



## **League in Action**

06 December 2023

### **Presidents' Message**

(1) See the Events section below for the Arlington County General Assembly Delegation Pre-Legislative Session. This event is **Monday, 11 December at 7:30pm** at the Bozman Government Center; 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Ste #307. Sign-up link is in the Events section below.

(2) Also in Events section, Rank Choice Voting in on the docket for **Saturday, 16 December 9:00am** Arlington County Board Meeting. See Events section below for more information.

(3) A gentle reminder to consider thoughtfully the volunteer opportunities listed below; these originally went out on Giving Tuesday (28 November). We're republishing it here, next below. Connie and I are asking for time this year and we both hope that all of you will give these opportunities serious thought.

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## **LWVAAC Giving Opportunities; Please Consider Giving Your Time!**

As you consider your options for holiday giving, Connie and I hope that you will give serious consideration towards volunteering to be an issue point of contact (POC) for LWVAAC. We're asking for your time as we gear up for an important election year.

Below are issues that we need to follow and keep up to speed on. The more people we have to spread these issues out to, the more capacity we have to stay current on voting, elections, and other matters that we care about.

As much as we'd like to, Connie and I can't keep up with all the areas of interest. If we all work together and distribute the work to volunteers, we can have greater capacity to meet the need.

With the exception of the newsletter position and the voter registration positions, here are some key points about the

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roles/positions:

1. We're asking people to fill these roles as best they can. It doesn't mean you're an expert; it means you're willing to follow the issue as you're able and report regularly to Connie or me. That might look like reading articles in local papers or perusing certain websites on a regular basis; or, Connie or I reaching out to you and asking you to follow-up on something related to the issue.

2. You do not need previous experience; nor do you need to be knowledgeable in these areas. We're asking you to learn on the job. Where we can, training and direction will be provided.

3. If you're interested but not sure about volunteering, let's talk. Sometimes people are hesitant to step up for something for fear that they won't be able to set it down if it's not a good match for them. If you simply want to try it out for a while, we're open to that option.

4. With the exception of the newsletter position, most of these positions/roles require a couple hours a month.

5. Spreading work around will help us be a more effective league. A couple of extra sets of "eyes and ears" will boost our capacity a lot.

Please contact Pam Berg ([pberg16@comcast.net](mailto:pberg16@comcast.net)) or Connie Potter ([13cpotter@gmail.com](mailto:13cpotter@gmail.com)) if you're interested in any of these items.

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**Re-Entry Council/Restoration of Rights/Voting In Jail Point of**

**Contact (POC):** This opportunity is for someone interested in restoration of rights, in-jail voting, participating on Arlington and Alexandria's re-entry councils, and possible participation at the state level. You will be in direct contact with organizations and people affiliated with this important issue. You will attend re-entry council meetings (usually monthly), help facilitate and coordinate in-jail voting opportunities, stay informed about restoration of rights legislation, likely interact with other Leagues across the state, among other things. Note: we have a few folks that already do this work individually; what we're looking for is someone to take a leadership role with respect to maintaining overall awareness and coordinating activities. (Estimate 3-6 hours monthly.)

**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.)

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**RCV – Ranked Choice Voting Arlington & Alexandria**: We need one or two people that will commit to focusing on ranked choice voting. Arlington went through its first experience with RCV this past year and efforts towards adopting RCV in Arlington and other localities will likely continue going forward. This position would include:

- Staying abreast of developments in RCV; including successes and lessons learned
- Coordinate with UPVOTE (a non-partisan organization that helped educate Arlington voters on RCV), the Arlington Voter Registration and Elections Office, and potentially the Alexandria City Office of Voter Registration and Elections
- Participate in developing education and advocacy strategies to support the adoption of RCV locally in Arlington and possibly Alexandria
- Organize and participate in voter education programs on RCV

People interested will be trained and brought up to speed on RCV.  
(Estimate 2-4 hours monthly.)

**NPV – National Popular Vote Interstate Compact**: LWVUS has committed to abolishing the electoral college and sees adoption of the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC) as the next step in making this happen. At this time, the LWVAAC main function here will be to attend monthly national meetings held by the parent

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organization for this issue National Popular Vote (<https://www.nationalpopularvote.com/state/va>) and keeping LWVAAC informed of new developments. You will be fully trained and brought up to speed on this issue. (Estimate 2 hours monthly.)

**Arlington 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**: The Arlington Historical Society is leading efforts in Arlington to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Semiquincentennial) of United States independence. This historical event will have a variety of opportunities from 2024-2026. The LWVAAC has been asked to participate in this project. There's more information at this website:

<https://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/2023/10/arlington-250-commemorations-and-celebrations/>

There are already a few volunteers from LWVAAC that will likely be organized into a team as this effort gets more organized. (Estimate monthly time TBD.)

**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.)

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**Local Current Events – Arlington & Alexandria:** We need more 'eyes' and 'ears' in Arlington and Alexandria. LWVAAC would benefit greatly from people who would routinely watch the Arlington County Board and Alexandria City Council as well as local media for general information pertinent to League issues. We would like to form a small corps of folks to help us stay current on local happenings. The more people that could commit to this type of activity, the better able we will be positioned to act. (Estimated 6-8 hours monthly.)

**Misinformation & Disinformation (Mis/Dis):** We need one or two people that will focus on the issue of Misinformation and Disinformation (generally known as 'Mis/Dis'). This is an important issue that we need to stay informed about as this problem continues to grow in size and complexity. Tasks would include routinely reviewing a number of Mis/Dis online publications and trusted websites and attending state level Mis/Dis meetings. (Estimate 2-5 hours monthly.)

**Voter registration – organizational and logistic support:** Voter registration is a key mission of the LWV across the country. We so appreciate the many LWVAAC volunteers we have that register voters throughout the year, whether they be at local high schools, farmer's markets, local festivals, and other events.

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This is a special call for volunteers to help out *specifically* with organizing/scheduling registration events and organizing efforts to ensure registration equipment and material is distributed and in place. This is behind-the-scenes work that is critical to successful registration events. For every registration station that you see at any of the events above (i.e., farmer's markets, etc.), someone had to store and bring chairs and a table; someone had to store and bring a bag with registration forms, pens, stickers, educational material and other items.

Voter registration is a critical part of the League's purpose. The folks that *set up the registration events* are just as essential as the folks doing the registering. We really need some help with organization and logistical support for voter registration. You will be fully trained and brought up to speed on how to do tasks associated with this effort. (Estimated monthly time is variable from 2 hours to 4 hours in run-up to elections.)

Specifically we need volunteers for the following functions:

- Scheduling voter registration at large condo/apartment building complex.(1 - 2 people)
  - Scheduling voter registration at large events (like Clarendon Day). (1 person)
  - Storing tables and chairs and coordinating delivery and pick up for voter registration events. (1 - 2 people)
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- Maintain bag of voter registration materials and coordinate delivery and pick up for voter registration events. (1- 2 people).

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## 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](#)

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### EVENTS

**December 6**

## **Today - Pre Session is December 6, 2023**

RSVP for our 2023 Pre Session which will be a virtual event. Pre Session is when we bring in our partner organizations to have them present their legislative priorities for the 2024 General Assembly Session.

See the schedule [here](#).

[RSVP here](#)

### **December 11**

#### **Arlington County General Assembly Delegation Pre-Legislative Session Public Event 11 December, 7:30 pm**

**On Monday, 11 December at 7:30pm-9:00pm at Bozman Government Center (2100 Clarendon Blvd; #Ste 307) Arlington County General Assembly Delegation (Senator Ebbin, Senator Favola, Delegate Hope, Delegate McClure, & Delegate Lopez) will be available to meet with the public to answer questions ahead of the 2024 legislative session.**

The League of Women Voters of Arlington & Alexandria City is hosting this event. It is free to the public and you can sign up here (this lets us know how many attendees to expect):

## Arlington County General Assembly Delegation Public Event

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to engage with your elected representatives heading off to Richmond soon.

Questions? Please email [lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com).

**December 13**

### **Support the Equal Rights Amendment**

We're excited to announce that we're partnering with the ERA Coalition on a 100th-anniversary commemoration of the introduction of the Equal Rights Amendment.

**WHAT:** 100 Years (and Not One More) March and Rally

**WHERE:** [In person](#) in DC and virtually through [League in Action](#)

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 13, 12pm ET

Our CEO, **Virginia Kase Solomón**, will lead the march, and we hope to have a strong League turnout!

For those interested in joining in person, [RSVP](#).

For those who'd like to "virtually march," join us on [League in Action!](#) Digital supporters will receive on-the-ground updates at each of the march's destinations, from the White House to the US Capitol.

**December 16**

## **RCV on the agenda for upcoming County Board Meeting**

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for primary election is on the agenda for Saturday, 16 December. Public comments on non-agenda items begin at 8:30 am. When those are one, then the official agenda/meeting will begin (9:00 am or after).

**Sign up to speak virtually or in - person.**

**Plan to be there in person for a show-of-support.**

**Please share with others you know.**

Sign up to speak in advance at <https://www.countyboard.arlingtonva.us> or call 703-228-3130 between 8am and 5pm starting the week before the meeting.

**NOTE: The link availability to sign up will not appear until week of the event.** Make a note in your calendar to sign up after the 11<sup>th</sup>!

Information about speaking at Board

mtg: [https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-](https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/County-Board-Meetings/Speaking-at-a-Monthly-County-Board-Meeting)

[Board/County-Board-Meetings/Speaking-at-a-Monthly-County-Board-Meeting](https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/County-Board-Meetings/Speaking-at-a-Monthly-County-Board-Meeting)

and [https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/County-](https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/County-Board-Meetings/2023-County-Board-Meeting-Procedures)

[Board-Meetings/2023-County-Board-Meeting-Procedures](https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/County-Board-Meetings/2023-County-Board-Meeting-Procedures)

If you choose not to speak, please contact the Board members:

Email county Board members: [countyboard@arlingtonva.us](mailto:countyboard@arlingtonva.us)

See all here <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/County-Board/County-Board-Members>

Please remember to speak as a constituent and **not** as a member of the League of Women Voters.

Questions? Email [lwwarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lwwarlingtonva@gmail.com).

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## News from National

### LWV US November, 2023 Highlights

[Read the Highlights here](#)

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### LWV VA December 2023 Virginia Voter

[Read the Voter here](#)

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## LWVAAC BOOK GROUP

Arlington/Alexandria City League Book Club is chaired by **Joan Porte**. Want to join? **Email Joan** at [joan@joanporte.com](mailto: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, 17 December**, at 2:00pm.  
Our next book is *Caliban and the Witch* by Silvia Federici.

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**Look for next newsletter December 20**

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