

2019 LWV CVA Annual Meeting
League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area
Held Thursday, May 9, 2019
The Greencroft Club, Charlottesville



LWV CVA President Pat Cochran (center) with outgoing Vice-President Rosalie Simari (right) and NOW President and LWV CVA member, Charlotte Gibson (left)



Speaker Deanna Reed, Mayor, City of Harrisonburg, inspired us to get involved in running for government office!



Members gather in The Greencroft Club dining room for the "Meet and Greet" social before the Annual Meeting.



2018 LWV CVA Annual Business Meeting *Actions*

Voted upon and accepted by the members present:

- Operating budget for fiscal year, July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020
- Local Program for 2019-2020
- Update of Local Program on Child Care:

An investigation of the care and protection of children in child care locally to include:

1. Are standards for daycare licensing thorough enough?
2. Is enforcement of daycare licensing adequate?
3. Is training and education of daycare workers adequate?
4. When CPS (Child Protective Services) investigates an incident at a daycare, should families of the children involved in the investigation be given information regarding the investigation?

- Updates and revisions to LWV CVA By-Laws: Increase in Member dues to
Individual - \$65/year
Family - \$90/year
Student – No fee to any student who is at least half-time
- Slate of New Officers, Directors, and Committee Members:

Officers: (2 years) 2019 – 2021

Vice-President: Carol Cutler

Treasurer: Anne Claar

Elected Directors: (2 years) 2019-2021

Voter Service: Sue Lewis

Community Engagement: Gerry Kruger

Nominating Committee: (1 year) 2018-2019

Chair: Dena Imlay

Member: Donna Price

Mary Stamps White Committee (3 years) 2018-2021

Member: Rosalie Simari

President's Message - Dear Fellow League members,

This month is disappearing in a flash! We had our Annual Meeting/ Luncheon at The Greencroft Club on May 9th. Mayor Deanna Reed's rousing opening speech brought a smile to us all. Her encouragement for all of us to run for a government post was inspiring. I don't think she will stop at being the Mayor of Harrisonburg. I think we'll be seeing more of her.

It was particularly gratifying for me to see so many members at one gathering. I thank all who attended for their votes on our proposed slate of new officers and proposed program updates and our proposed budget. It made my heart sing to be able to publicly thank our league's officers for their hard work and gracious support this past year. What a group of amazing women. I hope we can consider having our annual meeting in the evening next year so that our members who work full time can join us in celebrating our year's accomplishments. Our new board will be meeting to create next year's schedule of events/seminars/meetings and aspirations in early June. I invite any and all of you to send me a note (email: patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com) of any ideas you would like us to consider.

May also saw the LWV-VA Biennial Convention in Norfolk VA on May 17. We had six delegates attend this year. The speakers were ALL terrific. The variety of topics and choices of "break out" sessions were organizational feats of excellence. Topics included rising sea level implications, election security and Integrity, Redistricting Reform, Innovation and Infrastructure, Sexual Harassment Issues, Centennial Brainstorming, and Recommended Program. Election of new officers and program adoptions and budget adoptions and resolution Committee adoptions all took place in an orderly fashion.

A VERY SPECIAL tribute to our outgoing state president, Sue Lewis, a League LIFE Member, precipitated a standing ovation. I am so very pleased that she will continue her League presence with us, here in the Charlottesville Area, by agreeing to be our new Voter Services Director/Chairman. Her experience and keen mind will benefit us all.

By the way, one of the speakers in Norfolk was the director of the new Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. If you get a chance to go I know you will not be disappointed. It sounds wonderful and "different".

Summer is almost here, with the end of summer candidate campaigning, summer events with voter registration" tableing", and happy family gatherings and vacations. I will be sending out info regarding voter registration opportunities. I am looking for someone who is interested in taking an active role in the high school voter registration process. We have very good materials and instruction kits imparting ways to accomplish this. I imagine the actual voter registration of high school students won't really occur until next spring. But having the time to contemplate and plan and make connections will help make it happen. Perhaps two or three of you can do it together?!

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President's Message -

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Keep in mind the expansion of our Childcare Committee with Beth Kariel (bethkariel9@gmail.com). Drop Beth a line. Think about our new Justice Reform Committee looking at women's issues with Kit Murphy McNally (murphymcnally@gmail.com)-- check out the planned Tuesday meetings in the newsletter.

I'm looking for someone to spearhead the upcoming 100 Year Anniversary of the *League of Women Voters* celebration, here in Charlottesville. I've already petitioned for the library exhibit time. Poets? Theater? Picture exhibit? It can be big or small. Think about it! Some of our members are sitting on a wealth of historical information. Let's share it!

Pat Cochran

LWV CVA President, email: patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com

Upcoming June 11 Primaries, November 2019 Elections

Charlottesville Tomorrow has prepared a "Voters Guide" for voters in the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County that can be accessed by going online to: <https://www.cvilletomorrow.org/2019-voter-guide>. This includes races in the **June 11 Primaries**: Virginia House of Delegates: 25th District, 57th District, 58th District, and 59th District; as well as Charlottesville City Council. For profiles of City Council Candidates: https://www.cvilletomorrow.org/2019-voter-guide/charlottesville-city-council/?mc_cid=2e3cb33eae&mc_eid=c737736553

The *Charlottesville Tomorrow* "Voters Guide" for Charlottesville and Albemarle County will be continuously updated as data becomes available right up to the November 5 election day.

Are You Registered to Vote? You can check your voter registration status and polling place at the Department of Elections website, www.elections.virginia.gov (or call 804 864-8901 or 800 552-9745, 8 am to 5 pm weekdays.) **Deadline to update your address or register to vote for the November election is October 14, 2019.** Or click on [City of Charlottesville](#) or [Albemarle County](#), [Fluvanna County](#), [Greene County](#), [Louisa County](#), or [Nelson County](#) for information about voter registration, absentee voting, and elections in your area. Phone Numbers for area registrars:

- **City of Charlottesville**— 434 970 3250
- **Albemarle County** – 434 972 4173
- **Fluvanna County** – 434 589 3593
- **Greene County** – 434 985 5213
- **Louisa County** – 540 967 3427
- **Nelson County** – 434 263 4068

International Relations /Federal Government Committee News

By Gerry Kruger

On May 8 the **International Relations/Federal Government Committee** met in the home of **Kit Murphy McNally** where we heard and enthusiastically discussed **Kit's report on the Federalist Society as well as Lois Sandy's presentation on Ruth Bader Ginsburg.**

An article by David Montgomery called "Conquerors of the Court" was the source of Kit's report. The Federalist Society was founded in 1982 by a group of conservative law students who felt strongly that it should allow for the vital exchange of ideas and not endorse one particulate party or candidate. They believed the Constitution should be interpreted exactly as the framers intended. In 1986 the Society brought together conservatives and libertarians and melded their philosophies, yet they still represent a minority of law students today. The **Federalist Society** has been influential in the Trump administration, hand-selecting Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh and recruiting a slate of conservative judges to fill vacancies throughout the federal judiciary. Now liberals have begun to use some of their tactics to promote a progressive agenda.

Lois's report sparked a lively discussion of women's rights and their evolution during the past eight decades, and the hard work and fervor that led to Ruth Bader Ginsburg's success in defending them. Lois emphasized the symbiotic relationship that Ruth and her husband enjoyed, which was an important factor in their combined accomplishments. The members also discussed the problems of incapacity with an aging Supreme Court and alternatives to lifetime appointments.

The IR/FG Committee welcomes all! Check the Calendar on the back page of this newsletter for June meeting.

Justice Reform Examines Prosecutorial Discretion

How prosecutorial discretion affects women in conflict with the law in Charlottesville/Albemarle and surrounding counties is now a central focus of the *LWV CVA Justice Reform Committee*. Committee members are meeting with commonwealth attorneys while learning about programs available to women as an alternative to incarceration and as re-entry supportive services. At the May meeting, Dorothy Tompkins, MD, founder of Georgia's *Healing House*, discussed this relatively new option for women who have been involved with the justice system and are recovering from addiction. While learning firsthand about programs and services that benefit at-risk women in the local area, the Committee is considering what legislation, alternative practices or restorative programs elsewhere could potentially become local options to divert more women from prosecution or incarceration. **The committee meets the last Tuesday of every month from 11:30 am -1:00 pm at the Center for Nonprofit Excellence. Contact Kit Murphy McNally for more information: murphymcnally@gmail.com**

Are you interested in climate change?

Albemarle County Board of Supervisors has put **Climate Change Action** at the top of their list of special topics of concern, for this year. **On Mondays, specific topics are discussed with the public.** Climate deniers already know about the series and are in attendance. You'll learn a lot and you may be able to counter-balance others' opinions. **Below is a link to Climate Monday events. June 3 is the next one, and relates to solid waste.**

https://www.albemarle.org/upload/images/Forms_Center/Departments/Climate_Action/Forms/Climate%20Mondays%204-29.pdf



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Meetings and Events for June 2019:
Mark Your Calendars Now!

“Wear Orange” Weekend, June 7 - 9

June 7, National Gun Violence Prevention Day, marks the beginning of “Wear Orange” Weekend. Wear Orange is a movement in support of gun violence prevention started in 2015 when Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old girl who performed at former President Barack Obama's second inaugural parade in 2013, was shot and killed in Chicago a week later. Her friends wanted to honor her legacy during her birth month of June by wearing orange and speaking up against gun violence in America. Orange is the color hunters wear to protect themselves in the woods.

Show your support in honoring the 100 Americans shot and killed every day and the hundreds more wounded. Wear orange June 7th through the 9th.

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Tues., June 4. 10 am to 2 pm	LWV CVA Board of Directors Annual Retreat – BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH!	Westminster-Canterbury, Pantops	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, 326-7873
Wed., June 12, 9:30 am	LWV CVA International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Lois Sandy, 1666 Franklin Drive, 296-8737	For further information, contact Elaine Longerbeam, 540-832- 7296
Tues., June 25, 11:30 am to 1 pm	LWV CVA Justice Reform Committee	Center for Non-Profit Excellence, 1701-A Allied St., Charlottesville	For further information, contact Kit Murphy McNally, 414-405- 3302
Thurs., June 27, 2:30 – 4 pm	LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meeting: Developing a list of NR-related topics we'd like local gov't candidates to address in upcoming candidate forums	University Village (small committee room) at 500 Crestwood Dr., Charlottesville	For further information, contact Sally Thomas, 434-295-1819