

“This Is Your League” Celebrating 100 Years!

Sunday, September 22, 2019

**2 to 4 pm at CitySpace on the
Downtown Mall**

**Doors open at 2 pm for “Meet and Greet”
Program begins at 2:30 pm**



Look for the LWV CVA “Democracy” banner on Market Street in front of Central Library in the weeks before the 2019 Election Day on Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

Everyone is welcome to a gathering of Leaguers to kick off the new League Year! With the upcoming November 5 elections, the League will have its plate full both in its advocacy role as well as voter education. Come and learn what the League does to further our non-partisan political activism and learn the rules of the game for League members and **how you can participate**. Hear from the chairs of our very active committees, including Voter Service, Justice Reform, Child Care, Natural Resources and Environmental Concerns, Firearms Safety, and International Relations/Federal Government. And this is a special celebratory year to get involved: the 100th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters.

Plan to spend a few delightful hours with the Leaguers on **Sunday, September 22--doors open at 2 pm at City Space** on the Downtown Mall—see below for Entrance Directions to CitySpace and ADA accessibility. Refreshments served!

Parking/Entrance to CitySpace for “This Is Your League!” on Sunday, September 22, 2 pm.

Entrance Directions to CitySpace, 100 5th Street NE, Charlottesville Downtown Mall

CitySpace is a city-owned meeting space on the Downtown Mall near City Hall and the Post Office towards the Pavilion end of the Mall. It is located adjacent to the Market Street Parking Garage. Take the elevator down from the parking garage to Floor 1, turn left and go up 2 short flights of stairs. At the top of the second flight, go straight along the railing to #100. Enter through the double glass exterior doors which are on a diagonal glass wall. Walk to the rear of the space to the meeting room. (ADA accessibility: Take elevator to floor “G” and use ramp to the Mall, take a right on 5th St., then the CitySpace ramp.)

President's Message - Dear Fellow League members,

For many of us, the League of Women Voters affords us a venue for expressing our civic consciousness via community service. The LWV participates in our community on many levels, including the promotion of an informed citizenry in the political process of our Democracy. For some of us, the League provides a way of meeting people outside of work and family. For some of us, it is a positive outlet for political frustration in our democratic process. Our local League is made up of interesting individuals. The variety of individual strengths, talents, and interests is broad and inspiring and welcomed. The point is that we recognize that the idea of "participation" in the league is as varied as our members.

I urge all of our members to attend our September 22nd Sunday Seminar titled, "**This Is Your League.**" I invite you to explore ways of participating in the *League of Women Voters* that you will find rewarding for you.

Bring a friend! We look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions for improvements in our approach to addressing Ways to a Better Democracy.

Until next time,

Pat Cochran

LWV CVA President, email: patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com



Check us out on our
Facebook page at
lwv-cva.org!

Welcome New Members:

[Please add to the "Member Roster" in your 2019-20 Handbook]

Clover Carroll
P.O. Box 276
Crozet, VA 22932
434-823-2296
clover55@comcast.net

Kathy Rouse
1472 Gate Post Lane
Charlottesville VA 22901
828-575-6955
kabbyrouse@gmail.com



LWV-VA Grow Your Skills: A Toolkit for Local Leagues 2019

Leadership Training Workshop

Hilton Garden Inn, 1060 Hospitality Lane, Fredericksburg, Virginia

Saturday, September 14, 2019, 8:50 am – 4:30 pm

Register at: <https://lww-va.org/2019-lww-va-workshops/>

For additional information email Joan Porte events@lww-va.org

LWV CVA members: Are you interested in attending? LWV CVA has monies available to pay for your registration. Call President Pat Cochran, 434-326-7873.

Agenda

General Session 9:00 am – 12:00 Noon

9:00 – 10:00 - GOTV-VOTE411: The New 411.org Page - Alicia Gurrieri, LWVUS

10:00-11:00 - The Census: How Can Your League Help the Count? Ronald Brown, U.S. Census Bureau

11:00-12:00 RedistrictingLWVUS/LWVVAAWorking

Working Lunch 10:00 Noon – 1:30 pm

Lunch 12:00 Noon – Luncheon – “Affordable Housing in Virginia” – Erica Sims, Virginia Housing

1:30 – 2:30 - Legislative Visibility and Advocacy Skills: Carolyn Caywood, LWVSHR,

- Managing Local League Legislative Agenda
- Lobbying vs Advocacy Action - Julia Tanner, Carol Noggle
- Legislative Priorities - Mary Crutchfield, LWV-VA

Breakout Sessions 2:45pm – 4:30 pm

Session I: The “Wheelology Game” - Janet Gorn, LWV-VA

- What are League Position Priorities?
- Review of 2019-2021 Issue Studies: Alice Tousignant, LWVRMA; Jane Newell, LWVRMA
 - Affordable Housing
 - Elections

Session II: Looking for Google Docs and Forms: Training Demonstration - Leelynn Brady, LWVSHR

Session III: The Art of Fund Raising- Celeste Land, LWVFA

Session IV: Conducting a Successful Board Meeting: Agenda Planning, Parliamentary Procedure -

Martha Rollins, LWV-VA

Election Day is November 5! Are You Registered to Vote?

Or have you recently changed your address or need to update an existing registration? The **deadline to register is Tuesday, October 15**. Voters may check their registration status and polling locations at the Virginia Department of Elections website: elections.virginia.gov. The **deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail is Tuesday, October 29—your request must be received by your Registrar by 5 pm; the deadline to request an absentee ballot in-person is Saturday, November 2**. Voting locations can be checked on the state elections website or by calling (434) 972-4173. **For all area registrar office phone numbers**, go to our website, lww-cva.org and click on “Voter Service” in the pull-down menu under “Explore the League.” OR, if you are a League member, go to the inside cover of our recently mailed *2019-2020 LWW CVA Handbook*.

VOTER SERVICES OPPORTUNITIES by Sue Lewis, LWW CVA Voter Services Director

As we gear up for the 2019 fall election cycle here in Virginia, there are many opportunities for members to participate. As your new Voter Services Director, I really need help in doing this job properly!

First off, I would like to convene a Voter Services Committee that will plan out activities for this fall. Please contact me if you would like to be on it. I’m available most days (after 10 am, please) and evenings – when I hear from enough of you, I’ll schedule a meeting at your conveniences.

Here are activities that we need to be looking at: VOTE411 contacts with candidates, potential candidate forums, registration activities, and get-out-the-vote approaches.

Even if you don’t want to be on the Voter Services Committee, let me know if you’d like to participate in any of these activities – we’ll need many hands and feet this fall! Contact Sue Lewis, swlcville@gmail.com or phone: 434-295-1485.

National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 24!

Our League has been invited by the Staunton Public Library to have a voter registration event there, tentatively set from 12 noon to 6 pm. Check out our Facebook page on our website, lww-cva.org, for more information.



News and Posts from our [lwv-cva.org](https://www.lwv-cva.org) Facebook page!

LWV CVA President **Pat Cochran** (at right) and Social Media Director **Megan Tracy** (at left) host a League table at a recent event at Charlottesville's IX Park. See below for information about the "She Is Me" Campaign.



League of Women Voters (<https://www.lwv.org/sheisme>) Launches "She Is Me" Campaign

Explore diverse stories of women who have shaped past and present progress for voting rights and join us in this movement as we approach our 100 years of fighting for democracy. **You can participate in the "She Is Me" campaign** (League of Women Voters website link: <https://www.lwv.org/sheisme>) by sending our LWV CVA Social Media Director, Megan Tracy, **pictures of LWV CVA members IN ACTION**. Public activities (at the ERA or gun safety rallies in Richmond) work very well. Or images where you can ask the people in them if we can use them! If you've sent something to Megan in the past and it was put on our social media accounts, just remind her of it if you think it would be a good image to use. Megan's email is: kiskamet@gmail.com



LWV CVA Leaguers attend the Gun Safety Rally in Richmond on Tuesday, July 9 to advocate for common-sense gun safety measures. Lawmakers voted to adjourn the special session on guns called by Governor Ralph Northam without debating any legislation. Instead of holding hearings on the bills, House and Senate leaders sent them to be studied by the Virginia State Crime Commission.



Reviewing and Updating the LWV-VA Election Position: Join the Study Group

Dear LWV CVA Members, President Pat Cochran received the following letter from our sister Virginia Leagues concerning the current "Election Position" in the State Program:

Dear Pat,

At the LWV-VA Convention in May, the delegates resolved to review and update the state League's election position, based on requests from the local Leagues in Arlington/Alexandria, Fairfax Area, Falls Church, and Richmond Metropolitan Area. As representatives of each of those four local Leagues, we invite members of your League to join the study group that will review the current Election Position and prepare the update for approval by the State League.

The topics identified in the resolution passed in May are, in brief: (1) election processes, laws and regulations; (2) support for election security, including physical security; (3) electronic voting; (4) opposition to photo ID at polls; (5) ranked choice voting; and (6) voter suppression. During its meeting on August 14, the State Board approved the attached Project Scope Definition, which we had drafted.

Given the urgency of addressing the first three topics prior to the general election in 2020, the Board agreed to give them priority. The group should aim to complete its work on these topics by March 2020, in time for consideration by the LWV-VA Council next June. The other three topics may be reserved for completion by March 2021, in time for the LWV-VA Convention that June. Based on the makeup of the study group and the interests, expertise, and experience of its members, the group may further refine the scope of the project and the timeline.

It is important to have input from across the Commonwealth, particularly as each locality has its own election processes and concerns. We ask that you solicit participants from your League membership. Please have anyone who is interested and willing to dedicate time to this important study contact us. We hope that all local Leagues will participate.

In addition, if your League is planning any event that might be instructive or of interest to members of the study group, please let us know so that we can share that information and help promote your event.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Best regards,

Lisa Koteen Gerchick, LWV-ARL
Sidney Johnson, LWV-FFA
Allison Brown, LWV-FC
Jane Newell, LWV-RMA
LWV-VA Election Position Project Coordinators

Please email Pat Cochran, patcochranlwvcva@gmail.com, if you are interested in participating in the State Election Process Study Group.

International Relations /Federal Government Committee News

By Gerry Kruger, IR/FG Committee Recorder

Bobbie Williams's shady home was a welcome reprieve from the heat for the International Relations/Federal Government Committee on July 10, 2019. **Marge Cox** delivered some distressing statistics in her report on elder care around the world.

The elderly population is increasing faster than the younger ones who could help support and care for them. Marge shared the percentages of populations that are over 65 in several countries. Japan has the largest percentage -- 27%. It's predicted that by 2050 Japan's over-65 population will be 36%. The U.S. over-65 population is 16%, and is expected to be 22% in 2050.

Europe has the oldest population, and due to Aids, Malaria, and food shortages, Africa has the youngest. Age 68 is the global life expectancy. As the population ages, health problems and the cost of health care will be driven up. Unpaid care (the elderly being taken care of at home by family or friends) is presently the major source of elder care.

Globally pension coverage varies widely. One-third of China's population has pension coverage while one-tenth of India's enjoys this benefit.

Marge compared and contrasted elder care in Vietnam and China. In Vietnam the median age is 26. The Communist government trying to enforce the one-child policy has been most problematic throughout the Vietnam's countryside. 40% of the population works until they're 75 doing hard farm work. As a result they are less productive, and output declines.

Elder care facilities in China use the Japanese model. The clients are urged to be active and engaged. The Chinese and Japanese have even discussed collaborating in their efforts to handle dementia victims.

In the U.S. elder care is a growing problem that is becoming more expensive as people are living longer and very few are financially able to pay for long term care. The Great Recession of 2007-2009 had the greatest effect on the middle class in the U.S. People who were doing well before this, saw their savings diminish so many won't be able to afford elder care.

The IR/FG Committee invites you to join us in September when our meetings resume once again. See the Calendar on the last page of this newsletter for dates, times, and places. For further information about this committee, contact Marge Cox, margevfcx@gmail.com

LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Report – August Meeting

By Muriel Grim, LWV CVA Natural Resources Director

At the August 22, 2019 meeting the Natural Resources Committee worked on several items related to League business.

In order to formulate a question for the LWV-VA sponsored candidates' forum we discussed state-wide natural resources issues. Lack of sufficient funding and federal funding reductions have contributed to reductions in Department of Environmental Quality staffing. The agency is expected to monitor adherence to regulations, keep up with environment related conditions and studies, continue the clean-up of Chesapeake Bay, and respond to climate change. Its work constantly expands even as funds and staff are reduced. Water has been a primary interest of our committee. Care must be taken to make sure regulations are sufficient to keep the water supply safe. Problems are beginning to arise because groundwater withdrawals in places are exceeding the ability of nature to resupply the aquifers. In addition, land use and important tree cover as well as the construction of large pipelines must be carefully planned and approved. Energy decisions in Virginia are constrained by Dominion Energy's non-competitive status. The first draft of a potential question for candidates is: What changes, if any, would you like to see in DEQ funding, in limitation of groundwater withdrawals, in regulations on tree cover in new developments, and in Dominion Energy's non-competitive status? We will discuss and refine this question further via email.

Our second topic was updating the LWV-CVA Natural Resources Committee Program. We considered adding climate change, sustainability, and the land's ecological carrying capacity. We will work on the specific wording of policy updates at our September meeting.

We discussed the primary tasks of the Natural Resources Committee which are education and advocacy. This led to discussion of the value of the League's Observer Corps and the importance of citizen presence at government meetings and judicial proceedings. Observation benefits the observers by providing exposure to information that might not be obtained by watching videos or reading reports and sometimes provides the opportunity to comment. It often improves the tenor and focus of the meeting or proceeding.

Our current interest is climate change. We have been and will continue to carefully monitor the progress of Albemarle County's Climate Action Plan and advocate if and when needed.

The next meeting of the LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee is Thursday, September 26, at 1:30 pm at University Village (small conference room), 500 Crestwood Drive. For further information about this committee, contact Muriel Grim, msggrim2012@gmail.com

Justice Reform Committee Builds Case for Alternatives

By Kit Murphy McNally, chair, LWV CVA Justice Reform Committee

Looking deeply into why women in Virginia go to jail and prison and what alternatives exist . . . or might, the LWV Justice Reform Committee meets with those whose actions impact the fate of women in conflict with the law, those who analyze the data and those who are providing safe, effective alternatives.

Prior to the November elections, committee members are meeting with the current and prospective Commonwealth Attorneys for Albemarle County to learn their perspectives on the law and charging in regard to women.

As the next step in learning more about existing alternative to incarceration for women in the Charlottesville area, representatives of the committee are visiting Georgia's House, an alternative for women highly praised by Offender Aid and Restoration. The program was founded by committee member Dorothy Tompkins.

During a recent discussion, the issue of Magistrate came up and despite committee members' immersion in the workings of Virginia government, the position of Magistrate had gone unnoticed, yet the role is key in certain arrests and charging. There is one in each of 32 districts in Virginia. Committee members will be contacting the 15 Magistrates in District 16, which includes Albemarle to learn more about their work.

To become more involved in learning, discussion and action for justice reform in central Virginia, join the committee which meets monthly on the last Tuesday of the month. For more information contact Kit Murphy McNally, murphymcnally@gmail.com.

2019-2020 LWV CVA Member Handbooks have been mailed! Have you received yours?

The Handbook is an excellent guide to our upcoming year, containing Calendar of Events, listing of Board members and committee contacts, History and Principles of the League of Women Voters, Local Program "Actions" by our local League, along with the member roster. Please check that you are listed correctly in the Member Roster. [See the last page of this newsletter for Errata already noted and make the changes to your copy.]

If you have not yet paid your dues for the fiscal year, July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020, please remit!

Individual - \$65; Household - \$90. Make your check payable to LWV CVA and mail to: League of Women Voters, PO Box 2786, Charlottesville, VA 22902. Or go online to our website, lww-cva.org and follow the prompts on the home page to pay by credit card. Questions about your membership? Contact Membership co-chairs, Beth Alley at 434-996-8075 (beth.alley@gmail.com) or Rosalie Simari at 434-295-7325 (rosaliesimari@embarqmail.com)



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

LWV CVA
President
Pat Cochran

Newsletter Editor
Michele Kellermann

2019-20 LWV CVA Handbook ERRATA

Please correct on page 6,
Beth Kariel, Child Care, phone number should be: 434-964-6238

Email: bethkariel9@gmail.com

On page 31,

KRAUSS, Ron address should be:
54 Bunker Blvd., Palmyra, VA 22963

On page 33,

PARK, Sallie Kate address should be:
1921 Via Florence, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Email: wildwindsk8@gmail.com

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

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Wed., Sept. 11, 1:30 pm	LWV CVA Board Meeting	Westminster-Canterbury, Pantops	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, 434-326-7873
Wed., Sept 11, 9:30 am	LWV CVA International Relations/Foreign Gov't Meeting	Home of Dena Imlay, 2014 Meadowbrook Rd., 296- 6651	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5228
Tues., Sept. 24, Noon to 6 pm	National Voter Registration Day: Voter Registration at Staunton Public Library	Staunton Public Library, Churchville Ave and North Augusta Street	For further information, contact Pat Cochran, 434-326-7873
Tues., Sept. 24, 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
Wed., Sept. 25, 9:30 am	LWV CVA International Relations/Foreign Gov't Meeting	Home of Molly O'Brien, 250 West Main St., #602, 245- 9806	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5228
Thurs., Sept. 26, 1:30 -3 pm	LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meeting	University Village (small committee room), 500 Crestwood Dr.	For further information, contact Sally Thomas, 434-295-1819