



July 2022 "eVoter"

2022 LWVUS National Convention "Women Power Democracy" June 23 through June 26, Denver, Colorado

The biennial national gathering of *The League of Women Voters* was held June 23 through June 26, 2022, in Denver, Colorado. The Convention was offered as "in-person" or "virtual". Our LWV CVA was represented in person by Sue Lewis, and virtually by Meg Heubeck and Kerin Yates. Meg writes, *"Attending the LWV-US conference was eye-opening and inspiring. It was amazing to see the democratic process in action during plenary sessions. Many differing positions are considered and debated to make our group's work successful. I am inspired to continue the work of expanding democracy as League president."* Welcome, LWV CVA President Meg Heubeck!

For a recap of proposed LWV-US By-Laws changes, go to: <https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2022-2024-proposed-bylaws-amendments>

Stephanie Lowenhaupt, LWV CVA Health Care Committee chair, writes:

At the LWV National Convention held June 23-26, there was a vote to concur nationally on the New York State Health Care Position. Our local Health Care Committee is diligently working to apply the platform here locally focusing on *Quality, Equity and Affordability*. We have met with the leadership of *Move2Health* to learn more about their organization and how we as a League can collaborate in our role of advocacy and education. We are in the process of developing a plan and initiatives we can begin working on soon. Stay tuned for further developments. We would love to have additional members on our committee. If you would like more information or have questions, please email me at slowenhaupt@gmail.com

Note: Earlier in the month of June, the LWV-VA State League Council was a success! Beth Kariel emailed: "We heard from four committees about their ongoing studies and there were several informative guest speakers."

LWV CVA Holds Annual Board Retreat on June 15.

At the annual Board of Directors Retreat held at The Greencroft Club, we welcomed our newly elected Board members whose terms begin on July 1, 2022: President **Meg Heubeck**; Secretary **Carolyn Fitzpatrick**, Treasurer **Evette Barton**; Membership Director **Beth Kariel**; and Newsletter/Webmaster **Michele Kellermann**. They will join Vice-President **Carol Cutler**; Community Engagement Director **Lisa**

Hilgartner; and Voter Services Director **Susan Roberts**. Also on the 2022-23 Board representing active committees are **Muriel Grim** (Natural Resources); **Maggie Hoover** and **Beth Alley** (Gun Violence Prevention); **Stephanie Lowenhaupt** (Healthcare); **Kerin Yates** (Electoral Boards Observer Corps); **Rice Wagner** (International Relations/Federal Government); and **Beth Kariel** (Child Care).

Good new discussions arose at the meeting. Solid progress was made addressing and filling the many administrative tasks that President Pat Cochran assumed during her four-year tenure.

The idea of creating regional "units" within our League for in-person meetings was seriously entertained. We have active members and Board members in Augusta County, and Louisa County and Fluvanna County and Culpeper. Sue Lewis said we used to have units here! Anita Pilling described how they work in Colorado and Texas. They apparently went a long way in sealing the camaraderie of members and were a driving factor in increasing membership. It might also be a means of creating units that only meet remotely and or in the evening. meshing the unit paradigm with issue group paradigm will be challenging. It may be something that could be created at the getting to know the League September Sunday Seminar.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of a framed "Resolution" by the Board to outgoing President Pat Cochran recognizing the incredible work she performed during her tenure. Vice-President Carol Cutler made the presentation along with Kerin Yates who presented Pat with a gift certificate and small cactus plant from the Board. (Thanks, Maggie Hoover, for the photo.)



It's time to renew your League of Women Voters Membership!

Our membership year is based on the League's fiscal year, so your **DUES ARE DUE July 1, 2022.**

Member Annual Dues:

Individual Membership: \$65

Household Membership (two persons at the same address): \$90

Student Membership: Free to students who are at least 1/2 time

Life Members (persons who have been members for 50 years or more): No dues

Please note: If you became a member in the four months prior to the start of the fiscal year (i.e., March to July 1, 2022) you do not have to pay dues for the coming fiscal year. Life members and students have no dues.

Mail your check (payable to *League of Women Voters*) to:

League of Women Voters

P.O. Box 2786

Charlottesville, VA 22902

Or pay by credit card: Go to our website, lww-cva.org, open the dropdown menu "Explore the League" and click on "Join the League/Renew Your Membership."

Be sure to let us know of any changes to your email or mailing address and/or phone number, as we are preparing the 2022-23 Member Handbook for publication this summer. You can do this by email: lww@lww-cva.org. Or enclose the update with your check.

Thank you for being/becoming a member of the League of Women Voters!

Questions? Please email: lww@lww-cva.org

July 4 Naturalization Ceremony and Independence Day Celebration at Monticello

There's no better place to celebrate Independence Day than Monticello to mark the 246th anniversary of the adoption of the *Declaration of Independence* and welcome more than 50 new American citizens at the 60th annual Independence Day Celebration and Naturalization Ceremony with this year's keynote speaker: Piedmont Virginia Community College president Frank Friedman.

The *League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area* will host a table at the Partners' Tent at this event with free copies available of our children's coloring/activity book, ***That's Not Fair!*** by Gerry Kruger. The story introduces two nine-year-old girls from different backgrounds, who become friends on swings in a park. The mother and grandmother of Rochelle are members of the *League of Women Voters*. The mother of Christie wasn't allowed to vote in a prior election. Thanks to Rochelle's mom and grandmother, the girls discover how the suffragists long ago fought for voting to be fair and open to all people. Follow them as they learn about voting rights in this creative coloring /activity book. Available online at amazon.com for \$7.99.

LWV CVA Gun Violence Committee to meet on Thursday, July 14. Here's the invite from Beth Alley:

Dear GVP Members ***and all others interested***: Maggie (Hoover) and I are eager to get together with you all to share and discuss the many changes that have been coming about recently in respect of GVP.

Realizing that it is summer and vacation season we wanted to see if the majority of you would be available for a meeting on July 14 @ 2:15 at [210 Willow Brook Rd, Earlysville](#)? Please let us know if this would be a good time as soon as you can. We can try to meet outside if the weather allows if there are concerns about Covid or you can attend by calling us on your cell phones, if you prefer.

Jean brought up this week's Supreme Court cases at least 4+ years ago at an IR meeting and sadly here we are today. Carolyn and Diane went to hear David Cariens, author of "The America We All Want - Protecting Your Community From Gun Violence," We hope they will share what they learned with our group. Judy and Debby have remained vigilant reaching out to our community with educational materials and more. There is a whole lot we need to know about. There is a project at Jefferson Center to remove guns from our community that we should be aware of and intervention groups such as the Buck Squad that have reported actual cases of successful interventions.

We know from your emails while we were away that you all have many ideas and important information about this issue. We sincerely hope you will bring your input to the group so we can stay better informed and go forward with our advocacy.

Hope to see you July 14!

Best regards, Maggie and Beth

LWV CVA International Relations/Federal Government News By Gerry Kruger

On June 22, Anita Pilling hosted the International Relations/Federal Government meeting at her home in Louisa. Rather than have reports by various members of the committee, we had agreed to read David Toscano's book, ***Fighting Political Gridlock: How States Shape Our Nation and Our Lives***, and prepare to discuss it. Anita prepared a discussion guide to organize our discussion. We examined the first three chapters and will continue with the following chapters at our next meeting on **Wednesday, September 21 at**

10 am. We invite anyone interested to come even if you haven't read the book.

PLEASE NOTE: We need a host for the September meeting. **Please contact Rice Wagner if you would like to host: 386-527-5392, ricew123@aol.com**

LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee News

By Muriel Grim

During May and June a decision was made that the Natural Resources Committee's annual February Seminar will move to November! A new time is necessary because so many potential speakers have scheduling conflicts with the General Assembly sessions in February. We will try moving to the short quiet time a little after Election Day and a little before Thanksgiving.

Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan:

The on-line questionnaire for comments about the options for Growth Management policy was scheduled to close on June 24, however it was not posted until that day so it may still be open for citizen comments. Anyone who hasn't yet commented should check it out. The URL for the questionnaire is:

https://engage.albemarle.org/ac44-growth-management/survey_tools/growth-management-policy-options

The Natural Resources Committee is closely following the Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan updating process. We continue to advocate for a holistic view of the plan especially as it integrates climate action and equity. They should not be treated as attachments but should actually form the bases for every part of the plan, particularly economic growth. We also continue to remind Albemarle County citizens to pay attention to the process and their opportunities to participate. Information is posted at <https://engage.albemarle.org/ac44>

Also see our LWV CVA web page: <https://www.lwv-cva.org/positions-and-committees/natural-resources-committee/>

The LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee will not meet in July. The next meeting will be in August - TBA.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan 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. We are committed to applying the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of our operations and activities. We support governmental policies that apply these principles in addressing the social, environmental and economic problems in our communities. Visit our website: lwv-cva.org



President: Meg Heubeck

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster: Michele Kellermann

LWV CVA email for comments, questions? – lwv@lwv-cva.org