



League in Action

16 October 2024

NOTICE: To all of you who responded to **Postcard Palooza on 19 October** - the venue has been changed to **Arlington County Central Library 1015 N. Quincy Street; Bluemont Room**. Event will be Saturday, 19 October, **2:45pm - 5:00pm** (note slight change in starting time). If you received a 'wait list' notice, you are *welcome* to attend! The Bluemont Room can hold up to 35 people.

President's Message

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers and members for making a difference.

Voter registration is over. It's time to put away the folding tables, pens, masking tape, and tote bags. LWVAAC left it all on the field this year, as you always do. Whether you volunteered once or many times, came early or stayed late, you all showed up with remarkable tenacity. You were indispensable in making it possible for nearly 900 people to vote this year, including over 550 high school students.

Our new Voter Services Team, without missing a beat, moved boldly into position and made possible a very smooth transition from Don Gurney to Beth

Withers, Susan Lewis, and Lisa Backer. It's no exaggeration to say that the quality of dedication made apparent by Don, Beth, Susan, and Lisa allowed this critical transition to happen seamlessly. Thank you all, truly, for your work and commitment.

We have lots of things to cover below: LWV-VA Study, Ranked Choice Voting in Alexandria, LWV-VA Pre-Session, LWV-VA League Day (we need a lead for this; see below), and media focus on our candidating events in Arlington and Alexandria.

ICYMI: 2024 Candidate Forums

We received fabulous media coverage from Arlington and Alexandria 'candidating' events drew local media coverage. In case you missed it, below are recent articles that covered our 'candidating' events.

- Alexandria Times: [Voters meet one-on-one with candidates ahead of Nov. 5](#)
- Arlington Now: [Arlington voters test-drive local candidates in 15-minute increments](#)
- Arlington Connector: [Which candidate will you choose?](#)



Photograph by Don Gurney of Arlington candidating event

Rides to Polls!

Arlington County Republican and Democrat parties are offering rides to polls for those that need them. [Click here to read more.](#)

For Alexandrians, LWV Virginia has been allotted 50 Lyft rides state-wide, with a value up to \$25. If you'd like to arrange for Lyft poll transportation, contact lvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

LWVAAC Review of LWV-VA Study on Right to Vote

New information regarding the LWV-VA Right to Vote Study

The in-person meeting will take place **Sunday, November 24** (instead of November 17), at Beatley Library in Alexandria from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. We likely will not use all that time; but we'll be able to take the time we need. The virtual meeting will take place on **Friday, November 22**, at a time that reflects the most availability on the sign-up document.

Please sign-up for whichever session you want to attend (virtual or in-person), here: [LWV-VA Right to Vote Study Meeting SIGN-UP](#)

We hope as many members as possible will attend either the virtual or in-person session. However, for those unable to attend either, we will take written answers to consensus questions (pages 36 to 37 in the study) and attempt to meld them into the group consensus of the in-person and virtual meetings. Written comments (in addition to the consensus questions) will also be allowed and due no later than November 30 and can be emailed to lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Volunteer opportunity! We need volunteers to take notes during the in-person and virtual meetings. If you're available for this, please email me at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Questions? Email me at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com. You can also request the study link be sent again.

Volunteers Needed: Ranked Choice Voting - Alexandria

Alexandria will elect a new City Council in November, with their three-year term beginning in January 2025 through December 2027. Alexandria's City Council is an at-large election; electing six members at the same time. This presents us with an opportunity to advocate for Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in Alexandria.

LWVAAC and UpVote Virginia will have an initial meeting in the next several weeks to discuss planning a way forward. For this initial meeting only LWVAAC members and UpVote members and staff will be present.

This is a fantastic opportunity for Alexandria League members to get involved in a significant long-term effort focused on Alexandria. If you're interested in being part of this effort, email me at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed: RCV Presence At The Polls - Arlington

Although we have used RCV for two Democratic primaries for County Board, there are thousands of voters who did not vote in the primary elections in 2023 and 2024, and therefore may not be familiar with RCV and how to mark their ballots.

We want to talk to as many voters as we can – You can sign up to volunteer here: [Sign Up Genius](#)

We are targeting 5 days for early voting plus Election Day:

- Saturdays, October 19 & 26 and November 2 (@ 4 locations)
- Sundays, October 20 & 27 (@ 4 locations)
- Election Day (@ any of the 50+ local precincts)

Reach out to us at lwvarlington@gmail.com and Chris DeRosa will provide more information directly.

The Courthouse Library offers FREE tech help (both [walk-in](#) and [by appointment](#)) and this month they launched free [job and resume help](#)! Please share widely.



LWVAAC Needs Your Help!

1. We have a new requirement: **League Day 2025**. League Day 2025 is on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. This is our annual advocacy trip to Richmond. Unfortunately, I will be out of town and cannot lead this effort. We need someone to take the lead on this and plan/coordinate the effort (i.e., coordinating hotel room reservations, coordinating transportation, coordinating Delegate/Senator office visits, etc.). I'll provide you with specific directions on what needs to happen. We already have one volunteer to help. Please contact me as soon as possible if you're able to help with this effort at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

2. We **still** need volunteers for a project that will establish LWVAAC Gift Policy. This policy would cover a variety of situations (i.e., condolences, retirements, etc.). No one has volunteered for this effort and we really need a few folks to step up. Email me at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

LWV-VA Pre-Session on December 4

Pre-Session is an annual opportunity for the Virginia Leagues to hear from our partners and potential partners about their legislative priorities ahead of the ensuing General Assembly session that starts in the beginning of January of each year. For example, we'll have an opportunity to hear about RevUp's 2025 legislative priorities and see where the League aligns on issues (and other partners). There are usually up to 20 speakers, and it provides a good overview of other organizations and what they're working on.

Pre-Session will be a virtual event this year on Wednesday, December 4th, 9:00am - 1:00pm.

To attend, sign up here:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/AFLfmDJBEU25FXGg3uX6vg2>

The Virginia General Assembly convenes on January 8, 2025.

Book Club – We've got some movement on our Book Club! After a bit of a hiatus, LWVAAC is looking to restart the Book Club on a bi-monthly basis starting in January 2025. The meetings will be mostly online (zoom) events; but every once in a while an in-person get together. Are you interested? Contact us at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Look for next newsletter 6 November!

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