



League in Action

July 7, 2021

President's Message

Hi there – I hope you all had a great 4th of July. It was nice to at least be able to celebrate outside with friends and family.

While it is summer, **we can't forget** that we have yet another election here in Virginia this fall.

We will be gearing up voter registration at outdoor events and already are committed to work Clarendon Day on Sept 25!

If your neighborhood association is participating in National Night Out on August 3, please ask them if we can do voter registration there. <https://natw.org/>.

Keep your eyes out for voter registration opportunities as we return to "normal." **Remember, voter registration training is July 11 – 2P** – more information is below! **RSVP today to get your link from the State Board of Elections.**

We are also in **need of a few organized people to help plan our candidate forums this year - we will have several!** Please let me know.

Thanks,

Joan

HEY HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR SPECIAL "MEMBERS ONLY SECTION OF THE WEBSITE?"

It has our directory, newsletter and other great informaiton.

You should have received an email with a password set up If you need another or have any questions about getting in - email us at

lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Help with sandwich board placement at this summer's Columbia Pike Movie Nights

Sign up below to pick up and drop off our sandwich board which provides important information to voters.

[Sign up here](#)

Nonpartisan Policy Review

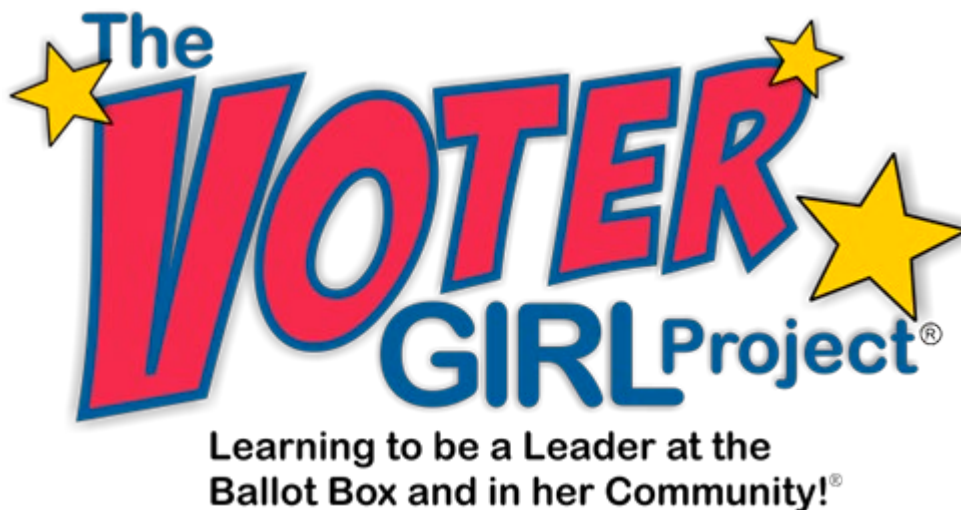
As we welcome a new fiscal year at the League, it is important to remember that we are and always will be a nonpartisan organization.

Please take the time to review our Nonpartisanship position which can be found here.

Volunteers needed for September Voter Girl project

Help girls learn how voting works!

Arlington's LWV is working collaboratively with the local Girl Scouts on Voter Girl. **On September 26, 2-5 pm, 100 girls from 2nd - 8th grade will learn about how voting works, participate in a mock election, hear from a local female elected official, and earn a civics badge.** We could use some help! If you've worked with kids as a teacher, coach, through scouts, through your church school, or otherwise, let us know if you can help with our breakout groups on September 26. Questions? Email: claudiascott.va@gmail.com; text or call 703-608-4232.



We Will Have Several Candidate Forums This Fall!

Almost all of the State delegate incumbents in our area have challengers, and there will be challengers to incumbents for local Arlington and Alexandria City offices. **We will need to have at least two perhaps three forums.** If you are interested in helping out on our forum committee please email Joan at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Observer Corps reports

Find out about your local government – thanks to our Observer Corps! Here is the file of important notes on various meetings. Observer Corp members record notes and report to the board any issues that we can act upon. Join Observer Corps today – we need many eyes!!! Contact us at LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com.

[Read Observer Corps notes here](#)

EVENTS

July 11

Voter Registration Training

July 11 - 2 PM

The **required voter registration training** by the State Board of Elections will be held virtually again this year.

Register here for Voter Registration Training



July 18

Discussion on Voting Access for People with Disabilities

Sunday, July 18 at 4 PM

LWV-Falls Church is hosting **Elizabeth Johnson**, Senior Trial Attorney, Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division, US Department of Justice (DOJ), for a discussion on **federal efforts to improve and expand voting access for people with disabilities**. Elizabeth is an expert on voting rights issues and has spearheaded numerous initiatives to improve voting access for people with disabilities at the DOJ.

Join us on Zoom at this link

FOR THE BIG PICTURE

from the National Constitution Center -

For Debate: Should More Power Be Returned to the People?

Online America's Town Hall live at youtube.com/constitutioncenter

first aired June 23

The National Constitution Center and the SNF Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University, **as part of their ongoing conversations about how to restore the guardrails of American democracy, present a debate exploring what the people's role in governing should be.**

SNF Agora Inaugural Director **Hahrie Han**, co-author of *Prisms of the People: Power and Organizing in 21st Century America*, and **Daniel McLaughlin**, senior writer at National Review Online, **discuss the role of citizens in our current representative democracy**, and explore the question: Should more power be returned to the American people? **Jeffrey Rosen**, president and CEO of the National Constitution Center, moderates.

This program is presented in partnership with the SNF Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University, part of the National Constitution Center's Restoring the Guardrails of Democracy initiative, and made possible with support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF).

[Watch the debate here](#)

Virginia marks 50th anniversary of current constitution

1971 revision of 1902 state constitution written to ensure Black voting rights

Legal scholar **A. E. Dick Howard** oversaw the initiative and remembers its impact

[Read the Washington Post story here](#)

-and watch the National Constitution Center interview with Dick Howard (below)

Laboratories of Democracy: The Importance of State Constitutions

Online America's Town Hall live at youtube.com/constitutioncenter

First aired June 28

Speakers: **A.E. Dick Howard**, Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Virginia School of Law

Jeffrey Sutton, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and adjunct professor, The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

Emily Zackin, associate professor and director of graduate studies, John Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

A week before Independence Day, **the National Constitution Center hosted a two-part program exploring the importance of state constitutions.** The program begins with a keynote conversation **commemorating the 50th anniversary of Virginia's state constitution**—examining the ways in which its rewriting has moved the state and country closer to the Declaration's promise of "equal justice for all"—with law professor A.E. Dick Howard, former executive director of the commission that wrote Virginia's current constitution.

Howard then join Chief Judge Jeffrey Sutton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, author of *51 Imperfect Solutions: States and the Making of American Constitutional Law*, and Emily Zackin, associate professor and director of Graduate Studies at Johns Hopkins and author of *Looking for Rights in All the Wrong Places: Why State Constitutions Contain America's Positive Rights*, **to discuss the role of states in defining constitutional rights.**

Jeffrey Rosen, president and CEO of the National Constitution Center, moderates.

[Watch the discussion here](#)

News from National

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Moves to Join Redistricting Case as Co-plaintiffs

LWV of Minnesota filed a motion to join as co-plaintiffs in *Wattson v. Simon*, asking the Minnesota Supreme Court to appoint a special redistricting panel to prepare for the state's upcoming redistricting process.

[Read the press release here](#)

The League Condemns the American Legislative Exchange Council

The League urges corporations to cease supporting, the American Legislative Exchange Council for its efforts to restrict the American people's freedom to vote and undermine democracy

[Read the letter to corporate sponsors of ALEC here](#)

[Read the article in The Nation on the letter from voting rights groups here](#)

Kansas Civic Groups File Motion for Temporary Injunction Against New Voter Education Restriction

The League of Women Voters of Kansas filed a motion for preliminary injunction, asking the Court to bar the state from enforcing its newly enacted "Voter Education Restriction."

[Read the League statement here](#)

[Read the Emporia Gazette News article here](#)

LWVUS Board President Responds to the Fulton v. City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Ruling

6/17/2021

"While today's decision is deeply disappointing for the LGBTQIA+ community, it is significant that the Court did not create a broad license to discriminate against same-sex couple's ability to adopt."

[Read the statement here](#)

LWV US June Recap

[Read the Recap here](#)

LWV-VA July Virginia Voter

[Read the Virginia Voter here](#)





Shared by LWV VA President **Deb Wake**: Honored to witness and be recognized for the League of Women Voters of Virginia's role in getting voting bills passed

Meetings

July 18 - 2 PM - **Book Group** at **Seema's**

Let the People Pick the President: The Case for Abolishing the Electoral College

by **Jesse Wegman**

contact **Joan** – Joan@joanporte.com

July 21 - 7 PM - **Election Integrity**

contact Lisa - lkoteengerchick@gmail.com.

September 20 - 7 PM - **Redistricting** - subject to change -

Redistricting meets quarterly but we are following the commission

contact Ann Sharp sharpab2828@gmail.com

Look for next newsletter July 21



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