

BETTER SCHOOLS

**VOTER
GUIDES**

**JUVENILE
JUSTICE
REFORMS**

**CANDIDATE
DEBATES AND
FORUMS**

**A BETTER
ARLINGTON**

**ALTERNATIVE
ENERGY**

**VOTER
REGISTRATION**

VOTING 411

REDISTRICTING

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF ARLINGTON



Celebrating 75 Years of Engagement

**LAND USE
PLANNING**

METRO

EQUALITY

**VOTING
RIGHTS**

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

**POST-LEGISLATIVE
FORUMS**

**GET OUT
THE VOTE**

**INTEGRATION OF
SCHOOLS**

met to consider the formation of a unit of the National League of Women Voters. This group met in the Assembly room of the Fairlington Administration Building.

At 2:15 PM, a group of seventeen Arlington women gave a short resume of her recent conference with the Buckingham Group and with the President of the District League, in which all concerned agreed that there should be an Arlington League of Women Voters.

Mrs. Kathryn Stone presiding over the meeting

MISS ANNA LORD STRAUSS
President

OF WOMEN VOTERS

OF THE UNITED STATES

March 25, 1948

Board of Directors
League of Women Voters of Arlington, Virginia

Under the authority granted by the Convention in 1946, the national Board declared Article IV, Sections 2 and 3, and Article V, Sections 3, 4 and 5, of the By-laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States effective as of November 10, 1947. In accordance with Article IV, Section 2, we recognize the League of Women Voters of Arlington as a local League. This recognition entitles you to use the insignia of the League of Women Voters.

At the Convention in 1946, League members reaffirmed their belief in the importance of the League's basic purpose - that of developing a more effective citizenry. As an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Virginia, you will strive to carry out this work in your own community. Working through a member-chosen program of activity on national, state and local matters of government you will give the members of your League the opportunity to gain the experience necessary to make them effective citizens. You will plan so that all can take an active part in the formulation and carrying out of League program and will strive to see that, through the members, it is carried to the whole community.



ARLINGTON'S FIRST WOMAN VOTERS HONORED—Mrs. Elizabeth P. Taylor, Mrs. J. C. Whithead and Mrs. Laura T. Bodin, all of Arlington, who will be guests of the Arlington League of Women Voters at a tea tomorrow as part of the county's centennial celebration, show a picture published in The Star when they voted for the first time in November, 1920, at the Citizens precinct. Looking on are Mrs. Harold A. Simon, first vice president of the National League of Women Voters (left), and Mrs. Charles Plank, president of the Arlington League. —Star Staff Photo

Wash. Star
9/6/46

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

WASHINGTON & D. C.

December 3, 1945

Dear Mrs. Coulter:

I am happy to inform you that the National Board, after full consideration of the administration and activities of the Arlington League, formally voted to grant it provisional status. This status will continue until it is possible to establish a State League in Virginia which will be sufficiently representative of various sections of the state and strong and effective. We are hopeful that at least three other groups will be formed within the next few months and that progress toward statehood will be progressive.

Newspapers
-Manassas
https://www.newspapers.com/image/63068726

League of Women Voters has its first man in the House

The League of Women Voters has a man in the House (in Washington, D.C.) He is Joseph I. Fisher (D) who defeated Joel Brophy (R) in the 10th District of Virginia. According to Ruth C. Clusen, president of the League of Women Voters of the United States, he is the first male League member to be elected to the House of Representatives.

Women League members who have been House representatives include Shirley Chisholm, Ella Grass, Edith Green, Martha Griffiths, Margaret Heckler, Patricia Schroeder and Marjorie Holt.

Mrs. Clusen commented: "We're delighted, although I must admit I didn't think we'd be chalking up this first so quickly. Mr. Fisher is a welcome addition to the thousands of League members elected to political office."

Fisher joined the Arlington, Va., League of Women Voters a few weeks after the organization opened its membership to men. Mrs. Clusen said the League does not have figures on the number of men who have joined nationally. The Bennington League of Women Voters has four men members.

Downloaded on Jan 21, 2019



HONORING THE PAST – EMBRACING THE FUTURE

In January 1944, as the war in Europe raged, seventeen women gathered in Arlington, Virginia and decided that Arlington County* needed to have its own chapter of the League of Women Voters. As stated in its official letter of recognition from the national League, its mission was to “develop a more effective citizenry”. While we do not know all their names, for 75 years the Arlington League has carried on the spirit, commitment and impact of our founders, and all the dedicated members who have come since.

Much has changed since that day, yet the League’s mission, core values and dedication have remained the same. The League is a membership organization, open to all individuals 16 years old and above. League members continuously study and update their knowledge on important issues in order to assist the broader community in participating in the decisions of their government and to advocate for improvements in public policies. We are steadfast in conducting our activities in a strictly nonpartisan manner.

Arlington League members have provided essential voting information to county citizens virtually every year since its founding. In addition, voter registration and get out the vote initiatives have been a bedrock of our activities. We have also become engaged in a wide range of local, regional, state and national issues. The specifics of many issues have evolved over time, but the League has continued to stay involved. Now as we stand on the threshold of the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States in 2020, we are certain that the League will continue to be a powerful voice in *Making Democracy Work*.

Although our core values remain the same, the Arlington League itself has evolved. Essentially an organization of white women when it was founded, the Arlington League began encouraging a

more racially diverse membership in 1956, and began including men as provisional members even before the national League officially permitted men as members in 1974. The League continues to expand its outreach to people of all backgrounds, and we are excited to see an increase in young people and students. In addition, we have kept up with changes in communication technologies. We’ve evolved from telegrams and letters to Twitter and video livestreams. We boast an attractive website and are active on major social platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

This booklet cannot begin to capture all the activities of generations of Arlington League members. Instead, it highlights a broad range of functions – forgotten and well known, representative and unique – in which our League has engaged.

Seventy-five years later, the Arlington League is a vibrant membership organization, committed to making our county, region, state and nation the best they can be, and recognized and respected for doing so. We are proud of the contributions of our past and enthusiastic about our future.

I want to thank all our current members for their efforts, and I urge anyone who wishes to empower voters and defend democracy to join us!

Joan Porte / President
May 2019

*When formed initially, the local League represented both Arlington and Alexandria, but in 1947 they decided to operate as separate Leagues. We are now proud to once again represent people from City of Alexandria. !

THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE TODAY



TODAY THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE IS A FLOURISHING MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION THAT IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE NEEDS AND ISSUES OF THE COUNTY, REGION, STATE AND NATION.

As an organization, the Arlington League:

- Is almost 200 members strong, composed of both women and men, ages 16 and up
- Employs social media to keep both members and the public informed of activities and events on shared concerns and issues
- Is governed by an elected Board of Directors that meets monthly, and holds full membership meetings several times a year
- Publishes a bi-monthly electronic newsletter
- Has representatives on the Arlington County Civic Federation
- Has representatives on the national League's Lobby Corps and the Virginia League's Women's Legislative Roundtable
- Continues to actively pursue our core goals of supporting voters and advocating for effective public policies

The Arlington League supports voters by:

- Making voter registration easy and accessible by offering it in high schools, apartment and condominium buildings, farmers' markets and other public locations and events
- Hosting candidate forums in races for county, state and federal offices
- Annually including Arlington candidate information in *VOTE411*, the national League's online voter website
- Hosting *Get Out the Vote* postcard writing events
- Producing *Know Before You Go* bookmarks each year with all relevant voting information
- Conducting voter registration training for over 200 people annually
- Hosting pre and post legislative briefings with Arlington's state senators and delegates

The Arlington League engages in a broad range of member education, public forums, and political advocacy as needed. Much of the work is conducted through the following committees.

- Broadcast Media, working with Arlington Independent Media to

THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH ORGANIZATIONS THAT SHARE OUR GOALS.

- produce a radio show and podcasts about current affairs of regional interest
- Centennial Celebrations, developing materials and events to celebrate the multiple League and women's rights centennials in 2019 and 2020
- Condominium Elections, managing condominium board elections upon request
- Election Integrity, monitoring the safety of election systems
- Equal Rights Amendment, working with a larger coalition to pass this amendment
- Housing, focusing on issues of affordability in Arlington
- Redistricting, working with a state coalition to create an independent redistricting committee
- Transportation, working with regional area Leagues to advance bus, light rail, and subway options
- Sips and Civility, hosting casual public discussions about community issues
- Voter Girl, working with Girl Scouts on civic engagement
- Voter Access, focusing both on barriers to voting and restoration of rights

- 2020 Census, participating in the Arlington and Alexandria "Full Count" Census initiatives
- Book Club, discussing books, articles, and movies that address contemporary issues

The Arlington League also provides numerous public forums on other topics of general interest, such as:

- An interview with the Arlington County Manager, identifying likely impacts on Arlington of the new Trump Administration policies
- A civic engagement program for clients of the Arlington Street People's Assistance Center
- A workshop on the threat of a new federal Constitutional Convention
- A program on "Bipartisan Solutions to the Problem of Money in Politics"
- A "Day of Action" where attendees visited various "issue booths" to write letters or emails and sign petitions on issues before the General Assembly



This presently includes:



- American Association of University Women
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Arlington Independent Media
- Girl Scouts
- INSPIRE VA
- Mom's Demand Action
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- Nu Xi Zeta Chapter, Alexandria
- Offender Aid Restoration
- OneVirginia2021
- Virginia Equal Rights Coalition
- Vote – Lead- Impact

75 YEARS OF SUPPORTING VOTERS

SINCE ITS BEGINNING, THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE HAS FOCUSED ON VOTERS AND THEIR RIGHTS IN A VARIETY OF WAYS.

Providing information and assistance to voters

- Conducting voter registration – including for those in under-represented communities and jails
- Registering new citizens at naturalization ceremonies
- Hosting candidate debates and forums – for local, state and federal races
- Questioning local and state candidates on important issues
- Publishing candidate responses in printed Voter Guides and newspapers



VOTE411.ORG
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

Search by State & Topic

Keep VOTE411 Online!	
 Help us provide accurate & unbiased voting information. Donate Today!	
Enter Your Address	
Enter your address for personalized voting information.	
Topics	State
Absentee Voting	Pennsylvania
Candidate and Ballot Measure Information	Rhode Island
Early Voting	South Carolina
Election Dates	South Dakota
Eligibility Requirements	Tennessee
ID Requirements	Texas
Poll Workers	Utah
Polling Place Details	Vermont
Provisional Voting	Virginia
	Apply

- Posting candidate information on VOTE411, the national League election website
- Promoting VOTE411 as a one-stop-shop for all election information
- Undertaking get-out-the-vote activities, including offering babysitting and free rides to register and pay the poll tax

- Demonstrating voting machines as needed
- Publishing explanations of voting requirements, especially related to voter registration, including changes in identification requirements, and the poll tax
- Sponsoring postcard writing sessions to remind voters to register and vote
- Producing *Know Before You Go* bookmarks with all relevant voting dates and requirements
- Conducting forums on public policy issues to inform and educate voters
- Hosting annual pre-legislative sessions in which Arlington's state senators and delegates listen to what citizens want them to address in the legislative session
- Hosting annual post-legislative forums to enable Arlington's state senators and delegates to inform the public about what happened during the state legislative session
- Participated in "Citizens View of '52", gathering citizens' questions for national candidates in the 1952 presidential election

Advocating for free and fair elections

- Opposition to the poll tax
- Opposition to such voter disenfranchisement legislation as photo identification and excessive purging of voter lists
- Support for voter rights legislation, such as no "excuse" absentee voting and restoration of voting rights for felons
- Support for an independent redistricting commission



75 YEARS WORKING FOR A BETTER ARLINGTON



THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE ENGAGES WITH CITIZENS ABOUT THE WELFARE OF THE COUNTY IN A VARIETY OF WAYS.

Offering practical civics education

- Developing and distributing *Know Your County* booklets
- Conducting an annual institute on understanding local government
- Offering field trips to local, state, and federal government facilities
- Maintaining a Speaker's Bureau of members who can address issues of public importance

Holding public forums on a broad range of public policy issues

- Various election system issues, such as money in politics, redistricting, and voting reliability standards
- Wide range of environmental issues, including recycling, air pollution, solid waste, hazardous waste materials, green space needs, alternative energy, and climate change
- Transportation issues, locally and regionally, including buses, light rail, and subway
- Housing affordability
- Healthcare in Virginia, including Medicaid and mental health
- Human trafficking
- Proposal to change Arlington's City Manager form of government

Undertaking studies as a basis for local action on diverse topics

- Immigration
- Homelessness
- Local sources of revenue
- Women in the workforce
- Adult domestic violence
- Dillon Rule (Virginia's system of a strong state government and its power of delegation to local governments)



- Numerous environmental issues
- Various issues related to affordable housing, including endorsement of the County's Affordable Housing Master Plan

Providing other civic services

- Creation of the Torill Floyd Scholarship for high school students demonstrating interest in public service
- Assistance to the U.S. Census Bureau in obtaining a more complete count of under-represented communities
- Use of an Observer Corps to watch public County and School Board meetings to promote transparency and accountability
- Provision of election management services to condominium associations
- Representation on various local boards and commissions

Supporting improved public policies to help all Arlingtonians

- Increased aid to welfare recipients and dependent children
- Establishment of a Public Housing Authority
- Juvenile justice reforms and facilities
- Improved mental health facilities
- Fiscal reform
- Creation of nonpartisan primaries
- Land use in general and a master plan for the county
- Creation of a central library

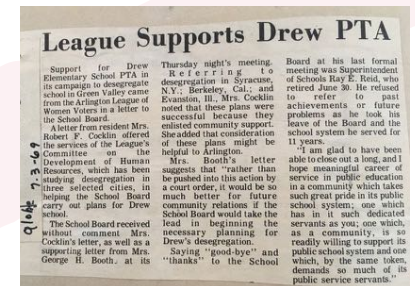
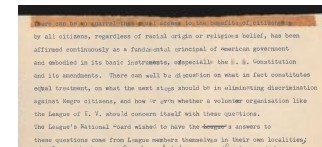
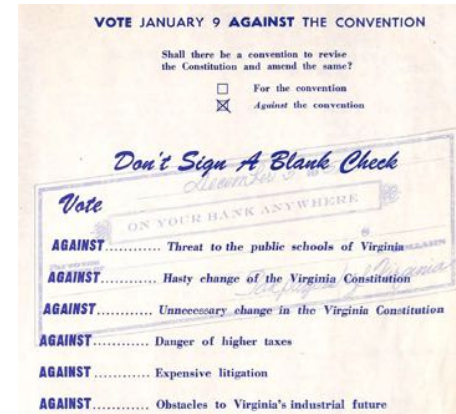


75 YEARS WORKING FOR EQUALITY

THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO REDUCE BARRIERS AND INCREASE EQUALITY IN ARLINGTON.

The League undertook efforts to integrate the Arlington County schools for decades

- Following the 1954 Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the Arlington League opposed efforts to amend the Virginia Constitution to permit public money to fund a private school system for children whose parents refused to send them to integrated schools.
- League members worked closely with the “Save Our Schools” effort to prevent closure of Arlington schools due to the state’s “Massive Resistance” to integration policies.
- The League called for direct election of a nonpartisan school board, after the Virginia legislature replaced Arlington County’s elected school board with an appointed one, as a reaction to county desegregation efforts.
- In the 1960s, following Arlington County’s official desegregation of the schools, the League monitored and made recommendations to the School Board regarding decisions that would disproportionately affect African American students. This included county plans to close the high school level at the all African American Hoffman-Boston school and the delay in desegregating Drew Elementary School.
- In the 1970s, the League was instrumental in forming the Committee for Equal Education, a citizen group working for desegregation in Arlington with the goal of providing equal education for all children. Chaired by League members, this group worked on drawing new school district lines, bridging tensions between groups in the County, and interacting with the School Board.



As early as 1956, the Arlington League welcomed people of all races to its meetings.

I shall turn for exactly one minute to a theme on which I spoke two years ago when I became your president. "Sweet are the uses of diversity," if I ^{may} alter ~~Shakespeare~~ Shakespeare—diversity in our membership, in the community, may even in the courthouse, the state capitol and the halls of Congress. Diversity stimulates and makes us grow. All too often, uniformity is stultifying. If we respect diversity, let us also respect the diverse. Those who disagree with us are not

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
ARLINGTON BRANCH

Thomas R. Monroe, President

4818 Lee Highway

Vol. III

NEWS LETTER
March 1956

No. 2

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Many of us are facing the period ahead haunted by a sense of futility. Some are asking what is the use of planning for a better future when everything we try to do ends on the scrapheap. In Montgomery, Alabama, colored citizens are conducting a dignified struggle against humiliating jim crow regulations. They have won the admiration and sympathy of hundreds of thousands of American citizens. The problems we face today are difficult, but let us take heart from the noble example of our brothers in Alabama. Let us work for security and equality of opportunity! How?

OPEN DOORS * * * WHY DON'T YOU ENTER THEM?

The League of Women Voters welcomes members of all races. The Arlington League is divided into nine discussion units which meet twice monthly in different parts of the County. Five units meet in the evening, two in the afternoon, two in the morning. Discussion topics range from local problems to international. Women interested in learning about such things as: what is happening in Congress, the U. N., Arlington Government, etc.; should call the League membership chairman, Mrs. Collins, KE 8-6895.

THE SUN—ARLINGTON, VA.

League to Seek
Poll Tax Action

Early action for simple, clear-cut repeal of the poll tax will be sought by the League of Women Voters of Virginia, Mrs. Festus Foster, president, announced this week.

Whether the most practical way

to abolish the tax is by regular action in the Legislature to amend the Constitution, or by a Constitutional convention limited to the one problem, the League has not yet decided, Mrs. Foster said.

Material taking into account the time and cost factors involved in both methods is now being prepared for study by local Leagues, with the expectation that the State

League will be ready to press for action at the coming session of the General Assembly.

"Whatever legislative method is followed," Mrs. Foster said, "the League will do its utmost to see to it that the legislation itself is as simple as possible. Constitutional changes involving other voting laws may be desirable, but should be voted for on their own

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Arlington League studied and reported on the progress, or lack thereof, of civil rights in the county, in such areas as housing, transportation, recreational facilities, parks, libraries, and medical facilities.

Beginning in 1949, the Arlington League also engaged in various efforts relating to the Virginia poll tax.

Poll Tax
Repeal Urged

Editor, the SUN:

The League of Women Voters in Virginia has long advocated the improvement of Virginia's election laws to facilitate registration and voting. To this end, we oppose the payment of a poll tax as a qualification for voting, believing that it places an unjust obstacle in the path of the potential voter.

The present system of dual registration is difficult and confusing, both to the voter and to those administering the voting laws. However, the increase in the vote of 1964 election must be credited to the elimination of the poll tax prerequisite for voting in the federal election.

We strongly urge the total repeal of the poll tax, so that our

otherwise qualified citizens may enjoy the right and the privilege of voting.

MRS. JOHN REEDLER,
President, Alexandria,
League of Women Voters

MRS. LYLE BRYANT,
President, Arlington,
League of Women Voters
MRS. RAYMOND LAMB,
President, Fairfax Assn.
League of Women Voters
MRS. M. M. MEDAK,
President, FFA's Church,
League of Women Voters

- In the 1940s and 1950s, the League published materials to educate voters about poll tax requirements and the impacts of federal law changes on state and local elections. It also provided free rides to voters to register and pay the poll tax.
- Such efforts led to actual increases in poll tax payment and registrations, as well as public criticism for these efforts and results.
- The League repeatedly advocated for repeal of the poll tax for state and local, as well as federal, elections.

More recently, the Arlington League has increased its attention to immigrants and refugees, including a program on the Dreamers in which the audience heard from young immigrants whose lives, and education, have been affected by turmoil in national immigration policy.

75 YEARS WORKING FOR BETTER SCHOOLS



SINCE 1944, THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION ON IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN IN THE ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS (APS).

- In the 1940s, the League advocated for uniform building standards
- In the 1950s, a committee of League members and teachers wrote several editions of a textbook entitled *The Arlington Story*, to meet the county's requirement for 7th grade social studies classes. This was later revised by APS.
- Starting in the 1960s, the League has testified before the County and School Boards and advocated for such issues as:
 - Full day school for 1st and 2nd grades, and later, for Kindergarten
 - Funding to extend daycare hours before and after school
 - Improved playgrounds
 - Establishing and supporting guidance programs
 - Improved technology in the schools
 - Increased teacher salaries
 - Continual enrichment of the curriculum and increased attention to social studies
 - Support for bond issues to fund new and renovated school buildings
- The Arlington League has long had representation on APS's Advisory Council on Instruction, thereby assisting in reviewing and making recommendations about curriculum and instructional programs. Most recently this has included a focus on:
 - Improving the consistency of APS program implementation
 - Challenging all students, regardless of level or type of program
 - Improving English for Speakers of Other Languages/High Intensity Training (ESOL/HILT) program
- Since 2015, the Arlington League has partnered with youth-directed INSPIRE VA to send volunteers into all APS high schools to register eligible students to vote. As a result, the Arlington League has been a model for other Leagues, has received an award from the national League, as well as a letter of commendation from the Virginia governor.

THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE HAS WORKED FOR MANY YEARS TO IMPROVE THE WASHINGTON, D.C. METROPOLITAN AREA.

Since 1958, the League has supported an effective public transit system. It has supported the construction, expansion, and continued funding of the Metro railway system. The League also advocated for such policies as:

- No expansion of I66 or construction of the Three Sisters Bridge
- No free, subsidized or permanent parking at Metro stops
- Easy bus access, bus/rail transfers, and road space for exclusive bus lanes
- Financial oversight, including reduction of costs by WMATA, reduction of fares, and a mass transit subsidy
- Emphasis on greater regional, state, and federal support, rather than reliance on the individual counties
- Enforcement of the Master Sidewalk Plan

Supporting an independent Airport Authority

Promoting regional approaches to land use planning from 1955 on

- Creation of a Regional Planning Institute
- Conducted a survey on parks and open space for the Northern Virginia Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission

Advocating for regional approaches to water management issues, such as flood control, better methods to reduce pollutants and toxins, and improved sewage treatment controls

Promoting area and regional approaches to address such social problems as:

- Affordable housing
- Adequate mental health facilities
- Adequate care for juvenile offenders, including establishment of a Regional Detention Home for Juveniles
- Alternative approaches to incarceration and mandatory sentences
- Community health
- Higher education
- Human trafficking

The Arlington League helped establish the National Capital Area (NCA) League in 1962, as a result of regional League meetings beginning in 1958 in anticipation of Metro.

Arlington member Madeline Naumann was the first NCA president, and an NCA award has been created in her name.



75 YEARS OF STATE AND NATIONAL ADVOCACY



THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE HAS ADVOCATED ON A LARGE NUMBER OF ISSUES FACING THE COMMONWEALTH.

- Fair redistricting and reapportionment
- Improvement of air quality, particularly through more efficient transportation modes
- Establishment of a moratorium on hydraulic fracking
- Comprehensive behavioral health care that includes both mental illness and substance abuse disorders
- Allowing Virginia women to serve on juries
- Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in Virginia
- Opposition to the freeholder amendment, which restricted voting on local bond issues to property owners
- Opposition to the poll tax
- Support for adequate state funding of public education to eliminate disparities
- Opposition to a proposed state constitutional amendment to define marriage as only between a man and a woman
- Support for multiple voting rights bills, and against disenfranchisement efforts
- Support for restoration of felon voting rights
- Support for policies that recognize the basic needs of all children, including shelter, family and community support, health care, food, education, and personal safety

In doing so, the Arlington League has participated in collaborative efforts with other Leagues and multiple other organizations around the Commonwealth, including:

- Women's Legislative Roundtable sessions held every week during the Virginia legislative session since 1981
- State League's Firearms Safety Task Force
- OneVirginia2021
- Virginia Equal Rights Coalition

ARLINGTON LEAGUE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ACTIVE ON MANY NATIONAL ISSUES.

- Support for creation of the United Nations
- Passage of the Equal Rights Amendment by the US Congress
- Passage of a broad range of voting rights legislation, including the 1993 "Motor Voter" law to facilitate voter registration and the 2002 Bi-Partisan Campaign Reform Act to partially regulate money in politics
- Support for multiple bills addressing the environment and climate change
- Efforts to save the Women's Bureau in the US Department of Labor
- Support for the Affordable Care Act
- Participation in the national League's Lobby Corps



THE LEAGUE OF TOMORROW

THE ARLINGTON LEAGUE IS PROUD OF ITS 75 YEAR HISTORY AND THE PAST AND CURRENT CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITS MANY DEDICATED MEMBERS.

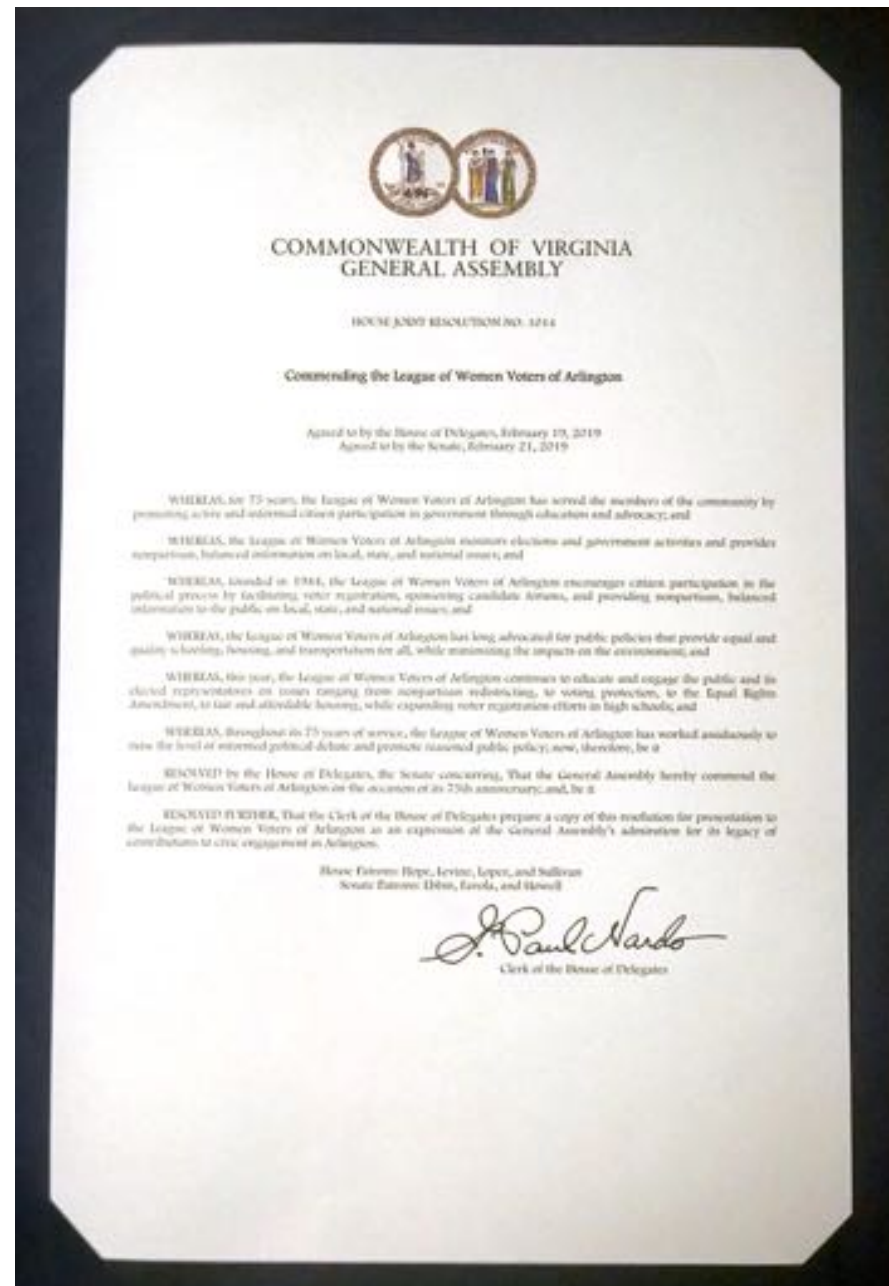
LOOKING FORWARD, WE PLAN TO BE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE FOLLOWING, IN ADDITION TO NEW ISSUES AND CHALLENGES AS THEY ARISE.

- Voting rights: efforts both to expand the franchise and to block voter suppression initiatives
- Voter security: pushing for improvements in election management and technology
- Voter registration: with a focus on such traditionally low voter turnout populations as youth and under-represented communities
- Passage of a state constitutional amendment for an independent redistricting commission, and then oversight of its creation and operations
- Participation in the Full Count Initiative for the 2020 Census
- Celebration of the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States
- Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women a constitutional right to vote, and noting its relevance today
- Arlington County Board decisions related to the move of a new Amazon headquarters to the county, with a focus on mitigating undesirable effects on housing, transportation and the schools
- Increased emphasis on diversity and inclusion in our work and in our membership
- Expanded outreach to and collaboration with other organizations

In 2019, the Arlington League is pleased to “honor our history” by providing an overview of our efforts and contributions of the last 75 years. We are also excited about our capability and commitment to embrace the future for the betterment of our county, region, state and nation.



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA PROCLAMATION





PROCLAMATION

eeOoe

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON

WHEREAS, for 75 years the League of Women Voters of Arlington has served the members of the community by promoting active and informed citizen participation in government through education and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, founded January 28, 1944, the League of Women Voters of Arlington encourages citizen participation in the political process by facilitating voter registration, sponsoring candidate forums, monitoring elections and government activities and providing nonpartisan, balanced information to the public on local, state, and national issues; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of Arlington has long advocated for public policies that provide equal and quality schooling, housing, and transportation for all, while minimizing the impacts on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of Arlington continues to educate and engage the public and its elected representatives on issues ranging from nonpartisan redistricting, to voting protection, to the Equal Rights Amendment, to fair and affordable housing, while expanding voter registration efforts in high schools; and


WHEREAS, throughout its 75 years of service, the League of Women Voters of Arlington has worked assiduously to raise the level of informed political debate and promote reasoned public policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christian Dorsey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim January 28, 2019 as

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON

and encourage all residents to join me in honoring the League's legacy of contributions to civic engagement in Arlington.




Christian Dorsey
Chair

ARLINGTON LEAGUE PRESIDENTS 1944-2018

1944 -45 Kathryn Stone
 1945-46 Elizabeth Coulter
 1946-47 Carolyn Planck
 1947-49 Mildred Marcy
 1949-51 Martha Wildhack
 1951-53 Helen Vietheer
 1953-55 Annette Stowman
 1955 -56 Elizabeth Weihe
 1956-58 Theda Henle
 1958-60 Myra Kahn
 1960-61 Alice Suft
 1961-63 Madeline Naumann
 1963-65 Ellen Bozman
 1965-67 Margaret Bryant
 1967-69 Joan Allen
 1969-71 Cas Conklin
 1971-73 Joan Amico
 1973-75 Mary Kay Parker
 1975 -77 Judy Quanrud
 1977-79 Sonja Elmer
 1979-81 Jane Bartlett

1981-83 Virginia DeSimone
 1983-85 Torill Floyd
 1985-86 Karen Darner
 1986-87 Madeline Naumann
 1987-89 Ann Noll
 1989-91 Darlene Mickey
 1991-93 Beth Cogswell
 1993 -95 Susan Wilder
 1995-97 Anne Clare
 1997-99 Beth Cogswell &
 Alice Suft
 1999-2000 Beth Cogswell &
 Barbara Sherrill
 2000-01 Barbara Sherrill
 2001-04 Bonnie Franklin
 2004-07 Eileen Williams
 2007-11 Nancy Tate
 2011-13 Mary Finger
 2013-16 Kristin Goss
 2016-18 Kathy Matusiak
 2018 - Joan Porte

50 YEAR MEMBERS



Bonnie
Franklin

Dorothy
Nieweg



Barbara
Sherrill

Judy
Connolly



40+ YEAR MEMBERS

Sherry Gainer 1972
 Sue Swisher 1973
 Mary Margaret Whipple 1973
 Karen Darner 1975
 Mary Finger 1977
 Marjorie Hobart 1977
 Marion Moore 1977
 Ann Rudd 1977

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE



2018 – 2019 Board of Directors Arlington League of Women Voters

President	Joan Porte
Vice President	Mary Voulgaris
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With thanks to

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A Great Idea Observes Its 50th Anniversary

"50 Years of a Great Idea," the League of Women Voters celebrated by Arlington voters with the launching of the campaign for the 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which would allow voters to elect members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate from their local districts.

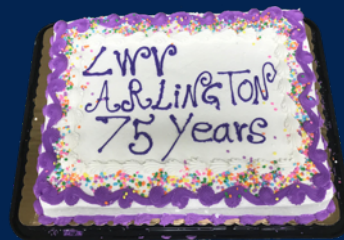
President Richard M. Nixon, at a recent White House reception, announced that all Americans should support the 11th Amendment, which would allow voters to elect members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate from their local districts.

President Nixon's announcement was a landmark moment in the history of the League of Women Voters, which has been working to educate voters and promote civic participation for over 50 years.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that provides voters with the information they need to make informed decisions at the ballot box. The League's mission is to ensure that every citizen has the opportunity to participate in the democratic process.

The League of Women Voters is proud to be part of this historic campaign and to continue its tradition of civic education and voter participation.





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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON

PO BOX 100577

ARLINGTON VA 22210-3577