

VOTER

League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg

July-August 2018

REACHING LWVCM

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League Promotes Voting

LWVCM Vice President **Debbie Snowdon** rallied League members to march in the Hickory Grove Fourth of July Parade to promote voting and oppose the Voter ID amendment to the NC Constitution which will be on the November ballot.

Parade marchers braved the intense heat to advocate voting in the east side event as well as handed out flyers telling why voters should reject the constitutional amendment calling for photo ID required for in person voting. The Fair Elections Action Team continues its efforts to prevent measures designed to discriminate against certain voters.

Also, on the Fourth, League members registered new citizens at the Charlotte History Museum. See p.

There are plans for League participation in the Charlotte Gay Pride Parade Aug. 19 as well. Watch the website for details.



Debbie Snowdon



Peg Chapin

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Find updates for League action and activities at goleaguego.org



From left, Debbie Snowdon, Joyce Waddell, Peg Chapin, Mary Klensz & Cheryl Stewart

Check the League website goleaguego.org frequently for updates and new activities

Coming Events

The League of Women Voters Charlotte Mecklenburg invites you to attend



CANDIDATES' FORUM

A Woman's Perspective on Issues

Women's issues are everyone's issues and everyone's issues are women's issues.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Thursday, September 20
6:00pm to 8:00pm | NC State Senators
County Commissioners At-Large
County Commission Districts |
| Tuesday, September 25
6:00pm to 8:00pm | US House of Representatives
NC House of Representatives |
| Thursday, October 4
6:00pm to 8:00pm | Superior Court Judge
District Court Judges
NC Court of Appeals |

First United Methodist Church
501 N. Tryon St, Charlotte, NC

Parking is free in the FUMC spaces in the 9th St garage between Tryon St and Church St. Bring parking ticket inside to be validated.

For more information visit goleaguego.org

CO-SPONSORS



Interested in Advocacy for League Issues:

Get to know the League by joining one of the League's Action Teams and make a difference in the League's mission to "make democracy work."

- At [LWVCM](#): Education Committee, Fair Elections Action Team, Voter Registration Team, Civics 101
- At [LWVNC](#): Education Issues and Public Education Reform, Environment, Equal Rights Amendment, Fair Elections, Health Care, Immigration
- At [LWVUS](#): Click on the [Take Action](#) button and take your pick of issues to act on.

Annual Meeting

Two Amazing Women Celebrated for 50 years in League

THEREASEA D. ELDER

Thereasea Elder is becoming almost as well known as an historian as one of Charlotte's best known home health nurses who integrated the public health nursing profession in Mecklenburg County.

Thereasea, known famously as TD (her middle name is Delerine), is a native Charlottean having grown up in the



Greenville community. She is a graduate of several nursing programs preparing for her career in public health nursing.

In 1948, she started at Good Samaritan Hospital and later joined the Mecklenburg County Health Department, where she worked until retirement in 1989. When she started, the nursing profession and their patients were segregated. At the time schools were inte-

grated, the Health Department ended its segregation policies, but being sent to white homes and areas was a risky business for Thereasea and her peers. You can read more about her encounters and legacy in Stanley Frazier's biography of her, titled TD's Truths.

When her first grandson was born, TD began keeping notes about her life after realizing so many women were accomplishing a lot in their lives that was not acknowledged, and their families were not even aware of their contributions. She started the Greenville Historical Society and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Black Heritage Committee and participates in numerous other historical groups because she believes knowing your history and passing it on is very important.

TD served on the League board in the 70s and 80s and, at one time, held the new board position of director of coalition building. She is most proud of working in the groups that started Civics 101 and began doing voter registration at naturalization ceremonies.

Throughout her life she has been involved in a wide range of organizations and causes. She has too many awards and affiliations to list. Now she has a life membership in the League to add to her accomplishments.

Betty Chafin Rash

Betty Chafin Rash also joined the League in 1968. She soon became active in partisan politics in the 70's and was elected to the City Council in 1975, becoming the third woman to be elected to the Charlotte City Council. She went on to serve three terms, including being the first woman to be elected mayor pro tem in 1977.

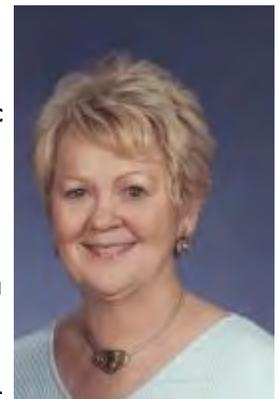
Betty was honored in 2013 along with her husband Dennis Rash by UNC Charlotte with its Distinguished Service Award for their contributions to educational, political and civic institutions. In his remarks, Chancellor Philip Dubois described Betty as a pioneer in broadening of political participation in Charlotte, especially among women. She often credited the League for sparking her interest in government and politics.

She went on to co-found the Charlotte Women's Political Caucus and the Women's Summit with UNCC which has become a research unit within the University designed to be a catalyst for change--improving the lives of women through research, education and civic engagement.

Betty is working on the League's 100th anniversary committee planning the 2020 celebration.



Thereasea Elder in gold for her 50th year.



Betty Chafin Rash

Annual Meeting Action & Decisions

New officers and board members were elected

2018-19 Board of Directors and terms:

President - Delores Johnson Hurt 2017-2019

First vice president - Tom Murdock 2018-2020

Second vice president - Debbie Snowdon 2017-2019

Secretary - Pam Liebman 2018-2019

Treasurer - Beth Springston 2018-2020

Directors:

Lucille Howard 2018-2020

Marian Silverman 2018-2020

June White 2018-2020

Erlene Lyde 2018-2019

Cate Stadelman 2018-2019

Margaret Howe-Soper 2018-2019

Nominating Committee 2018-2019

Chair - Tom Bowers

Reita Pendry

Erin Giardi



From left, Margaret, Marian, Beth, Pam, Tom Murdock, Delores, June, Lucille, Erlene, Cate, Erin, Debbie

Budget of \$25,142 adopted for 2018-2019

Read the details in the May-June Voter [here](#)

Areas of Focus Approved for 2018-2019

1. Voter Registration and Related Issues
2. Education with Focus on Equity, Funding & Innovations
3. Healthcare with Emphasis on access and quality
4. Fair elections procedures

President Hurt and board members updated members on League plans and activities

Read President Hurt's "State of the League" remarks prepared for the Annual Meeting [here](#).

League in Action

Welcome to New Members

Joining since June 1 are:

Claire Evensen
 Karen Eady-Williams
 LeRoy and Simone Dean
 Vannie Gregory
 Johnette Joseph
 Elyse Dashew

Laura Hameleu
 Tonya Wells
 Cheryl A. Demaio
 Mary L. Monahan
 Leigh Altman
 Wendy Paschual

LWVCM DONATION CHALLENGE for VOTE411

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Dollar for Dollar, your tax deductible donation to LWVCM for the VOTE411 program will be matched up to \$4,000.00 between June 7 to Sept. 15, 2018!

At goleaguego.com, click on DONATE TO US to contribute or mail checks to:

LWVCM 1817 Central Ave. #210 Charlotte, NC 28205

Questions: contact Delores Johnson Hurt at 704-355-0054 or Beth Springston at 704-661-4425.

League Ramps Up Opposition To Voter ID Amendment on Ballot

With elections on the horizon, our FEAT (Fair Elections Action Team) is focusing on Get Out The Vote efforts and bringing public awareness to the NC Voter ID constitutional amendment requiring photo ID for in person voting.

The constitutional amendment, one of six, will be on the November ballot.

The LWV's position on the Voter ID issue is: it is unnecessary (there is almost no evidence of fraudulent voting); it disproportionately disenfranchises minorities, elderly and young voters, and those who are financially disadvantaged; the courts have ruled similar attempts to be unconstitutional, and taxpayer money is better spent on fixing the actual problems.

These election problems include cybersecurity, updating records and poll-worker training. Our FEAT Team members marched in the Hickory Grove Parade, and we will be front and center in Charlotte's upcoming PRIDE Parade August 19.

Everyone is invited to come out and join us!

—Ashleigh Morgan and Debbie Snowdon

LWVCM Education Committee Continues to Advocate for Equity

Members met with more school board members during the past months advocating for equity and the formation of an equity committee comprised of community folks to advise the Board of Education.



Former District Judge Nancy Norelli discussed the proposed constitutional amendment affecting judicial vacancies and the new judicial redistricting laws.



Election director Michael Dickerson entertained members with stories about the primary election held the day before he spoke.



BOE Chair, Mary McCray



Margaret Marshall

LWVUS Convention 2018

President Delores Johnson Hurt's Convention Report

When you go to an LWVUS convention, be prepared for 14 hour days with few breaks! That was the case recently in Chicago, where the 53rd biennial took place June 28-July 1.

The convention's theme was **"Creating a More Perfect Democracy"** and the convention itself required as much work as its theme implied: workshops and information sessions beginning at 7:30 a.m. and ending at 9:30 p.m., with daily 3-4 hour plenary sessions. If you arrived early or maybe slipped out just before the end of the last session, you might have been able to take a delightful architectural and historical boat cruise on the Chicago River, which some of us managed to do.

Workshops at the convention included discussions on redistricting, alternative methods of electing members of the U.S. House of Representatives, abolishing the electoral college, immigration (many attendees attended a rally while at the convention), effective action on carbon pricing and raising money for your League, among others.

Considerable time and training were spent on the topic, "Using Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Lens to Strengthen Social Impact and Collaboration" for the 1,000 predominantly older, white female attendees, as the League focuses on increased diversity among members.

In addition, there was much talk among delegates about the new LWVUS Transformation Roadmap value statement, "We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy," and (failed) efforts to bring it to the floor for discussion. Another expressed concern centered on whether LWVUS would adopt a more top down management style.

Major Motions Passed:

1. The League of Women Voters of the U.S. makes gun control, gun safety, and gun ownership limitations a priority in its lobbying efforts.

2. The LWVUS supports an emphasis on the ERA this year and every year until the ERA is ratified and becomes a U.S. Constitutional Amendment. Be it resolved that the LWVUS supports efforts to remove the time limits for ratification of the ERA.

3. The 2018 Convention of the League of Women Voters of the United States urgently reaffirms its long-held position that the Electoral College should be abolished.

4. The League of Women Voters stands united with, and in support of, efforts to price carbon emissions, whether cap-and-trade, carbon tax/fee, or another viable pricing mechanism.

5. The LWV reaffirms our commitment to the constitutional right of privacy as an individual to make reproductive choices.

6. The League of Women Voters supports a set of climate assessment criteria that ensures that energy policies align with current climate science.

For a very readable convention daily briefing report, copy and paste this link in your browser:

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/convention-2018-daily-briefing>



LWVCM delegates to the national convention, shown here with the other attendees from North Carolina, are Delores Hurt, second from left in the front row, Karen Bean next to Delores, and Beth Springston in the back row, sixth from left.

League in Action



Above, left, **Maxine Eaves**, one of the community event organizers, shown with the display honoring Susan Lindsay at the Hickory Grove Fourth of July Parade.



Above right, **Sue Richards, Leta Bosc and Marcia Arnholdt** register new citizens on the Fourth of July at the History Museum.

Right, **Mary Kaczmarek** with students registering voters at Rocky River High School.



Below, LWVCM members at the annual meeting. More photos of the 2018 annual meeting will be available at <https://winningimages.photography/about July 14>.





Advocate—Educate—Empower

Visit LWVC—M's Website:
www.goleaguego.org

Dated Material

Forwarding Service Requested

All events are at the LWV-CM Center, 1817 Central Ave., Room 210, Charlotte 28205 unless otherwise noted. Click [here](#) for driving and parking directions.

July 24 (Tues)	LWVCM Board orientation & planning meeting, 1 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Aug. 19 (Sun)	LWV float in Gay Pride Parade, Watch for details on website
Sept. 4 (Tues)	League Board of Directors, 6:15 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Sept. 20 (Thurs)	Candidate Forum 6-8 pm, First United Methodist Church, 501 N. Tryon St., page 2
Sept. 25 (Tues)	Candidate Forum 6-8 pm, First United Methodist Church, 501 N. Tryon St., page 2
Oct. 2 (Tues)	League Board of Directors, 6:15 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Oct. 4 (Thurs)	Candidate Forum 6-8 pm, First United Methodist Church, 501 N. Tryon St., page 2

Check our [online calendar](#) for up-to-date LWVC-M events and meetings at goleaguego.org.

The official League shirt is available at Big Frog Custom TShirts in Charlotte. You can order at <http://lowvbigfrogshirt.bigcartel.com/> for \$13.35 plus tax. (\$15 for 2x size). Click on the shirt to start the process. Big Frog will arrange shipping for a fee (call 704-919-0038) or you can pick it up at their store in Ballantyne, 3429 Toringdon Way.

