



League in Action

6 March 2024

Presidents' Message

We've got a few important volunteer opportunities below for you to check out. Please do! I also want to bring your attention to another project that's in the works: **Communications**.

We are in the process of assembling a team that will cover our newsletter, our press releases, our time-sensitive emails outside of the newsletter, our webpage, and our social media (mainly Facebook and Instagram; possibly X/Twitter). Do you have ideas? We want to hear them! Here's how you can help:

- Join our Ad Hoc Communications Steering/Strategy Group.
- Got ideas, but don't like meetings? Send in your thoughts to my email below and we'll be sure to have them included in the discussion.
- Other questions? Email me.

Our Ad Hoc Communications Group will meet as long as it's necessary to develop a total communications plan that includes frequency of newsletter,

plan for management of press releases, plan for management of time-sensitive emails outside of newsletter, use of LWVAAC webpage, consistent social media campaigns, overall integration of these elements, and other relevant things. This effort will bring forward a communications plan that covers how we talk to ourselves (internal) and others (external).

Note: We have room for folks who want to volunteer for parts of the communication apparatus; for example, press releases and time-sensitive emails and other items. Even if you don't want to volunteer for those things, but you have ideas for a communications strategy - you *can* participate in this Ad Hoc group.

Email me (pberg16@comcast.net) to let me know how you want to participate.

Provide Input on Statewide Vote411 Questions

Now that the presidential primary is over, it's time to think about the rest of the year's elections! The League of Women Voters of Virginia is seeking feedback on Vote411 questions for candidates in this year's U.S. Congress races.

Typically LWV-VA requires that all local leagues use a couple of statewide questions, with the option to choose from a list of supplemental questions and/or write questions that are tailored to their local areas.

LWV-VA's draft questions are as follows:

1. What steps should be taken by Congress to address the high cost of living and depressed wages in Virginia, including for families, people with disabilities, and people that are economically disadvantaged?
2. What steps will you take to ensure all Virginians have access to quality and affordable health care, including reproductive care and prescription drug coverage?
3. What will you do to support an economy and job market that are strong and inclusive of all people?
4. What are the most important steps you will take to create an accessible path to citizenship, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients?
5. What measures do you support to expand voter access and restore trust in our elections?

Please email lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com by the **end of the day on Friday, March 8** with any edits, recommendations for additional/alternative statewide questions, or ideas for district- or region-specific questions.

Volunteer Opportunities

2024-2025 Nominating Committee:

We need volunteers to step up for the LWVAAC Nominating Committee. Please give this opportunity thoughtful consideration; it's an important part of League management. The Committee's task is to select nominees to fill seats on the LWV-AAC Board for the coming fiscal year; for example, President,

Vice President, Secretary, and so on). The Committee also picks the successors to the current Nominating Committee members. If you're interested, please contact Lisa Koteen Gerchick (lkoteengerchick@gmail.com), Judy Collins (jc.swings@verizon.net), or Debby Churchman (dchurchm@yahoo.com).

USCIS events upcoming:

Our voter registration efforts at the new citizen events continue to be a popular event but we need more help to register voters here also.

Please sign up for one of our upcoming events:

Saturday March 9: 3 shifts between 6:45AM and 3PM.

Friday March 22 and Friday March 29 : 2 shifts between 7:30AM and 12:30PM.

LOCATION : Unless otherwise noted, events are at the USCIS Regional office at: 2675 Prosperity Ave, Fairfax, VA 20598

Sign up [here](#).

We also need **data entry** volunteers on **Monday, March 11**. Same sign up as above.

Arina van Breda
Director, Voter Registration
LWV of the Fairfax Area

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Help with Review of LWVAAC Positions:

We need help reviewing our current positions. We need a few folks that are willing to go through our current positions and develop an assessment of where we are at. We have some positions that are quite dated; in fact, with two exceptions, many of these positions have not been updated since 2012. At this point, we just need some folks willing to sit down and take a look at these and make recommendations. Email Pam at pberg16@comcast.net if you're able to pitch in.

[Note: Excluded from this effort is Affordable Housing and Land Use.]

Show Me The Money!

Is fundraising your love language? LWV-VA is looking for volunteers across the state to form a fundraising committee/group. These fundraising efforts will benefit both local Leagues and our state League. Email me (pberg16@comcast.net) if you're interested.

Invitations from American Association of University Women - Arlington Chapter

Saturday 16 March

AAUW-Arlington

**Annual Meeting/Elections and Special Program for
Women's History Month**

10:30 AM - 12 PM

Lubber Run Community Center, 300 N. Park Drive, Arlington 22203

Our featured speaker will update us on issues of interest to women in the Commonwealth of Virginia and how they are being addressed by our elected representatives in Richmond. Other panel speakers will provide information on the activities and goals of the League of Women Voters and the Arlington Commission on the Status of Women. All panelists will discuss how we as individuals and members of community organizations can most effectively support and encourage policymaking in Richmond that furthers the goals we share.

Mary Margaret Whipple, a former Virginia State Senator, will be the featured speaker. She will discuss the current social, political, and economic issues of interest to women in the Commonwealth and how these issues are being addressed by our elected representatives in Richmond.

· **Karen Darner** – a former member of the Virginia House of Delegates, will discuss her experiences as a Delegate in Richmond and provide insights

into how we could most effectively make our views known to our elected representatives.

- **Pam Berg** – co-President of the League of Women Voters, Arlington and Alexandria City, will talk about the goals and activities of the LWVAAC and how the LWVAAC and AAUW-ARL might most effectively work together to pursue their common objectives.

- **Susan Strauss** – member of the Arlington Commission on the Status of Women, will discuss the Commission’s objectives and activities and how the Commission and AAUW-ARL might work together to support their common goals.

News from National

LWV US Your Democracy Update

[Read the Update here](#)

LWV VA March 2024 Virginia Voter

[March 2024 Virginia Voter](#)

LWVAAC BOOK GROUP

Arlington/Alexandria City League Book Club is chaired by **Joan Porte**. Want to join? **Email Joan** at 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, 18 March**, at 2:00pm.
Our next book is *Demystifying Disability: What to Know, What to Say, and How to be an Ally* by Emily Ladau

Look for next newsletter March 20

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