



August 2026 "eVoter"

As we head into the civic season, our League is everywhere—at back-to-school events, community festivals, and celebrating the women whose courage won us voting rights over a century ago. With public figures openly calling for the repeal of the 19th Amendment, we're reminded that this work isn't history. It's urgent. Join us in August to register voters, educate members of our community on what's on your ballot, and connect with fellow advocates.

Upcoming Events

August 6, 2026

Voter Registration at Fluvanna Back to School Bash

1:00-5:00PM
Dunbar School

LWVCVA has been invited to host a voter registration table at the Back to School Bash. The event will have giveaways, games and kids activities all afternoon as well as a free health clinic. Stop by and check it out!

August 6, 2026

Voter Registration at UVA Medical School

11:30AM-1:00PM
UVA Medical School

We are, once again, headed to the medical school while new students are going through orientation to register voters and hand out information on this year's ballot. Last year we registered over 40 students in under 2 hours!

August 9, 2026

Albemarle County Back to School Bash

11:00AM-3:00PM
Fashion Square Mall, JC Penny

Albemarle and the surrounding counties families are invited to this free event to get school supplies, immunizations, and more! We are excited to have been invited back, and will be co-tabling with Charlottesville NOW.

August 26, 2026

Albemarle Historical Society, NOW, and LWV-CVA Join Forces to Celebrate Women's Equality Day



Wednesday, August 26 | 5:00–7:00 PM

Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society, 200 Second St. NE

On Wednesday, August 26, the Charlottesville Chapter of NOW, the League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area, and the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society will commemorate women gaining voting rights with a festive tea party celebrating the suffragists who achieved this landmark expansion of democracy and the activists continuing that work today.

As public figures openly call for repealing the 19th Amendment, this gathering reflects on voting rights earned over a century ago while exploring civic actions you can take today. A special exhibit of twelve portraits by local artist Frances Brand (1901-1990) highlights achievements and barriers broken by women in our community.

Enjoy trivia games, prizes, and teatime refreshments. Suffrage attire/white clothes/pearls welcome.

Free | [RSVP here](#) (space is limited)

August 29, 2026

Charlottesville Ladies Arm Wrestling Fundraiser

7:00-10:00PM

SlumberCLAW, Random Row

Charlottesville Ladies Arm Wrestling (CLAW) asked us to participate in their annual fundraiser event, featuring fierce arm wrestling, fabulous pajamas, outrageous entertainment and "enough camp to keep the summer alive!".

Join us for this year's event, supporting [Out and About](#), an organization dedicated to creating community and forging family across Central Virginia.

We'll be there registering voters, handing out information, and playing with our trivia wheel!

To volunteer with any of these events (or any events coming in the future), please contact Voter Services Director [Kim Harris](#)

June/July in Review



LWV VA Council Meeting

June 6, 2026

Held virtually on June 6th, the Council's speaker, Nile Blass, LWVUS Regional Organizer, urged local Leagues to find local organizations whose members ethos overlap with the League's mission and reach out to understand their work first before showing what we do. A how can we help approach before "selling" the League. Show up at events that attract communities different from our own can add a sense of reliability, helpfulness, and appreciation for those groups.



LWV CVA Annual Meeting

June 13, 2026

2026 Annual Meeting Was a Success!

At our June 13th Annual meeting Corinne Field, (pictured) UVA History Dept Professor and author on Sex Roles, gave an interesting talk on older Suffragists and the struggles they faced in gaining the right to vote. New officers: Cheryl Knight as Secretary.

Thanks to Lisa Hilgartner for continuing as President for 2 more years and Miriam Fleitman for agreeing to serve an additional 2 years as an at large member of the board.

A decision was made after hearing the reasons and benefits that it was in the best interest of LWV-CVA going forward that our 2 entities (501 C3 and 501 C4) we currently have be combined into one 501C3 Corporation.

The meeting closed with Kim Harris demonstration of tabling materials and the spin the wheel for civic knowledge. Thanks to Stephanie Lowenhaupt for taking minutes and to members who contributed food and drinks for the event and The Unitarian Universalist Congregation for the use of their church hall.

African American Heritage Festival

June 20, 2026

This was our 3rd year supporting the festival, held at Louisa's Moss-Nuckols Elementary School as part of the NAACP's annual Juneteenth celebrations. The day was filled with trivia wheel fun, music, cultural demonstrations, artwork, good food, and community. We shared information about the upcoming elections and registered voters.

Civic Season

June 20 & 21, 2026

We've been partnering with Monticello for several years now to participate in their Civic Season, which gives community non-profits an opportunity to share information with visitors at the Visitor's Center. This year was no different, and we spent Father's Day weekend there, talking to visitors from all over the

country about the importance of voting, and more specifically (where appropriate) what is on the ballot in Virginia this year.

Risks of Using Sewage Sludge as Fertilizer, Changing Policy and Practice

June 23, 2026

In June, the LWV-CVA hosted a webinar about the risks of spreading sewage sludge on farm or forest land as a fertilizer. A recording of this informative presentation, given by Stuart Overbey, the founder of [Don't Spread on Me](#), can be found [here](#). The recording can be found on our [LWV CVA website](#).

The issue is very relevant for Albemarle and surrounding counties, as the practice is common, even though treated sewage sludge is known to contain many pollutants, including toxic PFAS chemicals, also known as “forever chemicals.” Currently many counties, including Albemarle, do not have regulations to test for or manage PFAS levels, which contaminate groundwater, surface water and plants, and bioaccumulate in animals and humans, harming health.

We encourage LWV-CVA members to contact your supervisors asking them to develop ordinances to regulate the use of sewage sludge to protect our health and that of our environment.



LWVUS Convention

June 26-28, 2026

Lisa Hilgartner and Stephanie Lowenhaupt (in person) and Meg Heubeck (virtual) were in Columbus Ohio for this biennial event as LWV-CVA delegates. The in-person delegates attended breakout sessions intended to help local Leagues become better at what they do.

Sessions included: branding and Media including digital media, Fundraising, Transforming to Build a Strong Membership Base, and how to attract GEN Z. The Plenary sessions attended by all told of moving forward with DEI, strengthening board membership and active member work through clearly defined rolls and expectations and partnering with mentors to assist in the process. A new LWVUS Board was elected. The new LWVUS President, Sonia Irwin, urged us all to be outspoken and stand up to authoritarianism, not by attacking a specific party ,candidate , or elected official but to speak out for justice when it is not being served.

Retreat at UVA Center for Community Partnerships

July 1, 2026

The retreat at the UVA Center for Community Partnerships brought directors together to plan for the coming year. Key highlights include a committee name change—the IR/FG Committee is now the International Relations and Representative Government Committee, aligning with LWVUS's Impact on Issues designation.

Directors were reminded to track volunteer hours and prioritize leadership continuity, ensuring that committee work and volunteer voices aren't dependent on any single person. Ideas from council and convention were also shared to inform planning.



Albemarle County County Agricultural Fair

July 31, 2026

Update Your LWV-CVA Handbook

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Visit our [website calendar](#) for more information on upcoming events and volunteer opportunities

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area
President: Lisa Hilgartner
eVoter Editor: Jessica Harris
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 22902 US

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