the Roll Call of the Leagues; the local League President or her representative by introducing herself and stating how many delegates and visitors were present from her local League, as follows:

Arlington LWV (LWVAR): **President Kristin Goss**, four delegates

Charlottesville Area LWV (LWVCA): **President Kerin Yates**, eight delegates and many visitors

Fairfax LWV (LWVFA): eleven delegates and one visitor

Falls Church LWV (LWVFC): **Linda Garvelink**, two delegates

Loudoun LWV (LWVLC): **Priscilla Godrey**, one delegate

Lynchburg LWV (LWVLY): **Joan MacCallum**, one delegate

Montgomery County LWV (LWVVMC): seven delegates

Prince William County LWV (LWVPW): **President Carol Noggle**, two delegates

Richmond Area LWV (LWVRMA): **President Virginia Cowles**, six delegates

South Hampton Roads LWV (LWVSHR): three delegates

Williamsburg Area (LWVWA): **President Linda Rice**, six delegates

Washington County MAL Unit (WC MAL): **Mary Jennings**, 1 delegate

National Capital Area LWV (LWVNCA): **Sherry Zachary** (for the President), 1 delegate

Appointment of Committees

Committees were appointed as follows:

Credentials Committee: **Elaine Head, Jo Soloman**

Resolutions: **Sue Lewis, Doris Tillman, Julia Lewis**

Elections: **Evelyn Glazier, Carolyn Caywood, Peggy Knight**

Reading Committee for the 2015 Convention Minutes: **Ann Thomas, Bonnie Franklin, Susan Roberts**

Credentials Report

Chair **Elaine Head** reported that there were 91 possible delegates / 82 possible delegates excluding members of the LWV-VA Board and, therefore, 25 delegates were required for a quorum (30% of possible delegates excluding LWV-VA Board members). **63 delegates were present**, thus establishing a quorum. The Credentials Report was adopted as presented.

Adopt Rules and Procedures of Convention

Sue Lewis moved for adoption of the Proposed Rules and Procedures as set out on pages 4-5 of the LWV-VA 2015 Convention Workbook (hereafter "Convention Workbook" and made a part of these minutes) with paragraph 10 amended as follows:

10. The procedure for program adoption shall be as follows:

A program item that is submitted by a local League at least three months before convention, but not proposed by the state board, may be adopted only if its consideration is ordered by majority vote of the convention at the first plenary session and the proposal receives a three-fifths (3/5) vote at a subsequent session (this is considered a "not-recommended" program item)

- At the plenary meeting on Saturday, the proposed [recommended] LWV-VA program for 2013-2015 shall be presented by an LWV-VA board member. Questions for clarification only will be in order. No motions or debate are in order at this time. Delegates may move for consideration of not-recommended issues received by the deadline with their presentation limited to three minutes. A delegate may request a statement from a LWV-VA board member as to why an item was not recommended, with a limit of two minutes for the answer.
- After all of the not-recommended items have been offered, the vote for consideration of each item will be taken in the order in which the items were presented for consideration. Announcement of the vote result shall be made immediately after the vote on each item.
- Debate and action on not-recommended program items and the proposed program will take place at the Sunday plenary session. A three-fifths (3/5) vote is required to adopt not-recommended items. A simple majority vote is required to adopt recommended program items.

Motion passed.

Adopt Order of Business

President Sterling moved for the adoption of the Proposed Order of Business as set out on pages 7-8 of the Convention Workbook; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Elaine Head presented the Statements of Financial Position as of April 30, 2015 for the Operating Fund (OF) and Education Fund (EF) and the OF and EF Actual vs. Budget Statement YTD as of April 30, 2015 (copies of reports attached). Fiscal year-to-date, as of April 30, 2015 the OF has had \$45,613.08 in revenues and \$24,060.31 in expenses. Head noted that this has been an unusual year for revenues due to a \$10,000 anonymous donation and the dissolution of the Alexandria League resulting in \$8,314.91 being transferred to the OF. On the expense side, the Presidents' Summit held earlier this year was not included in the OF budget.

Presentation of the Nominees

Chair of the Nominating Committee **Mary Houska** presented the Nominating Committee Report and read the slate of nominees for Officers and Directors of the LWV-VA for 2015-17 as shown on page 18 of the Convention Workbook. No nominations for Officers and Directors were made from the floor. **Sherry Zachary** was nominated from the floor to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. No other nominations for Nominating Committee members were made from the floor.

Presentation of the Proposed LWV-VA Operating Fund Budget

Budget Chair Bill Thomas presented the proposed budget for 2015-16 as set out on pages 16 and 17 of the Convention Workbook. Thomas noted that the unexpected revenue from nonrecurring items has been directed toward special events. The proposed budget draws \$3,555.00 from reserves. The budgeted administrative expenses are expected to be quite accurate. Question from the floor regarding the budgeted amount for special events and whether that means that LWV-VA is committed to have such events; Thomas responded that it does not. Thomas indicated that he would participate in a caucus on the budget. Thomas thanked the members of the Budget Committee: **Penelope Anderson** (LWVRMA) and **Elaine McBeth** (LWVWA) and ex-officio member **Elaine Head**.

BREAK

Presentation of Recommended Program

Program Director Linda Rice moved for the adoption of the Recommended Program for 2015-2016 as set out on pages 23 – 27 and 29 – 32 in the Convention Workbook. Rice noted that the Recommended Program, including updates and edits and the Social Policy Position for Concurrence, are based on feedback received from local Leagues. Having volunteers willing to work on studies is very important and influences whether the LWV-VA Board recommends particular programs. The recommended Program, set out on page 23 of the Convention Workbook, is related to fracking in Virginia. Members from LWVCA and LWVWA have volunteered to restudy the issue. A question was asked as to whether the issue of fracking is covered by the LWV-US program. Rice noted that the LWV-US position does not address the transport of the products from fracking and related human health and safety issues. Rice emphasized the importance of reviewing the current LWV-VA and LWV-US positions on a regular basis.

Presentation of Non-Recommended Programs

Program Director Linda Rice presented the Not Recommended Programs, set on pages 23 – 24 of the Convention Workbook, noting that the reasons for not recommending programs include the lack of volunteers to participate in a study; topics that are more action-oriented than study; and, in the case of uranium mining, a topic that has previously been considered and discussed. The floor was opened for motions to reconsider and debate non-recommended Programs during the 5/31/15 Plenary session. Motion to reconsider major expansion or restudy of women's rights program seconded and passed by voice vote. Motion to reconsider and debate uranium mining program seconded; results of voice vote unclear, passed by rising vote. Motion to consider the updates to the election law position prepared by **Therese Martin** (LWVFA) in accordance with the terminology currently in use and set out on pages 24 – 27 of the Convention Workbook seconded and passed. Rice noted the concurrence position regarding removing barriers to employment set out on pages 30 – 32 of the Convention Workbook will be brought forward for consideration because recommended by LWV-VA Board.

Remarks by President on Health of League

President Sterling noted that the one great asset of the League is the legacy from our hard working predecessors. The League has a reputation of integrity, honesty, intellectual rigor, non-partisanship and courage that is earned everyday as the League goes about its business, refusing to cut corners. That reputation is especially important today. The League operates with little money. While we once had corporate donors, that is no longer the case; the League is essentially self-funded through member donations. The League has no endowment fund to rely on. Past gala fundraisers result in relatively small returns for the effort required. The League must reject a number of initiatives each year because of lack of funding. President Sterling has spoken with a consultant regarding the possibility of using direct mail as a fundraising vehicle and will pass the information on to the incoming LWV-VA Board. President Sterling noted that League membership has

declined by 3% and the Alexandria League and Virginia Peninsula MAL have disbanded. We cannot allow this trend to continue. Everything else pales in comparison to the need to increase membership and form new local Leagues. President Sterling commented on the highlights during her term as President, including the Fall Forum, Senate debate, luncheon at Lewis Ginter, Pre-Session at the General Assembly, and a visit from the President of the LWV-US. The League has had increased visibility and involvement in the General Assembly and had three bills introduced and supported during the 2015 Session. LWV-VA co-founded and chaired Transparency Virginia and was involved with OneVirginia2021. The League was heavily involved in informing voters about the photo identification law and gave serious consideration to participating in litigation challenging the law. While the League ultimately chose not to participate, it may do so in the future. LWV-VA actively participated in many coalitions. With funding from the PAVP grant, the League was able to commission a report prepared by students at the College of William & Mary regarding early absentee voting. President Sterling urged support of the incoming LWV-VA Board.

Announcements

Sue Lewis, 1st Vice President reminded attendees about the caucuses scheduled for later in the evening, listed on page 8 of the Convention Workbook. Lewis also announced that local Leagues can schedule a free workshop on the MLD program. She reminded local Leagues that retraining is required for all third party voter registration.

Recess

The Saturday, May 30, 2015 Plenary Session was recessed at 12:14 p.m.

Plenary Session Sunday, May 31, 2015

Call To Order

President Sterling called the Sunday Plenary Session to order at 9:30 a.m. on May 31, 2015.

Announcements

Peggy Appler, LWV-US Liaison, presented certificates of appreciation to **Sue Lewis** and **Linda Garvelink** for their work with the MLD program, commending LWV-VA for a 72-73% growth in membership. Appler noted the League's dedication and leadership in powering the vote and promoting the ideals of LWV.

President Sterling recognized **Sue Lewis** and **Linda Rice** for their work on planning the 2015 Conference.

President Sterling presented a check for \$2,000 to LWV-VA Treasurer **Elaine Head** donated from the Virginia Gwathmey Memorial Fund.

Credentials Report

Elaine Head reported **54 delegates** present at **9:30 a.m.**, constituting a quorum. The credentials report was adopted as presented.

Adoption of 2015-16 Operating Fund Budget

The LWV-VA OF Budget for FY2015-16 was approved as presented on pages 16 – 17 of the Convention Workbook by unanimous vote.

Adoption of LWV-VA Program, recommended and non-recommended

- Motion to adopt study regarding fracking passed unanimously without discussion. explained that edits were needed to be in compliance with statutory changes regarding title of departments responsible for elections. Motion passed unanimously without further discussion.
- Motion to adopt Concurrence Statement regarding removing barriers to employment as proposed by LWVFA. Discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

- Motion made and seconded to revise the uranium mining position, deleting the reference to "best practices." Discussion ensued. Question was called; unanimous vote to stop debate. Point of order, motion made and seconded to conduct vote by ballot; motion passed. Results of ballot vote: 33 in favor, 30 against. A 3/5 majority required to pass; motion failed.
- Motion made and seconded that LWV-VA consider a major expansion or restudy of the current women's rights position. Sherry Zachary reported that a committee of volunteers was identified from caucus. Discussion ensued. Question was called; unanimous vote to close debate. Motion passed by greater than 3/5 majority.

Report of Resolutions Committee

Sue Lewis reported that one action resolution was timely received by the Committee. LWVFA Firearms Safety Resolution set out on page 29 of the Convention Workbook. Discussion ensued. Motion made and seconded to divide the last paragraph of resolution into separate statements. Further debate ensued. Question was called; unanimous vote to close debate. Motion to divide resolution into two statements passed by majority voice vote. Motion to adopt 1st resolution statement, to-wit, "Therefore, be it resolved that we the representatives of the League of Women Voters of Virginia assembled at the 2015 League of Women Voters of Virginia Convention call upon the board of the League of Women Voters of Virginia to advocate strongly for laws at the state level that more effectively prevent domestic abusers and stalkers from purchasing, accessing or possessing firearms." Motion passed unanimously. Motion to adopt 2nd resolution statement, to-wit, "Therefore, be it resolved that we the representatives of the League of Women Voters of Virginia assembled at the 2015 League of Women Voters of Virginia Convention call upon the board of the League of Women Voters of Virginia to advocate strongly for laws at the state level that require adults to bear the burden for the injury, death and damage that results when a child accesses an unsecured or improperly secured firearm." Further discussion ensued. Question was called; debate closed by majority vote. Motion passed by majority rising vote. Courtesy resolution submitted by LWVWA passed by affirmative vote.

Election of Officers and Directors

The following were unanimously elected as LWV-VA Officers and Directors for 2015- 2017:

Officers:

Co-Presidents	Dianne Blais (LWVFA) Lois Page (LWVFA)
1st Vice President	Sue Lewis (LWVCA)
2nd Vice President	Carol Noggle (LWVPWA)
Secretary	Rebecca Shankman (LWVMC)
Treasurer	Patricia Hurst (LWVCA)

Directors:

Lynn Johnston (LWVRMA)
Ron Page (LWVFA)
Linda Garvelink (LWVFC)
Frances Schutz (LWVCA)
Adarsch Trehan (LWVFA)
Margaret Luca (LWVFA)

2017 Nominating Committee:

Sherry Zachary, Chair (LWVFA and LWVNCA)
Mileva Hartman (LWVA)
Carol Linker (LWVMC)

Sue Lewis was granted a point of personal privilege to express gratitude to the members of to LWVCA for their assistance with the Convention and to thank **President Sterling** for her service. Lewis presented Sterling flowers and gifts from the LWV-VA board. **Mary Crutchfield** (LWVRMA) presented President Sterling with gifts and welcomed her back to the local League.

Guidance to the New Board

Five delegates submitted written guidance to the new board, copies of which are attached.

Incoming Co-Presidents' Remarks

Lois Page thanked everyone for their support and thanked Peggy Appler for attending the Convention. Page noted that, for the health of the League, we need to seek a broader membership base and sufficient funding to carry on the work of the League. She stressed the need for increased interaction between the state and local Leagues through committees and local League outreach, noting that having Adarsch Trehan focus on public relations is an important step.

Dianne Blais noted the progress made by the League legislatively and stressed the need for more legislative action and advocacy and the critical need for an informed electorate. Blais gave special thanks to Therese Martin for her hard work on behalf of the League.

Announcements

- There is a Leadership Development meeting with LWVUS and LWVNCA scheduled for August 1, 2015.
- Local Leagues are encouraged to let the incoming Co-Presidents know if they are interested in participating with Vote411 for their local elections.
- Special recognition and thanks to Elizabeth Ehrens, LWVUS intern, for all of her hard work during the Convention.

Adjourn

The Plenary Session of the LWV-VA 37th Convention was adjourned at 12:00 p.m., May 31, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Hardy, LWV-VA Secretary

Reviewed by 2015 Reading Committee:

Ann Thomas (LWVFA)
Bonnie Franklin (LWVAR)
Susan Roberts (LWVCA)

Attachments:

- 37th Convention Workbook, May 30 and 31, 2015
- Guidance to the New Board, May 31, 2015
- Supporting documents:
 - Treasurer's Report for 3rd Quarter FY2014-15 OF
 - Resolutions, Action and Courtesy
 - List of Convention attendees and participants

LWV-VA Positions in Brief

Updated Spring 2017 (*Re-ordered Social Policy Positions Category, December 2016, by Sherry Zachry Second Update April 2017 by Frances Schutz to include new Fracking Position*).

GOVERNMENT

Delegation of Power

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 & 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)

Extractive Industries: Hydraulic Fracturing

The League of Women Voters of Virginia supports a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in the Commonwealth of Virginia until there is sufficient evidence from robust studies to show that hydraulic fracturing will not have a negative impact on the health, safety, and well-being of citizens, local jurisdictions, or the natural environment.

Absent a moratorium, the League of Women Voters of Virginia believes that the Commonwealth of Virginia, including all relevant state departments and state agencies, and local governments, have a responsibility to safeguard Virginia's critical features and to ensure the public's safety, health, and welfare by 1) adopting strict systems for monitoring,

regulation, and oversight of the hydraulic fracturing, including all related facilities, and fracking impacts on critical features (e.g. ground and surface water resources and recharge areas; geologic resources and seismic zones; historic sites and districts), public facilities (e.g. recreation areas, schools, wildlife preserves), local and regional infrastructure, and local and regional economies; 2) developing and implementing systems of financial assurance so all fracking-related expenses incurred by the Commonwealth and the local jurisdictions are borne by the industry; 3) granting localities authority to regulate hydraulic fracturing operations; 4) providing state funding to local governments to offset the costs incurred by local governments; 5) developing a state-level system for long-term monitoring of local impacts and enforcement of regulation throughout the full life cycle of the hydraulic fracturing operation; and 6) creating programs and policies designed to help local jurisdictions address the long-term economic and social impacts of hydraulic fracturing and its expected “boom and bust” cycles. (2017)

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)

Adult Justice (formerly 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)

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)

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)

2017 LWV-VA Board Reports

Co-Presidents' Report On 2015-17

Dianne Blais and Lois Page

Our convention theme, “Honoring our Legacy With Action,” serves as both a reflection of the what your state Board hoped to accomplish for the past two years but also a likely blueprint for state Leagues of the future

Membership: We are so proud: We started our incumbency facing a drop in membership below 1000 statewide but at last count we have reached 1511, an increase of 50%!! While we benefitted from increased civic activism nationally, under the leadership of Linda Garvelink this administration promoted, advised, oversaw and encouraged the involvement of our new members.

We completed the process of bringing **Washington County** into full league status, with the help of Elaine Head as mentor. Anne Sterling advertised and set up initial meetings in **Fredericksburg** to restart our League which should achieve full League status soon. A number of our board members, including Linda, Sue Lewis, and Lynn Johnston have attended their meetings and events. Interest in **Roanoke** bubbled up locally and Linda worked quickly to support their efforts. Several of us attended their organizational meeting. They already have 24 members and will be awarded Member At Large status shortly. Linda has fielded a number of other interest calls.

Communication: State Leagues serve as communications hubs. We have striven to bring Virginia’s methods more fully into the 21st century. With the help of a team that included Ron Page as director, Wayne Knight as webmaster, Carolyn Caywood as Facebook coordinator, Carol Lindstrom as twitter coordinator and technical adviser, Meghan Dorsett as graphic designer, we have launched our online *Voter Express* which has given us much greater flexibility in getting information out widely and in a timely fashion. We increased our communication with local League leaders via conference calls, succeeded in setting up several additional and dedicated Facebook groups, increased our presence on the state Facebook page, and increased twitter use. Our website made commendable efforts to keep updated and valuable information in view. We experimented with even more new technology for us during the GA this year, using Sign Up Genius and Survey Monkey to keep track of the advocacy efforts.

Advocacy: Our Legislative Director Carol Noggle has done a superb job during this administration and for two years before. She studied proposed legislation, met with legislators, attended committee meetings, wrote and emailed legislators and tried to get us Leaguers to do the same. She put together the annual Pre-Session Event and the Women’s Legislative Rounds Tables (WLRT) every Wednesday during General Assembly (GA). One of those WLRTs is designated League Day at the GA when we are recognized from the floor of the House and Senate. This is not to mention what goes on outside of the General Assembly Session with many of us conferring with coalition partners to discuss strategies.

However, many more of us were able to advance Carols’ efforts this session. We received a grant, in coalition with several other non-profit election rights advocates, to advocate for

Automatic Voter Registration. The effort began in Fairfax where progress was made with the help of Sidney Johnson and Beth Tudan among others. A committee that included Lois and Dianne, Maggi Luca, Carol Noggle, and Beth Tudan of Fairfax put together a plan to make sure that local Leagues shared in the grant money. We aimed for increased and well- informed advocacy on AVR and a number of other election modernization issues. A complete report on the grant results can be found on our website www.lwv-va.org. Several knowledgeable people have remarked on how effective Leaguers were at the GA this session.

We also advocated on other levels by writing and signing on to letters, for example, urging Chesapeake Bay Clean Up Funding. We became a party to a lawsuit defending the Alexandria Registrar being accused of poor voter list maintenance

Sharing Best Practices

We both led a large delegation to LWVUS’s National Convention in Washington D.C last June and continued to pass on national information as widely as possible to Virginians. In addition to sending out information via newsletters, we took advantage of several events to disseminate information The biennial Council in June of 2016 included sessions on

using Facebook, and increasing membership. A panel of Millennials revealed to many of us how we might reach more of this now largest population component. A State Workshop, largely organized by Frances Schutz last fall, succeeded in sharing ideas about firearms safety, fracking, membership involvement, and technical knowhow, among others. The current Convention is taking advantage of having so many League leaders on hand to provide breakout sessions plus enlightening speakers.

Throughout our two years, board members also served as liaisons to local Leagues, sometimes traveling many miles to be a presence. For example Sue Lewis provided board training for the Richmond Metro Area; Frances Schutz traveled to Falls Church on a number of occasions. Dianne served as liaison to LWV National Capital Area where strategies and concerns from Maryland the D.C were often shared.

Voter Service

Your state League provided leadership in advocating for--and often fighting against-- legislation that dealt with voting rights. We gathered data regarding voter registration and other voting issues so we now have a record of what Virginia local leagues have done and how we can improve. The compilation by Ron Page of local League voter service efforts can be found on our website—www.lwv-va.org. We hope that local Leagues will use this survey as a guide to what data to collect for future voter service efforts. See the Voter Service Report for information about VOTE411. We were involved with the Governor's plan to roll out a high school registration initiative which will reward schools who manage to have 65% of their seniors registered to vote. Planning has been underway for the "People's Debate" October 9, 2017 between the gubernatorial candidates in partnership with AARP.

Coalitions

The number of coalitions with whom we work came as a surprise to both of us and a source of enlightenment. Many of our coalition partners were present at our annual Legislative

Pre-session held in Richmond in December . Working with the AVR grant people was just one example of the delightful and dedicated people working to make Virginia a better place. One Virginia2021 has been a key partner in our redistricting efforts. Virginia Civic Engagement Tables provides workshops on a host of useful issues. Many of them are present at our annual Legislative Pre-session held in Richmond in December. Thanks to Carol Noggle's efforts, organizations that share our policy goals spoke briefly about their hopes and plans for upcoming legislative advocacy efforts. It has been described as a gathering of our "family."

Overseeing State Program

Two years ago the LWV-VA convention voting delegates told the board that they wanted to concentrate most of our Program efforts on issues related to "Making Democracy Work for All." Since we had supportive policies both on the state and national levels, we did not need to set up another study on voting rights and the like. Instead we spent a lot of our advocacy opportunities on fair election issues. However, a new study was voted in on the subject of "fracking" out of concern that the only policy on the books that applies relates to clean water. Frances Schutz, State Program Director, after considerable effort, set up a committee headed by Carol Lindstrom. Other members of this dedicated committee are listed on the report elsewhere in this workbook. This is one of the few new studies tackled state-wide in recent years and we are very proud of this serious contribution to the fracking conversation.

Arranging for Statewide Events

Lynn Johnston is largely responsible for finding us delightful office space close to the Capitol when we learned mid administration that we had to leave our Franklin Street address. Lynn and her husband pretty much did all the moving and sorting with the help of Laura Posthumus who worked as our Administrative Assistant this year. We are most grateful for all Lynn and Carol Noggle did to arrange for statewide meeting places and hotels, not just in Richmond, and food for the events. Having a presence in Richmond is crucial during the GA and helpful during times when need to meet with others. Our office is one of the reasons why the state League must do additional fund raising and a Development Committee headed by Dianne has prepared a report that can be found elsewhere in the Workbook.

Thank You

None of this would have happened without the work of a dedicated board. Heartfelt thanks to them. But just as important has been the expansion of our exposure to the work that goes on all over the state. We loved getting to know all of you .

Development Report

Dianne Blais

LWV-Va's yearly income is basically \$15K dues. Thank you, LWV-VA members! You not only paid dues but additionally donated about \$10K/year to LWV-VA. Thanks goes also to the 2015-17 LWV-VA board--they not only paid for their own meals at board meetings, but also contributed over \$5K of in-kind donations. However, we should not count on a board, which already generously gives of its time to subsidize necessary expenses.

So...LWV-VA gets about \$25K/year from members. However, LWV-VA annual expenses are about \$50K! How can we raise a \$25K shortfall?

We tried a sample request to individuals that had donated to politicians (using the VPAP list) but the donations barely paid for the mailing. There is a belief that people typically have to be approached seven times before they'll give so we will continue to utilize the list we developed. But we need to utilize the internet to get contributions--and we haven't come up with a way to do this.

Special event/Fund-raisers (for instance a tour of the homes of Jefferson and Madison ending with wine tour) can be fun social gatherings but typically rely on members for contributions.

We need non-member donations--whether they be individuals or corporations.

We came up with a Sponsorship Program this year focusing on individual contributions and corporate sponsorships.

When requesting contributions our correspondence would be something such as:

Please consider a donation to the League of Women Voters of Virginia. Our work to support democracy needs your support. Please consider a donation at one of the following levels, although any amount is appreciated. If you desire a tax deduction, make your check payable to the LWV-VA Ed Fund. (Also include a list of past accomplishments and goals for the year.)

Individual Donor Levels are:

Buddy of Democracy	\$100	Name in convention book
Booster of Democracy	\$250	Name in convention book
Benefactor of Democracy	\$500	Name in convention book

Corporate Sponsorships Donor Levels are:

Ally of Democracy	\$1,000	Name on web site
Advocate of Democracy	\$2,500	Name and logo on web site
Angel of Democracy	\$5,000	Name, logo, and link on web site and Vote 411

To get corporate sponsorships (ten times the non-corporate rate), we need contacts at corporations and those contacts must then be nourished through periodic follow-up.

We need a strong development committee/individual to balance our books by raising non-member donations.

Dianne Blais
Co-President
5/1/2017

2016-2017 LWV-VA Honor Donors

Benefactors of Democracy - \$500 (or more)

Blais, Dianne	FA
Gavelink, Linda	FC
Page, Lois & Ron	FA

Boosters of Democracy - \$250 (or more)

Houska, Mary	MC
Parker, Mary Kay	AR
Rollins, Martha	SHR

Buddies of Democracy - \$100 (or more)

Ackerman, Rona	FA	Littlefield, Roberta	MC
Cleary, Mary Jane	FA	Martin, Therese	FA
Colvard, Bernice	FA	Mayhew, Sarah & William	NM
Cowles, Virginia	RMA	Ollendick, Mary	MC
Dickenson, Robert	NM	Olson, Shirley M.	FA
Fina, Thomas & Eleanor	FA	Parham, M. Ann	FA
Fitzgerald, Sara	FC	Peterson, Priscilla	WA
Franks, Elizabeth Brister	NM	Plum, Jane	FA
Fuenzalida, Viveka	FA	Ray, Margaret	MC
Goode, Susan	SHR	Rice, Linda	WA
Hanna, James	LC	Rochester, Lois	WA
Head, Elaine	MC	Swisher, Sue	AR
Hernandez, Olga	FA	Tate, Nancy	AR
Hilder, Jane	FA	Trehan, Adarsh	FA
Jennings, Merry	WC	Thompson, Fred	AR
Joslin, Dorothy S.	FA	Wilson, Alison	MC
Kellermann, Michele	CVA	Yates, Kerin	CVA
Kerwin, Idaclaire	AR	Zachry, Sherry	FA
Koenenn, Constance	WA		

Legislative Coordinator's 2017 General Assembly Report

Carol Noggle

Increased participation in advocacy by LWV-VA members was vital to our work during the 2017 General Assembly session. Tuesday night training sessions and Wednesday visits to legislators were effective as well as advocacy by email and phone in response to Action Alerts to support or oppose many bills.

Summary of legislation.

Bills Introduced: 2,959 Bills Failed: 1,428 Bills Approved: 836 Bills Vetoed: 43 [See these [online.](#)]

With a 66-34 Republican majority in the House and 21-19 in the Senate most bills that passed were favorable to the majority. In a few cases, there was a tie vote (20-20) in the Senate that gave the LG rare opportunities to vote with the minority to break the tie. In most cases that vote was immediately reconsidered with the re-vote in favor of the majority. Thus, the LG was on record for voting on bills with issues of interest during the gubernatorial campaign.

The call for a ConCon (U.S. Constitutional Convention) did not survive. The patrons spent very little, or no time, defending their bills in committees this year. We coordinated with other groups to oppose the proposals using the LWVUS positions.

Constitutional Amendments: The prescribed process in the House limited the number for passage to only four out of 51 proposals. No redistricting bills passed amidst controversy on voting them down in a block. CA debates on the House and Senate floor addressed the amendment on separation of powers that would allow legislative review of administration regulations, the transportation fund “lockbox”, and the very controversial proposal to limit the restoration of felons’ voting rights (SJ223). Fortunately, it was defeated in the House P&E Committee after bitter debate in the Senate.

Bills to change the selection of Virginia’s Electors to the Electoral College were defeated. Opposition statements were developed using the LWVUS position.

School choice proposals such as forming charter school divisions and another to divert funds outside of the public school system did not succeed. The [veto explanation](#) describes the opposition well. (*LWV-VA has no specific talking points on school choice.*)

Firearms, kids, and conceal carry permits: Safety for children bills that would make purchases of gun safes tax-exempt did not pass, in spite of support by both the VCDL and the League, because of the reduced revenue in a tight budget year. Bills providing a conceal carry permit immediately when a person is given a protective order and to provide for free training were vetoed by Governor because of safety concerns in highly volatile domestic situation.

Voting

Extending Absentee Voting access (Not): There were 23 bills related to voting absentee -- only **one** passed – for a voter who has been granted a protective order to allow voting absentee by mail.

Constant advocacy for Voter Protection was needed to overcome creation of barriers for third party registration groups, the requirement of proof of citizenship to register to vote, the requirement to submit photo identification with mail-in absentee ballot requests and to require GRs to annually match voters’ Social Security numbers with inaccurate or out-dated databases.

Funding for Election Administration: The Senate Finance Committee initially did not support the Department of Elections’ administration and services budget items. The House budget did maintain the funds. The Senate later agreed so that 3 of the 4 million dollars requested was approved.

School Suspension. No change was made to reduce the length of suspensions this year but there was considerable awareness of the hindrance to a child’s education and future when out of school without adequate alternatives. More funding as well as changes in policy are needed.

Anti-immigration bills, to prohibit “sanctuary cities” that would force localities to enforce all federal immigration laws, a “refugee tracking” bill that would require the DSS to publish refugee information, and another that would force local sheriffs to hold illegal immigrants in their jails beyond their release date until ICE approves of their transfer or release were vetoed by the Governor.

Women and Women’s Healthcare The ERA ratification bill introduced by Sen. Surovell was vigorously presented in the Senate P&E Committee and reported out but was referred to the Rules Committee where it met the “Passed by Indefinitely” ax. The only legislators with a [vote on record](#) are the 14 members of the P&E Committee.

Success for women’s health was [HB2267](#) that will allow Virginia women to receive a 12-month supply of birth control. Only 7 of 140 legislators voted “no”! One major victory to expand access and resources for women.

Defunding Planned Parenthood clinics was an issue again with [HB2264](#) but the Governor’s veto was sustained.

[Equal pay](#) irrespective of sex was proposed but did not survive in the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee. A bill to [prohibit gender discrimination](#) in public employment received bipartisan support in the (Senate 25-14) but did not pass in a House subcommittee.

A Women’s Commission to plan the 2020 centennial anniversary celebration of achieving women’s suffrage gained unanimous support to form a [task force](#) that will be led by the Virginia Historical Society. (LWV-VA needs a seat on this task force!!)

Environment

Disclosure of fracking chemicals was protected. The [anti-disclosure bills](#) had a long journey through committees with considerable debate and industry testimony but were ultimately defeated.

The December 2016 Women’s Pre-Session Legislative Roundtable filled House Room 3 where attendees heard legislative priorities from 12 advocacy groups. Administration speakers included four Secretaries – Administration, Commonwealth, Finance and Natural Resources – and the Commissioner of Elections. Our luncheon was in the Patrick Henry Building for the first time.

Membership Report

Linda Garvelink

The local Leagues of the LWV-VA have enjoyed a robust membership growth across the Commonwealth. Spurred by the new activism, women and men are searching for a strong organization that has a proven track record of involvement and promises civil discourse. They are finding it in the League of Women Voters. Welcome to all the new members who have joined LWV-VA and its local Leagues in 2015, 2016, and 2017!

From July 2015 to today, the League has grown by more than 50%! Just from February to May 2017, our membership roles have increased by more than 33%. As of May 1, 2017, 1,511 members comprise the 12 local Leagues and two new MAL Units (Fredericksburg Area and The Roanoke Valley) of the LWV-VA! Our foremothers would be proud. Now it up to us to use all our resources to Honor our Legacy with Action!

In late 2016, LWVUS rolled out the new nationwide database. Change is never as easy as we hope it will be; but LWV-VA local League membership chairs and roster managers met the challenge. We have increasingly accurate rosters thanks to their efforts. When members join their local League, they also join LWV-VA and LWVUS, along with the LWV of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) in Northern Virginia. This comprehensive membership gives members access to information about, and an opportunity to participate in state, national and regional civic activities, educational forums, and advocacy. The database is the gateway to this membership benefit.

Throughout this past term, LWV-VA enhanced our Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) program by hosting occasional membership conference calls, where local League membership chairs and presidents discuss the effective use of the LWVUS database, ideas for generating new members how to make both new and long-time members feel welcome and engaged along with many other issues of concern. We hope to expand the MLD program with more regular calls throughout the new term. Local League still have the opportunity and are encouraged to join the MLD program to have one- on-one access to guidance and new ideas, supported by the resources of LWVUS and LWV-VA.

Thank you to all the local League membership chairs and roster managers who have worked hard to welcome new members, ensure an accurate database, and to be sure their members are aware of and have access to the full benefits of membership.

Respectfully submitted by,

Linda Garvelink,

LWV-VA 2015-2017 Membership Director

2017 Program Report

Frances Schutz

Program Director 2015-17

During this biennium, my efforts have been largely but not exclusively focused on the emerging Fracking Position. These activities included:

- Participating in several Study Committee conference calls, supporting the committee and its chairs, providing space at the 2016 Fall Workshop for the committee to present its findings. [In spring of 2016, the Study Committee gained a new Chair, and another committee member with League writing and editing experience, providing much-needed new energy to those who had been working on parts of the study since 2015.]
- Supporting the committee as they prepared their report for presentation at the Fall Workshop Day, September 2016
- Supporting preparation of consensus questions, presenting them for Board approval and forwarding approved questions with cover letter to the Local Leagues in Virginia for their consensus meetings.
- Mailing letters to those with no email addresses in database, inviting participation in consensus.
- Consulting with the committee in drafting a report for Board approval as a new Position
- Consulting with the Board in revisions prior to final approval and release for consideration at Convention

Other more general activities included:

- Attending all board meetings
- Corresponding as appropriate with those contacting us through the LWV-VA website
- Planning for and securing plenary speakers and workshops, providing evaluation opportunities, and electronic follow-up for the Fall Workshop Days in Richmond 2016 and in Charlottesville 2017.
- Sending out electronic files of information which the speakers and LWV US & Md had prepared prior to the 2016 workshops
- Helping with wording for the evaluation of the Pre-Session evaluation, and preparing several Program-related short articles for the *VA Voter* in 2015-16 before it was laid down.
- Polling Local Leagues about their participation in the LWV US Studies for board information and compiling their responses in January & February 2016, at the request of the President.
- Attending as Board Liaison to LWV Falls Church, their Program Planning meeting in January 2016, and their Annual Meetings in May 2016 & 2017.
- Planning for the theme for Council workshops, securing facilitators for those, and arranging for support for lunch speaker and panel.
- Compiling and formatting the Council Workbook consulting with Sue Lewis.

- Serving as member of an ad hoc committee to compile a list of potential tasks for an Executive Assistant, and interviewing the single candidate
- Participating in site inspection of 2-3 potential new offices, & approving the final site
- Arranging for board meeting venue & food on the day prior to 2016 Fall Workshops
- Creating letter about program planning importance, creating 2 pp report forms – 1 for discussion, another for formal report; sending several reminder notes and compiling reports after multiple extensions; recommending Final Report to the Board for consideration & forwarding to members for consideration at Convention
- Attending lobby training session 1/31 prior to League Day; attending League Day, sitting in on part of House meeting, watching more from the Cap Bldg. visiting Delegate & Senator offices to lobby – meeting with my newly elected Senator
- Lobbying by phone for redistricting bills
- Planning for convention

Voter Services, 2016-2017

Maggi Luca

The major challenges and accomplishments for these two years for Voter Service have been communication and VOTE411. They are very much interconnected. Communication is essential among the Local Leagues around the state to accomplish our goal of informing voters about the candidates and all voting opportunities which are many and varied. We share our ideas and methods.

VOTE411 is of national importance to the LWV and Virginia leagues are committed. It has taken an incredible amount of education and commitment to accomplish the tasks involved in the voter education provided by VOTE411. Congratulations to the leagues and members who make this happen.

Many Local Leagues' Voter Service publish various forms of "facts" for their voters which include contact information for all local representatives and important government numbers. They sponsor and host candidate forums, debates and "meet and greets". We write Letters to Editors, articles, PSA's. Our Voter Registration efforts have greatly expanded our normal outreach especially in high schools, community colleges and other educational facilities such as ESL and Evening Classes.

This year VOTE411 has provided information for the June 13th statewide primary contests for Governor and Lt. Governor for both parties. This is in addition to the November 7th General Election information for all candidates, local House races and all statewide races.

Maggi Luca

Publicity and Public Relations

Adarsh Trehan

I developed annual plans for public relations. I have publicized LWV-VA activities before and after event such as the Women's Legislative Roundtable Pre-Session. I have written articles on the election of our officers in 2015, redistricting, reducing gun violence, domestic violence, Women's Equality Day, the victory in the voter purge case, and many others. Many of these articles, under the bylines of Lois Page and Dianne Blais, our co-presidents, were published in some state and Northern Virginia print and online newspapers. I have attended celebrations of Martin Luther King's birthday, meetings of the Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations, the League of Women Voters of the Capital Area, and annual meetings of the League of Women Voters of Arlington. I have worked hard to recruit new members for the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area.

Mark Your Calendars for 2019



LWV-VA 39th Biennial Convention

Saturday, May 18 – Sunday, May 19, 2019



Norfolk, Virginia

Hosted by LWV-South Hampton Roads



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Email: league@lww-va.org
Website: www.lww-va.org
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Making Democracy Work