

# League in Action

5 June 2024

# **Presidents' Message**

Please remember to sign up for the **Annual Meeting** on Saturday, 15 June, 2:00 – 4:30pm at Walter Reed Community Center located at 2909 16th Street S., Arlington. The Annual Meeting events include adopting a local program for the ensuing year, electing officers and directors, and adopting a budget and other business as needed. The cost will be \$30.00 per member; payable by check or cash **at the event**.

Our Speaker will be **Deanna Troust** from Truth in Common and she'll talk to us about the intersection of local journalism and mis/disinformation.

Here's Truth in Common's website:

https://www.truthincommon.org/

We look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Meeting. An agenda will be forthcoming shortly. **You can sign up here**:

LWVAAC Annual Meeting 15 June 2:00-4:30pm

Questions? Email me at <a href="mailto:pberg16@comcast.net">pberg16@comcast.net</a>.

#### PLEASE SEE VOTER REGISTRATION OPPORTUNITIES A FEW BLOCKS BELOW!

**Tuesday, June 18, 2024 will be a Dual Primary Election in Arlington and Alexandria.** For more information go to <u>vote.arlingtonva.gov/elections</u> (Arlington) or go to <a href="https://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections">https://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections</a> (Alexandria).

VOTING IN DUAL PRIMARIES: Virginia is an open primary state meaning that voters do not register by political party. Any registered voter is eligible to vote in any primary election. If both the Democratic and Republican parties hold primaries on the same day, <u>voters must choose which party ballot they wish to vote</u>. (Code of Virginia Sec. 24.2-530.)

#### **Dates to Remember:**

- Same Day Registration begins Wednesday, May 29, 2024. You can only do this in person.
- Deadline to Apply for Absentee Ballot, 5 PM, Friday, June 7, 2024
- Last day of early voting, 5 PM, Saturday, June 15, 2024
- Mail ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before June 18,
   2024, and received by 12PM, June 21, 2024



## **LWVUS Convention**

LWVAAC has all the delegates we need! You can still sign up to go individually. The Convention will be a hybrid event held from 27-30 June 2024 at the Washington Hilton (Washington Hilton). Any League member is eligible to attend LWVUS Convention; but we (LWVAAC) will only pay registration fees for our delegates. Both in-person and virtual delegates have full access to all convention events and the ability to submit motions, debate, and vote on plenary items. There are add-on events not covered by the registration fee: (1) lobby day; (2) Saturday Night Reception; (3) Saturday Night Dinner; and (4) Saturday Night Reception and Dinner Combo.

If you want you to attend, register here:

**LWVUS National Convention Registration (2024)** 

**Other Convention-Attending Alternatives?** LWVUS is looking for volunteers from local area Leagues to support our upcoming Convention. All volunteers will receive complimentary access to all Convention activities (minus Lobby Day and the Saturday dinner) on the day that they volunteer. Plenary access would be as a non-voting observer only.

If you intend to be a delegate you MUST register and pay. You can still volunteer for non-plenary positions. Delegates can't volunteer for plenary jobs.

Discounted parking will be available for people coming in just to be volunteers.

If you have any questions please email cdavis@lwv.org. Click on the Sign-Up

Genius link to see what volunteer positions are available.

Convention Sign-Up (Sign-Up Genius)

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION OPPORTUNITIES**

We need four volunteers to conduct voter registration and voter education at the **Arlington View Neighborhood Day on Saturday, 8 June, from 10:00am - 3:00pm.** The event will take place outside at the Carver Community Center; 1415 S. Queen Street, Arlington, VA 22204. We will have a table next to our partner, the NAACP.

We are past the time when we can register voters prior to the June 18 Primary. However, we can tell people about same day voter registration, and provide information on: early voting, vote by mail, drop boxes and VOTE411. This is a great opportunity to interact with our community.

We need two people for each of two shifts: 10:00am - 12:30pm and 12:30pm - 3:00pm.

## SIGN UP HERE:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kMO55NNQuHYpF5mn7i9OEL6W QT4jBuNb/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108204542125106087466&rtpof=true&s d=true Questions? Email <a href="mailto:lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com">lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com</a>.

From our colleague Arina van Breda (Fairfax): As per their recent routine, USCIS is being both late and a bit tentative about their schedule for the next month. We encourage all our volunteers to be patient when we have last minute changes, as we often do, but we still want to have as much of a presence at these events as we can.

We will be there on Friday, June 14 for 2 shifts, and Saturday, June 22 for 3 shifts. The link to sign up is here!

(for those of you interested in doing **data entry**, we will have a session on **Monday**, **June 24**- use the same sign up!)

We are also going to be working a large event at WolfTrap – their their Out and About Gay Pride music festival, on June 22, Saturday afternoon. So I really need help in filling the spots for the USCIS event earlier that day from our sister leagues (and hoping that - with your help - our reach does not exceed our grasp!) If you have any volunteers who would like a free entry to the Wolf Trap event and are willing to help at our table for a couple of hours, they are also welcome to sign up for that <a href="here.">here.</a>

From Our Friends at NAACP: LWVAAC is excited to announce a new voter registration partnership with NAACP Arlington Branch. We are joining the NAACP's on-going voter registration efforts in affordable housing properties managed by AHC, Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH), and Wesley Housing. If you would like to receive notices when registration opportunities come up, contact Pam Berg (<a href="mailto:lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com">lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com</a>) to either (1) place your name on

the voter registration volunteer list or to (2) check that your name is already on the list.

# More News from NAACP: June Food Distribution Voter Engagement Events

The NAACP is partnering with our affordable housing partners to hold voter engagement events at food distributions in Arlington in June. We are aiming to reach residents with important information and resources for the upcoming primary election on June 18th.

We call it voter engagement because it is more than voter registration -- we hand out non-partisan information about early voting opportunities, talk about this year's elections, help with restoration of rights, and even provide citizenship information depending on the situation.

Affordable housing is full of potential voters who aren't reached by other organizations. We can only reach them with your help. Please <u>visit this page to sign-up</u> for one of our upcoming events. Thanks for all you do!

#### PAST EVENTS

**If you missed the Alexandria Mayoral Candidate Forum**, you can watch it here on our YouTube Channel:

# Alexandria Mayoral Candidate Event



# **Invitation from our partner Moms Demand Action**

# **Wear Orange Saturday, June 8**

Join Moms Demand Action Arlington to honor victims and survivors of gun violence SATURDAY, June 8.

See the flyer here

Arlington County and the City of Falls Church will hold a June 8 gun buyback event for which contributions are welcome.

See the donations request flyer for the June 8 gun buyback

See the June 8 gun buyback event flyer here

# **Urgent Need for Voter Services & Newsletter Production Volunteers**

Dear Members

We have **two critical positions** to fill in our League: (1) Newsletter producer and (2) Voter Services Director/Manager.

These positions are very important to ensuring the functioning of **our** League. They're what we'd call "mission essential". Please read through below positions and seriously consider volunteering your time.

1. The LWVAAC Newsletter position is back on the market! We had a volunteer that eagerly signed up but unfortunately will be unable to step into the position due to unforeseen circumstances. One person can volunteer; ideally **two** would be great.

This is an important role for internal League communications since much of the information shared throughout our League at this time is done via the Newsletter.

Training will be provided (on Mailchimp) and the responsibilities are as follows:

1. Producing the newsletter (currently two per month; but moving to one per month *may* happen).

- 2. Publishing all-members time-sensitive notices through Mailchimp (i.e., such as emerging voter registration opportunities and other advocacy notices and information).
- 3. Publishing all LWVAAC public events through existing press release channels.

A special note: Based on previous newsletters, many of you are aware that we are in the process of streamlining our internal/external communications. We're working to align our newsletter, our webpage, and our social media presence. We have a terrific team of folks working to make this happen and the new newsletter person(s) will have a front row seat in developing our communications strategy. You'll have a role in designing your job!

2. Don Gurney will be stepping down as Voter Services Chair this summer. Don has held this position for over seven years and he has done an outstanding job. Kathy Matusiak has served alongside Don for that duration of time — especially with the High School Registration effort. Their combined effort over many years has resulted in thousands of new voters. As many of you know, voter registration is a key priority for the League. Voter Services includes overall voter registration management, voter education, as well as Get Out The Vote (GOTV) efforts and coordinating logistics and volunteers. We need a dedicated team to step up and take over the voter services. **Please give this opportunity serious consideration**; an inability to fill this position will result in missed opportunities to register voters.

**UPDATE 6/3/24**: We have two people stepping up for this leadership job; but we really need a **third** to round out the team and provide some depth. To this end, if you're thinking about this leadership role, you won't be doing it alone. Additionally, Don will continue to stay on the Board to help oversee the transition to the new team.

If you're interested in this, please contact me (Pam Berg; <a href="pberg16@comcast.net">pberg16@comcast.net</a>). By starting to get people in place now, there will be plenty of time for careful and systematic turnover and training.

#### **More on LWVUS Convention**



An agenda for the 56th Biennial League of Women Voters National Convention in Washington, DC, and online, June 27 – 30, is now available!

# **LWV CONVENTION 2024 AGENDA**

League members are invited to attend National Convention as voting delegates or as observers. Check out the <u>registration information on the Convention website</u> to learn more. Registration is open until June 10.

# **Announcing Special Speaker Kimberly Teehee**

We're also excited to announce our special <u>Saturday dinner speaker</u>, Kimberl Teehee! Ms. Teehee is director of government relations for the Cherokee Nation and senior vice president of government relations for Cherokee Natior Businesses, as well as a delegate-designate to the US House of Representatives from the Cherokee Nation. We are honored to have Ms. Teehee as our special guest at our Saturday dinner. Be sure to add a Saturday dinner registration option to your Convention registration to join us!

### **Program Planning Recommendations**

League program is the education and advocacy platform that the League of Women Voters adopts during each biennial Convention to move our mission forward. Find the proposed program on the Convention website, along with details.

An email listserv has been created for Leagues proposing studies and concurrences to post information on their proposals and for all League members to review and engage in discussion. League members may join the

<u>listserv (groups.io) here</u>. For any questions concerning program, email progplan@lwv.org.

# **Recommended Board & Nominating Committee Slate**

The LWVUS Nominating Committee is pleased to present the slate of officers directors, and nominating committee members for 2024 – 2026. Read their short bios and nomination statements on the Convention website.

## **Proposed Bylaws Amendments**

The Convention bylaws report is now available <u>on the Convention website</u>. This report includes bylaws amendments proposed by the LWVUS Board to be voted on by delegates at Convention.

#### Resolutions

The LWVUS Convention Resolutions process will open in May. LWVUS staff will outline the resolutions process, requirements, committee selection, and key dates in a <u>webinar on Friday, April 26</u> (moved from April 19). An additional webinar will be held in May, and office hours will be held leading up to the final deadline. See the <u>resolutions page</u> on the Convention website to sign up for these events.

All information related to National Convention, including registration and hotel bookings, can be found on the <u>Convention Website</u>.

In League,

#### The LWVUS Team

#### **News from National**

# **Your Democracy Update**

**LWVUS May 2024 Highlightsa** 

# **LWV VA June 2024 Virginia Voter**

June 2024 Virginia Voter

## **LWVAAC BOOK GROUP**

Arlington/Alexandria City League Book Club is chaired by **Pam Berg**. Want to join? **Email Pam** at <a href="mailto:pberg16@comcast.net">pberg16@comcast.net</a>. Book Club meets every third Sunday at 2:00 PM via Zoom (link will be provided).

The next meeting is TBA.

**Look for next newsletter June 19** 

