

**May 4, 2024
ANNUAL CONVENTION
WORKBOOK**



October 4, 1950 - January 28, 2024



August 26, 2022



2024 Vote 411 Campaign

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The League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area [LWVNCA] is an Inter League Organization (ILO). It is comprised of the District of Columbia League and those Leagues in Maryland and Virginia surrounding the nation's capital. We are a nonpartisan, political, membership organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League influences public policy through education and advocacy at all levels of government.

The purpose of LWVNCA shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government, and to act on selected governmental issues of a metropolitan, regional or interjurisdictional nature such as energy, water and transportation.

Proposed Order of Business

(In Person at Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant – Wisconsin Ave., DC)

Call to Order

Joyce Starks, LWVNCA President

10:00 – 10:45 AM	Registration & Buffet Breakfast	
10:45 – 11:00	Welcome & Introductions	Joyce Starks, President
11:00 – 11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote Speaker Ayo Atterberry, LWVUS <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Culture Officer Speaking about <i>League Transformation 2024 and Beyond</i> Q & A 	
11:45 – 12:45 PM	Business Meeting	
	Roll Call of Member Leagues	Toni Marzotto, Secretary
	Credentials Report	Carol Bursik & Kathy Matusiak
	Adoption of Order of Business	President Joyce Starks
	Adoption of Convention Rules.....	Geraldine Whitley, Parliamentarian
	Minutes of 2023 Convention, -previously approved by the LWVNCA Board	Toni Marzotto, Secretary
	Appointment of a Reading Committee for the 2024 Convention Minutes.....	President Joyce Starks
	Treasurer’s Report	Carol Bursik, Treasurer
	Presentation, Discussion & Approval of Proposed FY2024 – FY 2025 LWVNCA Budget.....	Kathy Matusiak, Budget Chair
	Nominating Committee Report	Diane Hibino, Nominating Committee
	Election of Officers & Directors for 2024-2026, and Nominating Committee for 2024-25.	
	President’s Report	President Joyce Starks
12:45 – 1:00pm	New Business	President Joyce Starks
	Directions to the Board	
	Announcements	
	Adjournment	

Guest Speaker – Ayo Atterberry

Chief Culture Officer, LWVUS



Ayo Atterberry is the Chief Culture Officer with LWVUS. In this role, she oversees the organization's strategy and programmatic implementation. Her work ensures that the League is maximizing its partnerships, effectiveness, and impact nationwide.

A nonprofit leader with over two decades of experience, her journey with the League began as a member of the board. She believes that voting is the cornerstone of democracy and wants to support efforts to ensure that there is equitable access to

voting nationwide. Ayo was raised in a family that believed in the power of voting and political activism. Her elders taught her about the history of voting in this country and shared their own experiences with voter suppression.



LWNCA President's Report



2024 LWNCA Co-Presidents' Report
(Kathy Matusiak and Joyce Starks)

The League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area (LWNCA) is happy to be sharing another Convention with you. The LWNCA appreciates all the local league and state leagues that make up the LWNCA. It is your support that help us to communicate to other leagues various activities and ideas that can help each other to grow our leagues and keep the membership engaged.

I recognize that the League family members have been supportive of our members by supporting our events.

In this year we lost the LWWUS President and that was a major loss. She had achieved a lot working with the LWWUS and she was planning to achieve even more as the President of the LWWUS.

We can always get phenomenal workers on the LWNCA Board to carry out our agenda. The work you do does not go unnoticed. Your continuous support by volunteering constantly to make a difference in democracy and the world in which we live is very important. It starts in the Board Room and goes all the way to Capitol Hill.

A special thank you to all the Board Members for making it another great year. We would not be able to get things done without you. I would like to give special recognition to Toni Marzotto Thank you Toni for all that you do to keep LWNCA moving forward. Your role as the league secretary is not easy. We want you to know how much we appreciate you and the work you do. Some of our Board officers will be moving to new board positions and we appreciate them as well for the work they did as officers and the work they will continue to do in their new role on the Board.

Joyce Starks & Kathy Matusiak

Proposed Rules of the 2024 LWFVCA Convention

A. The following rules are prescribed by the LWFVCA bylaws:

1. Proceedings will be guided by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, unless the LWFVCA bylaws prescribe otherwise. **(Article X)**
2. Voting privileges are limited to delegates from member Leagues (local and state) in good standing and LWFVCA Board members. **(Article VII, Section 2)**
 - a. "Each delegate representing a local or state League shall be entitled to vote only if that League has met its per member payment responsibilities.
 - b. The LWFVCA board may make an exception in the case of proven hardship."
 - c. To conform to this bylaw, representatives from Leagues not paid in full will not have the privilege of the floor, the right to vote, or the right to make motions. PMP will be accepted any time before the opening plenary session to enable Leagues to have delegates with full voting privilege.
3. How to vote using Zoom **(for virtual meetings only)**
 - a. Use the raise your hand icon to vote and the secretary/president when acknowledge all votes have been counted.
 - b. After you vote please lower the raise hand icon.
4. Nominations for elected positions may be made from the floor, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained. **(Article VIII, Section 3)**

B. The following proposed rules are subject to approval by a majority vote of the Convention. Delegates may elect to amend these proposals or introduce others.

1. Floor privileges

- a. All League members shall have the right to speak.
- b. At in person meetings, a member wishing to address the Convention shall stand (as they are able). **(Zoom meetings:** Members will use the Zoom "raise hand feature" to request recognition. The chair will do her best to recognize people in order.) When recognized by the chair, a member shall state her/his name and member-League affiliation.
- c. Discussion will be limited to two minutes per speaker unless otherwise specified.

2. Motions. Only delegates and LWFVCA Board members can make motions. All motions of substance shall be delivered to the Secretary **[Zoom:** entered in the Chat Box]. At in-person meetings, motion forms are available at the registration table.

3. Zoom only. When you are not speaking or casting a voice vote, please mute your phone or computer.

4. **Minutes.** The Secretary will draft the Convention minutes, clear them with a reading committee appointed at the convention and submit the resulting version to the LWVNCA Board for approval.
 5. **Directions to the Board.** (*Virtual meeting:* Directions should be sent to the president in advance of the meeting.) At an in-person meeting, they should be submitted in writing to the Secretary.
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*Quilt by Charlene Marshall
Washington, DC*

League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area 2023 Annual Convention Minutes May 6, 2023

The 2023 Annual Convention for the League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) was held on May 6, 2023 at Maggiano's Little Italy, 5333 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20015. Registration and check-in began at 9:30 am and was followed by a buffet breakfast for the attendees.

Kathy Matusiak, Vice President of LWVNCA, opened the meeting at 10:30 am. She introduced the first guest speaker, Wayne R. Silver, Executive Director of the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission. Mr. Silver spoke about the collaboration between mental health professionals and law enforcement officials. He also discussed the evolving approaches utilized by the police in de-escalating situations in which an individual may be experiencing a mental health crisis. Following his prepared remarks, he took questions from the audience. At the conclusion of his presentation, Kathy Matusiak thanked Mr. Silver on behalf of the League and presented him with a small gift as a token of the League's gratitude.

Kathy Matusiak opened the business portion of the meeting at 11:07 am. She explained that the second guest speaker had been unavoidably delayed and would speak a little later during the meeting. She also stated that we would take some of the agenda items out of order, so as to accommodate the schedule of some members who needed to leave early.

Adoption of Order of Business: Jess Bennett (Delegate from DC) moved the adoption of the Proposed Order of Business contained in the Convention Workbook. The motion was approved by the delegates.

Presentation of the 2023 Naumann Award: Gretchen Blankenship, Chair of the Naumann Award Committee, made the presentation of the Naumann Award. She introduced her fellow Committee members: Sarah McMeans and Kathy Matusiak. Gretchen stated that the Committee had received 6 submissions from Member Leagues, all of which had been excellent. She explained that the Committee had chosen to award one winner and two honorable mentions.

Honorable Mention went to:

- LWV of Arlington/Alexandria City for the "Voter Girl" program that they developed for the Girl Scouts; and
- LWV of Montgomery County for the module that they developed for teachers on how to address controversial topics in the classroom.

The Winner of the Naumann Award was the DC League for their Quilts4DC Statehood project, which both promoted Statehood and full voting rights for DC, and also demonstrated the use of art for advocacy.

At 11:15, LWVNCA President Joyce Starks introduced the second guest speaker, Dr. Crystal Kuykendall, the owner and operator of Kreative and Innovative Resources for Kids (KIRK), Inc. Drawing on her experience as a criminal defense attorney as well as many other roles in the community, Dr. Kuykendall spoke about the impact of mental health issues on the justice system. She urged LWV to play an active role in monitoring how mental health resources are spent in preventive areas such as maternal health, preschool, educational programs, and community services. She also thought it was important to monitor whether mental health resources are made available to police departments in carrying out their work. Dr. Kuykendall took many questions from the audience and also encouraged those present to share their views and perspectives. At the conclusion of the talk, Kathy Matusiak presented Dr. Kuykendall with a small gift as a token of the League's appreciation.

The business meeting resumed at 12 noon, following Dr. Kuykendall's presentation.

President's Report: Joyce Starks, LWVNCA President, delivered the President's Report, which is also contained in the Convention Workbook. Joyce expressed thanks to the LWVNCA Board for their contributions to LWVNCA throughout the year, in particular recognizing Sarah McMeans, Carol Bursik, and Sherry Zachry.

Roll Call of Member Leagues: Secretary Barbara Lipsky called the roll of the nine Member Leagues represented at the Convention and asked the members of each League to stand when their League was called. The nine Member Leagues represented were: DC, Maryland (State League), Virginia (State League), Frederick County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Arlington/Alexandria City, Fairfax Area and Falls Church.

Credentials Report: Secretary Barbara Lipsky delivered the report of the Credentials Committee, which consisted of herself and Treasurer Carol Bursik. Barbara reported that there was a quorum for the Convention as there were 26 delegates with voting rights present, which exceeded the 25 voting delegates needed under the bylaws. She also reported that the other requirements for a quorum under the bylaws were met as a majority of the Member Leagues were represented, and there was representation from the DC League as well as from at least 2 Leagues from Maryland and 2 Leagues from Virginia.

Adoption of Convention Rules: Geraldine Whitley, as Parliamentarian, presented the proposed Rules for the Convention, which are also printed in the Convention Workbook. Jess Bennett (Delegate from DC) moved that the proposed rules be adopted. The delegates present voted to adopt the Convention Rules as proposed.

Minutes of 2022 Convention: LWVNCA Vice President Kathy Matusiak pointed out that the minutes of the 2022 Convention were printed in the Convention Workbook. As those minutes had been previously approved by the LWVNCA Board (following review by last year's reading committee), they are in the Workbook for information only and did not require a vote.

Appointment of 2023 Reading Committee: Kathy Matusiak asked for volunteers for a reading committee to review the minutes of the 2023 LWVNCA Convention. The following members volunteered and were appointed to the Reading Committee: Connie Potter (Arlington/Alexandria City); Carol Bursik (Fairfax); and Jackie Coolidge (Montgomery County).

Treasurer's Report: LWNCA Treasurer Carol Bursik presented the Treasurer's Report. She had left copies of the Report on each table at the Convention. (A copy is attached to these minutes). Carol reviewed the assets on hand and reported that LWNCA is in good financial shape. She stated that invoices for the 2023-2024 per-member-payments (PMPs) had just been sent out to the Member Leagues. She stated that LWNCA had had few expenses this past year and that those expenses had primarily been for storage of the archives, meetings, and the website.

Approval of Proposed LWNCA 2023-2024 Budget: Kathy Matusiak, as Chair of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed budget for 2023-2024. Kathy explained that the proposed budget for the coming year is very similar to the budget for the past year. Although we did not spend much of the budgeted funds in the present year, the Board anticipates that more will be spent during the coming year as we resume in-person meetings and events. Kathy thanked Joyce Starks and Carol Bursik for their work on the Budget proposal. There was a question from the floor, asking whether LWNCA was looking into replacing the "Capitol Steps" fundraiser, which LWNCA had for many years hosted during the LWVUS Convention. (The "Capitol Steps" singing and political parody group went out of business during the pandemic.) Kathy replied that LWNCA is looking into an alternative fundraiser to host during the LWVUS Convention in 2024. Nancy Soreng (Delegate for the Maryland League) moved that the budget be adopted. The delegates voted to approve the Budget for 2023-2024, as proposed.

Program Committee Report for 2023-2025: Committee Chair Kathy Matusiak delivered the report of the Program Committee, which is also printed in the Convention Workbook. Kathy reported that LWNCA had put on a successful virtual workshop last summer entitled "Trains, Buses and Automobiles." The workshop included speakers from the Council of Governments, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Coalition for Smarter Growth, who discussed the interconnectedness of transportation and land use policies in the regional jurisdictions. A recording of the workshop is posted on the LWNCA website. Kathy explained that last year, the Program Committee had recommended a comprehensive review of all LWNCA positions to see what needed updating. Due to departures from the Committee, that review did not take place. When Member Leagues were asked for suggestions for topics needing study, re-study, or action, no suggestions were submitted by any of the Member Leagues. As a result, the Program Committee suggests all current positions be re-adopted without changes. The LWNCA Board is once again planning to review its positions this coming year to see what needs updating. The Board is also planning to have separate committees to plan workshops and to review positions, so that each function gets due consideration. Sherry Zachry moved that the Program Committee's proposal to readopt all current LWNCA positions without changes be approved. The delegates voted to approve the motion.

Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers: Geraldine Whitley presented the report from the Nominating Committee. The Committee consisted of Sarah Matthews (Chair), Deb Wake, and Geraldine Whitley. Geraldine stated that the Committee is nominating:

- **Co-Presidents:** Joyce Starks and Kathy Matusiak (2023-2025)
- **Vice President:** Carole Conors (2023-2025)
- **Directors:** Dr. Gail Clark Dickson and Geraldine Whitley (2023-2025)
- **Nominating Committee Members:** Diane Hibino and Sherry Zachry (2023-2024).

Geraldine explained that the Committee was not able to get nominations for the positions of Secretary and Nominating Committee Chair, and that those positions were currently vacant. Geraldine asked for nominations from the floor for all positions, including the vacant positions. There were no nominations from the floor. Geraldine moved that the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee be approved and elected to office. The delegates voted to elect the proposed slate.

New Business:

Announcements:

Sherry Zachry reminded everyone that there will be no LWVNCA Board meeting in June. The next LWVNCA Board Meeting will be July 7.

Kathy Matusiak urged the LWVNCA Board members to attend the upcoming Annual Meetings of the Member Leagues.

Direction to Board:

Nancy Soreng (Delegate from the Maryland League) urged LWVNCA to consider changing its schedule to meet only on a quarterly basis, rather than its current monthly meeting schedule. She thought that this might help with the recruitment of LWVNCA officers. Nancy also urged the LWVNCA Board to consider how best to use its time during meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lipsky
Secretary, LWVNCA

These minutes were reviewed by the Reading Committee appointed at the May 6, 2023 Annual Convention. The Reading Committee consisted of: Connie Potter, Carol Bursik, and Jackie Coolidge. All changes suggested by the Reading Committee were incorporated in the minutes shown above and were approved at the July 7, 2023 LWVNCA Board meeting.

LWFVCA BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT FOR PROPOSED LWFVCA FY2024-2025 BUDGET

The LWFVCA FY 2024-2025 Proposed Budget shows total expected funding and expenditures of \$7,240 as compared to \$9,750 in FY2023-2024. The LWFVCA will hold per-member-payment (PMP) steady at \$1.10 per primary member and \$0.55 for additional household members. The Budget Committee projects \$1,478 in PMP income. This is a decrease of \$52 from last year's PMP, reflecting a slight drop in membership from the 2023-24 fiscal year.

We note at going forward from 2024, there will be a new membership process and structure, created by LWFVUS which starts in the 2024-25 fiscal year. Under the new process starting in 2024, all membership dues will go to the national office and moneys will be distributed to local and state Leagues according to a new formula. This is the result of the "Transformation Plan" adopted at the 2023 LWFVUS Convention. As of this date (April 4, 2024), it is unclear how and where the Inter-League Organizations (ILO) such as LWFV of the National Capital Area, will fit into the new organizational structure.

Therefore, the LWFVCA Proposed 2024-25 Budget may have to be altered, depending on future realities.

A reminder that next year's budget (FY25-26) will include issuance of the Naumann Award as well as hosting the LWFVUS Board Reception.

The LWFVCA Board expresses its thanks to the FY2024-2025 Budget Committee: Kathy Matusiak, Chair, and President Joyce Starks. Treasurer Carol Bursik, is the Ex Officio member.

Proposed LWNCA Budget for FY2024-2025

Updated with March 31, 2024 Actuals

LWNCA BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025					
		2023-2024	2023-2024	2024-2025	
I.	INCOME	Actual*	Budget	Proposed	Notes
					Based on 1270 primary members @1.10 and 148 additional members @0.55
A.	Per Member Payments (PMP)	518	1,530	1,478	
B.	Presidents' Luncheon	450	480	640	16 board members contributing @\$40 each
C.	Annual Convention	0	2,000	2,000	50 attendees @\$40
D.	LWVUS Board Reception	0	0	0	
E.	Fundraiser	0	0	0	
F.	Workshop Income	0	0	0	
G.	Interest	1	9	9	
H.	Contributions	0	200	200	
I.	Other Income	0	0	0	
J.	Total Income	969	4,219	4,327	
K.	Transfer In(+)/Out(-) from checking	0	3,031	5,423	+ indicates a reduction in checkbook balance, while - indicates an increase. Based on carry-over from 2024-2025
L.	Total income and transfers	969	7,250	9,750	
II.	EXPENSES				
A.	Operating Costs				
1	Office supplies	576	800	800	Includes archiving
2	Website	425	450	450	LWVC MyLO platform website and related expenses
3	Zoom Expense	0	150	150	
	Subtotal -- Operating Costs	1,001	1,400	1,400	
B.	Board/Administration				
1	President's allowance	0	100	100	Expenses of the President
2	Board Expenses	10	100	100	Other board costs, n.e.c.
3	Member Directory	0	100	100	Printing the annual directory
4	Presidents' Luncheon	1,045	500	500	
5	Workshop Expenses	0	900	900	Assumes two workshop events per fiscal year
6	LWVUS Board Reception	0	0	2,500	Every other year. Planned for FY2025
	Subtotal -- Board/Administration	1,055	1,700	4,200	
C.	Conventions/Councils				
1	Local & State Meetings	0	500	500	Registration and incidental expenses of Pres. or other LWNCA representative
2	LWVUS Council/Convention	0	500	500	
3	LWNCA Annual Convention	400	2,750	2,750	
	Subtotal Conventions/Council	400	3,750	3,750	
D.	Other Expenses				
1	Madeline Naumann Award	0	0	400	Presented every other fiscal year
2	Fundraiser Exp. & Rev. Sharing	0	0	0	
3	100th Anniversary Events	0	0	0	
4	Misc Expenses	0	400	0	
	Subtotal -- Other Expenses	0	400	400	
E.	Total -- Expenses	2,456	7,250	9,750	
<i>* Updated with Actuals as of 3-31-24</i>					

LWNCA 2024 Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of the nominees for LWNCA Officers, Directors and Nominating Committee to be elected at the May 4, 2024 Annual Convention.

LWNCA Officers and Directors 2024 – 2026 Nominees

For 2024-2026 Term:

OFFICERS

Vice President Dr. Gail Clark (LWVPGC)

DIRECTORS

Erni Bridges (LWVFA)
Anne Laroche (LWVDC)

For 2024-25 terms:

OFFICERS

Secretary Antonette (Toni) Marzotto (LWVMC)

Treasurer Carol Bursik (LWVFA)*

Nominating Committee for 2024-25

Barbara Lipsky, Chair (LWVFC)
Nancy Bliss, member (LWVMC)
Diane Hibino, member (LWVMC)

Respectfully submitted,
LWNCA 2022 Nominating Committee

Diane Hibino
Sherry Zachry
Toni Marzotto
Erni Bridges

REMARKS: We are recommending that **Toni Marzotto** be elected to fill the last year of the vacant Secretary's term that ends 2025, and potentially be elected to a new **full term** (2025-2027) in at the 2025 Convention (in accordance with the bylaws that state the Secretary is to be elected in an odd-numbered year). We nominate **Dr. Gail Clark** for Vice President to fill a two-year term (2024-26) starting July 1, 2024, in order to reinstate the schedule for electing the vice president as specified in the bylaws, (i.e., elect Vice President for two years in an even-numbered year). We have asked Treasurer **Carol Bursik** to serve one more year as we navigate the new membership process instituted by LWVUS. Also, we recommend that **Kathy Matusiak** be appointed as a Director on the 2024-25 board to fill Dr. Gail's director slot.

Proposed LWFVNCV Officers & Board of Directors 2024-2026

OFFICERS

President:

Joyce Starks (2023-2025)
301-943-5238
joycestarks@aol.com
5603 Emack Ave
Lanham, MD 20706

Vice-President

Dr. Gail Clark (2024-26)
240-353-0799 (cell)
drgailclark@gmail.com
109 Garden Gate Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Secretary

Toni Marzotto (2024-25)
301 318-6703 (mobile) [LWVMC]
tmarzotto@towson.edu
10723 Meadowhill Road,
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Treasurer

Carol Bursik (2024-25)
703-527-0305(h) 703-401-8925(c)
cjbursik@icloud.com
3433 Blair Road,
Falls Church, VA 22041

OFF BOARD

Nominating Committee (2024-25)

Barbara Lipsky – Chair (*elected*)
703-534-6128 (h) 703-835-4318 (c)
blipsky@cox.net
803 Ridge Place
Falls Church, VA 22046

Diane Hibino (*elected member*)

301-802-3427(c)
dianehibino@comcast.net
7707 Wisconsin Ave, 606
Bethesda, MD 20814

DIRECTORS

Erni Bridges (2024-26)
703-627-3758
ebridgeslwv@gmail.com
5620 Tower Hill circle
Alexandria, Virginia 22315

Anne Laroche (2024-26)
solo1101@verizon.net
202-232-3602 (202-445-6144 cell)
SoLo Piazza 408
1300 13th Street NW
Washington, DC 20005-4477

Geraldine Whitley (2023-25)
202-882-6480
jacksonwhitley@aol.com
339 Randolph Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011

Appointed Director - potential

Kathy Matusiak (2024-2025)
703-979-7665
kmatusiak@comcast.net
29 South Abingdon Street
Arlington, VA 22201

Nancy Bliss (*elected member*)

301-365-5403
nabliss44@aol.com
6732 Newbold Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

Web Administrator (Off-Board)

Sherry Zachry
703-730-8118 (h); 703-371-6374 (c)
szachry@verizon.net
LWFVNCAWebmaster@gmail.com
5757 White Flint Court
Manassas, VA 20112-3059

A Liaison to LWFVNCV from each member League is appointed by their respective League and they become members of this board. The LWFVNCV board will appoint 2 more members to the Nominating Committee.

Profiles of 2024-2026 Nominees

OFFICERS

Dr. Gail Clark, LWV Prince George's County, MD - Vice President



Dr. Gail Clark's leadership extends throughout state educational agencies, school districts, higher education, and educational associations. Her leadership has touched the lives of many acknowledging her mission-oriented commitment to Social Justice.

Dr. Clark's professional journey includes the following:

- **Maryland State Department of Education Program (MSDE)** Supervisor Title I Program Improvement and Family Support Division of Curriculum, Instructional Improvement, and Professional Learning, Baltimore, MD;
- **Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)** Director for Constituent Partnerships, Alexandria, VA;
- **Mid-continent Research Educational Laboratory (McREL)** Senior Consultant for School Reform, Denver, CO;

Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Distinguished Educator for School Transformation, Frankfort, KY;

Fayette County Public Schools District and School Administrator, Guidance Specialist, School Social Worker and Teacher, Lexington, KY; and

University of Kentucky College of Social Work Adjunct Professor, Lexington, KY.

Dr. Clark is an Executive Consultant collaborating with various networks advocating for social justice and democracy. She is active with the **League of Women Voters of Maryland**, Director for Voter Services and member of the Candidate Forum and Advocacy Committees, assessing legislative policies, reviewing Senate & House Bills, drafting testimonies and testifying before the Maryland General Assembly. As **Vice President of the League of Women Voters of Prince George's County (LWVPGC)**, Dr. Clark conducts candidate forums, publishes the LWVPGC Voters' Guides and conducts youth voter education outreach to students of Prince George's County Schools. Dr. Clark also serves as a Director and Liaison to the **League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area** contributing to the program design of the Annual Convention.

Dr. Clark completed her doctoral studies in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at Bowie State University, Bowie Maryland. Her published work with focus on establishing policies to address quality extended learning programs through the lens of diversity, equity and inclusion is: Clark Dickson, G. (2014), *Extended Learning Programs for Elementary Students: Implications for Educational Leaders*, Ann Arbor, MI; ProQuest, LLC.

Dr. Clark is a member of the **Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.** active with the Social Action Committee.

Antonette (Toni) Marzotto, LWV Montgomery County, MD - Secretary



I have been a member of the Baltimore County League of Women Voters in 2009, and was a member until I retired from Towson University. While a member of the Baltimore County League, I was involved in voter services and expanding the involvement of university students in precinct activities.

I joined the Montgomery County League in 2020, and have recently become active with the National Capital Area League where I serve as the secretary for the group. I am looking forward to learning more about the various Leagues and activities that are part of the Maryland State League.

I recently retired after teaching in and chairing the Political Science Department at Towson University. My areas of interest include transportation and the environment as well as women's health issues

Carol Bursik, LWV Fairfax Area, VA - Treasurer



Carol worked as a librarian for the Federal government for 32 years in both military and civilian agencies, including a 4 ½ year assignment in Germany. Several of her positions included responsibility for budget preparation and execution at the program level. When she retired from the Department of Justice in 2007, she served on the boards of several non-profit organizations. She was treasurer of the District of Columbia Library Association for three years, was financial secretary of a non-profit educational foundation for one year, and held the treasurer's position for an organization of seniors at her church. She met her husband in 2007 while helping to rebuild homes in New Orleans after Katrina. Since then they have visited all 50 states and a number of foreign countries. She joined the

Fairfax League in 2012 because of the organization's emphasis on voter education and voter registration. She served as LWVFA Membership Director and Board member for four years and was elected as a Director of the LWV for the National Capital Region in 2021. For fiscal years 2023 and 2024 she served as treasurer of LWVNCA.

DIRECTORS

Erni Bridges, LWV Fairfax Area, Director



Erni was born and raised in Newport News, Va. Erni is a product of an HBCU (Norfolk State University) and majored in Sociology. As a former military spouse, she lived in Europe over 10+ years. Erni volunteered many hours during her years as a military spouse (American Red Cross, Army Community Service Centers (supporting families) and Officers Wives Club President (Mannheim, Germany).

Erni joined the Fairfax LWV, November 3, 2018, shortly after she retired from her Professional Career as Vice President, HR for a Custom Publishing Company, Washington, DC and New York City. Erni was anxious to get busy again. A few weeks after retiring, she called the Fairfax League and they invited her immediately to join League members at a local high school to see the process first-hand and the rest is history. Training was great. Erni began working with the Vote Program, registering high school students with other volunteers. She thought this was an excellent way to support students....it was a perfect fit. Erni knew she was in the right place for all the right reasons. These students are our future and their vote and voice matters. In mid-summer of 2019, Erni was invited to join the LWV-VA State Board, and yes -- she decided to accept the invitation. Erni hasn't regretted her "yes" one day and says, "I knew I had much to learn but working with the committed women who love the work of the League has been an ongoing learning experience for me." Erni has been part of LWV-VA State Board for over two years first as Director and now as 2nd Vice President. Erni has always been a passionate advocate for young people, ensuring not only that they could register and vote but giving them an opportunity to join us, work with us and give voice to assist in creating change. Both as Director and now 2nd VP, Erni has had the opportunity to hire and support students through the LWV summer internship program. Students have the opportunity to work, support, learn, collaborate with league members as student interns. They learn, stay informed about the work of the league and support members with various projects. Erni has served as intern program liaison and loves to see students succeed. She has had many other opportunities to support, work with other committees and members of the LWV/VA Board. As a member of The Arlington (VA) Chapter of The Links, November 17, 2021, Erni was named "Woman Of The Year" by Inter-Service Club Council of Arlington, Virginia.

Anne Laroche, LWV District of Columbia, Director



In this picture Anne is wearing a sticker that says "Background Checks Save Lives." On most days she wears a LWV badge that says, "Statehood for the District of Columbia." Anne joined the League of Women Voters in 2010, served as a director/trustee and chaired the nominating committee in 2018. She served on the health committee and at monthly naturalization ceremonies to register new citizens. She promotes DC Statehood and Ending Gun Violence. At The New York Ave. Presbyterian Church, where she is a Session Elder, she works with the homeless on Sundays and tutors a DC Public School student on Thursdays in Community Club. She is a member of the Public Safety committee of the (WIN) Washington Interfaith Network. A native Texan, Anne also lived in Montreal where she was active in their Council of Churches and worked in planning and

development at ALCAN (Aluminum Co. of Canada). She went to DC after graduate school, then lived in New York and Boston, and returned in 2006. Before the pandemic, she co-directed a weekly support group Freedom Circle for returning citizens. Anne is part of the LWVDC team visiting the DC Department of Corrections to advise DC residents of their right to vote while incarcerated and to register them to vote

OFF BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE for 2024-25

Barbara Lipsky, LWV Falls Church [City], VA, Chair



Barbara Lipsky has served on the LWNCA Board as a Liaison from Falls Church, as a Director and, most recently, as Secretary from 2021 – 2023. Barbara is also an active member of the Falls Church League and has served as its Communications Director for the past four years. Prior to retirement, Barbara served as an attorney with the Federal Government, specializing in labor and employment law. In addition to her work for the League, she enjoys volunteering as a literacy tutor in the Alexandria City schools.

Nancy Bliss, LWV Montgomery County, MD, Nominating Committee Member



I am delighted to serve on the LWNCA Nominating Committee for the upcoming year. I am a member of the LWV of Montgomery County and have served as president and co-president, treasurer, and coordinator of Great Decisions. I also served as treasurer of LWNCA. Other activities include being president of the Trowel Garden Club and chair of the Facilities Team at Cedar Lane UUC



Diane Hibino, LWV Montgomery County, MD, Nominating Committee Member

Diane is a member of the LWV of Montgomery County where she has served as president and currently coordinates the Membership Committee. She previously served as Director on the LWVNCA Board. She is from New England and graduated from American University in Political Science. Diane has worked for the Peace Corps in Washington, DC and Bolivia; for USAID in South Africa on democracy projects; and for the University of Miami (FL). She was a member of Leagues in Connecticut and Florida before moving to Maryland. She volunteers as a teacher in ESOL at the Gilchrist Center and as an editor of Volunteer stories for the Museum of the Peace Corps Experience. She enjoys hiking, biking and travelling to national parks and international destinations.



REPORT FROM 2024 LWVNCA PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Program Committee Report – April 2024 for LWVNCA May 4, 2024 Annual Convention Workbook RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LWVNCA POSITIONS

The 2024 Program Committee recommends changes to the following positions:

AIRPORTS

3A – Enact responsible, comprehensive planning and zoning policies that limit development to industrial and/or commercial uses in the immediate vicinity of the airports. DELETE 4

BELTWAY SAFETY

2A – mandatory commercial vehicle safety inspections in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. DELETE SENTENCE AS IS IT NOT NEEDED-REGULAR INSPECTIONS HAVE BEEN MANDATORY FOR YEARS

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

1. We support legislation to permit the use of marijuana and heroin for medicinal purposes – DELETE- MARIJUANA HAS BECOME LEGAL IN THESE AREAS

TRANSPORTATION

4A – Informing the public of the total costs of auto use and full public disclosure of the costs of transportation service, of who pays for service and who receives it, and of full cost/benefit information – DELETE- FUNDING HAS CHANGED SINCE THE EARLY 1980'S WHEN THIS WAS WRITTEN AND THIS IS NO LONGER NEEDED

It should be noted that an NCA Board member did not agree with deleting the #1 under Controlled Substance. However, the Committee decided to go with the original discussions as this will not be voted on at this convention and next year's committee can review and change if needed.

These are the recommendations that the 2023-2024 Program Committee puts forward for the next committee to consider and to potentially be voted on at the LWVNCA 2025 Convention.

Presented by:

Kathy Matusiak
Geraldine Whitley
Ann Schmitt
Anne Laroche

Reports from Member Leagues State Leagues



District of Columbia (LWVDC), Barbara Zia, President

Voter Services: The Restore the Vote team registered voters at Federal Bureau of Prisons and DC Department of Corrections facilities across the region and we taught incarcerated citizens basic civics knowledge needed to become fully engaged voters. We partnered with, registered, educated, and activated young voters. We hosted voter registration events on local campuses and attended training webinars to help us optimize that engagement. In-person naturalization ceremonies resumed in 2023 and we had volunteers at the DC District Courthouse every month to register and celebrate with new citizens.

DC Statehood: We educated and engaged local citizens and elected officials about the lack of full democracy in the nation's capital through constant advocacy, our own events, strategic partnerships, and attendance at gatherings around the city. We held statehood-focused events in every ward of DC. We also showed up on Capitol Hill to bring this issue to the attention of Congress and to pushback against its efforts to curtail DC's autonomy.

Climate: We increased our leadership on local climate issues by supporting the *Healthy Homes Act* that would assist DC residents in upgrading to electric, climate-friendly appliances, joining the *3RC for DC Coalition* that supports incentives to increase plastic recycling, and working on DC's transition away from dependence on methane gas.



*Quilt by Charlene Marshall
Washington, DC*

Website Upgrade: We launched a new website on Club Express, a powerful Internet tool for managing associations.



LWV of Maryland (LWVMD), Linda Kohn, President

LWVMD has had a very active year, especially around advocacy and member education.

During the 90-day session of the Maryland General Assembly, we testified on more than 100 bills, including signing onto letters with coalition partners. Our legislative priorities were based on input from our members and fell under 3 general areas: Making Democracy Work, Social and Economic Justice and Protecting the Environment. Member advocates attended 3 training sessions about the legislative process and how to be a league advocate. We held an in-person Lobby Night where members came to Annapolis to visit with legislators about League priorities. Our annual Lobby Day on Capitol Hill includes talking directly with members of the Maryland delegation in Congress.

We had several educational events. One workshop focused on a recently completed fact sheet on "Meeting Basic Human Needs. We were honored to hear from Sen. Mary Washington

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(Baltimore). We had sessions on disinformation and A.I. Speakers included “democracy expert” Danielle Allen from Harvard University, Claire Wardle from Brown University on “information pollution,” and Jared DeMarinis, Administrator of the State Board of Elections. We also held our 17th annual Constitution Day in collaboration with the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s Carey School of Law.

To improve communications, we increased our presence on social media, especially through a partnership with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. We also re-did our website for a sleeker and more modern look.



LWV of Virginia (LWV-VA), Joan Porte, President

2023 -2024 Impact Report

The almost 2,000 members of LWV-VA were active this year. They:

- Wrote 7,000 postcards to returning and disenfranchised citizens,
- Sent 60,000 text messages sent to turn out the vote in the 2023 election,
- Had voting information translated into 7 languages,
- Released Podcasts on voting for marginalized voters and other topics with views exceeding 2000 downloads, <https://my.lwv.org/virginia/podcast>
- Held more than 30 virtual and in person voter registration events throughout Virginia,
- Held more than 40 high school Voter registration events,
- Sent more than 200,000 GOTV postcards for the 2023 election
- Sent more than 187,000 GOTV Postcards for the 2024 primary.

The League of Women Voters of Virginia celebrates 104 years of engaging, registering, and informing voters to be sure that all eligible voters have an avenue for participation, and all citizens have free and fair access to the polls.

Youth and College Engagement

We also started a Youth Council to engage high schools students in the voting and elections process <https://my.lwv.org/virginia/youth-council>. Also, for the first time, we have a high school poster contest to further get students engaged in voting <https://my.lwv.org/virginia/2024-youth-poster-contest>. This is in addition to our college intern program.

We are also participants in the College Vote Summit for the third year.

Combatting Mis and Dis Information

For the 2024 general election, we are focused on combatting mis and dis information in several ways by:

1. Sponsoring a poster contest for high school students to disseminate correct voting information;
2. Creating with the help of William and Mary College students, a VerbaI program to use artificial intelligence (AI) to search for election falsehoods and then list correct information from trusted fact checking sites, https://verbai.org/election_facts .

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3. Joining our election protection partners in visually searching social media and then reporting election lies.

Combatting Voter Suppression

In addition to 7000 postcards send to returning citizens, we are working closely with the Campaign Legal Center, the Fair Elections Center, Nolef Turns to address problems with the sudden purging of 3500 returning citizens who had their rights restored and then were removed before the November 2023 election. We were successful in getting them returned to the roles but continue to insist on them receiving proper notification from the State Board of Elections. Plans are in the works to issue a letter from Nolef Turns and LWV-VA to these people assuring them that they can vote safely and providing election hotline information.

We have also worked closely with Shawn Barksdale, of “10 Minutes of Truth” to reach returning citizens just before release to educate them on how to get their rights restored.

We will work extremely hard in the next legislative sessions to get a Constitutional amendment passed that assures that rights are restored automatically upon release and one of the last vestiges of our Jim Crowe past is removed from the books.

2023 – 2024 Legislative Wins!

We continue to advocate for legislation supporting voting rights and campaign finance, women’s reproductive rights, childcare, affordable housing, education equity, environmental justice, mitigation of domestic and gun violence, physical health and Black maternal health and behavioral health issues in the criminal justice system

The League was instrumental in saving \$2.8 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money earmarked for election system upgrades.

100 percent of the voting and elections bills we opposed in the 2024 legislative session failed. These bills would have destroyed same day voter registration, limited the early voting windows, and returned restrictive voter ID laws targeting college students and the poor.

We successfully worked for the passage of HB 943 and SB 346, which added election officials to the protected voter class regarding their personal information on voting records. Sadly, this is necessary in this current climate. We also saw the passage of HB 998 extending the deadline for electoral boards to meet and ascertain the results of elections to 10 days post-election.

So many reproductive rights, domestic violence and gun violence prevention bills were vetoed by the Governor, but we celebrated the passage of SB16 and HB 78, the Menstrual Data Privacy Act. This bill protects Virginians’ private menstrual data from warrants or subpoenas. Let that sink in – we are celebrating this bill – but why do we even need it?

Postal Problems

The League is concerned with recent reports of postal delays in several areas of the state which may impact voting by mail in June and November. We are planning a drop box “game” for people to find and become aware of their drop box locations.

Internal Changes

We have a new website loaded with information for members and voters – and we will be

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adding another section to it in time for the 2024 election, called “Be a Virginia Voter.”

We also have a new handbook for the State Board and many new toolkits ranging from advocacy tips to league management. All League members and especially local league leaders should take a look at our League Management page. <https://my.lwv.org/virginia/league-management>

We are now instituting a fund-raising plan to ensure that we can start having paid staff like many of our other state leagues. The need for a constant source of steady money is imperative if we are to be a well-rounded and fully operational league.

We have a new League! Welcome to the LWV of the Northern Shenandoah Valley!

We will never waiver in our protection of voting and Democracy.

Local Member Leagues - Maryland

League of Women Voters of Frederick County, MD

Submitted by Lauri Gross, Co-President



Jill Griffith and Sue Krause at Hispanic Festival Oct. 2023 in Frederick County

This year, the Frederick County League staffed info tables at community events where we registered voters, shared general League info, talked about the Voters' Guide etc. Many of these helped us toward our DEI goals, such as the Frederick Hispanic Festival, an event at the Xa Loi Temple in Frederick, and an event sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Frederick hosted the Annual LWVMD Convention in June. In addition to helping to secure the convention location, LWVFC members drove convention-goers to downtown Frederick events, secured County Executive Jessica Fitzwater as the opening speaker, etc.

Congressional 6th district. We wrote and distributed several press releases and gained coverage in the Frederick News Post (FNP) and elsewhere when we hosted a very well-attended public forum on ranked-choice voting that featured a panel of experts. We also generated press coverage for working with the Frederick County Public Schools and the County Board of Elections on a program to encourage high-school students to serve as election judges. (Note: Contact LWVFR for copy of article in the FNP)

We held a Legislative Breakfast where attendees met elected officials who represent Frederick County in the Maryland General Assembly. And, this year we ramped up our membership efforts to ensure that new members are engaged as soon as they join.

In April 2024 we will host forums for candidates running for school board and Maryland's



Mary Beth Coker and Sue Krause at Xa Loi Temple summer fest 2023

LWV of Howard County, MD Krista Threefoot, President
No report submitted

LWV of Montgomery County, MD, Susan Albertine, President

As we celebrate 104 years of promoting political responsibility through informed and active participation in government, the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County (LWVMC) has brought plans into action in many ways. We took the recommendations of our Planning for the Future (PFF) study from 2022 and made things happen. We rolled out a new membership platform, using Club Express, and have been making improvements on our website and member management of the site over the past year. We moved our archive of documents into the cloud. We ran our first Leadership Development Workshop in summer 2023 and are now preparing materials for our second workshop in May and June 2024. An unplanned challenge we met: We moved to a new office in downtown Rockville.

To empower citizens and promote voting, we

- Sponsored 30+ voter registration events across the county, including at correctional facilities, Montgomery College campuses, libraries, places of worship, and naturalization ceremonies;
- Created “Registering to Vote and What Comes Next,” a slide presentation aimed at younger voters. We have now secured funding to produce this as a video, thereby extending our reach;
- Made a seamless transition to new leadership and prepared, published, and distributed the 2024 primary *Voters’ Guide*, producing about 75,000 guides in English and 12,000 in Spanish, and helped other Maryland counties prepare information for VOTE411;
- Staffed a Voter Hotline to respond to voter inquiries and provide factual information during the Primary season;
- Continued implementation of the Polling Place Support Program by recruiting volunteers as polling place observers on primary Election Day;
- Initiated a project to share voter information in traditionally low-turnout precincts.

Communicating trusted, fact-based education/information to the community, we

- Offered three Trending Topics on the youth vote, affordable housing, and the potential impact of artificial intelligence on elections;
- Sponsored live candidate forums for the Rockville mayoral and city council election and a virtual forum for the Montgomery County Board of Education primary election;
- Provided written and oral testimony before several government jurisdictions on
 - ranked-choice voting
 - tree canopy management
 - oversight of the County's Advisory Commission on Policing
 - *RideOn* bus transit
 - Board of Education special elections
 - overnight stay facilities in the Agricultural Reserve
 - zoning changes for affordable housing
 - ending consent searches during traffic stops
 - funding a People's Counsel for land use planning
 - local control of speed limits on state highways
 - affirming Maryland's support of the Equal Rights Amendment
- Revived our annual breakfast with Montgomery County Council members;
- Strengthened our partnerships with other nonprofits, including NOW, Links, Inc., MC Votes, the Montgomery County Council of PTAs, and many others by working together on policy issues, voter registration/education events, and candidate forums.

How do we do this year in and year out? Our members work from their homes, at voter registration tables, on their phones, and in our office. We connect by sharing passion,

commitment, and a belief in civic engagement.
Susan Albertine, Toni Marzotto, Gretchen Blankenship

LWV Prince George's County, MD, Gloria Johnson, President

Voter Education/Registration Youth Outreach Highlights:

In collaboration with the Prince George's Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., LWVPGC conducted Voter Registration Outreach in several High Schools in Prince George's County. Over 800 high school students are now registered VOTERS!!



LWVPGC trained students from Bowie State University to become Candidate Forum Moderators. The trained moderators participated as co-moderators in several LWVPGC sponsored Candidate Forums. These students are now members of the LWVPGC.



LWVPGC conducted Candidate Forums for Board of Education Candidates. Candidates responded to questions to inform the community of their positions on various issues. More than 400 viewers were informed. The League of Women Voters of Prince George's County conducts virtual and face-to-face forums as a major portion of their Voter Education commitment.



View District 5 Candidate Forum on LWVPGC YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/live/PlwQeMaB9nE?si=ieclFjLz7xfR37DR>

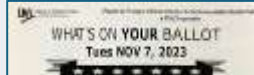





Local Member Leagues - Virginia

**LWV of Arlington & Alexandria City, VA,
Pam Berg & Constance Potter, Co-Presidents**

No report submitted

LWV of the Fairfax Area, VA, Pat Fege & Katherine Ingmanson, Co-Presidents

LWVFA		2023-2024		
The Year in Numbers				
Empowering Voters		Fairfax Facts	15,000	
		What's on Your Ballot?	5,000	
		Voter Registration		
		New Citizens and Community Voters Registered	3078	
		FCPS High School Voters Registered	2418	
	TOTAL Voter Registration		5,496	
		Candidate Forums		
		Forums	4	
		Co-Sponsors	12	
	Viewing of Candidate Forums		2632+	
	Reminder Postcards Sent	1,000		

LWV of Falls Church [City], VA, Kitty O'Hara, President



Falls Church 2023-24 Board showing new T-shirts

Falls Church LWV began this League year with an effective campaign to educate our local voters on the Fall 2023 election, which included elections for both houses of our State General Assembly as well as important local offices such as City Council and School Board. We succeeded in getting all of our local candidates to submit information to Vote411.

We also published a comprehensive Voters Guide for the local election and held a candidate forum for the City Council election. We distributed information on the election at the Falls Church Fall Festival, farmers' markets and at the polls. We educated voters about changed voting procedures, including a change in one of the local polling places and new procedures for submitting mail-in ballots.

During the course of the year, we held question and answer sessions with both of our representatives in the Virginia General Assembly: Delegate Marcus Simon and State Senator Saddam Salim. We also hosted a presentation by the Falls Church Planning Director, who discussed the five-year outlook for our City.

As part of our continuing efforts to promote voting, we sent post cards to infrequent voters urging them to check their voter registration status and to vote in upcoming elections. Our members continue to volunteer, along with members of other Northern Virginia Leagues, to register new citizens to vote immediately following their citizenship ceremonies.



New Citizens' Voter Registration Sept. 30, 2023 with Leagues across Northern VA.

We recently held a voter registration drive at our local high school. Last fall, we also had a guest speaker who educated our members on how to conduct voter registration campaigns. To spruce up our voter outreach efforts, we ordered new T-Shirts with our logo and raised funds for our local efforts by selling the shirts (at a very reasonable price) to our members.

LWV of Loudoun County, VA, Kathleen Hughes & Ann Schmitt, Co-Presidents

Programs

Spring – Fall 2023

1. **Annual Luncheon** -Loudoun Women in Action at Tuscarora Mill Restaurant – Donna Fortier, Mobile Hope; Angela Mitchell, LCC; Truphelia Parker, Delta Sigma Theta; Maria Posey, LWV-VA Child Care Study. About 50 people were in attendance. Several new members joined as a result.
2. **Voter Registration** – Collaboration with LC Public Libraries on voting displays at Purcellville and all libraries and senior centers; Voter registration at Wood Grove High School and New Citizen Inductions in Fairfax.
3. **Candidate Forums** - We partnered with Delta Sigma Thetas and the Loudoun NAACP to present four free nonpartisan “Your Voice Your Vote” live and online forums for Election 2023 –*August 17, Sterling; September 21 – Dulles South; October 19 – Leesburg; November 2 – Ashburn.* All were recorded and posted on YouTube and Facebook. All were covered by Loudoun Times Mirror and Loudoun Now.
4. **Communications** – Updated website; produced two newsletters, publicity for forums; Get out the vote postcards.
5. **Jean Brown Memorial Scholarship** – For the second year, we awarded a scholarship to a graduating high school student who has demonstrated a commitment to public service and civic engagement. The scholarship is in honor of long time Leage member Jean Brown.

2024

Virginia General Assembly – Attended League Day on January 7, monitored LWV-VA Roundtables throughout session and responded to Legislative Alerts.

Upcoming:

May 4 Annual Luncheon. Delegate Josh Thomas will be the keynote, speaking on Data Centers. Joint Online Congressional Primary Candidate Forum – May 23

LWV of Prince William-Fauquier Area, VA, Pat Reilly, President



Annual Report 2023-2024

*Respectfully Submitted by Janet Gorn,
LWVPW-FA Liaison to LWVNCA*

MEETINGS

At its May 2023 *Biennium Meeting*, the League of Women Voters of the Prince William-Fauquier Area (LWV-PWFA) elected its 2023-2025 Officers with no revisions to its *Bylaws or Standing Rules*. The Meeting included a membership recruitment table

“*Each One Bring One*” and added a new member bringing the total membership to eighty (80).

2024 LWVNCA Annual Convention

The Biennium Meeting's Keynote Speaker was Delegate Eileen Filter-Corn who greatly increased member knowledge of General Assembly activities on policy issues of interest, and the "Glass Ceiling" challenges to women leadership.

The LWV-PWFA Delegation attended the LWV-VA Biennium Convention in Williamsburg.

The November 2023 General Meeting, *Holiday Tea for Democracy*, with a Special Basket Raffle, was held at the Bull Run Community Library. The speaker was Jared Calfree, Associate Director for Advocacy and Outreach, AARP.

On March 17, 2024, the League hosted Sips and Civility Brunch followed by a tour of the Manassas Museum.

VOTER SERVICES

The LWV-PWFA League throughout the year, widely distributed its "VOTE411" brochure, "Facts for Voters" trifold, the "Why Join the LWV" palm cards, and "Your Vote is Your Voice" poster throughout the community

The LWV-PWFA League hosted voter registration opportunities at a number of Community Events throughout the fiscal year, including at six (6) public libraries on National Voter Registration Day September 19, 2023, a LWV booth for the July 4th Dale City Parade, and participated in the Sigma Theta Sorority Health Expo.

In support of the LWV Youth Voter Registration Project, the LWV-PWFA League also hosted successful voter registration and information events at the Manassas and Woodbridge community college campuses: January 2024 and March 2024.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROJECT: LIBRARY STORY TIME

To fulfill the League's Mission, to conduct voter education and advocacy for the First Amendment role of the library, in September 2023 the League cohosted with the Prince William Library, a series of Story Time voter education events in six (6) libraries, which reached out to the eighty-three (83) Parents and Childcare Givers attending the events. The multiple events, simultaneously provided the opportunity to read a voter-related story and conduct voter education, to advocate for the importance of the library in the community and freedom from censorship and rejection of banned book lists. To ensure that the message was available to all of Prince William County, the Library on October 7, 2023, published a YouTube video of the "Monster Needs Your Vote" Story Time <https://youtu.be/XqYv3RpW340?si=IZvutB-T60rGn-xX>), widely promoted through the Library Website, and Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Attended MLK Day celebration at Colgan High School. The LWV-PWFA League presented a Collection of Martin Luther King's speeches to the winners of the MLK Oratory Competition: *How would Dr. King reflect on the 60 years since his "I have a Dream Speech?"*

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Book discussion Group met January 24, 2024 in a lunch time meeting, to discuss "Untold Power" The Fascinating rise and Complex Legacy of First Lady Edith Wilson, by Rebecca Boggs.

LWFVNCA Past Presidents

***These women led the LWFVNCA organization in their time.
We are thankful to them for their talent and dedication.***

- 1963-1966 Madeline Dorothy Naumann, -- LWV of the Washington Metropolitan Area (LWVAR)
- 1966-1968 Cynthia Hannum -- (LWVPG); Founded the Lobby Corp in 1970
- 1968-1970 Beverly Beidler -- (LWVA)
- 1970-1973 Irene Hill -- (LWVMC)
- 1973-1975 Patricia Jensen -- (LWVFA: also Former President of LWV of Virginia & LWV of Iowa and served on the LWVUS board 1982-86)
- 1975-1976 Kay Morrison -- (LWVMC)
- 1976-1978 Sarah Jane Phillips -- (LWVFA)
- 1978-1980 Pat Watt -- (LWVFA)
- 1980-1983 Kathy Ziffer -- (LWVMC)
- 1983-1985 Ellyn Swanson -- (LWVDC)
- 1985-1987 Natalie Testa -- (LWVMC)
- 1987-1989 Ruth Dixon -- (LWVDC)
- 1989-1991 Pat Brady -- (LWVFA also served on the LWVUS Board 1992-98)
- 1991-1993 Ethelyn Bishop -- (LWVPG)
- 1993-1995 Beth Cogswell -- (LWVAR)
- 1995-1997 Katy Cannady -- (LWVA)
- 1997-2001 Naomi Glass -- (LWVDC)
- 2001-2005 Barbara Sherrill -- (LWVAR)
- 2005-2009 Melpi Jeffries -- (LWVMC)
- 2009-2013 Elinor Hart -- (LWVDC)
- 2013-2015 Virginia Long -- (LWVFC)
- 2015-2019 Kathy McGuire -- (LWVMC)
- 2019-2022 Linda Softli (LWVDC) & Joyce Starks (LWVPGC) Co-Presidents
(Linda passed away January 7, 2022)
- 2022-2025 Joyce Starks, President and Co-President
- 2023-2024 Kathy Matusiak (LWVAR-ALX) served as Co-President