



## **League in Action**

18 September 2024

### **President's Message**

Voter registration is going strong! Our members and non-member volunteers are out there doing what we do best. Be sure to check out opportunities below and scroll through the sign-up sheet. High School Voter Registration is also underway!



*Laura Leussing, Nancy Corbett, and Judith Selzer registering voters in Alexandria*

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## Candidating Forum Update

Mark your calendars for Sunday, 6 October! We will be having candidating events in both Arlington and Alexandria on the **same day**. We will have Eventbrite sign-up sheets shortly. The announcement will go out as a separate email.

Note: We need more Alexandrians to volunteer for the event in Alexandria. If you can help, please email [lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com).

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## LWVAAC Educational Partnership with Arlington County Library – **RESCHEDULED EVENT TONIGHT 18 SEPTEMBER!**



LWVAAC, in partnership with Arlington County Library, will be hosting a number of public educational programs over the next year. Our first event would have been Thursday, 12 September, 6:30-7:30pm, Arlington Central Library; 1015 N. Quincy Street; Auditorium.

**Due to a power outage, the event has been rescheduled for TONIGHT, Wednesday, 18 September, 6:30-7:30pm** in the same location.

These events are the result of the work of our Legacy Gift Committee and we're excited about the work they've been doing. The event tonight will be on Elections in Arlington and be an overview of the roles of Arlington's Registrar

and the Board of Elections. This is a great learning opportunity and a great way to be an informed voter. More programs will be coming in Arlington and Alexandria thanks to the work of the Legacy Gift Committee chaired by Ann Sharp.

Sign up here:

<https://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/12701078>

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## General Voter Registration Information



*LWVAAC volunteers register voters at National Night Out*

Here is the current LWVAAC voter registration sign-up sheet; you can sign up for events now and more will be added as they emerge:

[Voter Registration Sign-Up Sheet](#)

REMEMBER: You need to complete the Virginia Department of Elections Voter Registration Training **before** you sign up to volunteer. To complete the training (about 45 minutes), click here:

<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/voter-registration-training/>

Election Messaging: This year, in addition to 'Are you registered to vote?', we are also messaging 'Have you checked your registration?' Voters can be inadvertently deleted during episodes of voter roll maintenance. This year we're taking the extra step in Arlington and Alexandria to remind already registered voters to check their registration status. In Virginia, you can check your status here: <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>.

Additionally, if you choose to vote by mail/absentee ballot, we strongly support the use of drop boxes this year or mailing your ballot at least 10 days before November 5. We ask that you all recommend the same as you engage with your neighbors and voters. This applies to both Arlington and Alexandria. If you have questions about this, reach out to us at [lvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lvarlingtonva@gmail.com).

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## **Elections 2024: What You Need to Know - Event Presentations**

League members Connie Potter and Chris DeRosa) will be presenting this program on 26 September:

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/Parks-Recreation/Parks-Events/2024/55/Election-2024-What-You-Need-to-Know-2>

**Or**

See the 55+ guide -- elections sessions are on page 15 of the guide.

<https://arlingtonparks.us/55plus/index.html>

You should be a member of the Arlington 55+ community; however, you may be able to join us in person on a walk-in basis at Lubber Run Comm Ctr on the 26th.

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### **LWVAAC Review of LWV-VA Study on Right to Vote**

Our League will have an opportunity to review a new state study on the right to vote.

Background: The LWV-VA Voting & Elections Issue Group proposed a new study addressing universal suffrage as expressed in Senator Locke's 2021 bill SJ272 which originally called for the "universal right to vote." That bill, which would have removed the felony conviction and mentally incompetent stipulations in Section 1, Article II of the Virginia Constitution, also added a "fundamental right to vote" clause to the Section 1 title and the body of the first paragraph.

### [2021 SJ 272 Right to Vote Constitutional Amendment](#)

Update 9/18/24: Apologies – the study didn't make it out until this week! In light of folks being busy with voter registration and other activities ahead of the

election, we likely will not review the study as a League until late October or November. Our input will be due in December.

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## **Additional Information and Volunteer Request for GOTV Postcarding**



*Photo from Postcards to Voters*

People interested in GOTV (Get Out The Vote) postcarding and data entry are still needed! **Email [lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com) if you're interested in one or both activities.**

The data entry volunteers' job is to type out our list of newly registered voters and enter names and addresses in order to make it easier for postcarding volunteers to address and write postcards to potential voters.

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## **LWVAAC Needs Your Help!**

We've got a couple things going on that we need some help with:

1. **More Alexandria Folks**. You know what we need more of? Alexandrians! We welcomed Alexandria to our League in 2022 – and we're glad we did! I want to issue a special invitation to our Alexandrians to get involved. As might be expected, given our history, LWVAAC can be rather Arlington-centric. We've got a few terrific Alexandrians that are all in and we love them for it! But we need more. Even if you're not sure exactly what you want to do, reach out to me and let me know if you're an Alexandrian that would like to be more involved. We'd like to connect you all together. **We especially need help with the upcoming Candidating Forum on 6 October.**

2. **Bylaws Change Committee**. In the first of two adhoc committee needs, we need a few folks that will work to change our LWVAAC Bylaws on officer/director terms. We would like to alter the language to result in more flexibility when terms are not fully served. For example, the officer and director terms are currently one or two years; ideally, we want that language to be written in such a way that minor changes to terms can be accommodated without having to rewrite the Bylaws. Additionally, we would like to restore a staggered term protocol that can be flexible.

3. **LWVAAC Gift Policy Committee**. In the second of two adhoc committee needs, we need a few folks to work out an LWVAAC gift/donation policy for LWVAAC members that covers a variety of situations (i.e., condolences, retirements, etc.).

4. **Election Integrity/Security Email Listserv**. We have had an Election Integrity/Security Committee for a number of years, but at this point, there is no

committee leader and some of the initial issues have coalesced and situated themselves appropriately at the state level. That said, we would like to preserve a key intent of the original group: to share election security/integrity information so that we're better informed about these things. We anticipate this era of election distrust to linger for some while and it is important to have some folks in our League committed to sharing information. Unless a leader emerges (volunteers anyone?), I propose that we use the committee in a 'listserv' capacity whereby, as folks find relevant articles and so forth, the information is shared to the whole committee. If you're interested in this – either leading it or participating in it – let me know at email below. We may have an initial kick-off type of meeting to generally discuss the framework; after that, we'd just let the listserv exist. I'm open to ideas.

**For all of the above opportunities to serve, please reach out to [lvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lvarlingtonva@gmail.com) with any questions. Even if you're not sure yet, let's have a conversation.**

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### **Book Club**

After a bit of a hiatus, LWVAAC is looking to restart the Book Club to a typically bi-monthly online (Zoom) event. Are you interested? Contact us at [lvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lvarlingtonva@gmail.com).

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**Look for next newsletter 2 October!**

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