

# Fairfax VOTER

January 2020

Volume 72, Issue 5

## The League of Women Voters and Suffrage

We look forward to lively and informative discussions this month as LWVFA turns Suffragist Book Club! If you didn't get a chance to read a book, or just want to further satisfy your curiosity about the history of the League of Women Voters and the Suffrage movement, in place of a study this month, we have included a history of the organization and a timeline of the movement.

Please be sure your membership is up to date, and register to attend the tea in February for an exciting program!

### Calendar

- 3 LWVNCA Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- 4 LWVFA Briefing and At-Large Meeting, Packard Center in Annandale, 10 a.m.
- 4 League testimony to Fairfax General Assembly Delegation, Fairfax County Gov't Cent.
- 6-7 Marshall HS Voter Registration and Education
- 6 Deadline for February 2020 Fairfax Voter
- 8 General Assembly Convenes (tentative)
- 8-13 LWVFA Unit Meetings at various locations
- 11 LWVFA New Member Orientation, LWVFA Conference Room, Packard Center, 10 a.m. to noon.
- 11 LWVFA High School Training Session, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 15 LWVFA Board Meeting, 10 a.m., LWVFA Conference Room, Packard Center
- 15 LWV-VA Women's Legislative Roundtable, Tidewater Room, SunTrust Bldg., Richmond, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. (Meets every Wednesday from January 15th to March 4th)
- 21-22 Mount Vernon HS Voter Regis. and Education
- 22&29 LWV-VA Women's Legislative Roundtable, Tidewater Room, SunTrust Bldg., Richmond, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
- 29-30 Falls Church HS Voter Regis. and Education

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## Presidents' Message



Happy New Year dear LWVFA members! We hope everyone had a joyful holiday filled with family, friends, food and all other good things!

The New Year always brings a feeling of excitement, expectation and hope. 2020 will surely be all that and more. Of course, on a national front, we will be gearing up for the presidential elections. The League will certainly have some busy times ahead, helping our citizens to register to vote and to find fact-based information on which to make their choices.

One of the spearheads of these efforts is our high school voter education and registration program. Each year the High School Voter Education and Registration (HSVER) team is invited to more local schools. So far in January alone, we are working with the Marshall HS students on January 6 and 7, the students at Annandale HS on January 13 and 14, Mt Vernon HS students on January 21 and 22 and the students of Falls Church HS on January 29 and 30.

Teaching and registering these newly-eligible voters is a very rewarding and fun experience and we would like to encourage all of our members to take the quick and easy training course to qualify.

In 2020, our LWVFA will offer our members many more opportunities to give back to our community through our education and outreach efforts. There is a role for each and every one and so many ways to get involved. Whether you want to volunteer to lead or just to help out, at an event or from the convenience of your own home – the choices and the possibilities are endless. Come join your fellow Leaguers in learning about important issues, helping others have a voice, or just meeting friends both old and new. In 2020 and beyond, the LWVFA gives you a chance to do all these things and more!

We are also looking forward with great expectations at Richmond to see if our advocacy will yield good results. We have been promised that the redistricting bill passed last year will be passed again in its entirety and our districts will be drawn in a fair and non-partisan manner. We are also hopeful that sensible gun laws will be passed so

we have fewer mass shootings, our schools are safer and there are fewer deaths of victims of domestic violence. We are also waiting with bated breath for the Virginia legislature to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment that guarantees equal legal rights for all Americans regardless of their gender and make Virginia the 38th state to endorse this constitutional amendment. This will be momentous as that ratification will ensure the constitutional amendment that was passed by U.S. Congress in 1972 will become the law of the land. Of course there is some debate about the deadline having already passed but some people argue that the deadline was only in the preamble and not in the actual amendment itself. We shall see.

So, here's a toast to the new year and all we will accomplish as well as a heartfelt thanks to our wonderful membership who will take us forward from our first hundred years into the next decade and beyond.

*Anu and Nancy*

Fairfax County 24-hr.  
Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline:  
703-360-7273; 711 TTY

### LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2019 - 2020

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Please e-mail address corrections to the office  
or call 703-658-9150.

## Spotlight on Voter Services

By Cindy Kalkwarf, Voter Services Chair

The Voter Services volunteer team focuses on registering people to vote, getting out the vote, providing educational and informational public services, and initiating outreach programs to groups of potential voters.

2020 will be an historic election year, and a busy year for voter registration. If the 2019 election is any indication there will be a record turnout! Help democracy work by joining our Voter Registration & Education team. Whether you participate for a few hours at one of the events or become a regular – it is up to you.

So, how do you learn to register people to vote? It is easy. Just a little training is involved to become a certified voter registrar. If you have not done so since July 1, 2019, go on-line to the Virginia Department of Election's (ELECT) page <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/>. View the 27-minute video, complete the on-line form showing that you have taken ELECT certified training, and submit on-line the voter registration application request and affidavit. In addition, please show you are affiliated with the LWV – Fairfax Area, order Voter Registration materials, and either bring them to the office or give them to your Unit Chair at your unit meeting, if possible.

See the articles below to learn about our Voter Registration and Education programs.

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### High School Voter Education and Registration Program Rocks!

By the HSVER Team: Erni Bridges, Pat Fege, Camille Milks, Alice Reilly, Nancy Roodberg, Beth Tudan

Do you know that LWVFA has registered several thousand high school students? High school voter education and registration (HSVER) is fun and it's easy! And, perhaps most of all, working with the high school students is a positive experience that leaves you with a feeling of optimism about the future! Read on to learn more and how you can get involved.

High school voter registration is an important step toward increasing the percentage of citizens who are registered voters and participate in voting. As a result, the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) is providing voter education and voter registration opportunities for high school students. Research indicates this encourages young people to vote, and they are more likely to develop the long-term civic habit of voting.

Do you also know that the vast majority of Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) seniors will be eligible to vote in the Presidential Primary on March 3, 2020? Almost every senior is now old enough to register to vote as they need to turn 18 by the General Election on November 3, 2020. One caveat: in order to vote, they need to be registered!

What about students with July birthdays? In Virginia, they

can register AND also vote in the primary. Since the primary voters decide who will run in the General Election, it's logical that those same voters vote in the primary.

The LWVFA works with FCPS to provide voter registration opportunities within a school setting. FCPS created an overview of this project, filmed at Mount Vernon High School. You can view it here: <https://youtu.be/oqjMHQxeLWw>.

In August, we met with FCPS high school social studies chairs to provide information about voter registration events and encourage schools to partner with us. Schools can request we work in classrooms and/or cafeterias to register students. Schools receive fliers and posters in advance to remind students of the upcoming registration event.

The educational component of our program makes it unique. In the cafeteria, we interact with students, have discussions about voting, and play games that focus on voting and civic information. We developed these games based on students' questions.

In classrooms, we provide an in-depth PowerPoint presentation focused on voter education including the progression of voting rights, nonpartisan voter resources found on [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) and absentee voting (important for students planning to enter the military or college). Teachers often chime in and make connections between our presentation and the content students are learning in class.

In both the cafeteria and classrooms, we encourage eligible students to complete voter registration forms. We check the

forms for legibility and accuracy. After the event, we complete the required paperwork and submit the registrations to the Board of Elections. These tasks require substantial logistical planning and teamwork.

During fall, 2019, we held voter registration events at five high schools. Currently, high schools are requesting registration events for the remainder of the school year as there is a great deal of interest in the upcoming elections. To support voter registration when we are not at a school, we created posters for each high school with a school-specific QR code\* that links directly to the Virginia Citizens' Portal, the Department of Elections' website. We can track the number of students by school who register in this manner. Teachers often display these posters in the school so students can scan the QR code to go directly to their school's voter registration link.

To encourage student voter registration, LWVFA and the Fairfax County PTAs collaborated to create the FCPS Voter Registration Challenge ([www.lwv-fairfax.org/hschallenge](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/hschallenge)). The Challenge recognizes schools that register at least 50 percent of their eligible high school seniors. The FCPS School Board recognized our work in a resolution both in 2018-19 and again in 2019-20. <https://p.widencdn.net/ghqhre/091916-2104>

In the last school year, ten schools met the 50 percent goal and over 6,000 seniors were registered through the combined efforts of the LWVFA, the Fairfax County Office of Elections, and Inspire Virginia. The School Board recognized the schools at their May 2019 Meeting. We predict record numbers of registrations in 2019-20!

This important work is an opportunity to reach out to young people and promote interest in active citizenship. How can you get involved? We are looking for League members to help in the classroom and lunchroom, and holding training sessions. If you cannot come to the schools during the day, we also need help with logistics, social media, grant writing, fundraising, and more. We can find something for you! Donations are also needed to help run the program.

If you are interested, please contact Beth Tudan, [director@lwv-fairfax.org](mailto:director@lwv-fairfax.org).

\*What is a QR code? A QR or "Quick Response" code is a line of computer code (similar to a hyperlink for computer documents or the bar code found on products) that can be "read" by your cell phone and that links to a pre-determined web site. The cell phone must have an active QR code reader, which is easy to download from your mobile app store.

## 2020 Voter Registration and Voter Education Activities Preview

By Bob Meredith, Voter Registration Coordinator

Where and when does the League register people to vote? In addition to High School Voter Registration, we are planning a variety of Voter Registration & Education opportunities at Metro stations, coffee shops, school resource fairs, libraries and more.

Future event organizers are already knocking on our door!

- The Reston Gay Pride event at Lake Anne on Saturday June 6th. It is a regional event that attracts thousands, with lots of food and music.
- A Taste of Annandale on Saturday, October 3rd, is also a family-friendly diverse festival, attracting thousands.

Will the League have specific programs for the March Primary election? It depends. If there are both Democratic and Republican primaries – yes, If not, no. Stay tuned!

How do I sign up to volunteer? Keep an eye on our website [www.lwv-fairfax.org](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org) under the Volunteer tab for sign

up opportunities as we get closer to these events. In the meanwhile, pencil in the dates on your calendar and plan on joining us.

If you would like to learn more, please contact Bob Meredith [voterregistration@lwv-fairfax.org](mailto:voterregistration@lwv-fairfax.org)



## Women's Suffrage in the United States

By Julie Jones

In 2020 we commemorate very special events in women's suffrage in the United States. The 19th Amendment was officially adopted on August 26, 1920. Also, the League of Women Voters (LWV) was founded on Feb. 14, 1920. The article "The League of Women Voters Through the Decades!" was first published by the League of Women Voters in 2007. The following sections are taken from that article and shortened for space considerations. The full article can be found on the LWVUS website: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org). A partial timeline of the United States suffrage movement is also included. Both of these sections are added to give background for the books and movies that LWVFA members read and saw in preparation for our January unit discussion meetings.

**"The League of Women Voters Through the Decades!"**  
compiled by Kay J. Maxwell

### ***Founding and Early History:***

From the spirit of the suffrage movement and the shock of the First World War came a great idea - that a nonpartisan civic organization could provide the education and experience the public needed to assure the success of democracy. The League of Women Voters was founded on that idea.

In her address to the National American Woman Suffrage Association's (NAWSA) 50th convention in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1919, President Carrie Chapman Catt proposed the creation of a league of women voters to "finish the fight" and aid in the reconstruction of the nation. And so, a League of Women Voters was formed within NAWSA, composed of the organizations in the states where women had already attained suffrage.

The next year, on February 14, 1920, six months before the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, the League was formally organized in Chicago as the National League of Women Voters. Catt described the purpose of the new organization:

*The League of Women Voters is not to dissolve any present organization but to unite all existing organizations of women who believe in its principles. It is not to lure women from partisanship but to combine them in an effort for legislation which will protect coming movements, which we cannot even foretell, from suffering the untoward conditions which have hindered for so long the coming of equal suffrage. Are the women of the United States big enough to see their opportunity?*

Maud Wood Park became the first national president of the League and thus the first League leader to rise to that challenge. She had steered the women's suffrage amendment through Congress in the last two years before ratification and liked nothing better than legislative work. From the beginning, however, it was apparent that the legislative

goals of the League would not be exclusively focused on women's issues and that education aimed at all of the electorate was in order. For 100 years the League has helped millions of women and men become informed participants in government. And it has tackled a diverse range of public policy issues.

From the beginning the League took action on its stands; for several years, through effective lobbying, the League got selected issues included in the platforms of both major political parties and worked for enactment of legislation furthering its program goals. Over the years many procedural changes have been made in the way the League program is defined, adopted and structured, but through all the changes the basic concept of study-member agreement-action has remained constant.

The League is political, but non-partisan. It never supports political parties or candidates, but it does study issues, develop consensus positions and then actively works to support those positions. As Carrie Chapman Catt noted in 1919, "*Is the (League) political? Certainly, but not partisan. Its members are as free as other women to join and vote with the party of their choice. They make no pledge otherwise in joining the League.*"

### **The 1920s:**

#### ***Organization:***

Since the League had inherited its structure from the National American Woman Suffrage Association, in 1920 it was a federation of affiliated state Leagues, most in existence as state headquarters of the NAWSA. State Leagues were the keystone of the League's structure, and had responsibility for organizing local Leagues. By 1924 the National League was organized in 346 of 433 congressional districts. A convention, held annually at first and then later biennially, of state League representatives selected a program that for many years was national, state and local all in one. Local Leagues were not represented at the conventions and the state League delegates also chose the national officers and directors

*The National Board continued the practice of extensive field work which had been so successful in the suffrage movement. Its members carried the enthusiasm and inspiration for the whole League to the remotest and smallest towns. The League had from the beginning the dual advantages of grassroots and central thinking, planning and leadership. (25 Years of a Great Idea , 1950)*

During its first two decades, the League concentrated on study and getting legislation passed. All League programs at the national, state and local levels were proposed by national Board program departments and standing committees and authorized by the national convention. The national Board furnished study materials for all national and some state items. This led to national Board and staff expertise and legislative successes that overshadowed the goal of political education of the public at large. The structure that developed in the departments and committees of the National League tended to build up special interests and specialists in subject matter. But there was another facet of League purpose - development of the well-rounded, effective individual - suffered by comparison.

#### *Issues:*

League President Maud Wood Park called the first League program adopted in 1920 a kettle of eels. And no wonder! It contained some 69 items grouped in broad subject areas: child welfare, education, the home and high prices, women in gainful occupations, public health and morals, and independent citizenship for married women! The League's first major national legislative success was the passage of the Sheppard-Towner Act providing federal aid for maternal and child care programs.

The League also set up classes to train volunteer teachers for citizenship schools. And the League organized institutes to study defects in our system of government, initiated "Know Your Town" surveys, candidate questionnaires and meetings, and nationwide get-out-the-vote activities. In 1928, the League sponsored "Meet the Candidates," the first national radio broadcast of a candidate forum. Voters' service efforts remain a hallmark of the League's services today and laid the foundation for the efforts that make up the League's education program - from candidate debates and candidate questionnaires produced by Leagues throughout the country, to the myriad projects funded through the League of Women Voters Education Fund, which was founded in 1957.

#### **The 1930s:**

##### *Organization:*

The depression of the 1930s and the onset of World War II brought far-reaching change to the League. Membership

fell from 100,000 in 1924 to 44,000 in 1934. The National League's budget was cut in half, necessitating a major reduction in staff and services. Perhaps the most important change was that, because of gas rationing, League members started meeting in small neighborhood groups to discuss fundamental issues. These issues included the threat to democracy itself and the importance of the informed individual to the success of democracy. Grassroots activity thus was firmly institutionalized as a way of assessing concerns, studying and strategizing.

##### *Issues:*

League members worked for enactment of the Social Security and Food and Drug Acts, as well as the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). In 1934 when federal and state agencies were hiring thousands of employees to administer the new social and economic laws, the League launched a nationwide campaign in support of the merit system for selecting government personnel. And, due at least in part to League efforts, legislation passed in 1938 and 1940 removed hundreds of federal jobs from the spoils system and placed them under Civil Service.

#### **The 1940s:**

##### *Organization:*

The 1944 convention made major changes in the basic structure of the League, proclaiming it an association of members, rather than a federation of state leagues, and abolishing the department system of managing the League program. At the 1946 convention, the name was changed to the League of Women Voters of the United States, and the national program was considerably shortened.

This action was based on the conviction that, if the League was to help democracy succeed by increasing intelligent citizen participation in government, it must choose a restricted program suitable to widespread member participation and leave enough time and energy to take such a program to greater numbers. (25 Years of a Great Idea, 1950.)

Members joined the League of Women Voters of the United States by enrolling in local Leagues in their communities. The local League became the basis of organization and representation in the League while power was vested in the members. Members influence League decisions either personally or through representatives at state and national levels by electing leaders, determining how money will be spent through adoption of budgets, choosing programs, participating in the member agreement process, and by deciding the bylaws.

Later structural changes included establishment of several Leagues at colleges, between 1948 and 1956, and of the

unit system in 1948, which encouraged development of small neighborhood-based discussion groups to further the opportunity for member input and participation.

*Issues:*

During the post-World War II period, the League helped lead the effort to establish the United Nations (UN) and ensure U.S. participation. The League was one of the first organizations in the country officially recognized by the United Nations as a non-governmental organization (NGO); it still maintains official observer status and has special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The League also supported creation of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, as well as NATO, economic aid to less developed countries, and the Marshall Plan. The Overseas Education Fund was established in 1947.

**The 1950s:**

*Organization:*

Delegates to the 1954 convention voted to group League programs into Current Agendas ("CAs"), government issues for sustained attention and concerted action, and Continuing Responsibilities ("CRs"), positions on governmental issues to which the League had given sustained attention and on which it could continue to act. In 1951 "The National Voter" magazine was first published and in 1957 the League of Women Voters Education Fund was established.

*Issues:*

The "witch hunt" period of the early fifties inspired the League to undertake a two-year community education program on the individual liberties guaranteed by the Constitution. In 1955 League President Percy Maxim Lee testified before Congress against Senator Joseph McCarthy's abuse of congressional investigative powers. *"I believe tolerance and respect for the opinions of others is being jeopardized by men and women whose instincts are worthily patriotic, but whose minds are apparently unwilling to accept the necessity for dissent within a democracy."*

Dating back to a 1920s study of the TVA, the League's concern about the depletion and conservation of natural resources was rekindled in the mid-1950s with a study of water resources.

**The 1960s:**

*Organization:*

The 1966 convention redefined programs as "those governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action." Membership reached a high point in 1969, with almost 157,000 members.

*Issues:*

In response to the growing civil rights crisis of the 1960s the League directed its energies to equality of opportunity and built a solid foundation of support for equal access to education, employment and housing. The League also added apportionment to its national program and supported presidential suffrage for the residents of Washington, DC.

**The 1970s:**

*Organization:*

In 1970 the national bylaws requirement for adopting a not-recommended item was changed from three-fifths to a simple majority. In 1972 Inter-League Organizations (ILOs), created in many parts of the country to deal with regional issues, were added to the formal structure of the League. The 1974 convention also amended the bylaws to allow men to join the League as full voting members.

*Issues:*

In the early 1970s, the League addressed the issue of income assistance and began its efforts to achieve a national Equal Rights Amendment, an effort which ultimately failed. The League also adopted positions on direct popular election of the President, on Congress, on the UN and on Campaign Finance. And, in 1976, the League sponsored the first televised presidential debates since 1960, receiving an Emmy award.

The League's deep interest in the environment was dramatically evident in the 1970s and it has since built a sequence of broad national positions on water, as well as air, waste management, land use and energy.

**The 1980s:**

*Organization:*

The 1982 Convention delegates called for development of a long-range plan for the organization. During 1984-88, this plan was refined and updated, then adopted by the 1988 convention with modifications. These steps, together with the restructuring and streamlining of League Boards, leadership training and an emphasis on modern techniques of management and communication, were evidence of the League's efforts to adapt to a changing world and ensure its place as the leading civic organization in the United States.

*Issues:*

The League was in the forefront of the struggle to pass the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982 and contributed significantly to enactment of the historic Tax Reform Act of 1986. It also adopted a position on fiscal policy and one on U.S. Relations with Developing Countries. In the arms control field, LWV pressure helped achieve Senate ratification of the groundbreaking Intermediate-range Nuclear

Forces (INF) Treaty in 1988. That same year the League also completed a study of U.S. agricultural policy. And through the Agenda for Security Projects in 1984, 1986 and 1988, the League underwrote some 150 debates focused on national security among congressional candidates. The League also sponsored Presidential Debates in 1980 and 1984, but withdrew as a sponsor of General Election debates in 1988. In 1983 the League adopted a position on public policy on reproductive choice.

### The 1990s:

#### *Organization:*

At the 1996 convention, bylaws changes simplified the process of forming new Leagues by eliminating the provisional League category, and set the procedure for proposing adoption or amendment of an LWVUS position by concurrence on the floor of convention.

A nationwide brainstorming effort on the future of the League, the Crossroads Project, was set in motion at the 1992 convention, and its recommendations presented to the 1994 convention. A 75th Anniversary Membership Campaign was launched in 1994 and included a new member video, "75 Years of a Great Idea."

#### *Issues:*

Members adopted a position on gun control in 1990 and Congress passed reauthorization of the Clean Air Act, capping a ten-year legislative campaign. The League also launched "Take Back the System," a voter campaign to reclaim government and elections and sponsored a Presidential Primary Debate in 1992. In 1993 the League adopted a position on health care and won passage of the National Voter Registration Act, better known as Motor Voter.

In the last years of the decade, the issue for emphasis, Making Democracy Work, included increasing voter turnout, campaign finance reform, civic education, diversity of representation, civic participation and voting representation for the residents of the District of Columbia. During that same period LWVEF activities included "Running and Winning," a program that encouraged young women to consider careers as political leaders, as well as community dialogues on water resources, energy and health care.

### The 21st Century:

#### *Organization:*

A hallmark of the new century was the League's commitment to increase use of electronic communication to League leaders across the nation. It began a monthly electronic newsletter and made its membership database available electronically for direct updating by League membership chairs.

Convention 2000 set the per member payment (PMP) for student members at one half the regular rate and implemented direct member input on program planning.

#### *Issues:*

Beginning in 2000, Issues for Emphasis were no longer selected at conventions, and, at the 2000 convention, the League adopted a concurrence to support restoration of the federal payment to the District of Columbia. The League offered the first "candidate debates" online through its Internet-based voter education program, DNet. DNet ended in 2005 but was replaced by the even more effective Vote411 in 2006. The League adopted updated positions on Trade and the UN in 2001 and 2002, an updated position on election of the president in 2004, as well as a concurrence supporting abolition of the death penalty and a study of immigration policies at convention 2006.

The League was instrumental in enactment of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2002. The League worked to renew the Voting Rights Act, and filed a number of amicus briefs on campaign finance reform, racial bias in jury selection and Title IX. In 2004 the League focused its legislative work under a "Democracy Agenda" umbrella that included redistricting, civil liberties, campaign finance reform, voting rights for District of Columbia residents, election administration reform, and ethics and lobbying reform.

### Conclusion:

While the League's programs, priorities and procedures have changed over the years to meet changing times, a League pamphlet written in 1919 describes with remarkable accuracy its basic aims today: **The organization has three purposes to foster education in citizenship, to promote forums and public discussion of civic reforms and to support needed legislation.** *"Over the years, the League has also been a training ground for women who want to serve in public office. In fact, the League's ability to prepare women for public life may be its finest legacy to the nation."* (Nancy Neuman, President, LWVUS, 1986-90).

There is probably no other national volunteer organization in America that inspires such a great degree of commitment from its members. As a direct result of that commitment, the League of Women Voters has evolved from what it was in 1920, a mighty political experiment designed to help 20 million enfranchised women carry out their new responsibilities, to what it is today: a unique, nonpartisan organization that is a recognized force in molding political leaders, shaping public policy and promoting informed citizen participation at all levels of government.



## League History Reference Materials:

1. "Twenty-Five Years of a Great Idea", LWVUS, 1950.
2. "Forty Years of a Great Idea", LWVUS.
3. "For the Public Record, A Documentary History of the League of Women Voters", Barbara Stuhler, 2003.
4. "In the Public Interest: The League of Women Voters 1920-1970", Louise M. Young, 1989.
5. "Papers of the League of Women Voters, 1918-1974", Library of Congress Research Collections in Women's Studies.
6. "Impact on Issues: 2004-06: A Guide to Public Policy Positions", LWVUS, 2005.
7. "Recollections", Percy Maxim Lee, 1984.

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## Women's Suffrage Partial Timeline

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| <p>1792 - Sarah Moore Grimke is born</p> <p>1793 - Lucretia Coffin Mott is born</p> <p>1797 - Sojourner Truth is born</p> <p>1805 - Angelina Emily Grimke is born</p> <p>1815 - Elizabeth Cady Stanton is born</p> <p>1818 - Lucy Stone is born</p> <p>1802 - Susan B. Anthony is born</p> <p>1836 - Grimke sisters speak out against slavery</p> <p>1837 - Lucretia Mott speaks out against slavery</p> <p>1838 - Victoria Woodhull is born</p> <p>1840 - Elizabeth Cady Stanton meets Lucretia Mott at the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London</p> <p>1848 - First women's rights convention, Seneca Falls, New York; Elizabeth Cady Stanton writes "The Declaration of Sentiments" creating the agenda of women's activism for decades to come</p> <p>1851 - Sojourner Truth makes her "Ain't I a Woman?" speech in Ohio</p> <p>1851 - Harriet Eaton Stanton Blatch and Anthony are not allowed to speak at the World's Temperance Convention held in New York City</p> <p>1857 - Alice Stone Blackwell is born</p> <p>1859 - Carrie Chapman Catt is born</p> <p>1861 - Civil War begins and women put their energies toward the war effort</p> <p>1862 - Ida Bell Wells-Barnett is born</p> <p>1865 - Civil War ends</p> <p>1866 - Stanton and Anthony form the American Equal Rights Association, an organization dedicated to the goal of suffrage for all regardless of gender or race</p> <p>1868 - Congress passes the 14th Amendment, which introduces the word "male" into the Constitution; the first edition of the "The Revolution" is published with the motto "Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less"</p> <p>1869 - National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA) is founded by Stanton and Anthony; American Suffrage Association (AWSA) is founded by Lucy Stone, Henry Blackwell and Julia Ward Howe; Wyoming is the first state or territory to grant women the right to vote</p> | <p>1870 - The 15th Amendment is passed giving "males" the right to vote</p> <p>1871 - Victoria Woodhull addresses the House Judiciary Committee wanting women's rights under the 14th Amendment</p> <p>1872 - Victoria Woodhull is nominated for president of the United States</p> <p>1873 - Susan B. Anthony stands trial for illegally voting in the presidential election. The judge does not allow her to testify on her own behalf, dismisses the jury, rules her guilty, and fines her \$100. She refuses to pay</p> <p>1874 - The Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) is founded. Frances Willard is at the head and is a proponent for woman's suffrage; the Supreme Court ruled citizenship does not give women the right to vote and that women's political rights are under the jurisdiction of each individual state</p> <p>1878 - Frances Willard becomes president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union; Lucy Burns is born</p> <p>1880 - Lucretia Coffin Mott dies</p> <p>1883 - Sojourner Truth dies</p> <p>1885 - Alice Paul is born</p> <p>1886 - Inez Milholland Boissevain is born</p> <p>1890 - Suffrage groups merge to create National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). The movement focuses efforts on securing suffrage at the state level.</p> <p>1893 - Lucy Stone dies</p> <p>1895 - Elizabeth Cady Stanton publishes "The Woman's Bible"</p> <p>1896 - Mary Church Terrell, Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Frances E. W. Harper help found the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs</p> <p>1900 - Carrie Chapman Catt and Anna Howard Shaw emerge as leaders of the suffrage movement after Anthony resigns</p> <p>1902 - Elizabeth Cady Stanton dies</p> <p>1903 - The Women's Trade Union League of New York is formed and dedicated to unionization for working women and for women's suffrage</p> <p>1906 - Susan B. Anthony dies</p> <p>1908 - International Women's Day is first celebrated</p> |
|---|---|

1910 - The Women's Political Union organizes the first suffrage parade in New York City

1912 - Theodore Roosevelt's Bull Moose Party supports women's suffrage

1915 - Mabel Vernon and Sara Bard Field are involved in a transcontinental tour which gathers over a half-million signatures on petitions sent to Congress

1916 - Inez Milholland Boissevain dies; Jeannette Rankin of Montana becomes the first woman elected to the US House of Representative

1917 - The United States enters World War I; Alice Paul begins to picket the White House; Banners read "Mr. President, What Will You Do For Woman Suffrage?" and "How Long Must Women Wait for Liberty?"; Alice Paul and ninety-six suffragists are arrested and jailed for "obstructing traffic" then go on hunger strike to protest their arrest and treatment; they are force-fed. It is called the "Night of Terror"

1918 - The 19th Amendment passes the House and the Senate

1920 - The 19th Amendment is ratified by the states on August 26th after Henry Burn casts the deciding vote in Tennessee

1923 - At the 75th anniversary of the Seneca Falls convention, Alice Paul proposes an Equal Rights Amendment to remedy inequalities addressed in the 19th Amendment

1931 - Ida Bell Wells-Barnett dies

1933 - Frances Perkins is appointed by President F. D. R. as first female Secretary of Labor

1936 - Federal court rules birth control legal for its own sake, rather than solely for prevention of disease

1941 - World War II begins and women are recruited for the defense industry. WAC and WAVE are established as first women's military corps

1947 - Carrie Chapman Catt dies

1960 - FDA approves birth control pills

1961 - President's Commission of the Status of Women is established.

1963 - Betty Friedan publishes "The Feminine Mystique"

1964 - The Civil Rights Act prohibits job discrimination on the basis of race or sex.

1966 - Lucy Burns dies; National Organization of Women (NOW) is founded

1972 - The Equal Rights Amendment passes both houses and is signed by President Richard Nixon; Shirley Chisholm is the first black American to run for president

1973 - Roe v. Wade is decided by the US Supreme Court

1977 - Alice Paul dies

1981 - Sandra Day O'Connor is appointed first woman on US Supreme Court

Resources for the timeline :

1. Votes for Woman! by Winifred Conkling
2. 1792-1920 prepared by Mary M. Huth, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Rochester Libraries, February 1995.
3. 1920-present from the Women's Rights brochure produced by the Women's Rights National Historical Park, National Park Service, 1994.
4. National Women's History Museum, womenshistory.org, also crusadeforthevote.org

### Questions:

1. Today the fight for equality is waged on many fronts; women are seeking political influence, better education, health reform, job equity, and legal reform. These demands echo those of the movement throughout its history. In 1848 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and others claimed on behalf of American women "all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens." What would the reformers from Seneca Falls do today to contribute toward a future of equality?
2. Was the timeline helpful? What would you add or delete?
3. What books were read or movies seen by your unit members?
4. What facts or insights made the most impression on you?





You are cordially invited to attend

The LWV of the Fairfax Area

### Anniversary Tea

Celebrating 100 years of the League of Women Voters

Sunday, February 23, 2020

#### COUNTRY CLUB OF FAIRFAX

5110 Ox Road (Route 123 & Braddock Road)  
Fairfax, VA 22029

<http://lwv-fairfax.org/2020tea>

**2 pm. Registration and refreshments**  
(coffee, tea and miniature desserts)

#### 2:30 p.m. Program

Capital Harmonia

A community women's chorus based in Northern Virginia, dedicated to bringing music written for women's voices

#### Keynote Speaker

Vivian Watts, Member Virginia House of Delegates

#### Recognizing and Honoring 50-year LWVFA Members

\*\*\*\*\*

### Reservation Form

Deadline - February 17      Cost: \$20 per person

Register online at <http://lwv100years.eventbrite.com/> or

Make checks payable to: LWVFA and mail with reservation form to 2020 Anniversary Tea, 10172 Turnberry Place, Oakton, VA 22124

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amount remitted @\$20 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Program Director Notes

by Julie Jones

Program Planning for LWVUS and LWVFA for the years 2020-22 is behind us. I hope that you were able to give your opinions. Your ideas definitely help the Boards plan for the future.

In January our discussions will center on women's suffrage in the United States. You might want to take the following quiz to see how much you know about this history. <https://www.thoughtco.com/womens-suffrage-quiz-3530932>

The Celebration Tea for the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters founding will be February 23, 2020, at the Country Club of Fairfax at 2 pm. Carrie Chapman Catt created the LWV to become the successor to the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) on February 14, 1920, so we are celebrating the League's Centennial. You may wish to dress in your suffragist finery. Please send in your registration form promptly. There will not be unit meetings in February in hopes that everyone will attend our celebration tea.

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### LWVFA Donors and Supporters

The LWVFA Board extends an overwhelming thank you  
to the following individuals and organizations for their amazing support!

Nov. 4 – Dec. 3, 2019

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# Ground Broken for Turning Point Suffragist Memorial

By Lois Page

The ground was broken in Lorton on November 14th for the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, a national memorial to the millions who fought for women to have the vote. Colleen Shogan, vice chair of the U.S. Congress-appointed Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, says this memorial will allow us to "come closer to rectifying the fact that fewer than 8% of all memorials in this country honor women." The groundbreaking begins the countdown to the memorial's dedication on August 26, 2020, the 100th anniversary of the certification of the 19th Amendment. The National Women's History Alliance selected the dedication as the National Suffrage Centennial Event of the Year.

The date of the groundbreaking at Virginia's Occoquan Regional Park coincided with the 102nd anniversary of the Night of Terror, when suffragists were illegally arrested after picketing the White House, incarcerated, abused and tortured on the nearby Occoquan Workhouse prison grounds. When journalists learned of the atrocity, it became a major turning point in the suffrage movement.

Asked at the groundbreaking what she views as the significance of the memorial, Dr. Thelma Daley, past president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, stated, "This memorial deals with the right to vote, which we were deprived of for so long. Many African American women were involved in the suffragist movement but did not receive a lot of credit. As I stand here today, we honor the 22 founders of Delta Sigma Theta who participated in the suffrage movement, beginning with the march on Washington in 1913."

The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association has worked more than a decade to build the estimated \$2 million memorial. Fundraising efforts are still underway so the nonprofit organization and partners can "build a memorial deserving of these women." Board Chair Nancy Sargeant says the memorial "will finally bring the stories of the suffragists out of darkness and into the light" and Board member John Houser says the suffragists are patriots who should be recognized.

The early days of this project in 2008 involved NOVA Park's John Houser approaching LWV-FA members including Jane Barker, Lois Page, and Kathleen Pablo about adding a commemorative wall in Occoquan Regional Park to honor the suffragists who had been imprisoned in a workhouse across the street from the park. The Leaguers

reacted with enthusiasm but saw this major event deserved more than a wall.

A local League cannot solicit funds outside its attendance area, so the planners sought incorporation, non-profit status, partnership with Northern Virginia Regional Parks, and the addition of new members also interested in the history of women's rights. It also demanded an architect with a plan and strategies for fund raising. The architect emerged in the person of Bob Beach. Fundraising took off when the current Executive Director, Pat Wirth, signed on 5 years ago. LWV-Fairfax and LWV-Virginia were among the first Leagues nationwide to achieve Donor Wall status.

A broad history of the 72-year suffrage movement will be told through 19 information stations within the Memorial, culminating in the 19th Amendment. Also included in the design is a bridge that Lidia Soto-Harmon, the CEO of the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, hopes will be used by Girl Scouts in traditional bridging ceremonies so "they will remember the important contribution of the suffragists." The memorial will be open to the public following the dedication on August 26, 2020.

## About The Memorial:

Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association is raising funds to build a national memorial to honor the millions of suffragists who fought more than seven decades to win the vote for women. It's another hidden piece of women's history even though it was a national campaign that included incidents of arrests, jail, torture and even death. The memorial will ensure that the suffrage story is elevated to its proper place in history and will educate present and future generations on the need for eternal vigilance for equal rights. As author Eleanor Clift writes, "(t)he suffragists engineered the greatest expansion of democracy in a single day that the world had ever seen, and yet...the leaders built no monuments to themselves, and too many of their names have been lost to history."

Please help us bring to light the "best kept secret in American history." [www.suffragistmemorial.org](http://www.suffragistmemorial.org)



Turning Point Suffragist Memorial

## Environmental Update – Looking Ahead

### By Elizabeth Lonoff

Climate change could be in the news this year even more than last. The UN's Committee on the Rights of the Child could address the unique petition filed by activist Greta Thunberg, 16, and 15 other young people claiming five countries violate human rights through their contributions to climate change. And the US is scheduled to withdraw from the Paris Agreement the day after Election Day, a week before possibly the most important UN Climate Change Conference since the accord was signed in 2015.

In November an international group found the world's top 10 fossil fuel-producing countries are on pace to extract far more oil, gas, and coal by 2030 than would cause catastrophic warming. And the Government Accountability Office reported the U.S. EPA needs to take additional actions to manage climate change risks at Superfund sites.

Despite identified scientific deficiencies and more than a million comments to oppose oil and gas lease sales in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the Interior Department recently released final plans to allow drilling in the Refuge. The Bureau of Land Management is taking public comments on a draft environmental review of a plan that could also open 6.5 million more acres of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska to oil and gas development.

New York enacted in July the first state law to fully account for methane's impact. It requires New York to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85% by 2050; produce 70% of the state's electricity from renewable sources by 2030; and eliminate carbon emissions from statewide electricity generation systems by 2040. Also in 2019, Maryland set a goal of powering 50% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030. Governor Hogan pledged to push legislation this year for 100% clean energy by 2040. The week four million people participated in the international Climate Strike, Governor Northam announced Virginia's goal of generating 30% of electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and 100% from carbon-free sources by 2050.

The top recommendation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in the Environmental Quality Advisory Council's 2019 Annual Report on the Environment is to develop and implement a climate adaptation/resilience plan. A January 8th public hearing will collect your views and concerns about environmental issues. The report and hearing logistics are available at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/environmental-quality-advisory-council>.

You can reduce your carbon footprint by practicing the four Rs (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle), buying products with less packaging and produced closer to home; eating more plants, insulating your home, and planting trees. When you replace your car, consider an electric vehicle. For tips and resources for starting climate change conversations, visit The Nature Conservancy at <https://every1.washingtonnature.org/can-we-talk-climate/>.

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## LWVFA Membership Report

This is the LAST CALL for renewals for the 2019-2020 membership year. In late January we will have to drop non-renewing members from the LWVUS rolls in order to avoid paying fees to the national League for members who are no longer active.

If you intend to continue as a member of LWVFA, please complete your renewal by January 15, 2020. Our website is the best place to get all the information on renewing. Go to [www.lwv-fairfax.org/join](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/join) to pay via PayPal or to print the membership form and send it with a check to the office of the Fairfax Area League.

2020 promises to be an exciting year as we celebrate the centennial of the League of Women Voters and the 100-year anniversary of women's suffrage. We will follow the actions of the new Virginia legislature, work to get out the vote in November, and support redistricting in partnership with OneVirginia2021. Don't miss the chance to have an impact through our education and advocacy efforts!

As of December 2nd, we had 466 members. Since early November we welcomed the following members:

William Andrie  
David and Shana Cassidy (h)  
Susan Collender  
Nora Elbedour (s)  
Karen Gibson  
Jason Morgan (h)  
Donna Schutz

(r)=reinstated member; (h)=household; (s)=student

*Welcome!*

# Unit Discussion Meeting Locations

## Topic: Read a Book About Suffragists

Members and visitors are encouraged to attend any meeting convenient for them, including the “At Large Meeting” and briefing on Saturdays when a briefing is listed. As of December 1, 2019, the locations were correct; please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend. Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations.

### Saturday, January 4, 2020

#### **10 a.m. At-Large Unit and Briefing**

League Conference Room  
Packard Center (inside Annandale Community Park) 4026 Hummer Road, Annandale, 22003  
Contact: Julie, 703-476-8347

### Wednesday, January 8

#### **9:30 a.m. McLean Day (McL)**

6657 Madison Dr., McLean, 22101  
Contact: Susan, 703-893-2229 or Peggy, peggyknight49@gmail.com

#### **9:45 a.m. Mount Vernon Day (MVD)**

Mt. Vernon Government Center  
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306  
Contact: Gail, 703-360-6561 or Diana, 703-704-5325

#### **10 a.m. Fairfax Station (FXS)**

8739 Cuttermill Place  
Springfield, 22153  
Contact: Sherry, 703-730-8118 or Kathleen, 703-644-1555

#### **7:30 p.m. Reston Evening (RE)**

Hunter Mill District Community Room, North County Government Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive Reston, 20190  
Contact Gail, gailvb12@yahoo.com

### Thursday, January 9

#### **9 a.m. Reston Day (RD)**

11037 Saffold Way, Reston, 20190  
Contact: Barbara (703) 437-0795 or bseandlte@earthlink.net

#### **9:30 a.m. Springfield (SPF)**

Packard Center, 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, 22003  
Contact: Marge, 703-451-0589

#### **11:30 a.m. Centreville-Chantilly (CCD)**

Lunch at Food Court, Wegman's  
14361 Newbrook Dr.  
Chantilly, 20151  
Contact: Susan, 703-391-0666

#### **1 p.m. Oakton/Vienna (OV)**

Oakton Library  
10304 Lynnhaven Place  
Oakton, VA 22124  
Contact: Mary, 703-319-2185

#### **7:45 p.m. Mount Vernon Evening (MVE)**

Paul Spring Retirement Community, Mt. Vernon Room  
7116 Fort Hunt Road  
Alexandria, 22307  
Contact: Jane, 703-960-6820 or Susan, 703-587-4790

### Monday, January 13

#### **1:00 p.m. Greenspring (GSP)**

Hunters Crossing Classroom  
Spring Village Drive  
Springfield, 22150  
Contact: Edith, 703-644-3970 or Gloria, 703-852-5113

# February Meetings:

100th Anniversary Tea on February 23rd



The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)  
 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403  
 703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org

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**The LWVFA Fairfax VOTER®  
 January, 2020**

Anu Sahai, Co-President  
 Nancy Roodberg, Co-President  
 Katherine Ingmanson, Editor

The League of Women Voters® is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the public to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state, regional and national levels the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any person at least 16 years old, male or female, may become a member.

The League of Women Voters® never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters® name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

**LWVFA MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM**

Dues year is July 1 – June 30

Membership Dues: Individual \$65 \_\_\_\_\_ Household \$90 (2 persons; 1 Voter \_\_\_\_\_ Student (No fee) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A subsidy fund is available; check here \_\_\_\_\_ and include whatever amount you can afford.)

Membership Status: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Reinstatement \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Dues are not tax deductible.)

Tax deductible donations must be written as a separate check or PayPal Payment to “LWVFA Ed Fund.”  
 (Please print clearly)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit (if renewing) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ /State/ \_\_\_\_\_ Zip +4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (C) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to LWVFA. Mail to LWVFA, 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403  
 OR Join online at <https://www.lwv-fairfax.org/join>

I am interested in becoming involved in (please indicate by circling the appropriate bullet(s)):

- Providing organization support (graphic design, website development/maintenance, fundraising/grant writing)
- Voter Services (e.g., voter registration drives, candidate forums, developing Voters’ Guides)
- Researching/writing about issues in which LWVFA has an interest (e.g., environment, firearms safety, mental health, schools, domestic violence, etc., or chairing an LWVFA study committee on voter turnout or human trafficking)
- Representing the League in governmental fora (e.g., serving as LWVFA representative on Fairfax County citizens’ committees and agencies, such as affordable housing, or Fairfax County Public Schools.)

Other \_\_\_\_\_