



Charlottesville Area
League of Women Voters
Newsletter
April 2018

Office Phone:
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Visit Our Website:
lwv-cva.org

Sunday Seminar

“School Choice in Virginia— Follow the Money!”

Sunday, April 15, 2018

2 – 3:30 pm

CitySpace

Charlottesville -

Downtown Mall



School choice, vouchers, tuition tax credits, EISTC’s! How well does the voting public understand what these terms mean? How do they affect the education of our young people?

The next *LWV CVA Sunday Seminar* on **April 15** will feature a panel of local school board members from Charlottesville and the surrounding counties. They will discuss the impact that these school choice options have on public education and suggest how money should be spent to solve problems such as the achievement gap.

Carol Noggle, the chair of the *LWV-VA Task Force on School Choice*, will moderate our panel after explaining the various school choice options and how they are funded. She will also update us on the legislation proposed and voted on in the latest General Assembly.

Join us at CitySpace on the Downtown Mall at 2:00 pm for an informative discussion. LWV CVA Sunday Seminars are open to the public. Parking is available in the Market St. parking garage. For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840.



2018 Annual Meeting Announcement

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area

Thursday, May 10, 2018

The Greencroft Club, Charlottesville

(See page 3 of this newsletter for luncheon reservations.)

PROGRAM

Member/Guest Social 11:30 am to 12 noon

Noon: Luncheon and Presentation by

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent
Albemarle County Public Schools**

**Annual Business Meeting of Members
(following speaker's presentation):**

The Annual Meeting of our League is the time when members vote on the business of the League for the coming fiscal year, 2018-19. We urge members to attend and

- **Elect directors and officers for 2018-19** *[See note below from the Nominating Committee.]*
- **Adopt the Operating Fund Budget for 2018-19**
- **Adopt Local Program for 2018-19**

To facilitate your preparation to vote on these items, you will receive in the mail the **Annual Meeting Packet**. It will contain information vital to the business meeting. ***Please remember to bring this packet with you to the meeting!***

From the LWV CVA Nominating Committee:

The following positions will be voted on at the LWV CVA Annual Meeting on May 10:

- President - 2018-2020
- Chair of Nominating committee - 2018-2019
- One seat on the Mary Stamps White Committee 2018 -2021
- Elected Directors (2) for: Newsletter Editor/Webmaster and Membership – 2018-2020

If you would like to serve in any of these positions or suggest a member for one of the positions, please contact Lois Sandy at lilsandy@gmail.com. Thank you. The 2017-2018 Nominating Committee:
Lois Sandy, Dena Imlay, Bobbi Williams



**LWV of the Charlottesville Area
Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 10, 2018
Meet and Greet: 11:30 am to Noon
Luncheon at Noon
The Greencroft Club
575 Rodes Dr., Charlottesville**

Please join us for Annual Meeting of the LWV of the Charlottesville Area. Following our luncheon and the presentation by our guest speaker, Dr. Pam Moran, we will hold our Annual Business Meeting. See page 2 of this newsletter for the Program. **Meet and Greet begins at 11:30 am, followed by luncheon at 12 noon promptly.**

Directions: The Greencroft Club, 575 Rodes Drive, just off of Route 250. From town, follow Route 250 west (Ivy Road), for approximately 5 miles, and turn left onto Rodes Drive.

Menu: Served with house salad, fresh rolls, iced tea or coffee, and dessert: Lemon Squares
Your choice of entrees:

Salmon Maltese: Baked salmon finished with an orange Hollandaise sauce, with rice pilaf, julienned vegetables.

OR

Grilled Eggplant Rollatini: Stuffed with risotto, and served with red bell pepper coulis.

Cost: \$30 per person

To make a reservation(s) for luncheon: Your check must be at the League office with your menu selection by noon on **Tuesday, April 24.**

Checks should be made out to: League of Women Voters.

Send to:

**League of Women Voters
1932 Arlington Blvd., Room 111
Charlottesville, VA 22903-1560**

Please print this page and cut and return the portion below with your check. (If you have a problem printing this page, write the information and menu selection on a piece of paper and include it with your check.)

.....**Cut Here and Return with check**.....

Yes, I (we) plan to attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 10, at The Greencroft Club.

(Circle your meal selection.)

Name: _____

Telephone _____

Meal: Salmon Maltese OR Grilled Eggplant Rollantini

Name: _____

Telephone _____

Meal: Salmon Maltese OR Grilled Eggplant Rollantini

President's Message - Where Your Choice Begins...

The League's *raison d'être* is to promote educated active voting. Historically our League has only focused on primary and general elections and not the process by which each political party selects those persons that make the ballot. Perhaps it is our non-partisanship status that kept us from discussing what was considered a party matter. BUT – what can be more important than helping to select the people for whom you will finally have to cast your vote?

As one might suspect the process has more hoops than one might hope. I am not an expert but will attempt to relay enough information here that you will proceed on your own. I will use the upcoming November election for the 5th Congressional Delegate as an example. Both major parties will officially make their choices for who will represent them in the election for the 5th Congressional District at “conventions”. The GOP's convention is on April 28. The Democrats' convention is on May 5.

To begin the process, first pick a party in which you wish to participate. Second, you need to know your jurisdiction (city or county, i.e., City of Charlottesville or Fluvanna County). Also useful to know is the official title of the party in your jurisdiction. Nothing is uniform: *Albemarledems.org*, *democratsofgreencounty.com*, *fluvannademocrats.org*, *cvilledems.org*.

One major party, the GOP, has already (on March 12) had their “Official Call” for their “Mass Meeting” where they select delegates (it could have been you) to their Convention on April 28 . You may be able to attend as an observer. See for example: <http://www.albemarlegop.org>

The other major party, the Democratic Party, will have consensus meetings in their various jurisdictions during April and a convention May 5. Should this be your party of choice then you can still participate! The following link may shed light on the whole process:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14C4Vn3thB-tWLPS4uFQgsldY8i1Lih8C/view>

A word to “Independents”. Remember you can participate in a party thereby helping to choose a candidate and still be an independent voter in November. Who knows, this may result in fewer voters saying “I don't like either of them”.

So it takes a bit of work. But this is where your choice for our elections in November begins. Take the effort – if not this year, be ready for the next. We Leaguers ARE non-partisan but also politically active. If we are to be educated voters and really care about our democracy, this is not a step in the election process we should overlook.

Kerín Yates

LWV CVA President

TAKING A STAND FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE

By Kit Murphy McNally, LWV CVA Social Policy Committee

Perhaps right now is the time for the *League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area* to develop a strong position on **Community Justice**, drawing from numerous positions on various issues held by the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and the League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA).

Both Leagues have positions targeting one of the nation's greatest social problems – the denial of human rights under the ever-expanding umbrella of *criminal* justice. Entanglement in the justice system decimates voting rights and human rights in so many ways. That loss of voice passes down through generations, by far over represented among minority men, women and children.

An evidence-based Charlottesville LWV position on issues of Community Justice could strengthen every stand for human rights and add another powerful, respected voice in the halls of justice.

The struggle for justice overall increasingly makes the local news:

- Former Governor Terry McAuliffe attempted to rectify Virginia's Draconian law denying felons the vote forever, but his effort was cut short by the courts.
<https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/voting-rights-restoration-efforts-virginia>
- A tiny Legislative boost raising the threshold for felony theft from \$200 to \$400 is still one of the lowest in the country.
http://www.richmond.com/news/virginia/government-politics/general-assembly/northam-cox-announce-deal-to-raise-virginia-s-felony-larceny/article_26cbe9e2-1b71-5955-aba9-a88c1b7eb54d.html
- Black Mama's group attempted to pay very low bails so indigent moms could go home to their kids on Mother's Day.
<http://www.c-ville.com/bailed-local-jail-isnt-debtors-prison/>
- Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) announced its pursuit of evidence-based decision making reveals 25% of the inmates in the regional jail have a mental illness.
<http://s3.amazonaws.com/cville/cm%2Fmutlimedia%2F20180207-Mental-Health-Study.pdf>
- Another 25% of minority children have at least one parent incarcerated, and correspondingly show low aptitude in school, too often leading to early dropout.
<https://ajustchicago.org/2017/04/incarcerated-parents-impacts-students-of-color/>
- Young people are still going to jail and prison for marijuana possession.
http://vscc.virginia.gov/VSCC_FINAL_Decrim%20Marj%20Present.pdf
- Women are becoming debilitated and even dying at the Fluvanna Correction Center for Women as the prison fails to comply with provisions of a two-year old court order won by the Legal Aid Justice Center. https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/inmates-blame-virginia-womens-prison-for-deaths-amputation/2017/09/06/2895a9a0-930d-11e7-8754-d478688d23b4_story.html?utm_term=.2762e20cd8d6

The need is great. The time is now. Please contact Kit Murphy McNally at murphymcnally@gmail.com for further information.

LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Report by Peggy Gilges

At the end of February, the *van der Linde* mixed waste processing facility in Zion Crossroads abruptly ended its municipal solid waste service. Most of the county's trash hauling companies had been taking residents' "all in one bin" trash to the *van der Linde* site for processing.

The "all in one bin" system (often incorrectly referred to in Albemarle as "single stream recycling") was never capable of producing high-quality recyclable materials sought after by domestic manufacturers, but recyclable scrap that was unsuitable for domestic markets could be exported. Up until recently China was the biggest importer of American scrap, but China has now instituted strict new standards and is denying import licenses for most American scrap. These factors probably played into the *van der Linde* service closing. The upshot is that the U.S. will have to do a much better job of recycling, and improve its recycling systems to produce better quality commodities with significantly less contamination. Although Americans represent 4% of the world population, we generate 30% of the world's trash. If we do not improve our recycling, tons of useful materials will be landfilled or incinerated, neither of which is good for human and environmental health.

Since the *van der Linde* closure, residential waste haulers *County Waste* (a private company not run by Albemarle County) and *Time Disposal* have announced that they will be offering true single stream recycling in the urban areas of the County for a modest monthly fee. We also want to remind LWV members that the RSWA (Rivanna Solid Waste Authority) operates the **McIntire Road Recycling Center** (<http://www.rivanna.org/mcintire-recycling-center/>) which provides free drop-off of recyclables for City and County residents. If you use the McIntire Road Recycling Center, you do have to separate your recyclables by type, but this method of "source-separated" recycling results in better quality commodities than single stream recycling. The McIntire Recycling Center also provides free drop-off of food/kitchen waste for composting. RSWA is planning a new source-separated recycling center at the Ivy MUC (Material Utilization Center), and our new transfer station at Ivy MUC (now under construction) is also designed to help County residents and businesses recycle more.

Going forward, the LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee urges you to call your waste hauler and request curbside single stream recycling service, or take your recyclables to the McIntire Road Recycling Center. For more information, contact Peggy Gilges, peggygilges@mac.com

Meeting Reminder: The LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 1:30 pm, at University Village, small committee room at 500 Crestwood Drive. Guest speaker is: Bill Mawyer, Executive Director, Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority. April 18 is the date for next month's meeting. For more information, contact Sally Thomas, 434-295-1819.

All LWV CVA committee meetings are open to members as well as the public.

International Relations /Federal Government Committee News

By Gerry Kruger

On February 28, the International Relations/Federal Government Committee members learned some fascinating information about demographic trends and immigration at **Molly O'Brien's** downtown condo. **Jean Minehart's** topic, "**Demographic Trends in the World and the U.S.**," was centered around millennials, the largest generation in the United States. This group is expected to grow until 2036, largely due to immigration. These are people born between 1981 and 1996, who are between 22 and 37 years old. Similar characteristics bind this group together. Many are still living with their parents, but are less likely to adopt the traditions of their parents. For example, they are less likely to marry or own a home. Because of racial and ethnic diversity, many have stronger traditions of intergenerational households.

There are large numbers of millennial women in the workforce. These numbers are expected to peak at 47%. The gender pay gap in this group is narrower than ever before and even more so than among young adults. Still, women are under-represented in high-level jobs. Only five per cent of Fortune 500 companies are run by women. Immigration is driving the overall workforce. Without immigration, we would have fewer working age adults. In 2015 there were 11 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. In 2016, there were about the same number. Mexicans were the largest group. Immigrants have also played a huge role in U.S. fertility, accounting for the largest percentage of population growth. They have more children than native born Americans, and the Muslim population has grown faster than the Christian population. The number of refugees admitted into the U.S. has decreased. California and Texas have the largest numbers, but North Dakota is another key state for accepting refugees.

Maggie Hoover's thorough research of the **history of immigration** provided background for us that should be required of all Americans. There are more than 78 million legal or undocumented immigrants, including their children, in the United States. The founding fathers understood that immigration was necessary; however, from the beginning there was discrimination against immigrants, especially non-whites and religious minorities. In the 1890's Catholicism was the largest Christian denomination, which was a source of controversy. During this time there was also a separation between "old" immigrants and "new" immigrants. Most of the newest immigrants were unskilled laborers, farm workers, or servants. Jews were the exception. They were tailors, tradesmen, and merchants.

From 1907, when President Theodore Roosevelt negotiated limits on Japanese immigrants, until the Patriot Act of 2001 that strengthened the government's authority to detain, deport, and prosecute terrorists, there have been numerous restrictions and requirements placed on immigrants. The cruelest action was Congress's defeat of a 1939 bill that would have rescued 20,000 children from Nazi Germany despite American families willing to sponsor them.

Twenty years after World War II, the U.S. negotiated with Mexico to allow millions of temporary farm workers to fill the labor needs of the South and Southwest. Although the program was terminated in 1964, it institutionalized large-scale immigration that persists illegally today.

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Cold war legislation aimed at Communist regimes allowed hundreds of thousands of refugees to enter the country and was the basis of the refugee act of 1980 that now governs refugee and asylum admissions. Since 1980, immigration legislation has primarily been directed at enforcing laws related to undocumented and criminal immigrants. From 2003 to 2015, Border Patrol staff has nearly doubled.

The two current legal immigration levels are legal permanent residents and people who show they don't intend to remain in the country. Many illegals are children under 18 living with an undocumented parent. Rising backlogs for those applying for legal immigration, exceeding 500,000 cases, is costly and compounds the tension of immigrants waiting for decisions.

In 2012 Obama established DACA without Congress's approval. To be DACA eligible, dreamers must be 15 to 30 years of age, have arrived in the U.S. before age 16, resided here continuously for five years, be enrolled or graduated from high school or the military, and have not been convicted of a serious crime. The status must be renewed every two years, and the program grants a Social Security card, tax benefits, and income supplements. The cost of these benefits has been estimated at \$7.8 billion a year.

Americans attitude toward immigration is complicated by ignorance about how the system actually works. They don't know how long it takes to get a green card and are confused about the narrow line that separates legal from illegal. Often the difference is a matter of time.

Some recommendations: (1) Increase the number of legal admissions for high skilled individuals since the demand for well-trained workers is growing. (2) Repeal the diversity lottery and attract more skilled workers. (3) Enact legislation that encourages applying for documentation rather than living in the shadows. (4) Expand the guest worker program. (5) Ease some of the unnecessary enforcement. (6) Strengthen E-verify with more penalties for employers that don't use it. (7) Manage overstays more closely; deport criminals. (8) Look at alternatives to detention. (9) Study how to increase naturalization rates.

On March 14, **Rosalie Simari** offered her warm hospitality on a chilly early spring day. **Lois Sandy's** report on the **opioid crisis** gave us a shocking account of Arthur Sackler's "Empire of Pain," based on an article from the *New Yorker*. Although best known for his philanthropy to art museums and scientific institutions, he is also credited with promoting the current opioid crisis of today. Through direct marketing to physicians he popularized dozens of medicines, mostly tranquilizers, such as Valium. When he died, his brothers, who owned a separate drug company, began selling OxyContin. Its sole active ingredient is oxycodone, which is twice as powerful as morphine. Their company Purdue Pharma attempted to change the prescribing habits of doctors. They sold it as a product to "start with and stay with." They targeted doctors who were not pain specialists. Many patients who took the drug became hooked on it and experienced debilitating withdrawal pain. Many addicts have

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turned to heroin due to the high cost of prescription opioids. Since 1999 200,000 Americans have died of its effects and 145 die every day. Even so, Purdue continues to fight against any measures that might limit distribution of OxyContin and the profits that come with it.

Marge Cox's report, "**Advantage China,**" asked the question, "Is China going to be the leader of the world in 15 years?" They seem to be positioned for this. China, the fourth largest country, borders on 14 countries, and has an enormous supply of natural resources, including many rare ones. Its diverse terrain offers a variety of climates and geographical features from mountains and plateaus to deserts and plains. The world's largest exporter and second largest importer, it offers direct subsidies to companies to keep them viable.

Consisting of 1.3 billion people, China has a "social" credit system. The people are actually rated on their trustworthiness, their Internet habits, even protest participation. Still, there is concern that their growth could result in dangerous debt levels, and with President Xi having to weigh in on every decision that is made, there is involved in the flare-ups that occur between North Korea and its foes. This could end in disaster.

See the back of this newsletter for the times and places that our committee meets and join us as we discuss issues that relate to the U.S. government and/or other countries.

CORRECTION: The **IR/FG News** article in the **March newsletter** contained an error that was pointed out by one of our members. It stated that **C'ville Organizing** was a volunteer group that we may consider joining to become involved in the issue of immigration. The group is actually **Virginia Organizing**.

Welcome New LWV CVA Members!

Beth Kariel
1603 Oakleaf Lane
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434 964-6238
email: bkariel@cstone.net

Dell Erwin
1721 Arrow Wood Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22902-7233
434 245 5891
email: dellerwin@gmail.com

Lisa Claytor
1636 GardenCt
Charlottesville, VA 22901
513-515-0606
email: LClaytor8591@gmail.com

Kimberly Emery
800 Rugby Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903
home: 434 328-1114
work: 434 924-1419
email: kacemery@gmail.com

Welcome Returning LWV CVA Member!

Emerald Young
237 Yellowstone Dr. #106
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-326-4181
email: eyoung541@comcast.net

2018 LWV CVA Finance Drive Report

By Marge Cox, Finance Chair

On behalf of the Board of our League, once again I want to say a heartfelt “thank you” to all those who have so far contributed to our 2018 Fund Drive. Because most of the dues we pay go to the State and National Leagues, we depend primarily on our fund drive to continue to bring programs and activities to our community. To date, we have received \$5965 as follows,

Members: Education Fund: \$1384
Operating Fund: \$2615
Total Donations: \$3999

Non-Members: Education Fund: \$1449
Operating Fund: \$517
Total Donations: \$1966

Thank you to the following LWV CVA members who contributed to the Education Fund:

Eleanor Abbot, Beth & Dan Alley, Angela Burruss-Terrell Valerie Chasin, Marguerite Cox, Lillian Epstein, Peggy Gilges, Sonia Haimes, Gerry Kruger, Karen Lilleleht, Shelah Scott, Ruth Wadlington

Thank you to the following LWV CVA members who contributed to the Operating Fund:

Edith Good, Margaret Hart, Jeanne Huber, Dena Imlay, Michele Kellermann, Joyce Kerns, Peppy Linden, Lulu Meese, Jean Minehart, Maureen O’Brien, Terry & Karen Ogden, Lydia Peale, Lois & Dudley Rochester, Frances Schutz, Betty Scott, Rosalie Simari, Sonjia Smith, Natalie Testa, Kerin Yates, Gerry Yemen

Thank you to the following community members who contributed to the Education Fund:

Ellen & Willie Andersen, Barbara Fuhrman, Dianne M. Gagliano, Nancy & Jim Galloway, Virginia Germino, Ann Harrod, Helen Chen Lo, Elizabeth Merrill, Leigh Middleditch, Jean Newsom, Hope Pribram, Dennis & Ann Rooker, Patrick Tolan

Thank you to the following community members who contributed to the Operating Fund:

Richard & Kathleen Bonnie, Samuel & Cynthea Caughron, James Cooper, Donna Goings, Aaron & Amy Laufer, Kevin Lynch, Jean Newsom, Helen & Albert Reynolds, Patrick Tolan

If you have not yet contributed to the fund drive, I urge you to do so. No donation is too small and every dollar is used to further the League’s mission. Visit our website today if you prefer to make a donation online: **Go to lww-cva.org and click on the “Donate” button by scrolling all the way down to the bottom of the home page, and then follow the prompts from there.** Or simply mail your check to our office, LWV of Charlottesville Area, 1932 Arlington Blvd., Suite 111, Charlottesville, VA 22903-1560, and specify Education Fund (tax-deductible) or Operating Fund (not tax-deductible).



League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area
1932 Arlington Blvd. #111
Charlottesville, VA 22903-1560

LWV CVA

President

Kerin Yates

Newsletter Editor

Michele Kellermann

The Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area, The Greencroft Club, Noon, May 10. Luncheon reservation form on page 3.
Make Your Reservation(s) Now! Must be received with check by Tuesday, April 24!

Meetings and Events for April 2018:
Mark Your Calendars Now!

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Wed., April 11, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Kit Murphy McNally, 2101 Timber Meadows, 414-405-3302	For further information, contact Natalie Testa, 589-4067
Wed., April 11, 1:30 – 3:30 pm	LWV CVA Board Meeting – All members welcome	Westminster Canterbury, Pantops, Charlottesville	For further information, contact KerinYates, 964-1840
Sun., April 15, 2 – 3:30 pm	LWV CVA Sunday Seminar: “School Choice in Virginia— Follow the Money!”	CitySpace, Downtown Mall, Charlottesville (parking in Market St. garage)	For further information, contact KerinYates, 964-1840
Wed., April 18, 1:30 – 3:00 pm	LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meeting	University Village (small committee room) at 500 Crestwood Dr., Charlottesville	For further information, contact Sally Thomas, 434-295-1819
Wed., April 25, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Lois Sandy, 1666 Franklin Dr., 296-8737	For further information, contact Natalie Testa, 589-4067
Thurs., May 10, 11:30 – Meet & Greet; Noon - Luncheon	LWV CVA Annual Meeting with Guest Speaker, Pam Moran, Superintendent Albemarle County Public Schools	The Greencroft Club, 575 Rodes Rd., Charlottesville	For further information, contact KerinYates, 964-1840. Luncheon reservations with check must be received by Tues., April 24!