



*Charlottesville Area*  
**League of Women Voters**  
**Newsletter**  
**February 2019**

E-mail:  
[lwv@lwv-cva.org](mailto:lwv@lwv-cva.org)

Visit Our Website:  
[lwv-cva.org](http://lwv-cva.org)

Mailing Address: PO Box 2786  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Telephone: 434 227-3264

## *LWV CVA Sunday Seminar*

### **“What’s the Use of Planning?”**

**Understanding the challenges and opportunities facing local governments**

A Sunday Seminar presented by the LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee

Guest Speakers: Karen Firehock and Stewart Schwartz

**Sunday, February 10, 2019**

**2 to 3:30 pm**

**CitySpace, Downtown Mall, Charlottesville**

Four decades of careful planning has helped the Charlottesville area maintain a course toward a vision, stated in the Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan, of a place “with abundant natural, rural, historic, and scenic resources; healthy ecosystems; active and vibrant development areas; a physical environment that supports healthy lifestyles; a thriving economy; and, exceptional educational opportunity for present and future generations”. The benefits of past planning are visible all around us. The area is a highly desirable place to live, and a popular place to visit, with healthy and growing local businesses. However regional growth is stressing our communities and our natural environment and the price of housing is increasing at an alarming rate. Good plans that address current problems and future needs, provide paths to desired outcomes, and are understood and followed by all segments of the community are more important than ever.

**On February 10**, our guest speakers, Stewart Schwartz, the Executive Director of the Coalition for Smarter Growth in Washington, D.C., and Karen Firehock, Executive Director of the Green Infrastructure Center in Charlottesville, will discuss ways that smart planning for our projected growth, equally respectful of environmental, economic, and social needs, can help address new challenges while preserving those aspects of the area that residents hold dear. **See next page for more about our speakers.**

**2019 LWV CVA Program Planning**  
**Tuesday, February 19, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm**  
**At the “Center for Non-Profit Excellence”**  
**1701-A Allied St., Charlottesville (behind C’ville Coffee)**  
**Bring a Bag Lunch!**

*See page 3 of this newsletter for complete information about this important League meeting.*



**LWV CVA Sunday Seminar: "What's the Use of Planning?"**  
**Understanding the challenges and opportunities facing local governments**  
**Sunday, February 10, 2019, 2 – 3:30 pm**  
**CitySpace, Downtown Mall, Charlottesville.**  
**Presented by the LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee**  
**Guest Speakers: Karen Firehock and Stewart Schwartz**

**Karen Firehock** is an environmental planner with more than 26 years of experience in natural resources management. She is the director and co-founder of the Green Infrastructure Center (GIC) and oversees green infrastructure planning and research projects. Since 1999, she has served on the adjunct faculty at the University of Virginia and teaches graduate courses in green infrastructure planning, watershed planning and stormwater management and global health and environmental ordinances and fundraising. She has authored numerous handbooks such as, "A Local Government's Guide to Stream Corridor Protection", and "Collaboration: A



Guide for Environmental Advocates" as well as guides for wetland conservation and watershed planning. She has won local state and national awards for her work such as the National Greenways Award for her river and wetland conservation and the Virginia River Conservationist of the Year Award. She and her graduate students also won the award of Design Professional of the Year for the Charlottesville Comprehensive Plans Environmental Sustainability Chapter in 2007 created as part of the PLAC 550: Green Cities Green Lands Class. Students in her watershed planning class also won an award from the Virginia Planning Association. Ms. Firehock is active in community planning issues: she serves on the Albemarle County Planning Commission and, uniquely, has served on both the City of Charlottesville and the County Planning Commissions.

**Stewart Schwartz** is the Executive Director and the founder of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, which he built into the leading smart growth organization in the Washington DC region, addressing the interconnected issues of land use, transportation, urban design, housing, and climate change. An attorney with experience in land use, transportation, and the environment, Mr. Schwartz has worked for the President's Council on Sustainable Development, the Land Trust Alliance, the Southern Environmental Law Center, and has volunteered for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. He is responsible for the strategic direction of the Coalition, whose "Blueprint for a Better Region" makes the case for urban revitalization, transit, affordable housing, and more walkable communities.



Mr. Schwartz is a leader of the state transportation reform campaigns in Virginia, serves on the board of the Virginia Conservation Network, and is a founder and board member of the Richmond Area Partnership for Smarter Growth.

## 2019 LWV CVA Program Planning

All League members are encouraged to attend the annual Program Planning meeting on **Tuesday, February 19, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm**, at the **Center for Non-Profit Excellence, 1701-A Allied St.**, Charlottesville (behind *C'ville Coffee*). Note: There is unrestricted parking at the rear of CNE as well as across Allied St. behind *Circa*. **See map on page 5. Bring a bag lunch.** Long-time members Frances Schutz and Michele Kellermann will lead us through considering these positions.

**What is “Program Planning”?** Program Planning happens annually at the local League level. It is the time when we consider the positions taken by our League on the local and state or national levels. Our positions give the League a voice and are the result of an established process: the LWV takes action on an issue or advocates for a cause when there is an existing League position that supports the issue or speaks to the cause. **Without a position, League action/advocacy cannot be taken. This is what your League of Women Voters is all about and Program Planning is your opportunity to weigh in.**

For 2019, we will study **Local and State League positions in preparation for our May LWV CVA Annual Meeting and the LWV VA convention, this year in Norfolk on May 18-19.** Do we wish to retain or delete current positions, to act on them, and/or to begin new studies with the goal of establishing consensus and positions for action on other issues?

- Any study is thorough in its pursuit of facts and details. As the study progresses, a continuing discussion of *pros* and *cons* of each situation occurs.
- Prior to the results of the study being presented to the general membership, study committee members fashion consensus questions that are then addressed by the membership.
- Additional discussion, *pro* and *con*, takes place as members (not part of the study committee) learn the scope of the study. After the members reach consensus, the board formulates positions based on that consensus.
- It is the consensus statement — the statement resulting from the consensus questions — that becomes a position when approved by the League board and the membership. Firm action or advocacy can then be taken on the particular issue addressed by the position.

**For LWV VA positions**, go to LWV-VA website, [lwg-va.org](http://lwg-va.org), and click on **“Action & Advocacy”** on the homepage. There you can click on the 2018 issue of **Positions in Brief**, or full version with history. The **LWV CVA 2018-2019 Membership Handbook** enumerates our **Local Program** items on: Education, Child Care, Government, Health and Family Life Education, Health Services in Area Public Schools, Housing, Natural Resources (Energy, Land Use, Water, Waste Management), Regional Library System, Transportation, and Firearms Safety. These positions are also on our website: [lwg-cva.org](http://lwg-cva.org) under the pull-down menu, “Explore the League” – Advocacy, then click on “Local.”

If you know that you or your committee will be bringing a new or updated study proposal to the meeting, it would be very helpful if you would let Michele and Frances know ahead of time. On page 4 of this Newsletter is a discussion/decision form. If you cannot be at the meeting itself and wish to participate, please fill out the form and return to Frances Schutz by February 15. You may want to bring a printed form to the meeting, to keep track of issues we will be discussing. Please read the *Positions in Brief* and the Program section of the *Membership Handbook* ***before*** you come to the meeting. Time is short, there are many decisions to be made, and your advance preparation will make a real difference!

For further information about Program Planning, contact Frances Schutz, [schutz67@embarqmail.com](mailto:schutz67@embarqmail.com)

## LWV-VA Program Planning for 2019-21

### Individual Recommendations Form

*Check appropriate column for **each position**. Send your response to Frances Schutz, [schutz67@embarqmail.com](mailto:schutz67@embarqmail.com), or hard copy to 1685 Union Mills Rd, Troy VA 22974 by 2/15/19*

LWV-VA Positions	Retain	Update	Take Action	Delete	COMMENTS
<b><u>GOVERNMENT</u></b>					
Delegation Of Power					
Election Laws					
Fiscal Policy					
Reapportionment & Redistricting					
Transportation					
Women's Rights and Virginia Law					
<b><u>NATURAL RESOURCES</u></b>					
Air Quality					
Extractive Industries: Hydraulic Fracturing					
Land Use					
Water Supply And Distribution					
<b><u>SOCIAL POLICY</u></b>					
Adult Domestic Violence					
Adult Justice					
Behavioral Health					
Child Care					
Children At Risk					
Education					
Juvenile Justice					
Mental Health					
Offender Re-Entry					
Restoration Of Civil Rights of Felons in Virginia					

*(Use back of form/additional page as needed)*

1. Is there a **new study** (one only) on a statewide issue you would suggest? Describe issue and give scope for the study. List volunteers willing to work on the study. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is there an **update** (restudy) of a current position (one only) you would suggest? List reason for restudy and define scope. Also **give volunteers willing to work on the update**. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Is there a position you want to **delete**? Explain why you think the position is no longer needed or valid. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Is there a LWV-VA position you think needs to be emphasized for **action**? If so, what **type of action** would you like to see? (e.g. holding a forum, lobbying elected officials, etc.) If more than one position is selected for advocacy/action, prioritize the items in chart above. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# CNE Parking Guide



Street Map  
for  
“Program  
Planning”  
Meeting  
**Tuesday,  
February 19,  
11:30 am –  
1:30 pm**  
“Center for  
Non-Profit  
Excellence”  
1701-A Allied  
Street,  
Charlottesville  
**BRING A BAG  
LUNCH!**

## Nominations Wanted for the LWV CVA Voter Service Director

By Bobbie Williams, Nominating Committee Chair

We are looking to fill the position on the LWV CVA Board of Directors for **Voter Service Director** to replace Dena Imlay who is planning to move from the area in the near future. Dena has held this position for the last six years and will be missed greatly. Voter Service is one of our most active and important positions in that we have elections in Virginia every year for our state, local, and federal offices. It is important to our democracy that all voters have as much opportunity and information available to them before going into the voting booth. The Voter Service Committee helps with voter registration, local nonpartisan candidate forums, and voter information on election issues. The Voter Service Director oversees these efforts.

If anyone is interested in this position or knows of anyone who might be, we need to have the nominating process compiled by the April 1, 2019. Voter Service Director is one of the most active and most involved with our election cycles...serving the League in this capacity is really rewarding and satisfying. Term of office: two years, 2019-2021.

Contact me, Bobbie Williams, at [bbwms44@gmail.com](mailto:bbwms44@gmail.com) or Kerin Yates, [kerinyateslwvcva@gmail.com](mailto:kerinyateslwvcva@gmail.com)

Thank you, Bobbie Williams, Nominating Committee Chair.

## *President's Message* – Dear Fellow League members,

With the State Legislature in session during January and February, contacting our representatives and advocating for the League's positions on various issues really can make a difference--the state League website, [lwv-va.org](http://lwv-va.org), has many **action alerts** with helpful information. Consider attending one of the weekly **Women's Legislative Roundtable (WLRT) Events** in Richmond—see below for information about WLRT including February meeting times and places. **League Day at the General Assembly is slated for February 6**—and starts with the Women's Legislative Roundtable at 8:30 to 9:30 am. There will be a luncheon that day hosted by the State League for \$35.00. Please join me in attending this event. Reservations for the luncheon are necessary—go to [lwv-va.org](http://lwv-va.org)—deadline for reservations is February 1. (If you are interested in going to Richmond for League Day, let me know. Perhaps we can ride share.)

As always, I am grateful to all our members who have worked hard to further our mission, “The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and **advocacy**.”

*Pat Cochran*

LWV CVA President

email: [patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com](mailto:patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com)



### **LWV-VA 2019 Women's Legislative Round Table (WLRT) – Richmond, Virginia**

On Wednesdays during the General Assembly Session, the League hosts an hour-long morning briefing by Legislators and/or Advocacy/Issue groups (WLRT - Women's Legislative Roundtable Meetings). Thus, we get updates on legislation throughout the Session so that our advocacy messages are very timely. League members who attend on Wednesdays arrange to visit their legislators and committee meetings and floor sessions. To learn more about the Roundtable, read LWV-VA's [brochure](#).

### **2019 WLRT February Schedule:**

Date	Time	Location
1/30/19	8:30 am-9:30 am	<a href="#">SunTrust Center</a> , 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA
2/6/19	8:30 am	<b>League Day</b> – Starts with WLRT at 8:30 – 9:30 am <a href="#">SunTrust Center</a> , 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA (Tilghman Room, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor) <b>League Day Luncheon: Reservations deadline: Feb. 1</b> For registration form go to: <a href="http://lwv-va.org">lwv-va.org</a>
2/13/19	8:30 am-9:30 am	<a href="#">SunTrust Center</a> , 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA
2/20/19	8:30 am-9:30 am	<a href="#">SunTrust Center</a> , 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA
2/27/19	8:30 am-9:30 am	<a href="#">SunTrust Center</a> , 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA

## ***International Relations /Federal Government Committee News***

By Gerry Kruger (January 9 report) and Carol Cutler (January 23 report)

On **January 9, 2019**, the International Relations/Federal Government Committee enjoyed Molly O'Brien's hospitality as well as **a discussion led by Carol Cutler about the 2018 elections**. Carol pointed out that there was an increase in the usual number of voters in midterm elections, and a record number of women will serve in Congress.

The 435 seats in the House were all up for election, resulting in the most diversity Congress has ever seen. There are now Muslim and African American women representatives for the first time since Shirley Chisholm was elected to Congress in 1969. Democrats had a strong showing among urban, suburban, and white voters, whereas Republicans were elected in largely rural areas. Issues around health care, infrastructure, more humane immigration policies, voter rights, and an increase in the federal minimum wage will most likely be supported by Democrats.

They will also control investigative and subpoena powers and will likely investigate President Trump's taxes and real estate as well as his campaign in regard to Russia's influence, depending on the results of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation.

Republicans have the majority in the Senate after 35 seats were decided. 36 of the 50 states held elections for governor in **2018**. Republicans won 20 of the 36 seats and Democrats won 16. Several potential state referendums could be considered: ending gerrymandering, decriminalizing marijuana, same-day voter registration, ending the photo ID requirement to vote, and released felons' right to vote.

**On January 23**, the Committee met at the home of Jean Minehart on Yorktown Drive. Two reports were given: First, **Donna Price reported on the Kingdom of Eswatini**, formerly Swaziland, Africa, which she visited in 2001 with an international legal team to teach basic concepts of the rule of law as it is supposed to operate in a democracy. Eswatini, smaller than the state of Connecticut, is almost surrounded by South Africa at its northeast tip except for a portion of the eastern border with Mozambique.

Donna reported that Eswatini is an “absolute diarchy,” ruled jointly by a King (head of state and appoints judges and many of the representatives to the country’s parliament even though there are elections every five years) and the Queen Mother (presides at the ritual fetishes of the nation, such as the special *Umhlanga* rite). The Kingdom has limited political reforms and is largely run for the benefit of the royal family. There is a domestic police force, no army and a history of no foreign military conflict.

“Eswatini” became the new name of the country in 2018 from the older official English name of the Kingdom of Swaziland. It regained its independence from Britain in 1968 (after having been the protectorate over the country from 1906). At one time, a king was allowed to reign for almost 83 years. The current king Mswati III has ruled since 1986. The current constitution was adopted in 2005.

Eswatini has a small economy, ranking about 110 of 180 countries in the world. It is a country with a GDP per capita of \$9714. There are 1.3 million people and most are employed work in agriculture or

***Continued on next page***

***International Relations/Federal Government Committee News***  
**Continued from previous page**

manufacturing. Most of their trade is with South Africa and the US and EU are major overseas trading partners. HIV/AIDS is widespread (26% of adult population).

Donna reported that the country was peaceful and friendly when she visited in marked contrast to the armed guards and racial tension, she experienced at a soccer game in Johannesburg in the Union of South Africa which she visited around the same time. Of note, artifacts found in Eswatini date human activity back to early Stone Age 200,000 years ago.

**The second report of the January 23 meeting was given by Beth Alley on *The New Jim Crow* (2010) by Michele Alexander.** Beth stated that the author believed the Emancipation Proclamation and Civil Rights amendments were just “a moment in the sun” when it comes to positive changes for African Americans. Even with the milestone of Obama’s election, there is a “new racial caste system” amplified by America’s penal system which jails more than 2 million people (90% in seven states are Blacks or Latino) and one in three are African Americans. According to Alexander, Blacks are imprisoned at rates 20-50 times higher than for Whites.

The “War on Drugs” of the 80s and 90s resulted in a rate of incarceration higher than anywhere else in the world and disproportionate in terms of race. Although most dealers and drug users are white, three-fourths of those imprisoned for drug offenses are Black or Latino. The criminal justice system had become a gateway to stigmatization and marginalization. Felons are discriminated against in many ways—housing, employment, voting, food stamps, and jury service. Once arrested, their assets are seized, and a person rarely gains freedom from the system. Many criminal defendants can’t afford to hire their own lawyers. Drug treatment is seldom an alternative to incarceration. Alexander noted that once released from jail, 68% were back in jail within 3 years.

An important point Beth said the author brought out related to the “southern strategy” of Nixon, “which used thinly-veiled appeals to racists to attract white votes. Law and order became an intrinsic part of political campaigns starting in 1968. Black and whites were pitted against each other.” Reagan declared the “War on Drugs” in 1982 amid a crack cocaine epidemic and budgets of federal law enforcement skyrocketed. Alexander stated that during Clinton’s term, the “three strikes” federal law contributed to the racial undercaste with people having to move out of federal housing and into homelessness.

Alexander stated that her book would be met with skepticism or something worse, but she wants there to be a conversation about the problem of the criminal justice system becoming a “system of racial if not social control” and enabling a *New Jim Crow* to operate in our society. Alexander states it is a human issue we must address—not just a Black or White issue.

Beth effectively presented the historical and sociological perspectives of the author and some of this information seems to offer insight into some of the current social divisions in the US in 2019.

We invite you to join the lively and informative programs that take place in committee members’ homes.  
**See the Calendar at the end of this newsletter for our February IR/FG meetings.**



## Welcome New Members!

Kathryn Dillon  
2009 Jefferson Ct  
Charlottesville, 22911  
[kbdcville3@gmail.com](mailto:kbdcville3@gmail.com)  
434 466-3618

Debby Garth  
625 Ivy Farm Drive  
Charlottesville, 22901  
[debby@oakshadefarm.com](mailto:debby@oakshadefarm.com)  
434 295-0584

Judy Freeman  
1144 Hearthglow Court  
Charlottesville  
[JFreeman1144@Centurylink.com](mailto:JFreeman1144@Centurylink.com)  
434 466-1827

Bea Kirtley  
1137 Club Drive  
Keswick, VA 22947  
[bea.lapisto@yahoo.com](mailto:bea.lapisto@yahoo.com)  
434 296-1370  
626 358-5382

Returning Member:  
Anne Taylor  
250 Pantops Mtn Rd #5407  
Charlottesville, VA 22911  
[AnneTay32@gmail.com](mailto:AnneTay32@gmail.com)  
434 972-2510

Here's another file oldie:  
the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was  
passed by Congress in  
1919, and ratified on  
August 18, 1920—so it's  
about to be 100 years old!

From LWV CVA Vice President Rosalie Simari, who writes, "I was sitting in my office among piles of files that I am trying to 'clean up' and I came across the poem I am attaching to this email. It is from the Minnesota LWV Voter - many years ago! Thought y'all might relate. Enjoy!"

### **"Why Don't I Just Quit?"**

It seems to be that every year  
I'm busier than before...  
I'm tempted to resign from League  
Instead I take on more?  
"Now why is that?" I ask myself,  
(For surely there's a reason)  
"I'll have more time," I tell myself  
Right after the rush season.  
Besides Leaguers are my good  
friends...  
I couldn't let them down."  
I think the answer lies somewhere  
Deep within myself.  
I want to see my talents used,  
Not rusted on the shelf.  
I want America to be  
A better place to live.  
Just talking won't improve it...  
We also have to give.  
I want to find myself among  
The workers, not the floaters...  
And that is why I am neck deep in the  
League of Women Voters!





League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area  
PO Box 2786  
Charlottesville, VA 22902

**LWV CVA**

**President**

Pat Cochran

**Newsletter Editor**

Michele Kellermann

**Meetings and Events for February 2019:  
Mark Your Calendars Now!**

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Wed., Jan. 30, 8:30 am to 9:30 am	Women's Legislative Round Table (WLRT)	<a href="#">SunTrust</a> Center, 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA	Further information available at <a href="https://lwv-va.org/womens-legislative-round-table/">https://lwv-va.org/womens- legislative-round-table/</a>
<b>Wed., Feb. 6,</b> WLRT at 8:30 – 9:30 am	<b>LWV-VA League Day!</b> <b>Reservations for luncheon must be made by Feb. 1st</b>	<a href="#">SunTrust</a> Center, 919 E Main St, Richmond (Tilghman Rm, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor)	Further information available at <a href="https://lwv-va.org/womens-legislative-round-table/">https://lwv-va.org/womens- legislative-round-table/</a>
<b>Sun., Feb. 10, 2 – 3:30 pm</b>	<b>Sunday Seminar: "What's the Use of Planning?"</b>	<b>CitySpace, Downtown Mall, Charlottesville</b>	<b>For further information, contact Sally Thomas, 434- 295-1819</b>
Wed., Feb. 13, 8:30 am to 9:30 am	Women's Legislative Round Table (WLRT)	<a href="#">SunTrust</a> Center, 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA	Further information available at <a href="https://lwv-va.org/womens-legislative-round-table/">https://lwv-va.org/womens- legislative-round-table/</a>
Wed., Feb. 13, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Molly O'Brien, 250 West Main St., #602, 245-9806	For further information, contact Elaine Longerbeam, 540-832- 7296
Wed., Feb. 13, 1:30 – 3:30 pm	LWV CVA Board of Directors Meeting	Westminster-Canterbury, Pantops	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, <a href="mailto:patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com">patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tues., Feb. 19, 11:30 am to 1:30pm</b>	<b>LWV CVA Program Planning: Local and State Positions</b>	<b>Center for Non-Profit Excellence, 1701-A Allied St. – See map on page 5</b>	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, <a href="mailto:patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com">patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com</a>
Wed., Feb. 20, 8:30 am to 9:30 am	Women's Legislative Round Table (WLRT)	<a href="#">SunTrust</a> Center, 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA	Further information available at <a href="https://lwv-va.org/womens-legislative-round-table/">https://lwv-va.org/womens- legislative-round-table/</a>
Wed, Feb. 20, 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., Feb. 27, 8:30 am to 9:30 am	Women's Legislative Round Table (WLRT)	<a href="#">SunTrust</a> Center, 919 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, USA	Further information available at <a href="https://lwv-va.org/womens-legislative-round-table/">https://lwv-va.org/womens- legislative-round-table/</a>
Wed, Feb. 27, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Lois Sandy, 1666 Franklin Dr., 296-8737	For further information, contact Elaine Longerbeam, 540-832- 7296