



## **League in Action**

June 15, 2022

### **President's Message**

What a fun annual meeting we had! It was so good to see everyone especially so many new members whom we had never met in “real time!” Thanks to all who came and participated in our ranked choice voting dessert competition. – chocolate chunk cookies won the day!

Let’s hope this is the start of many in person events.

**Thanks to all our committee and task force chairs** who spoke about the fantastic work they are doing including **Don Gurney** who spoke of our expanded voter registration services with high schools and condominium communities; and LWV US’s Lobby Corps and our work with the Arlington Civic Federation. **Lisa Koteen Gerchick** updated us on the great work being done by the Election Integrity Committee and **Marjorie Hobart** spoke of the need to expand the condominium election program which is **our biggest moneymaker**. Her partner in this program and leader of the Oral Histories Project, **Beth Cogswell**, updated us on how the Oral Histories are keeping our past alive for current and future members. We learned about the

plans **Alistair Watson** has for establishing a student chapter in each area high school and **Chris De Rosa** gave us an update on redistricting and the work we have ahead of us informing voters of the new districts and precincts! ***All of these projects can use extra help!***

**We can also use people** to work on revitalizing Sips and Civility, condominium outreach and reaching Alexandria City residents.

There is something for everyone in the LWV of Arlington and Alexandria City! Whether you have one hour or more – **we can use your abilities!**

If you could not come but want to learn about the work of our committees....

[- take a look at our annual meeting booklet here](#)

**Let us know at**

[LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com),

if you are interested in any

of these programs! Let's

reach those voters.

Thanks

Joan



[Read the meeting coverage in The News-Gazette](#)



## PRE ORDER OUR NEW T SHIRT

Register people to vote with your t shirt!

On the front is the LWV logo – and on the back is a QR code that takes people right to vote 411! It is the easiest way to register people and support our League!

\$22 PLUS 4 SHIPPING –

[Order here!](#)



## Voter Registration Guidelines

**Please take a minute** to look over these guidelines for voter registration. These are designed to help our members be more proactive. **Even if someone says they are registered**, we can offer them information on the next election and an absentee ballot application. **The more interactive we get, the more people to whom we can give information.** Also, in the voter registration bags are membership forms, information on our condo election programs and much more. **Please be sure you go through the bags** when you arrive at the sites. **As always THANK YOU.** If you have any questions, please contact **Don** at [LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com)

[See complete voter registration guidelines here](#)

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## Nonpartisan Policy

Every year, we urge members to review our nonpartisan policy as this is one of the basic principles of the League. If you have any questions about it, please contact Joan.

[Review League nonpartisan policy here](#)

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**Voters! Check to make sure you know which district you are now in..**

# KNOW BEFORE YOU VOTE ...

What district are you in?

Check here



**More than 1 million Virginia Voters may be in a DIFFERENT  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT!**

[Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) and [VPAP.org](http://VPAP.org) are the best websites to visit to find out what  
districts you are in.

Thanks **Chris De Rosa** for work you have done with the State Redistricting  
Committee and creating these memes.

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**June 18 - Last Day for Early In-Person Voting for the Primary  
Election**

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Virtual Voter Registration Training

## **Annual Voter Registration Training with Arlington Director of Elections Gretchen Reinemeyer**

All League members need to take this training before doing voter registration programs! This is a virtual training that will qualify you for the next year.

This event is open to League and non League members alike.

**Tue, July 19, 2022**

**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT**

**Online event**

[Sign up for training](#)



**Voter Registration Events:**

**Sept 17, and Oct 1**

Keep the Sign Up Sheet Handy - We Are Working on Others.

**Columbia Pike Blues Festival is Back!**

**Bayou Bakery**

**September 17**

Bayou Bakery is allowing us to do registration all day from 8 AM - 4 PM!

**Alexandrians Save the Date! October 1 is Art on the Avenue**

– another good registration event in Del Rey!

[Sign up for voter registration](#)

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**EVENTS**

**June 18**

**Poor People's March on Washington!**



The League is partnering with **Reverend Barber** and the Poor People's Campaign March on Washington. More details to come but make room on your calendar.

There were 140 million Americans living in poverty or one emergency away from economic ruin *before* the pandemic. **Today, millions continue living on the edge of hunger or eviction, without access to health care or living wages.**

They are the people most vulnerable to decisions like the potential overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. They are the people most vulnerable to climate change, systemic racism, and economic oppression.

**This June, we're joining the Poor People's Campaign** in demonstrating the power of poor and low-income people and demanding systemic change.

**WHAT:** [Moral March on Washington and to the Polls](#)

**WHERE:** Washington, DC (find a [rideshare](#) near you)

**WHEN:** June 18 2022, 10 AM ET

For those unable to join in-person, digital actions will be available.

Together we can do more.

[Read the League invitation and see directions here](#)



June 20

**LWV Virginia - Juneteenth Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Training with Da'Quan Love, former Executive Director of the VA NAACP**

June 20, 7 PM – Virtual

Join LWV Virginia for a free virtual training session with **Mr. Love** as he shows us how to take our DEI work deeper and navigate our questions on the next steps to fully infusing our work with the DEI lens.

[RSVP here](#)

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**July 6, August 9, September 24, October 16**

From LWV Virginia

**A Series of DEI Trainings and Workshops!**

LWV Virginia is sponsoring a series of terrific DEI trainings coming up. In fact, **we will have one every month from June through October! All events are virtual and free although registration is required.**

Kicking off with our Juneteenth seminar with former NAACP Virginia executive director, **Da'Quan Love**, we will then have four workshops sponsored by

Challenging Racism in each subsequent month.

Join us on **June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM** for the two-hour course run by Mr. Love. This is the opportunity to increase our DEI commitment and inclusivity by developing meaningful partnerships with organizations serving underrepresented populations and further breaking down sometimes difficult to see barriers.

**For the next four months, we will be treated to programs by Challenging Racism**, whose mission statement is, "To empower and inspire people to disrupt racism one compassionate conversation at a time." These programs have a limit of 100 people per event, so **if you RSVP but find that you can not come, please cancel your order.** It is not required to take each one, but it is helpful. **These trainings are only open to members of the League.**

**The July program, July 6 at 7 -8 PM is "Privilege: A Conversation Starter."** What is privilege? What is your definition of it? How can you come to terms with yours and that of others? How do you talk to people about it? All of these questions and more will be discussed at this training.

**On August 9<sup>th</sup> at 1 – 2 PM , we will turn to the idea of "Bias: A Conversation Starter."** How can we have an effective conversation with people whose ideas of bias vary widely?

**We start the fall with our September event on the 24<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 11 AM is entitled "Equity: A Conversation Starter."** What is the difference between equity and equality? How do we embrace the idea of discussion equity or the lack thereof?

**Our final program is a two-and-a-half-hour seminar on how each of us can “Get Started: Challenging Racism Every day.”** What opportunities do we have to spot and effectively combat racism at every turn? This will occur on **October 16 at 1 pm - 3:30 PM.**

[RSVP for these events here](#)

### **August 13**

League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area

## **August 13 Virtual Workshop on Transportation**

10-11:30 AM online

On August 13, 2022, LWWNCA will be hosting a workshop on regional issues in transportation. The workshop is entitled **“Trains, Buses and Automobiles: How to Integrate Equity, Transit, Land-Use & Transportation Resiliency for Regional Advocacy.”** It will be held virtually from 10 to 11:30 AM. A “Save the Date” flyer is attached. Additional information on the speakers will be coming soon, along with a registration link. The workshop will be free and open to all League members and the public.

[See Transportation Workshop flyer here](#)

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## News from National

# League of Women Voters Welcomes Bipartisan Agreement to Curb Gun Violence in Our Communities

6/13/2022

WASHINGTON – League of Women Voters of the United States CEO Virginia Kase Solomón issued the following statement welcoming the US Senate’s bipartisan framework to reduce the threat of gun violence in our schools and communities.

[Read her statement here](#)

# Caren Short Joins League of Women Voters as Director of Legal & Research

6/10/2022

WASHINGTON- The League of Women Voters is proud to announce Caren Short as Director of Legal and Research. Caren joins the League’s growing Advocacy and Litigation team, where she will oversee and support the League’s state and federal litigation. She will also work to ensure that the League’s legislative and litigation strategies are aligned toward the mission, vision, and values of the organization.

[Read the press release here](#)

## **Voting Rights Organizations Challenge Cobb County School Board Map Denying Equal Representation to Voters of Color**

6/9/2022

ATLANTA – The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ), ACLU of Georgia, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (Lawyer’s Committee), and Schulte, Roth & Zabel LLP (SRZ) filed litigation challenging the Cobb County School Board map for intentionally discriminating against communities of color, particularly Black and Latinx voters, by “packing” them into a small number of districts to dilute their voting power.

[Read the press release here](#)

## **LWV Welcomes Bipartisan House Committee Hearings on January 6th Attack**

6/9/2022

The League of Women Voters of the United States CEO Virginia Kase Solomón issued the following statement as the bipartisan House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th attack on the US Capitol hearings begin:

[Read LWV US statement here](#)

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## **Virginia Voter: June, 2022**

### **President's Message: Working Towards Allyship**

*by Deb Wake, President, LWV-VA*

### **Gun Violence: What Can You Do?**

*by Joy McManus, Virginia Chapter Leader, Moms Demand Action*

### **Mark Your Calendar for DEI Trainings and Workshops!**

*by Joan Porte, First Vice President, LWV-VA*

### **June 21 Primary – Redistricting Requires Research**

*by Janet Boyd, Voter Services, LWV-VA*

### **YOUR LEAGUE NEEDS YOU!**

*by V. Denise Harrington, Advocacy Coordinator, LWV-VA*

### **by Mattaponi Tribe: Forming the Sacred Circle Again**

*by Assistant Mattaponi Chief Gloria Moonlight Custalow and Ginger Ragan, MSG, Mattaponi Tribe Media Correspondent*

### **LWV of the Prince William-Fauquier Area Celebrates Sponsorship of the 100+ Consecutive Black Lives Matter Vigil**

*by Barbara Amster, member of LWV-PWFA*

[Read the Virginia Voter here](#)

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## Pictures at a meeting



Board members, **Anna Weber**, **Pamela Berg** and **Ann Sharp** enjoying the pre reception gathering before our June 12, 2022 annual meeting





Left - **Alistair Watson**, new student coordinator – explaining his plan to have a LWV Arl Chapter in each high school

Right - **Don Gurney** with **Lori Lataillade**, **Sandra Richardson** and **Sampriti Ganguli**



**Don** explaining our expanding voter services program



 **Hilton**  
Garden Inn



Left - **Seema Kakad Jain** and young voters – **Shailee** and **Megna**  
Right - Shailee Jain's drawing during the meeting – we start them early!

## Meetings

July 20 - 7 PM - **Election Integrity**

Virtual

July 25 - 7 PM - **Affordable Housing**

Virtual

July 17 - 2 PM - **Book Club**

Virtual

The book is *The General's Cook*: - A Novel by Ramin Ganeshram

- Contact Joan [Joan@joanporte.com](mailto:Joan@joanporte.com)

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**Look for next newsletter July 6**

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