

April 2023 "eVoter"

News from LWV CVA Community Engagement Committee

By Lisa Hilgartner, LWV CVA Community Engagement Director

On **Thursday, April 13, from 9 to 12 noon**, LWV CVA will be at **Monticello's Founder's Day** as a "Community Partner" to the Jefferson Memorial Foundation at Monticello. We have a full slate of volunteers and we plan to pass on information about redistricting, VOTE411, and updated information on voting this year. If you're thinking of coming, please do because the event is truly moving. Since it's Thomas Jefferson's birthday there will be cake! Come and stop by the tent. We'd love to see you.

LWV CVA's "Facts for Voters" pamphlets for Greene, Louisa, Nelson, and Fluvanna counties are in the process of being updated and should be available after April 1.

If you want to become more involved in promoting the League, the LWV CVA Community Engagement Committee is for you. Please contact Lisa Hilgartner at lisamezzo@gmail.com or 434-466-9960.

The Future of Albemarle County - An Interactive Session

When: April 11 from 7 to 8:30 pm

Where: Online via Zoom

You may register here: <https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details>

The *League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area*, along with *Sierra Club Piedmont Group* and *Piedmont Environmental Council*, are co-sponsoring an "online interactive discussion" to solicit your feedback regarding the Comprehensive Plan for Albemarle County. The Comprehensive Plan is a guiding document for growth, development, and investment in the county. The plan is being updated because it is required by the state and it's a way to respond to the changing needs of our community.

An ongoing program, the Albemarle County 2044 Comprehensive Plan update (AC44), began in 2022. This event is part of the AC44 Phase 2 Comp Plan update. The AC44 process is a chance to enhance the quality of life for all members of the Albemarle County community, including residents, workers, and visitors, so that everyone may benefit. This event provides a platform for individuals to share their opinions, perspectives, and knowledge. Feedback from meeting attendees as to what they envision for the next 20 years will be sent to County

staff.

We hope you will join us. There will be a short video followed by breakout room sessions to seek your ideas and visions for the future. The Natural Resources Committee is taking the lead for the League on this event. Anyone willing to assist with hosting tasks such as facilitating in breakout groups, please contact Muriel Grim: msgrim2012@gmail.com

Attendance is limited. Please sign up to attend soon!

Mark your calendar to join us...

Saturday, April 15, 2-4 pm at the Northside Library
Hear a presentation on the Restudy of the LWV CVA Local Position on
Health and Family Life Education and Health Services
in Area Public Schools

- Learn about behavioral health issues facing youth and programs and services in local schools to address the students' needs and help them become emotionally healthy and strong as children, teens and adults
- Join the discussion of the proposed updated position to support the efforts of schools for effective programs and services

The report and consensus questions will be sent the week before the meeting. Be sure to keep an eye out for that special email. Questions, comments? Contact Carol Cutler, email: gertrude3@icloud.com

2023 LWV-VA Convention, June 2-4, 2023

From the LWV-VA website: <https://lwg-va.org/lwg-va-40th-biennial-convention/2023-lwg-va-convention/> Make plans to attend the 41st Biennial LWV-VA Convention in Williamsburg, June 2-4, 2023. In addition to the business meetings, we have great speakers and presentations lined up:

Saturday Welcome Speaker is Provost Peggy Agouris, Chief Academic Officer, William and Mary University. Brenda Andrews, President and Owner at New Journal and Guide Newspaper – Virginia's oldest Black weekly newspaper – is the Saturday lunch speaker.

Professor A.E. Dick Howard, the Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of International Law at the University of Virginia, is our Special Saturday Banquet Speaker. Prof. Howard rewrote the Virginia Constitution in 1971 to guarantee

Black voting rights and was a chief consultant to Governor Terry McAuliffe's efforts to restore rights to returning citizens. He is widely acknowledged as an expert in the fields of constitutional law, comparative constitutionalism, and the Supreme Court.

Sunday Opening Speaker Kimberley Hundley, Williamsburg James City County School Board

Saturday Afternoon Breakout Sessions Presented by:

The Affordable Housing Issue Group

The Voting and Elections Issue Group

Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Issue Group

LWV Arlington and Alexandria City – Oral Histories Program

Environment Issue Group

Domestic Violence Issue Group

The cost to attend the convention is \$150 per person which includes a morning break, lunch, an afternoon break and dinner as well as entry to all sessions.

Additional tickets to the dinner with Professor Howard will be available for \$55 if you would like to bring a guest.

A block of rooms is being held at the Embassy Suites, 3006 Mooretown Road, Williamsburg. Our rate is \$159 per night – double or single. The hotel provides free parking and free breakfast daily and is 1.4 miles from the William and Mary Sadler Center. Breakfast can be purchased in the Sadler cafeteria on Saturday and Sunday mornings, for \$7.50 per meal. Scholarships are available to help defray costs. Contact Debbie at Treasurer@lwv-va.org.

Prior to Convention, all attendees will be invited to virtual meetings to review the four studies and any proposed studies for the next biennium. There will also be a Budget Committee virtual meeting. This will afford attendees the ability to review and digest this essential information well before Convention begins.

LWV CVA members! Are you interested in attending? Our League will have 6 to 7 voting delegates! And there is money in our Operating Budget to support the registration fee. Click [here](#) to RSVP for the convention. Hotel reservations need to be made separately--make them now as they fill up quickly! The information is on the invitation. Let LWV CVA President Meg Heubeck know of your intention to attend. Email: mfh2n@virginia.edu

International Relations/Federal Government Meeting Report

By Gerry Kruger and Rice Wagner

The International Relations/Federal Government Committee met at Northside Library on March 16, 2023, with Chair Rice Wagner. Carol Cutler, Kathy Sudduth,

Jean Minehart, and Gerry Kruger attended.

We discussed meeting at the Northside Library for the next three months: April 20, May 25, and June 15. These meetings will continue to take place at noon. Members are invited to bring lunch if interested.

Carol Cutler's presentation focused on the "17 Sustainable UN Development Goals." The League has a long history of strongly supporting both the United Nations and the importance of nations working together to promote world peace, security, human rights, the environment, and the full participation of women in civil and political life. (*Impact on Issues, 2022-2024*)

Before our meeting Rice sent us an attachment with the 17 goals that the UN adopted on September 25, 2015. The 17 topics are:

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

Our group discussed the importance of population control, legislation, and raising awareness in accomplishing the goals. For example, our League's Gun Violence Prevention committee has worked to raise awareness in our community and state by participating in rallies, attending lobby day at the state capitol, and distributing copies of safe gun owner practices for businesses to display.

Many of our committees have prepared programs for community dialogues and seminars that tie into the UN's goals.

Impact on Issues states, "...before the UN was established, the League ...to help build understanding of the Dumbarton Oaks and Breton Woods agreements to

establish the UN, the World Bank, and the IMF, trained more than 5,000 speakers and distributed more than a million brochures during a six-month period.”

The League can do much today to raise awareness about the importance of working together toward these goals.

Some questions to consider:

Are students taught about the UN today?

What organization could take the place of the UN?

Who is our current representative to the UN? (Linda Thomas-Greenfield)

Are there any pending laws on the national level that support the UN goals?

Would there be a new definition of ‘gender equality’?

What is the UN currently doing?

What % of funding does the US now provide?

Are we as a capitalist society providing for the lowest socio-economic level?

What are the precise definitions of democracy and socialism?

How can we adapt the LWV national position to the local LWV?

Is the US willing to continue with a long-term commitment, both pre- and post-conflict (ex. Ukraine)?

We discussed the arrival of Liz Cheney to UVA. All seemed positive about her contribution, both in the past and the future. Meg will keep us informed on her public appearances. We look forward to seeing our LWV members at the next meeting—April 20 at noon in the Northside Library. We will continue discussing Impacts on Issues—League History, pp. 69 on. All are welcome! Please contact Rice Wagner if you have any questions. Email: ricew123@icloud.com

LWV CVA Annual Finance Drive Update

From Kerin Yates and Maggie Hoover, 2023 Finance Drive Committee

Members have contributed \$3005 to the Operating Fund and \$1555 to the Education Fund. Friends have contributed \$1510 to the Operating Fund and \$75 to the Education Fund. Total donations to date: \$6145. Thank you Everyone!

Following are the names of members and friends who have contributed since our March eVoter thank you list or who donated using credit card online on our website, lwv-cva.org.

MEMBERS:

Anne Geraty

Linda Hanson

Susan Seidler

Sonjia Smith
Laura & Jorgen Vik
Betty Scott
Anne Linden
Edith Good
Peppy Linden
Deborah Brooks
Diane Inman
Pat Cochran

FRIENDS:

Ellen Jackson
Samuel Fisher
Jeanne Erickson
Daniel Ehrman
Linda Staiger
Ann & George Loper
Lisa Conboy

For more information about the Fund Drive, contact chairs Kerin Yates, email: kerinyates@hotmail.com or Maggie Hoover, email: maggie.hoover@gmail.com

In Memoriam: George Thomas

1935 - 2023

Sadly, we share the announcement of the passing of George Thomas, longtime member of LWV CVA along with his wife, Sally. The summer that he and Sally were married, he joined the University of Virginia Department of Philosophy and started his 40-plus years of teaching and writing there. He often said that he could hardly believe he was getting paid to do what he so thoroughly enjoyed doing. He was a dedicated political spouse supporting his wife Sally's campaigns and lengthy career on the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors as well as faithfully attending LWV CVA member meetings. Our League extends sincere condolences to Sally.

LWV CVA Calendar of Events for April 2023 - Mark your Calendars!

"The Future of Albemarle County" - An Interactive Session by zoom on **Tues April 11, 7 - 8:30 pm.** You may register here: <https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details>

Founder's Day at Monticello - Community Partner Tent - Thursday, April 13, 9 - noon. For more information, contact Lisa Hilgartner, email:

lisamezzo@gmail.com

LWV CVA Local Study "Health and Family Life Education and Health Services in Area Public Schools" Update Meeting - In-person meeting on Saturday, April 15, 2 - 4 pm. Study will be sent to members one week prior to meeting. For more information, contact Carol Cutler, email: gertrude3@icloud.com

LWV CVA Board of Directors Meeting - In-person (and zoom) meeting at Northside Library on Wednesday, April 19, 3 - 5 pm. Agenda and Link forthcoming from President Meg Heubeck.

LWV CVA International Relations/Federal Gov't Meeting - In-person meetings on the third Thursday of the month at Northside Library at noon. April meeting: Thursday, April 20, noon. For more information, contact Rice Wagner, email: ricew123@icloud.com

LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meeting - Zoom meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 11 am. For more information, contact Linda Goodling, email: linniecg740@gmail.com

Coming in May - LWV CVA Annual Meeting - Arrangements are still being made!

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area
President: Meg Heubeck
eVoter Editor: Michele Kellermann
Visit our website: lwv-cva.org

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.

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

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