



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA



May 2, 2020 ANNUAL CONVENTION WORKBOOK

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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

10 am Welcome	Linda Softli <i>Co-Presidents</i>
Introduction to Zoom Etiquette How to mute, unmute, and use camera – How to use Chat Box How to be recognized by the Chair Questions?	Elaine Apter
<u>Business Meeting Begins</u>	
Roll Call of Member Leagues and Credentials	Nancy Soreng, <i>Secretary</i>
Adoption of Order of Business	Joyce Starks
Adoption of Convention Rules	Joan Porte <i>Parliamentarian</i>
Minutes of 2019 Convention Previously approved by the LWVNCA only	Linda Softi Board, in the workbook for information
Appointment of a Reading Committee for the 2020 Convention Minutes	Linda Softli
Treasurer's Report	Bill Thomas, <i>Treasurer</i>
Presentation, Discussion & Approval of Proposed FY 2019- 20 LWVNCA Budget	Sherry Zachry, <i>Budget Chair</i>
By-laws Committee Report	Sue Lewis
Program Committee Report	Diane Hibino, <i>Program Chair</i>
Nominating Committee Report & Election of Officers	Priscilla Godfrey <i>Nominating Committee</i>
Co-President's Report	<i>Co-President(s)</i>
<u>New Business</u>	
Announcements	Joyce Starks
Direction to the Board	Linda Softi
Adjournment	

Report from Co-Presidents Joyce Starks and Linda Softli



Many thanks to everyone on the Annual Convention conference call and to those who would have liked to be in attendance but for whatever reason is not able to attend via the telephone. We appreciate your patience while we are going through this pandemic. It is because of your dedication; we are having our Annual Convention today.



Congratulations to LWFVCA for celebrating both the Centennial Year of the passage of the 19th Amendment and the 100th Anniversary. Each League was awesome in planning and executing separate celebrations, great job.

Programs:

August 10, 2019: Diane Hibino, Sarah Matthews, Sarah Matusiak, Linda Softli and Joyce Starks did a phenomenal job organizing the workshop on “Creating Strong Leagues: A Leadership Workshop.”

March 7, 2020: Diane Hibino, Sarah Matthews and Barbara Lipsky put together an election forum titled “Election 2020: Challenges Ahead”. It was absolutely wonderful. Both events were held at the Cleveland Park Library in Washington, DC. Also both events were well attended, great job to both committees.

Communities Involvement:

Library of Congress hosted Family Day on July 13, 2019, we registered voters. LWVDC and LWFVCA were recognized at the Nationals baseball game on the field. LWVDC and LWFVCA participated in a voter registration phone-a-thon event at Telemundo Health Fair. Leagues were involved doing various activities for National Voter Registration Day.

Presidential Luncheon:

Linda Softli, Sarah Matusiak, Barbara Lipsky and Joyce Starks were very proud to serve on the luncheon committee. I always enjoy this luncheon because it gives us an opportunity to meet the new officers.

Website:

Special thanks to Sherry Zachry, Deborah Mitchell and Diane Matusiak for working on getting our website converted to the new site. Sherry has done a fabulous job of keeping the website updated.

Organizational Committees:

Nominating Committee (Priscilla Godfrey, Chair, Geraldine Whitley, Betty Mayfield, Andrea Gruhl and Deborah Mitchell), the By-Laws Committee (Sue Lewis, Chair, Carole Conors, Luella Mast, Nancy Bliss, and Joyce Starks) and the Budget Committee (Sherry Zachry, Kathy Matusiak, Barbara Lipsky and Bill Thomas) were

exceptional in completing their task and providing well written reports in a timely manner.

LWVUS Convention:

As of today, the National LWV Convention is still on schedule as an in-person event for June 25-28, 2020, if something changes, we will let you know. Many thanks to Nancy Bliss and Vicki Strella for keeping us informed about the LWVUS Convention

Thank You:

Special thanks to the Board Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and members. You have worked tirelessly; your work is appreciated by all Leagues and your fellow LWVNCA members. We are constantly fulfilling our mission. The coronavirus has not stopped us from doing the work of the League; it just provided us with a new avenue for getting the work done.

A big shout out to the Annual Convention Committee (Diane Hibino, Linda Softli, Nancy Soreng, Kathy Matusiak, Bill Thomas and Joyce Starks). A great deal of work and effort was put in to preparing for the Annual Convention. We appreciate how LWVNCA members have accepted the adjustment.

Diane Hibino and Nancy Soreng have made it possible for us to use Zoom while we are on lockdown due to the coronavirus. Thanks to Joan Porte for hosting our April meeting.

Yes, we are in a crisis, it has been said that the United States is now the epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic. The social and economic disruption will not last forever, please continue to encourage your family, friends and community to be safe by wearing a mask and gloves. Also, more importantly we must maintain the safe social distancing.



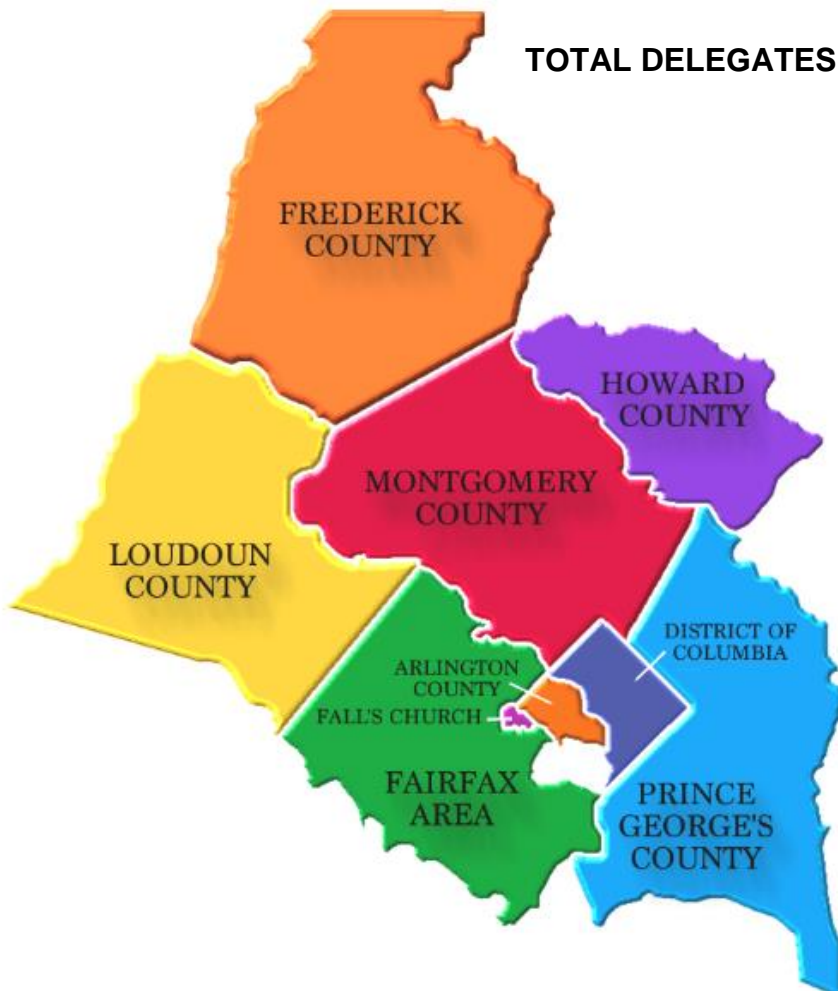
I end by saying this has been a great year and we are looking forward to a better 2021.

Joyce Starks on behalf of the Co-Presidents



LWFVCA Member Leagues

LWFV	Membership	Delegate Allowance
LWFV of the District of Columbia	153	4
LWFV of Maryland		1
LWFV of Howard County	122	4
LWFV of Montgomery County	475	7
LWFV of Prince Georges	45	3
LWFV of Frederick County	112	4
LWFV of Virginia		1
LWFV of Arlington	197	4
LWFV Fairfax Area	371	6
LWFV of Falls Church	85	3
LWFV of Loudoun	58	3
TOTAL DELEGATES		40



Proposed Rules of the LWWNCA Convention

- A. The following rules are prescribed by the LWWNCA bylaws:
1. Proceedings will be guided by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, unless the LWWNCA bylaws prescribe otherwise. (Article X)
 2. Voting privileges are limited to delegates from member Leagues (local and state) in good standing and LWWNCA Board members. (Article VII, Section 2)
 3. 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. A member wishing to address the Convention shall stand (as they are able) When recognized by the chair, a member shall state her/his name and member-League affiliation. Members will use the Zoom raise hand feature to request recognition. The chair will do her best recognize people in order.
 - c. Debate will be limited to two minutes per speaker unless otherwise specified.
 2. **Motions.** Only delegates and LWWNCA Board members can make motions. All motions of substance shall be entered in the Chat Box. Motion forms are available at the registration table.
 3. 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 LWWNCA Board for approval.
 5. **Directions to the Board.** Directions should sent to the co-presidents in advance of the meeting. At the meeting, they can be submitted by writing them in the Chat Box.

MINUTES

LWVNCA - ANNUAL CONVENTION – MAY 4, 2019

Kathy McGuire, President of the League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA), convened the May 4, 2019 Annual Convention at 9:40 a.m. at Maggiano's Little Italy, 5333 Wisconsin Ave NW, Washington, DC 20015. She welcomed all attendees and thanked them for coming.

Kathy Matusiak, Vice President of LWVNCA, introduced the speaker, Page Harrington. Her excellent presentation was titled: *Women's Suffrage and Race Relations: A Divided Legacy*. She highlighted the fact that most accounts of the struggle for getting votes for women only mention the white women leaders and leave out the African American, Native American, and Asian women who joined in the struggle. She urged us all to ask all organizers of commemorations of the 100-year anniversary of Women's Suffrage to be inclusive in their efforts. Following her talk, she graciously answered questions.

McGuire called the business portion of the meeting to order at 11:10.

Nancy Soreng, Secretary, reported that all 11 state and local Leagues were represented, exceeding the quorum requirement of representation from a majority of the member Leagues, including two (2) Leagues from Maryland, two Leagues from Virginia, and the League of the District of Columbia. 50 delegates and 5 guests were in attendance, exceeding the required 25 members to conduct business.

McGuire invited the president of each League to stand up and recognize the other members of their Leagues who were in attendance and say to one thing (past, present or future) that they would like to share about their League.

Beth Hufnagel, **Howard County MD**, announced that this year on their Board, for the first time, they have a director for Women's Issues.

Anna Kinney, **Loudoun County VA**, shared that they are working on finding good ways to spend a grant they received.

Betty Mayfield, **Frederick County MD**, told us that when they registered voters at Hood College, they signed up 25 new members, have formed a student chapter. And now, they have elected a Hood College student to their Board of Directors.

Judy Helein, **Fairfax County VA**, said (unlike previously reported) their high school voter registration project, in partnership with the Fairfax County Office of Elections and Inspire Virginia, registered over 5,000 students who will now be able to vote.

Nancy Bliss, **Montgomery County MD**, introduced the new presidents of LWVMC – Kathy McGuire and Diane Hibino (current president and board member of LWVNCA.) Their League printed 85,000 Voters Guides for the last election and, in addition, will do a Spanish version for the next election cycle.

Johanna Barry, **Falls Church VA**, announced that they also have a student chapter and this year the students put on an excellent candidate's forum.

Joan Porte, **Arlington County VA**, shared that they are doing one-on-one mentoring with international and African American students on voter registration and civic engagement so they can reach out to their peers and share what they have learned.

Deborah Mitchell, **Prince George's County MD**, announced that they are thrilled that one of their members, Joyce Starks, has been nominated for President. During the last election cycle, 9,000 Prince George's voters accessed their on-line Voters' Guides.

Linda Garvelink, **LWV Virginia**, brought attention to the article that Sue Lewis, president of LWV-VA wrote on page 23 of the Convention Workbook, about their accomplishments. She also introduced the people in the room who have been nominated to be on the LWV-VA Board and then asked everyone from Virginia to stand.

Elaine Apter, **LWV Maryland**, announced that LWVMD has submitted an amicus brief on the redistricting case, Benesik V Lamone that is before the Supreme Court. She also thanked Carole Conors for the fantastic day on Capitol Hill that she led last week.

After the Maryland and Virginia state Leagues were called on, Kathy Chiron, **LWV District of Columbia**, said she hopes one day they will be called on as a state League. She announced that once again they have arranged for 75 Leaguers to register voters and get free admission to Nat's stadium on National Voter Registration Day, September 24th.

Following the statements by League presidents, McGuire asked the LWWNCA Board members to stand and introduce themselves.

Adoption of the Order of Business as outlined on page 2 of the convention workbook was adopted by consensus.

Convention Rules as written on page 7, were adopted by consensus after Deb Wake, Parliamentarian, reviewed the crucial rules.

The **Minutes of 2018 Convention** had been previously approved by the LWWNCA Board of Directors and were presented to the members on page 8 the workbook. It was pointed out by Soreng that they were included in the workbook for information only.

McGuire appointed **Judith Helein, Fairfax, Carole Conors, Howard, and Linda Softli, District of Columbia, to review the 2019 draft convention minutes** and submit their comments to Soreng, before presentation to the LWWNCA Board for approval.

Bill Thomas presented the **Treasurer's Report**. He reminded us that we in reality operate on a 4-year budget cycle. This is why we operate in a deficit, or near deficit, mode for 3 years and in the fourth year, make a large income. This is because every four years, when the LWVUS convention is held in Washington DC, LWWNCA hosts the Capitol Steps which provides funds for the subsequent 3 years.

Kathy Matusiak, Chair of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed **FY 2019-20 LWWNCA Budget**. The budget projects \$25,000 in income from Capitol Steps. PMP will be the same as previously, but income from that will go up slightly because of additional members. It is proposed that next year we charge a \$5 fee for workshops to encourage people who register on-line to follow through and attend events they register for. LWWNCA incurs expenses such as meeting space charges and refreshments and an accurate count help us better calculate those costs. The Budget Committee also added an expense line for attendance at centennial events. Neither the Nauman Award nor LWWUS Board reception were included in the proposed budget as expenses because they happen every other year. Matusiak moved approval of the budget and it passed unanimously.

McGuire reminded us that because the LWWUS Convention will be in Washington DC in 2020, LWWNCA will be called upon to provide many volunteers. The last convention, in Chicago, far exceeding attendance levels of recent years. That means we will need MANY volunteers in 2020.

She also announced that we are trying to post all of the centennial events in the area (that people tell us about) on the LWWNCA web-site. She asked attendees to contact the web-master, Sherry Zachry, or the incoming presidents if they learn about events that aren't listed at LWWNCA.org.

Diane Hibino, Program Chair, presented the **Program Committee Report & Proposed Program** as presented on pages 15 and 16 of the Convention Workbook. She reminded us that a survey was sent out to all of the member Leagues asking for their suggestions for program for the next 2 years. All but 1 League responded. The topic that rose to the top were various election-related issues. The committee is proposing a forum on various aspects of voting and elections in late fall or early spring. She also mentioned that every summer for that past 4 years, LWWNCA has been doing workshops to support Leagues in their work with various training and networking opportunities. This summer a workshop has been schedule for August 10. She encouraged people to fill out the sheets that are on the table if they have suggestions for topics. Then, Hibino asked for suggestions from the floor. Hufnagel suggested learning how to reach out to underrepresented populations for voter registration and voter engagement opportunities. Garvelink asked that we learn more about how to include diversity, equity and inclusion in our work. Mitchell asked for training on grant-writing. Apter suggested training about creativity for conducting meetings so we can be more inclusive since League meetings tend to be scheduled when working people can't attend. Softli suggested that we share information about how all Leagues can have a census 2020 committee. Hibino moved the proposed program as submitted by the committee. It was adopted unanimously.

Geraldine Whitley, a member of the **Nominating Committee**, presented the committee report because Melanie Cox, Committee Chair, was unable to attend. She read the report prepared by Cox which is on page 17 of the convention workbook. Whitley invited all of the nominees, Softli, Starks (co-presidents) Soreng (Secretary) Carole Conors, Barbara Lipskey, Sarah Mathews (Directors) and Sarah Godfrey, Betty Mayfield and Geraldine Whitley (Nominating Committee), to come to the front of the room. Whitley asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she asked that the nominees be approved as a slate. Hearing no dissent, she welcomed the new Board members.

Barbara Lipsky presented the **Nauman Award Committee** report. She thanked the other members of the committee: Joan Siegel, Linda Softli and Gretchen Blankenship, Award Committee Chair. Lipsky reminded us that the award was named in honor of the first president of NCA and it is given every 2 years for outstanding achievement. This year's nominees were Howard County, Arlington County, Fairfax Area, Frederick County and the District of Columbia. She stated that the committee members felt that all of the projects were worthy of recognition and it made them proud to see how much the member Leagues are accomplishing.

They chose one project for the award and one project for honorable mention: The LWFV of District of Columbia was chosen for helping 1,000 American University Students to apply for absentee ballots in a single day and for developing a tool-kit that other Leagues can use for such an endeavor.

The Naumann Award winner was LWFV Frederick County for its Ethics Reform Project which was a multi-year effort to achieve a new, more effective ethics law. They testified multiple times before their County Council and advocated for passage of the newly drafted law which includes provision for the Frederick County League of Women Voters to select the chair of the Ethics Commission, and nominate members to serve on it. Their League will continue to monitor the implementation of the new law to make sure it meets its goals and is a transparent process.

Blankenship said it was a difficult decision because the applications were all truly excellent. She also thanked her committee members.

McGuire shared her **President's Report**. She said it has been a fantastic year beginning with the awesome registration event at Nationals Park in September. Because her report is in the convention workbook, she didn't want to repeat that. However, she did announce that the NCA is seeking volunteer to serve on a by-law committee. Two issues have arisen over the year: Should there be a percentage of League members listed as a quorum, who should it be a number which is currently 25? The other issue is should there be a procedure in the by-laws for removing an elected director who doesn't attend meetings?

Following that, she thanked everyone who has supported her, worked with her and been ready to pitch in. McGuire said she has made great friends and really cherished and admires the many people she has met through her term as president. She also expressed her admiration for the power of the League.

New Business

Announcements Jackie Coolidge, chair of the LWFVUS Lobby Corps, described the work of the Lobby Corps. Lately they have been focusing on the For the People Act and the Advancing Voting Rights Acts and their efforts to meet with members of Congress from all 50 states to talk about bills in the League's priority areas. She encouraged the people in the room to think about joining the Lobby Corps and invited them to contact her if interested in helping out. She will send anyone who contacts her an application.

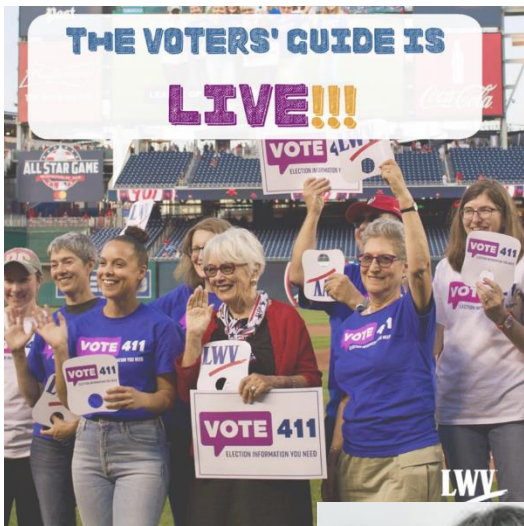
Kathy Chiron announced a private tour at the National Archive on May 15th at 8:45 am and asked people to contact her if they would like to participate.

Nancy Tate shared the work that the committee she co-chairs, Women's Vote Centennial Initiative (WVCI) They are putting on substantive panels on various aspects of Women and the Vote in conjunction with the many exhibits around town commemorating the 100 years of women achieving the right to vote.

McGuire invited the newly elected co-presidents Linda Softli and Joyce Starks to the front of the room. Softli encouraged all member Leagues to have a census committee. She urged that we all increase our membership by 10 percent. She suggested we reach out to men, young people and people who have arrived from other countries and encourage them to vote and join the League. Starks announced that she partners with the radio station WHUR and the station is willing to announce League events on air if announcements are given them to her. The two of them have been communicating and have great ideas for the future.

Appreciation Andrea Gruhl, presented a greeting card to Kathy McGuire signed by many members expressing our appreciation for all she has done. In it was a gift card worth \$200 to use on her many overseas travels.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22.



LWVNCA Budget Committee Report

*Revised March 24 due to Corona virus epidemic**

The LWVNCA FY2020-2021 Proposed Budget shows total expected funding and expenditures of \$16,600, as compared to \$17,185 in FY2019-20 [current fiscal year] which included projected expenses and income in connection with the “The Capitol Steps” fundraiser on June 26, 2020, however that could change. See important note on next page. *

Expenses in the proposed FY2020-2021 budget include money for the Naumann Award (both expenses and award monies) which is presented every two years at the LWVNCA Annual Convention in May. The largest increase in expenses for FY2021 is the LWVUS Board Reception, which LWVNCA hosts every two years when a new Board is elected by the LWVUS Convention. The \$2,500 estimate in Line II.B. 6 is based on actual expenditures in FY2019 of \$2,282 and projected increased income of \$1,800 in Line I.D. Both of the foregoing events occur in odd-numbered fiscal years, i.e. FY2019 and FY2021.

This proposed budget holds LWVNCA per-member-payment (PMP) steady at \$1.10 per primary member and \$0.55 for additional household members. The Budget Committee projects an income of \$1,481.15 as LWVNCA’s FY2021 PMP income from local member Leagues. This is slightly less than the amount projected for the current fiscal year [\$1,634], due to a decrease in overall membership as of February 1, 2020, compared to February 1, 2019.

We eliminated income in Line I.C. [Program Income] since we discovered that charging a fee for attending events using the Eventbrite reservation system adds **another fee** payable to Eventbrite, so we decided attending a program/forum/workshop should remain free, but we suggest attendees be notified that donations will be collected at the event to help defray costs or to pay for lunch. There is no fee attached to Eventbrite reservations if the event is free and LWVNCA will continue to subsidize significant program activities and events as necessary.

We repeated the expense of \$500 in Line II.D.3 [100th Anniversary Events] for participation in commemorative LWV centennial celebrations which will continue through 2020.

It should be noted that the FY2021 Proposed Budget also reflects some carryover income and expenses from FY2020 related to projected income from the Capitol Steps performance and local League revenue sharing of that income, which will actually occur in July, 2020 (in the 2021 fiscal year); however, that could change depending on unforeseen circumstances. See page 30. *

The LWVNCA Board expresses its thanks to the FY2021 Budget Committee: Sherry Zachry, chair, and members Kathy Matusiak and Barbara Lipsky. William Thomas, Treasurer, was the Ex Officio advisor.

Sherry Zachry, FY2020-21 Budget Committee Chair

*** IMPORTANT UPDATE, March 24, 2020 REGARDING CORONAVIRUS-19 PANDEMIC AND ITS EFFECT ON LEAGUE OPERATIONS & EVENTS:**

At the time the LWNCA Proposed Budget for FY2021 was presented and approved by the board to go to Convention delegates, the extent of Covid-19 in our country, and specifically on League operations, was not fully known or understood. That includes the original explanations included in this Budget Committee Report.

Now that most of the country is in “self-quarantine mode” which specifically includes the LWNCA region around D.C., most in-person events, meetings and employment in the region have been moved online, cancelled or are being cancelled. This includes our own Annual Convention, now to be conducted by video-conference on May 2. We anticipate that the LWVUS 2020 Convention at the end of June, 2020 may also be affected, although at this writing no decision has been made by LWVUS.

We must advise that if the LWVUS Convention is cancelled or moved to an online event, there will be no Capitol Steps performance on June 26, which is a major fundraiser for LWNCA. Projected income from that event was included in the current fiscal year’s budget (FY2020) with expected net revenue of between \$10,000 - \$12,000 [See Line I.K., Transfer In(+)/Out(-) from checking, that shows \$12,639 going into checking in the FY2020 Adopted Budget]. That revenue would show up in the FY2021 First Quarter Treasurer’s Report checking account balance. If we do not realize that income, we may have to come up with a major fundraiser for FY2021 to be able to carry out LWNCA activities. This eventuality will be considered by the board and plans made accordingly.

Although we certainly hope that the LWVUS Convention can be held in person, we felt it necessary to advise you of the unforeseen extenuating circumstances and how they would impact the LWNCA Budget for next fiscal year.



2020 LWNCA Annual Convention

		LWNCA Proposed Budget for FY2020-2021			
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	
I.	INCOME	Actual	Budget	Proposed	Notes
A.	Per Member Payments (PMP)	1,495	1,634	1,481	1,261 primary members (@1.10) and 171 household members (@0.55); as of 2/1/2020
B.	Presidents' Luncheon	390	480	480	16 board members contributing @\$30 each
C.	Annual Convention	2,280	2,000	2,000	50 attendees @\$40
D.	LWVUS Board Reception	1,640	0	1,800	Every other FY, next in FY21, 45 attendees @\$40
E.	Fundraiser	0	25,000	0	
F.	Program Income	0	500	0	
G.	Interest	74	10	10	
H.	Contributions	0	200	200	
I.	Other Income	0	0	0	
J.	Total Income	5,879	29,824	5,971	
K.	Transfer In(+)/Out(-) from checking	1,509	-12,639	10,629	+ indicates a reduction in checkbook balance, while - indicates an increase.
L.	Total income and transfers	7,388	17,185	16,600	
II. EXPENSES					
A. Operating Costs					
1	Office supplies	152	250	350	Includes archiving & Naumann Award costs
2	Website	410	335	450	LWVC MyLO platform website and related expenses
	Subtotal -- Operating Costs	562	585	800	
B. Board/Administration					
1	President's allowance	0	100	100	Expenses of the President
2	Board Expenses	0	100	100	Other board cost, n.e.c.
3	Member Directory	78	100	100	Printing the annual Directory
4	Presidents' Luncheon	526	550	550	
5	Program Expenses	290	800	800	Assumes two program events per fiscal year
6	LWVUS Board Reception	2,282	0	2,500	
	Subtotal -- Board/Administration	3,176	1,650	4,150	
C. Conventions/Councils					
1	Local & State Meetings	685	500	500	Registration and incidental expenses of Pres. or other LWNCA representative.
2	LWVUS Council/Convention	0	1,200	0	
3	LWNCA Annual Convention	2,565	2,750	2,750	
	Subtotal Conventions/Council	3,250	4,450	3,250	
D. Other Expenses					
1	Madeline Naumann Award	400	0	400	Every other FY- next in FY21-award only. Expenses of award comm. in II.A. Opr. Cost
2	Fundraiser Exp. & Rev. Sharing	0	10,000	7,500	Local league revenue sharing from Capitol Steps
3	100th Anniversary Events		500	500	Allowance for participation in commemorative local events.
4	Misc Expenses				
	Subtotal -- Other Expenses	400	10,500	8,400	
E.	Total -- Expenses	7,388	17,185	16,600	

LWVNCA Program Committee Activity Report 2019-2020



We are in the midst of a two-year planning cycle (2018-2020). The Board suggested topics for our sessions and the committee narrowed the topics to ones we felt would be of interest and timely.

We held our annual training workshop “Creating Strong Leagues: A Leadership-Membership Workshop” where the highlight was a session on Grant funding: “Why we need it and how to obtain them”. This event was held in August, 2019.

In February we held a successful forum open to all titled “Election 2020: Challenges Ahead” where we discussed how to be strong evaluators of news and learned of voting challenges throughout the country.

Both events were held at the Cleveland Park Library in Washington, DC. and were well attended. Whether an event is

set up casually as a conversation, or formally as a lecture, League members are attentive and participate fully asking insightful and thoughtful questions.



Report of LWVNCA Bylaws Committee

On January 26, 2020, the appointed Bylaws Committee of LWVNCA met via conference call at 7:00 pm. The following members were on the call:

Sue Lewis, LWVVA, Chair
Nancy Bliss, Montgomery Co. MD
Luella Mast, Montgomery Co. MD
Carole Conors, Howard Co MD

It was noted by the committee that the bylaws were last amended in May of 2018, and that no specific issues have been expressed by either attendees at the 2019 Convention or the current NCA Board.

The chair indicated that the only potential issue might be the quorum for the Annual Convention, which is currently set as 25 of the potential voting members of the Convention. The committee reviewed the potential number of members of the convention, and decided that 25 could pose a problem, since it is potentially between 35 and 45 percent of the members eligible for voting at Convention.

After discussion of “normal” quorums for other organizations, the committee decided to recommend a percentage, rather than a specific number. It also agreed that a lower number was a better approach rather than a higher number, based on experiences with other organizations.

The recommendation from a majority of the Bylaws Committee is therefore:
(Delete text in brackets []; insert text in CAPITAL LETTERS)

Amend Article VII, Section 7, Quorum. [Twenty-five percent (25%)] **TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE DELEGATES** shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Convention business, provided that there is representation from a majority of the member Leagues, including two (2) Leagues from Maryland, two (2) Leagues from Virginia, and the League of the District of Columbia. (*The rest of the Section remains the same.*)

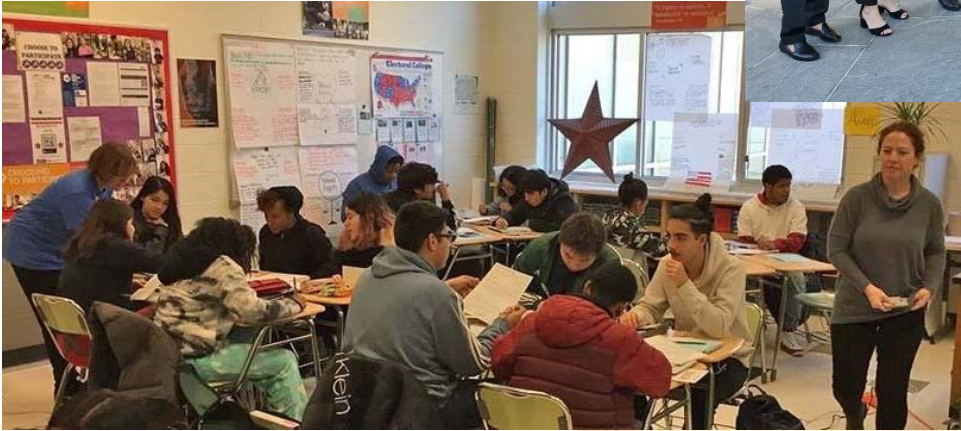
The committee discussed other sections of the Bylaws, particularly, Article IV, Officers, Section 1, Enumeration and Election of Officers, and Article V, Board of Directors, Section 3, Vacancies, A. The issue was: who serves as President, when there are Co-presidents and one of them creates a vacancy? We noted that the bylaws as amended in 2018 allowed for Co-presidencies, although that term was not used. After much discussion, the committee decided that it was assumed the other Co-president would continue as president, and it would be up to the Board to elect another person as Co-president, if they so choose. The Vice-President would not assume the powers of the President, since there was still an existing Co-president.

The board might ask a subsequent Bylaws Committee to see if they could make those sections clearer; we did not think it was necessary at this time.

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On the issue of attendance at Board meetings, which had been brought to the chair's attention, we agreed that the best way to deal with chronic un-excused absences would be for the President to make personal approaches to the "offender"; if there are policies, this would be the best place to address the issue rather than Bylaws. We also did not see any reason to change the quorum for attendance at board meetings, which is "a majority of the board". The chair thanks the other members of the Committee for their lively participation in the discussion of the Bylaws!

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Lewis, Chair



2020 LWFVCA Nominating Committee Report Officers and Directors 2020-2022

The Chair of the 2020 Nominating Committee would like to thank all members of the nominating committee for their hard work and attention to establishing the slate for officers and directors for 2020-2021.

Our task was to fill one director position, secure three new candidates for one nominating committee chairman, two elected nominating committee positions and ask current Treasurer and Vice President to continue in their roles for another two years (2020-2022). We conducted all our meetings starting in late December by freeconferencecall.com and never met in person. We were able to keep the LWFVCA Board balanced with representation from Maryland, D.C. and Virginia.

We are pleased to present the slate of officers and directors for 2020-2021 to be elected at the 2020 LWFVCA Annual Convention.

Priscilla Godfrey, Chair, 2020 Nominating Committee

OFFICERS 2020-2022

Vice-President

Kathy Matusiak

League of Women Voters of Arlington

Treasurer

Bill Thomas

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

DIRECTORS 2020-2022

Kathy Chiron

League of Women Voters of Washington DC

ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Elaine Apter, Chair League of Women Voters of Montgomery County

Geraldine Whitley League of Women Voters of Washington DC

Sonia Ballinger League of Women Voters of Loudoun County

2019-2020 Elected Nominating Committee Members: Priscilla Godfrey Chair, Geraldine Whitley, Betty Mayfield.
Board Appointed Members: Andrea Gruhl, Deborah Mitchell



Proposed LWFVNCV Officers & Board of Directors 2020-2021

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents:

Linda Softli (2019-21)
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lindaesoftli@gmail.com
1930 Columbia Road, NW # 302
Washington, DC 20009

Joyce Starks (2019-21)
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5603 Emack Ave
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Vice-President

Kathy Matusiak (2020-2022)
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Arlington, VA 22201

Secretary

Nancy Soreng (2019-21)
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Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Treasurer

Bill Thomas (2020-2022)
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Billthomas4@gmail.com
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Leesburg, VA 20176-8432

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.

DIRECTORS

Kathy Chiron (2020-2022)
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Sarah Matthews (2019-21)
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Frederick, MD 21703

Barbara Lipksy (2019-21)
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Falls Church, VA 22046

Carole Conors (2019-21)
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OFF BOARD Nominating Committee

Elaine Apter, chair (2020-2021)
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aptere@lsvmd.org
3210 N. Leisure World Blvd. #321

Geraldine Whitley (2020-2021)
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Sonia Ballinger (2020-2021)
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5 Pheasant Run Court
Sterling, VA 20164

Profiles of 2020-2022 Nominees

OFFICERS

Kathy Matusiak LWV Arlington, VA, Vice President



Kathleen Matusiak first joined the League in 1972 after being a part of a voter registration drive. For years, she has served the Board of Directors of the LWV-Arlington, first as co-chair of Voter Service and then as Vice President for Administration. She has served as President of the Arlington League for the past 2 years. Kathy is a semi-retired research consultant with the firm of Lescaut and Walderman. She has a degree in Business Administration and 30 years of executive experience in Accounting, Statistical Analysis, Data Computation and Membership Services. Kathy is a widow, with two daughters and six grandchildren.

Bill Thomas, LWV Fairfax, VA, Treasurer



Bill has worked as an academic, a policy advisor to the Congress, a researcher, and a manager of researchers. He is a graduate of MIT and received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. Bill joined the faculty of the University of Houston in 1970 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1975. Bill and his family moved to Virginia in 1978 when Bill joined the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) as a Research Staff Member. Bill went to work for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) in 1984, never imagining that he would make a career working for the Congress. He became Deputy Assistant Director of CBO in 1993. Bill retired from the Congressional Budget Office in 2002, and began working part-time as a consultant for the RAND Corporation and IDA. Bill's interests include stamp collecting, music, and reading.

Bill has been a member of the Fairfax League for nearly 20 year and served as Treasurer of LWVFA from 2012 to 2016. He is also a member and former chair of the LWVFA Budget Committee and has served on the Virginia State League Budget Committee. Bill and his wife Anne are residents of Loudoun County.

DIRECTORS

Kathy Chiron, LWV District of Columbia



Kathy joined LWVDC in 2016 when she repatriated after 16 years in Hong Kong. While in HK she served as president of the League of Women Voters HK, the only overseas chapter of the League as well as serving on the board and as chair of the American Women's Association, an organization of 1000 women from 45 countries. She also served as Education Director for the United Jewish Congregation and worked for a relocation company to welcome newcomers but the most interesting job she had was with HK Matchmakers as a Date Coach. Her first involvement with the League in the States was a member of the Lobby Corp and with the Voter Services team. She has been President of LWVDC for two years and will proudly continue to serve another year. Kathy earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a Master's in Education from George Washington University. Kathy is an aspiring bridge player, an avid reader and an enthusiastic participant in Georgetown's senior audit program.

OFF BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elaine Apter, LWV Montgomery County Chair



I have been a member of the League of Women Voters since 1974, serving in various capacities in several geographic areas. I just finished serving as co-President of LWVMD. Before joining the State Board, I was co-President of the Montgomery County LWV for four years. I am presently serving on the LWVMD and LWVMC Boards. I have belonged to small as well as large local Leagues. I served as officers in Seminole County Florida LWV and Los Angeles City LWV, where I held the position of Executive VP. I am also a member of the LWVUS Lobby Corps and I have served as the Credentials Chair for the last three National Conventions held in Washington, D.C. This year at the 2020 LWVUS Convention I will be co-chair of Registration and Credentials. By profession I am a librarian and a teacher. I have given several classes at Oasis on League studies.

Geraldine J. Whitley LWV District of Columbia, Member



Mrs. Geraldine J. Whitley has been a League member since 1980 and has been an active member and volunteer since 2003. Since that time Mrs. Whitley has served in roles as: 2nd Vice President, on the Board of Directors, and the environment committee. She is currently serving as a member of the LWNCA Nominating Committee. Mrs. Whitley believes that the best way to advocate for change is through education and strong will power. She has a B.S. in Education and a master's degree in Christian studies from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona. She retired from the federal government in n 2003 where she worked as an International Trade Specialist.

Mrs. Whitley's hobbies, including hand quilting, knitting, stamp collecting, and traveling (nationally and internationally). She also volunteers with various food programs in Washington, D.C., a member of the Sierra Club, is active in her church where she teaches Bible study and volunteers as a lay speaker. However, her most cherished volunteer activity outside of being a League member is volunteering at the Anacostia Museum as a docent. Mrs. Whitley feels that LWV develops skills in leadership and management positions.

Sonia Ballinger, LWV Loudoun, Member



I joined the league in 2017 and have been very active since joining. As a young girl I always admired what league stood for and the women led organization.

I sit on the board of a few organizations including secretary of my Homeowners Association, Vice Chair of the Loudoun Literacy Board of Loudoun County - one of the longest standing boards in Loudoun County and Vice Chair of the Crochet Guild of Prince William County.

I have volunteered and helped with many local Loudoun groups such as Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of America - in many rolls throughout my time with them.

I believe in volunteerism "the more we give, the more we will receive" doing something good for someone else boosts my happiness.

Reports from Member Leagues State Leagues



District of Columbia (LWVDC) Kathy Chiron, President

LWVDC continued programs, projects and events this past year:

- Voter Registration and Vote411 flyers in local theatres (in collaboration with OneWomanOneVote 2020 and Theatre Washington)
- 4th of July Palisades Parade participation.
- monthly naturalization ceremonies for voter registration
- national voter registration day at Nats Ballpark (with NCA)
- MLK weekend voter registration and Vote411 outreach at Telemundo Health Fair. This began an ongoing relationship with Telemundo resulting in NCA participating in a voter registration phone-a-thon event.
- Statehood efforts remain an important part of our work
- Shine a Light event at MLK memorial in July
- HR51 hearing
- HR51 markup
- Absentee Ballot day at Howard University, a repeat of a successful event at AU.

New programs, projects, events:

- monthly membership events
- docent tours of museums with suffrage or DEI exhibits (Archives, LOC, Portrait Gallery and Phillips)
- LWVUS Day of Action became DAYS of Action with 17 events encompassing at least one event in each ward of the District
- PPFM - Get ON the map because it just isn't a fair map with out #51
- ongoing challenge of reaching returning citizens (former felons) for voter registration with end of CSOSA's (Federal Court) ending of Mass Orientations.
- Anne Anderson was honored as a Champion of Democracy by DC Vote and again by our shadow representatives.
- Webinar mid-April - Covid19 funding/We are NOT a territory
- Annual Meeting - originally scheduled for 4 April. now 25 April via Zoom
- Centennial Cocktail Celebration - originally scheduled on our centennial 22 April. Now postponed until September



LWV of Maryland (LWVMD)

Lois Hybl and Richard Willson, Co-Presidents

We began this year with two major changes—most of our board meetings are online and we have a new office location.

September 16, we co-sponsored a program on “The Constitution and a Changing Climate” at the University of Maryland Law School.

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Fall Workshops on September 28 featured Voting Process (LWVUS Concurrence), Civic Education Study Briefing and Revenue Options for Funding the Kirwan Report. The luncheon speaker was Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates.

In December LWVMD, Common Cause and other organizations sponsored a workshop, "Citizen Activism: Making an Impact in Maryland."

Winter Workshops included the documentary "The 19th Amendment: A Woman's Right to Vote," a presentation on the Constitution's Article V by LWVUS Policy & Legislative Affairs Specialist Jessica Jones-Capparell, and luncheon speaker Maryland Secretary of Planning Robert S. McCord on "The 2020 Census."

State Director Ashley Oleson kept us coordinated with the national People Powered Fair Maps Campaign and our Tame the Gerrymander Coalition. Ashley, Nancy Soreng and our coalition partners obtained sponsors for the Fair Maps Act, organized community meetings and sponsored a Fair Maps Lobby Night on February 17. On the February 14 Day of Action Ashley and interns Joan Maingi and Stephanie Parajon distributed Fair Maps Valentines to legislators. The General Assembly session adjourned early before any committee voted on redistricting bills.

Action Co-Chairs Kim Scott and Roy Appletree and mentor Nancy Soreng, oversaw development of our priorities for the Maryland General Assembly, training of Report from State Circle reporters, and our annual Legislative Day on March 4. Victoria Gruber, Executive Director, Maryland Department of Legislative Services, gave a presentation on the Maryland State Budget. A panel of representatives from three of LWVMD's coalition partners spoke following the luncheon.

The Maryland General Assembly session kept us busy with publication of five issues of Report from State Circle, writing and delivering testimony, getting signed up for hearings, etc. Thanks to Ashley Oleson and interns for their coordination and footwork.

Because of the death of 7th District Congressman Elijah Cummings, state volunteers produced a Voters' Guide for the February 4 Special Primary Election. Progress on Vote411 printed guides was proceeding when Covid-19 hit. Both the April 28 special general election and the regular primary, now scheduled for June 2, will be by mail-in ballot. LWVMD and our coalition partners lobbied for security in voting processes and some in-person voting for handicapped voters while recognizing the need to protect public health.

Via Zoom, our June 6 LWVMD Council Meeting will be a business meeting with two workshops and a speaker.



LWV of Virginia (LWV-VA) Deb Wake, President

LWV-VA had a very big year filled with opportunities. We participated in several 400th anniversary events like the Forum on Representative Democracy in Williamsburg and the Women's Forum in Richmond and unveiling of the Women's Monument on Capitol Square. We attended the Washington Nationals baseball game on National Voter Registration Day, a gala to bring attention to Washington DC's struggle to get the vote, and a reception at the governor's mansion to celebrate Virginia's passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

We worked to strengthen relationships with our partners starting with our annual Legislative Pre-session. At our Women's Legislative Round Table (held weekly during the legislative session),

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we focused on a different topic each week and invited partner organizations and legislators focused on those issues to highlight bills they were supporting.

We met with the Commissioner of Elections and with the Governor's staff regarding the Governor's Challenge to encourage high school students to register to vote. We provided url's for every high school in Virginia on our website and worked to provide resources. Members attended a VOTE411 webinar led by LWVUS staff and we traveled to DC for the EAC (US Elections Assistance Commission) Summit.

We worked to expand advocacy outside of the months the General Assembly is in session. We sent press releases on many issues and used a new tool to make it easier for our members to contact their legislators. We testified for gun violence prevention at the Virginia State Crime Commission in August. Beginning in November, we met with legislators to advocate for our legislative priorities. We supported the Governor's transportation bill and attended the press conference in late January. We fought to give voters the chance to support redistricting on the ballot this coming fall.

League Day included recognition from the floor of the General Assembly, celebration of our 100th anniversary with acknowledgement of the contributions of suffragists of color, and advocacy for legislation being considered.

Throughout the year, we strove to be a more inclusive and representative organization and to encourage better cooperation and collaboration.

Local Member Leagues

League of Women Voters of Frederick County, MD Linda Norris-Waldt and Kerri Burson, Co-Presidents

Ah, the best-made plans of mice and League of Women Voters members! After the Board Retreat on July 13, we had wonderful plans for:

- voter education (a 20-minute presentation on the importance of voting in primary and general elections, voter resources, and redistricting),
- member engagement (a monthly Coffee Chat for all members and guests)
- involvement with local colleges
- Centennial activities (a Women's March to the Polls, author book signing)
- an enhanced relationship with the Frederick County Board of Elections (representation on BOE meetings, a new contract for providing election day evaluation of voter sites and processes)
- development of the vote.411 online site and collaboration with the Frederick News-Post of printing the Voters Guide
- participate in the Maryland and US Congress lobbying days

We developed the presentation, implemented the Coffee Chat, had a college chapter of the LWV at Hood College, scheduled 16 events for candidate forums and voter education presentations, renegotiated the LWV contract with the Frederick County Board of Elections, and scheduled a book signing for April 2 with Winifred Conkling.

Then came the coronavirus.

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All forums, presentations, and voter registration events after March 9 were cancelled, and monthly LWVFC meetings, Board of Election meetings, and subcommittee meetings after the middle of March were held on Zoom. The March 4 LWV of Maryland Legislative Day was held on March 4, but the Lobbying Day on Capitol Hill scheduled for May 15 was postponed.

We continue to work with the Board of Elections for the primary elections, whenever they will be held. Our Facebook and Twitter pages have been updated and enhanced to provide vote.411 and information on voter resources for absentee ballot voting. We look forward to providing election oversight and candidate information to all voters as soon as possible.

LWV of Howard County, MD Beth Hufnagel, President

This has been an eventful year indeed! The officers and Board accomplished a great deal, aided by many member-committees. We published our fall Handbook, Annual Meeting Workbook, monthly newsletters, and the 2020 The Elected brochure.

Our internal corporate re-structuring is complete, with our two corporate entities, LWVHC and the LWVHC Education Fund now merged into one charitable 501(c)(3) corporation named the LWVHC. The merger resulted in clarity for the financial statements, budget, and for donations.

We are slowly moving to financial sustainability to overcome a structural deficit. We have moved from no fundraising function to co-directors for fundraising. Unfortunately, we have had to cut expenses such as our paid in-office staff presence and assistance, which was picked up by various Board members and officers. A financial review, required by the Bylaws, was completed for the past two years and your Treasurer, Barbara Russell, came through with flying colors.

The results of Krista Threefoot and her committee's brilliant Education Equity Study had to be deferred to September 2020 due to the COVID-19 "shelter-in-place" order for Maryland.

We experimented with an assistant Program Director in addition to a VP, and it resulted in an interesting and varied series of meetings throughout the year. In addition, VP Thea Jones started a 100th Anniversary Book Club, including a virtual author's visit by Elaine Weiss.

The League has once again, thanks to Barbara Russell's efforts, produced a draft Primary (June 2) Voters' Guide. She was assisted in this by Barbara Crain (LWVMD) and our own Cheryle Wharton who conquered the VOTE411 data-gathering process. Your Board is also starting the process of making the Voters' Guide self-funding by, for the first time since 2014, selling ads.

There have been events not so positive. Our relationship with the Howard County Board of Elections (HCBOE) deteriorated to the point of them first reducing poll evaluations from 100% coverage to the minimum sample required by the State Board for the 2020 Special Primary Election, to declining our services altogether. However, we are still the only designated partner of the HCBOE for doing voter registration in high schools.

LWV of Montgomery County, MD Diane Hibino and Kathy McGuire Co-Presidents

In preparation for our 100th Anniversary year, we began in the fall with the Discussion Group (7 groups that meet monthly to discuss Fact Sheets or Resource Guides) topic: "1920-2020: What's been accomplished? What's next?" Our Fall Luncheon featured Jane Oates, "The Power of Women to Create a More Perfect Democracy". We studied Civic Education, Campaign

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Finance, Maryland Legislative Priorities, Waste Management in the county. We sent Valentine's on the League's 100th birthday thanking elected county officials for their service.

Our Voter Services/Making Democracy Work committee spent many hours on voter registrations, candidate forums, Voters' Guide in English and in Spanish (for the first time ever).

We worked on re-districting reform, including handing Valentine's to our delegation in Annapolis reminding them of our position for reform and sent 17 members for meetings on Legislative Day. We testified before the County Council on housing and protecting the Agricultural Reserve.

To share with the public at libraries, we hosted Trending Topics on: the Census, Electoral College, Northern Triangle of Central America and Pedestrian Safety.

Finally, to highlight the League in an April fundraiser, we planned for: "100th Anniversary Gala: Honoring the magnificent individuals who have been helping to shape better communities by empowering voters and defending democracy for 100 years". We selected Lavinia Awardees (Engle was a suffragist and executive secretary for the LWV of Maryland). All plans are on hold at this writing. However, we look forward to continuing the mission of the League to educate voters and impact public policy.

LWV Prince George's County, MD Joyce Duckett & Deborah Mitchell, Co-Presidents

The League of Women Voters of Prince George's County (LWVPGC) was highly engaged in a variety of "Making Democracy Work" initiatives-particularly voter registration drives, candidates forums and producing a Voters' Guide. Also, LWVPGC promoted and informed members and the public about the history and significance of the 100th Anniversary of passage of the 19th Amendment in creative ways.

LWVPGC partnered with local organizations (e.g., non-profit, women's, youth), local government agencies (e.g., Prince George's County Board of Elections), colleges (UMD-College Park), public school systems (Prince George's County Public Schools), businesses and other entities to conduct and staff voter registration events. In addition, LWVPGC organized and facilitated a candidates' forum for the City of Bowie of Bowie, MD and is scheduled to do so for other municipalities and HOAs.

LWVPGC continues to explore ways to utilize social media to provide members and the general public with information about League and community issues. At league events, participants provide their contact information on a Sign-in Form which is used to send them issue updates. In addition, LWVPGC now has a Twitter account: @lwvpgc1.

A few highlights:

- In collaboration with LWV, LWVMD, LWVMC and LWVNCA, LWVPGC registered six voters and distributed Prince George's County election information at education booth at the September 13-14, [2019 University of Maryland's Mission of Mercy \(MOM\) Free Adult Dental Clinic](#) at the UMD-College Park, MD Xfinity Center.
- On National Voter Registration Day (September 24, 2019), in partnership with Greenbelt, MD Youth Advisory Committee members LWVPGC registered 32 students to vote and distributed Prince George's County Census 2020 literature at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Greenbelt, MD. The event received coverage by the Greenbelt, MD News Review. Click [Review](#) and go to page 12.

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- Forum Team members Joyce Starks, Dr. Stephanie McGencey and Sheila Giles organized and coordinated LWVPGC's hosting of the City of Bowie's Candidates Forum held October 15, 2019. Click [forum](#) to view.

LWV of Arlington, VA Joan Porte, President

- We are very proud to have been a recipient of the James B Hunter Humanitarian Award for our work with marginalized voting communities. Also, we were invited to keynote at the Black Employees Union of Arlington Black History month celebration.
- We also celebrated our 75th anniversary this year!
- LWV Arlington members also met with a State Department contingent from other countries to discuss the voting process.
- We registered more than seven hundred high school students. We also held a voter registration training program attended by more than 200 people. We held a voter registration event during National Disabled Voter Registration Week.
- In July we “uncelebrated” the birthday of Elbridge Gerry – the Father of Gerrymandering.
- We also hosted an informative discussion from members of the Brookings Institute on how to marry voter registration with tax services for lower income people.
- In September we sponsored a “Challenging Racism” event attended by more than 300 people – on the racist roots of Arlington’s housing system.
- Several county board members assisted at our Sips and Civility Program entitled, “The Dillon Rule – the Good, the Bad...What is in Anyway?”
- On Feb 18 we held our Centennial Soiree at Mrs. Peacock’s Champagne lounge. We had a trivia contest and great food and cake for our fifty attendees.
- More than five of our past and present members were honored at the Central Library at the “Women Winning the Vote” celebration.
- Our Post Legislative Session was held virtually on March 28 and we had a virtual candidate debate for school board on April 26, 2020.
- Because of the pandemic we are developing a program to inform condominium and apartment managers, civic associations, groups who work with the disabled and other marginalized communities – to be sure they have information on absentee voting for the June 9 election.

LWV of the Fairfax Area, VA Nancy Roodberg and Anu Sahai Co-Presidents

We have had a very eventful year at LWV Fairfax, that is until we were all paralyzed by the COVID 19 pandemic. We have a membership of 413 members. Some members did not renew but several new members have joined.

Our Action and Advocacy group under the able leadership of Wendy Fox Grage has done a superb job. We held an action forum on November 17' 2019 at the Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax. It was very well attended. The topic was Redistricting and we had Senators Barker and Marsden and Delegates Delaney, Keam, Kory, Levine, Plum, Samirah, Simon and Sullivan who all addressed the 100 strong audience. The other speakers were Andre Parvenu from the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and Brian Cannon from One Virginia 2021.

Voter Services: We are very proud to inform you that we held 13 Candidate Forms in 2019! It was quite an achievement and hats off to our Voter Services.

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Voter Registration & Education Events: Interacted with over 1,400 potential voters at 16 different events, such as fairs, festivals, libraries, retail establishments.

Voter education materials. We distributed approximately:

- 5,000 Vote411 cards, in 6 languages
- 1,800 Leaflet: What officials are we voting for this year?
- 17,000 Facts for Voters
- 700 Voters with Disability Cards
- 10,600 What's On The Ballot
- 200 Restoration of Rights info cards
- 500 GOTV postcards

Voter education outreach programs:

- Restoration of Rights, including visits/training at Adult Detention Center.
- Healthcare Worker Outreach
- Senior Centers Outreach
- Persons with Disabilities

Our High School Voter Registration program has been beyond successful and we hope to pick up where we left off in September when (hopefully) schools will reopen. We have now registered students in almost all the high schools in FCPS. We registered almost 2500 students. Overall about 6000 students registered. We would like to think a good portion of them registered because of our High School Voter Challenge. We are training more and more members (22 to be exact) to do HSVR as well.

Our 100th anniversary tea on February 23rd was a fabulous and fun event with a great turnout. We had Del Vivian Watts as the keynote speaker. We have also created some swag to commemorate the event and they sold well.

LWV of Falls Church, VA Wendy Frieman and Johannah Barry Co-Presidents

In August and September, LWV sponsored several postcard parties to encourage people in under-represented parts of Virginia to register to vote in time to vote in the state elections.

We co-hosted an event with American Association of University Women where Lisa Baker from VARatifyERA led a discussion on the importance of the ERA and its potential impact on American women.

We staffed information booths at the Falls Church City Fall Festival and the Thomas Jefferson Elementary Parents' Information night to provide information about voter registration, the voting process in VA, and LWV-FC's role in voter education and civic discussion. We also did a fall voter registration drive at George Mason HS.

Our George Mason High School League Club Prior organized a well-attended forum where FCC residents got to hear from City Council and School Board candidates about their positions on various important local issues.

Our Voter Services Committee put together a fantastic Voters' Guide to help FCC residents learn about candidates for City Council, School Board, Commonwealth's Attorney, and General

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Assembly. In the City of Falls Church, 45% of active voters cast ballots (Source: City of Falls Church Voter Registration and Elections Office).

LWV-FC joined with the other Northern Virginia Leagues to present a forum on redistricting on November 17. We hosted a talk by Dorothy Patton, author of: "From Suffragists to Senators: A Century of Laws by Women Since 1920." Ms. Patton's talk highlighted women's legislative accomplishments since we gained the right to vote: ending child labor, expanding access to higher education, creating AMBER Alerts, and much more.

We had a fabulous 100th birthday party for the League of Women Voters organization on February 2, 2020 at The Falls Church Episcopal church. City Council joined us, members of the LWV student club at George Mason High school attended, along with live suffragettes from the Victorian Society of Falls Church. We honored our life members, each of whom has at least 50 active years of membership in LWVFC: Betty Allan, Betty Blystone, Doris Doran, and Ann McCleary.

On March 4th, LWV-FC sponsored a talk by Elaine Weiss, author of "The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote," at George Mason High School. The LWV student group at the high school spearheaded this, and all 9th, 11th, and 12th graders participated in the assembly

A FCC Women's History Walk that was initially planned for May 3 has been postponed until later in the fall. Thanks to generous donations from LWVFC members, our league has donated funds to sponsor weather-resistant signage for this and future walk programs.

Wendy Frieman is representing LWV-FC on the Affordable Housing study, and Allison Brown is representing LWV-FC on the study group to update LWV-VA's election positions.

LWV of Loudoun County, VA Anna Kinney, President

- LWVLC held three candidate forums prior to the November 2019 elections, all of which were free and open to the public. The first forum for school board candidates was well attended with 200 signed up to attend and was covered by Loudoun Now. The second forum for the Board of Supervisors, in coordination with members of the Loudoun County Conservation and Preservation Coalition, garnered 160 reservations. The final forum for the General Assembly, in partnership with and at the Loudoun Campus of NVCC, was covered by Loudoun Now. We have been modernizing our use of information technology, to include recording our events.
- LWVLC cohosted or cosponsored a "Lights for Liberty" rally, a Redistricting forum, and the Hillsboro Old Stone School Preservation Constitution Series, at which President Kinney spoke regarding the League's efforts to fight voter suppression.
- In celebration of the League's 100th Anniversary, Ashburn Library housed our display of suffrage history and history of the League. Pat Wirth of Turning Point Suffragists Memorial spoke about the history of suffragists in honor of the Centennial since the ratification of the 19th Amendment. at Cascades Library February 15, 2 PM. We also made a \$1000 donation to the Turning Point Suffragist memorial.
- Loudoun was awarded \$4,700 to increase voting participation by underserved populations and underserved geographic areas. We commissioned a popular animated advertisement to promote Vote411 on social media which we shared with other organizations via YouTube. We also placed a newspaper advertisement for VOTE411. Our efforts resulted, in part, in a 489% increase in the use of VOTE411 over the 2017 election cycle.

2019 LWVNCA Annual Convention

- LWVLC registered voters throughout the year in coordination with Moms Demand Action, Sterlingfest, Equality Loudoun, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. We registered voters at Purcellville Library and at Mobile Hope bus stops. Loudoun volunteers registered voters at Northern Virginia Community College, Sterling Campus twice this year. LWVLC supported the County Complete Census Count Committee, OneVirginia2021, and VARatifyERA.
- LWVLC published an educational brochure on the job descriptions of governmental offices and two educational brochures on the elections to be held in 2019 and in 2020.



LWFNCA Past Presidents

*These women led the LWFNCA 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-	Linda Softli (LWVDC) & Joyce Starks (LWVPGC) Co-Presidents