



League in Action

3 January 2024

Presidents' Message

Happy New Year! This is a big year coming up! As we begin this challenging year together, let's hold on to committing ourselves to *simply the next step*. The *next* voter to register, the *next* public comment on Ranked Choice Voting, the *next* contact with an elected representative, the *next* idea to offer, the *next* opportunity to encourage our neighbors to vote...the next step *forward*. Bit by bit and step by step we will meet this coming year by focusing on the next task immediately before us. There will be a lot of noise and overwhelm around us this year; take breaks and rest when you need to and remember to keep your eyes on the next step.

There's a lot of information packed in this newsletter! Read on!

TWO IMPORTANT SAVE-THE-DATES!

(1) Sunday 4 February 1:30-4:00pm.

LWVAAC Annual Program Meeting and Day of Action at Walter Reed Community Center; 2909 16th Street S., Arlington. This is an important annual event and **all members** are encouraged to attend. The event will follow this format:

1:00 – 1:30pm Room set-up

1:30 – 2:00pm League Members only Annual Program Meeting.

2:00 – 4:00pm Open to the Public/Day of Action

4:00 – 4:30pm Room clean-up

The Annual Program Meeting is for reviewing existing national positions in advance of the 2024 LWVUS Convention. This also allows for LWVAAC to review our own current positions and recommend changes or updates. In advance of the 4 February Annual Program Meeting, please review the local positions and come prepared to submit changes/updates on 4 February (if you have any).

[LWVAAC \(Local\) Positions \(Current 2024\)](#)

More information will follow (via email) on guidance for members at the Annual Program Meeting. There are a few LWVUS items that will need to be accomplished as well.

Following the Annual Program Meeting, we will open to the public for a Day of Action 2024. This event will allow League members to engage with our subject matter volunteers/experts on issues important to the League AND also allow members of the public to learn what our League is doing. This will be a great time to see old friends and make new ones!

Both the LWVAAC Annual Program Meeting and Day of Action are two separate events even though they're occurring back-to-back. **Please sign-up for both events separately, here:**

[Annual Program Meeting \(League members only\): LWVAAC Annual Program Meeting \(2024\)](#)

[LWVAAC Day of Action: Day of Action \(2024\)](#)

We could use some volunteers to help with the Day of Action event. Please email me at pberg16@comcast.net if you're able to help out.

(2) Wednesday 7 February. LEAGUE DAY! Leagues throughout the Commonwealth gather in Richmond for our annual advocacy event. This is your opportunity to meet with your legislative representatives in Richmond along with your fellow League members. This event is in-person only; all travel and lodging is self-funded.

You have some options here: If you want to come down the night before (6 February) we have a special room rate and you can attend a reception starting at 6:00pm. You can come down early on Wednesday, 7 February, and attend the breakfast with speakers before heading off around 11:00am to engage with your representatives. All of the details are in the sign-up here:

[LWV-VA League Day Reception & Breakfast Tickets](#)

NOTE: If you're going and you've signed up and paid above, please fill-out this additional sign-up for LWVAAC members. We can better coordinate drivers/riders and hotel roommates.

[Arlington-Alexandria League Day Sign-Up](#)

This is an annual League event; if you've never been, give it a try! Questions? Email me at pberg16@comcast.net.

Volunteer Opportunities

\$15,000 Legacy Gift Committee: LWVAAC received a generous \$15,000 donation in 2023. After some delay, we are reconstituting the Legacy Gift Committee to develop a plan for using the gift in a manner consistent with the donor's request. Ann Sharp will be leading this effort. We invite the original members who are still interested in this effort and we are opening the invitation to all other LWVAAC members that are interested in participating in this important effort. Please email Pam Berg (pberg16@comcast.net) if you are interested in participating in this effort. Even if you participated in this effort previously, still send an email. **NOTE:** There will be a Zoom meeting on **Monday, 8 January at 7:00pm** – please reach out now if you're interested in being involved in this effort.

Winter 2024 High School Voter Registration Volunteering.

There are still plenty of volunteer opportunities to conduct lunchtime registration at all of the high schools and visit senior social studies classes at HB Woodlawn, Wakefield, W-L, and Yorktown. All the students we register will be eligible to vote in the March 5 Super Tuesday Presidential Primary.

Sign up for the classroom teacher(s) and time(s) you want and lunchtime voter registration (only sign up on rows with a teacher's name or "Lunch")

HERE: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AjpDJ9UPO4mizBMSgbcWYOkj565b0kh6fAvMcu0qcc/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have not done classroom voter registration before (or did it some time ago)

Sign up for high school voter registration training on Tuesday, January 9, at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, Quincy Room, from 6:30pm - 8:00pm

HERE: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ge8HzaWyqbPIVentgUPBGQ->

[p9fsr36N1VLZKzSjOPkE/edit?usp=sharing](https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/voter-registration-training/)

All volunteers should take the online Virginia Voter Registration Drive Training. Sign up here: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/voter-registration-training/>

Donald Gurney
Voter Services Chair
LWV of Arlington & Alexandria City
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We still need volunteers for the following functions (please email me at pberg16@comcast.net):

League in Action Newsletter (Arlington & Alexandria):

This is a key function in intra-league communication and interface with media outlets. This is also an opportunity to shape and influence how we communicate internally and externally. One or two people will be fully trained and, gradually, take over the newsletter. Roberta Jameson has done an outstanding job on our newsletter for that last five years. We'd like to get started training a new person now. (Estimate 10-12 hours monthly.)

LWV 2024 Convention: The national LWVUS Convention will be held in Washington D.C. in June 2024. We will likely be asked to support the Convention (i.e., provide people to do a number of tasks, such as being a greeter, signing people in, etc.,). Currently, we do not have Convention details; however, we do expect them in the future. (Estimate monthly time TBD.)

Social Media Person: As we start off 2024, we'd like to develop a consistent social media presence. This will help promote our LWVAAC events and engage with our community. We're looking to develop a social media engagement strategy

(to include content) for Facebook, Instagram, X (Twitter), and/or other platforms. We could really use some help with this. (Estimate monthly time TBD; can work with a variety of schedules.)

General Announcements

1. **2024 General Assembly Legislative Session**: 2024 Virginia legislative session gavels in **Wednesday, 10 January**. You'll want to keep these websites handy:

[Legislative Information System \(LIS\)](#) Use this site to follow legislation through both houses.

[Virginia General Assembly](#) Use this site for a more comprehensive portal to the legislature.

2. LWVAAC Business Cards: We now have business cards for LWVAAC. There are no names on the cards so everyone can use them. If you would like 5-20 cards please write to Connie Potter. Note how many you would like and where to mail them. (Contact Connie Potter, 13cpotter@gmail.com)

3. LWVAAC Webpage. League members can expect to see our webpage updated over the next few months! We'll let you know how it's going; so stay tuned!

4. Thanks and Appreciation. In response to our 'Giving Tuesday...Giving Time' request in November, **the following people have signed up to get involved and serve as points of contact (POCs)**:

Bill Pritchard: LWVAAC Misinformation & Disinformation (Mis/Dis) point of contact. Bill will sit on the state Mis/Dis Task Force and function as a go-between

for LWVAAC and the state (and vice versa) on mis/dis issues. Bill already heads up the LWVAAC Election Integrity Committee.

Marlene Nyman: National Popular Vote (NPV) has been selected as a LWVUS priority and Marlene will take on the function of point of contact. We're excited to start getting NPV information out there!

Chris DeRosa & Janice Morris: Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) points of contact. Chris and Janice know their way around RCV and we're thrilled that they will function as a POC team for RCV. They will keep us up to date with the latest on RCV.

Please consider volunteering for the positions we have open. A couple of them are listed above under Volunteer Opportunities and we will continue to advertise for folks to sign-up (especially at the 4 February Day of Action 2024 event). As I've said before, you do not need to be an expert to raise your hand and get involved. Chris DeRosa and Janice Morris are very experienced and knowledgeable in RCV. Bill Pritchard and Marlene Nyman are new to their respective topics and will grow into their expertise over time. All volunteers will be welcomed, trained, and supported; the more volunteers we have, the more situational awareness we have. It makes a difference!

Thank you Bill, Marlene, Chris, and Janice!

Women's Legislative Roundtables

Our Women's Legislative Roundtables (WLRTs) will be hybrid this year as they were last year. Because this is a "long" session of the General Assembly, the WLRTs will run from the first day of session, Jan. 10, 2024 until March 6, 2024. They will be one hour long, from 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM.

All events will be hybrid except the March 6 wrap up which, like last year, will be

only virtual. The in-person segment will take place in the new Virginia General Assembly Building, 201 North 9th Street, 7th Floor North Meeting Room, Richmond. At each WLRT, we will have speakers update us on our various legislative priorities.

See the schedule and RSVP today
<https://LWVWLRT2024.eventbrite.com>

LWV VA January 2024 Virginia Voter

[Read the Voter here](#)

News from National

LWV 2023 Highlights

[Read the Highlights here](#)

LWVAAC BOOK GROUP

Arlington/Alexandria City League Book Club is chaired by **Joan Porte**. Want to join? **Email Joan** at joan@joanporte.com. **Book Club meets every third Sunday at 2:00 PM** via Zoom (link will be provided).

The next meeting will be **Sunday, 21 January**, at 2:00pm.

Our next book is *Indigenous Continent* by Pekka Hämäläinen .

Look for next newsletter January 17



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