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Subject: LWV CVA 2024 July eVoter
Date: July 3, 2024 at 10:56 AM
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July 2024 "eVoter"

Membership Renewal Time

LWV-CVA's Fiscal Year began July 1st ,2024 and ends June 30th ,2025

**Your dues are the same as last year, \$65 per person,/\$90 for a household.
Life Membership and student membership are free.**

When you join the LWV-CVA you are automatically members of our VA state League and our US League. As a grass-roots organization LWV-CVA is your primary League.

Your dues keep us going. We are all volunteers , so your dues help us achieve our goal to Get Out The Vote! Your dues help our action committees research , gain knowledge, spread the word about our positions and press federal state and local legislators to make change to make us a stronger democracy. They also keep our eVoter and lwv-cva.org website up and operating.

You can pay your dues through our website [Click Here!](#) , PayPal and most credit cards are accepted.Or you can pay by check payable to LWV-CVA, P.O. Box 2786, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

Our Membership handbook goes to press in mid August. **The cut off date for your name to be included in the Membership Directory is August 15th.** Most members submit their dues in July or early August.

Don't be left out. Get your dues in now!

If you have moved, or your contact information needs updating contact Carolyn Fitzpatrick at cupojo_carolyn@icloud.com

A New Year! A New Board

Changes in the Board:

Lisa Hilgartner is **President** 2024-2026

Carol Cutler is **Secretary** 2024-2026

Carolyn Fitzpatrick is **Membership Chair** 2024-2026

Miriam Fleitman is **Director at Large** 2024-2025

Gwedette Crummie is **Director at Large** 2024-2026

Meg Heubeck is **Committee Chair for Gun Violence Prevention**

Sue Lewis is **Parliamentarian**

More information to come in our August Issue on our efforts to Get Out the Vote and future plans for more Community Dialogues, Get Togethers, and Events.



LWVUS Convention | Washington DC

Our local League was represented by Stephanie Lowenhaupt and Evette Barton in person. Lisa Hilgartner, Meg Heubeck, Kerin Yates and Elizabeth Franks participated virtually.

More information about the Convention and our next steps will be in our August eVoter.



Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello. July 4, 2024

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area has again been invited as a Non-Profit Organization partner with the Monticello Foundation to an "under the tent"

tabling event along with other NonProfit partners. We'll display information about our local league and provide information on voting.

This Year's Speaker is Misty Copeland, philanthropist and first African American ballerina to dance with the American Ballet Theater.

Come join us. The Root Beer Float was a Jefferson Specialty and is free to all guests.

The ceremony starts at 9am but gates open at 8:30. Ticket are required but they are FREE!

Committee News

Gun Violence Prevention

Just Ask

The LWV-CVA participated in the Charlottesville Gun Violence Coalition's Just Ask day on Saturday, June 22nd. Voter Services was there to assist with voting asks. The goal of the event is to inform the public about the importance of gun storage safely by reminding them to ask friends, neighbors, and their children's friends: Do you have a gun in the home?

Is it safely stored?

The League supports this work and provided voter registration information, gave away "That's Not Fair" coloring books and crayons, provided advice for folks looking to register, and promoted Vote411.org. The public had the opportunity to see a biometric gun safe, pick up a free gun lock, and get a temporary tattoo. We met people who have been affected by gun violence, local citizens concerned about recent shootings in the area, and met many young children who went home with information about voting and peace.

Healthy Streets, Healthy People

The Gun Violence Prevention Committee and Voter Services partnered to host a tent at the Healthy Streets, Healthy People Festival in Charlottesville on 29 June. Despite it being such a HOT day, we had a great turnout and lots of visitors at our tent! We successfully registered people to vote, shared information about gun violence prevention and the league in general, gave away gun locks, had temporary tattoos for kids, and raffled off a biometric gun safe to one lucky attendee! Many, many thanks to those who helped make this a success: Men Henbeck

Many thanks to those who helped make this a success: Meg Pearson, Bobbie Williams, Judy Freeman, June Heinz, and Kim and Sam Harris.



IR/FG NEWS by Gerry Kruger

On June 26, 2024 the International Relations/Federal Government Committee met at Northside Library. Present were **Chair Rice Wagner**, Anita Pilling, Miriam Fleitman, Diane Skalak, Susan Roberts, Lois Sandy, Carol Cutler, Vivian Weinshenker, Bobbie and Peyton Williams, and Gerry Kruger.

Anita Pilling arranged for several members of our committee to report on Project 2025, a 887-page policy agenda by the Heritage Foundation, a right-wing think tank. Because of their tax-exempt status, the Heritage Foundation cannot support any candidate. As a result, Trump's campaign organization adopted Project 2025's suggestions into what they are calling Project 47. According to Project 47 the next Republican president can fire and hire at will, even eliminate agencies at will. Under Project 47, the Department of Justice could be weaponized to get revenge on President Biden.

Schedule F Appointment existed briefly at the end of the Trump administration during 2020 to 2021. It removed civil service protections, making civil servants easy to fire, but was repealed at the beginning of the Biden administration. The provision increased the President's control over the federal career civil service. It was criticized as providing means to retaliate against federal officials for political reasons. Tens or hundreds of thousands of career employees could have lost their civil service protections. The Heritage foundation has prepared a personnel database that could be used to fill 20,000 potential Schedule F appointments with Trump loyalists in a future Republican administration.

Diane Skalak reported on the influence of Christian Nationalism on Project 25. In 1863 an amendment making the US a Christian nation was proposed but wasn't passed. Later, in the 1940's there was a movement for politics to influence policy regarding religion. In 1973 The Heritage Foundation, which seeks to preserve white Christian culture was formed. As did the Federalist Society, founded in 1982. Opponents question these policies which contradict the First Amendment regarding religious freedom.

Lois Sandy spoke about the loss of civil rights when it comes to women's health issues. Because the Supreme Court ruled that states can make their own laws concerning the legality of abortions and birth control, doctors and hospitals fear the consequences of performing abortions and assisting women and girls who need emergency care during pregnancy. Some antiabortion activists have called for a renewed application of the Comstock Act to prevent people from receiving mifepristone by mail.

Project 25 would also eliminate the Department of Education as well as affirmative action and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

Kathy Sudduth showed an excerpt from *The New Republic*, which stated that "only families—specifically one married mother, one father and their biological children— (would be) the basis for governmental policy." In other words, government programs would only be available to "acceptable" families under Project 47. LGBT rights and anti-discrimination laws would no longer exist.

Finally, **Carol Cutler** spoke about climate change related to Project 25. It claims oil and gas are not the problem. They are the "lifeblood of economic growth." America should use more natural gas even though the harmful effects of methane have been proven. It also reverses the 2009 acceptance of the harmful effects of carbon and supports withdrawal from the 2015 Paris agreement on climate change mitigation.

Linden House has offered space for us to meet at our next meeting

on **September 11**. Their address is 1250 Branchlands Drive, Charlottesville 22901. Join us as we continue our discussion of Project 2025 and Project 47. Topics include immigration and citizenship, foreign policy, Social Security, and Medicare.

SAVE THE DATE: An **African-American Heritage Festival** will take place at Moss Nuckols Elementary School in Louisa on August 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The theme is "Exploring the Arts."

Update your LWV-CVA Handbook!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

Leslie Williams. 434-326-8905

2538 Free Union Rd'

Charlottesville, VA 22901. leswill@hotmail.com

LWV CVA Calendar of Events for July 2024 -

Mark your Calendars!

July 4th Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello- LWV-CVA will have an information table "under the tent" 8:30 til noon.

July 13th Virtual Voter Registration 2-3 pm .See your July 1st LWVVA Newsletter for link to sign up. Deadline to sign up July 7

July 18th LWV CVA Board of Directors Meeting at Katie Angioletti's at 103 Tally Ho Drive, Charlottesville Va 22901 form 3-5.

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area

President: Lisa Hilgartner

eVoter Editor: Lisa Hilgartner

Visit our website: lww-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
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