



The Leaguer

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the
Richmond Metropolitan Area

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Letter from the President

Dear Leaguers,

Thank you to all who contributed reports to this newsletter!

This is a very exciting time for the LWV-RMA. We continue to have an increase in new members and a very active Membership Committee. The "Hot Topics" Series has been very successful. The next one on May 9th will be on "Free Trade," presented by Valarie Fillgrove and Karen Rosenblum and hosted by Jeanne D'Ascoli. On May 22nd Anne Sterling will be speaking on the topic "Transparency and the General Assembly." Please consider attending one or both of these "Hot Topics" evenings.

On May 24th we have our LWV-RMA ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER at the Westwood Club. See the flyer included in this newsletter for details. Please make plans to join us for this important and fun event and send your check to our Treasurer, Mary Anne Stone, as soon as possible!

The LWV-VA CONVENTION takes place on June 10th & 11th in Leesburg, VA. I am pleased to share with you that the LWV-RMA delegates will be presenting a resolution to support ratification of the ERA in Virginia. We welcome any LWV-RMA members to come join us in this effort. If it's not possible for you to come for the weekend please consider coming for the day on Saturday.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the LWV-RMA Annual Meeting and I am honored to be asked to serve a second term as your President!

Mary Crutchfield
LWV-RMA President

MAY 24 - LWV-RMA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND DINNER

Westwood Club, 6200 West Club Lane, registration at 5:00, meeting at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30 pm. All member meeting to elect officers and directors, adopt a budget, and adopt an advocacy program for the coming year. No cost to attend the meeting; buffet dinner \$45. All members are urged to attend.

To register, mail your check and the registration form included in this newsletter to LWV-RMA Treasurer
P.O. Box 25492, Richmond, VA 23260

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May, 2017

May 5, 2017	Cinco de Mayo
May 14, 2017	Mothers Day
May 16, 2017	LWV-RMA Board Meeting, 3:00 pm, Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
May 17, 2017	Naturalization Ceremony for New Citizens, 11:00 am
May 24, 2017	LWV-RMA Annual Meeting, Westwood Club, 6200 West Club Lane, 5:00 Registration, 5:30 Annual Meeting and Buffet Dinner (\$45, no charge if not eating)
May 26, 2017	Friday CHEERS, Brown's Island, Downtown Richmond, 5:30 – 9:30 pm
May 27–June 25, 2017	Ramadan
May 29, 2017	Memorial Day

June, 2016

June 1, 2017	LWVUS Council Meeting
June 10-11, 2017	LWV-VA Convention, Clarion Hotel, 1500 East Market Street, Leesburg, VA - meetings, workshops, banquet
June 13, 2017	Primary Election
June 14, 2017	Flag Day
June 18, 2017	Father's Day
June 20, 2017	LWV-RMA Board Meeting, 3:00 pm, Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
June 21, 2017	Naturalization Ceremony for New Citizens 11:00 am
June 22-25, 2017	LWVUS National Council, The National Conference Center, Leesburg, VA,
June 26, 2017	Eid al-Fitr

Upcoming Events of Note:

August 19, 2017	Voter Registration Training w/ Garry Ellis, probably Tuckahoe Library, 10 – 2:00
October 9, 2017	Governor's Debate, Channel 6 WTVR, 7-8:00 pm in studio

Important LWV-RMA Contacts

<u>Voter Services</u>	Valerie Fillgrove	816-591-2572	valarielwv@hotmail.com
<u>Advocacy Program</u>			
Black History	Mabel Wells	367-7949	m.wells1@att.net
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Health Care	Lynn Johnston	282-6512	lynncastle1@aol.com
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From Hot Topics to Voter Registration



**We Get
Involved!**



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS RICHMOND METRO AREA

Annual Meeting

MAY 24, 2017

**WESTWOOD CLUB, 6200 WEST CLUB LANE
RICHMOND, VA 23226**

free parking, the entrance door is under the canopy

5:00 CHECK-IN

5:30 BUSINESS MEETING

6:30 BUFFET DINNER

**ALL MEMBER MEETING FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS.
WE ESPECIALLY WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO THIS IMPORTANT
GATHERING WHERE WE WILL ELECT A BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AND APPROVE A BUDGET FOR THE COMING YEAR.**

**THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR ATTENDING THE BUSINESS MEETING.
BUFFET DINNER/CASH BAR - THE COST OF THE DINNER IS \$45.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AT THE SAME TIME,
ADD MEMBERSHIP AMOUNT TO YOUR CHECK.**

Please return this form with your check to League of Women Voters-RMA, Treasurer,
P.O. Box 25492, Richmond, VA 23260.

Member Name _____ \$45 _____

Guest Name(s) _____ \$45 _____

Membership: \$55 single _____ \$85 household _____ \$20 student _____

Total enclosed _____

Annual Meeting, Wednesday, May 24, 2017

PLEASE CONTACT EVELYN GLAZIER IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS. EMGLAZIER@GMAIL.COM/804-358-0011

News From LWV-RMA

MEETING THE INCREASED INTEREST IN POLITICAL ACTIVISM

by Virginia Cowles

On Sunday afternoon, March 26, 2017, five members of the LWV-RMA spoke at St. Mark's Episcopal Church to the Boulevard Action Group about opportunities for political action with the League of Women Voters. Mary Crutchfield described the LWV mission and its origins; Valarie Fillgrove discussed the work of the Voter Service Committee; Evelyn Glazier talked about Vote411; Virginia Cowles explained how the LWV advocacy program differs in its methods from some other organizations, though it shares their values of inclusiveness, transparent government, and justice; and Donna Granski spoke of the continuing effort to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Malinda Collier, a staff member of St. Mark's, invited the LWV-RMA to share with members of this Huddle group--several of whom had joined the Women's March in Washington--ways that they could become more politically active.

ADVOCACY: A VISIT WITH OUR U.S. SENATORS.

by Virginia Cowles

A few members of the LWV-RMA visited the Richmond offices of Senator Timothy Kaine and Senator Mark Warner on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, to advocate (as individuals, of course) for issues that are important to them. Kendyl Crawford discussed proposed cuts to the EPA; Pat Fishback requested congressional action on the ERA; and Virginia Cowles urged the senators to support passenger rail transportation. In turn they learned something interesting facts from Tye Mallory, Regional Director for Senator Kaine, and Sam Taylor, Regional Director for Senator Warner: Senator Kaine takes Amtrak for his commute to

Washington, D.C.; Senator Warner is a member of an unofficial bi-partisan Senate Railroad Caucus; both senators work with colleagues from other Chesapeake watershed states to save the bay. Kendyl gave each senator a handwritten note thanking him for his efforts on behalf of his constituents.



Visiting with Senator Kaine's staff at the Senator's Richmond Office.

MEET OUR MEMBERS



The Membership Committee: (l-r) Linda Mateyka, Karen Rosenblum, Jeanne D'Ascoli, and Sarah Scott

Karen Rosenblum grew up in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and went to college at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she received a Ph.D. in Sociology. She was a faculty member at George Mason University in Fairfax for thirty-five years and is now an Emeritus professor. While at George Mason, Karen was the founding Director of the Women's Studies Program and later the

Vice President of University Life, with oversight over Black Peer Counseling, Career Services, Counseling Center, Disability Resource Center, Drug Education Services, English Language Institute, Health Education Services, International Programs and Services, Learning Services, New Student Orientation, Sexual Assault Services, Student Health Services, Student Media, and Student Activities. She has been the recipient of two Fulbright Lecturer awards, the first in Japan and the second in South Korea. She is co-author/editor of *The Meaning of Difference: American Constructions of Race and Ethnicity, Sex and Gender, Social Class, Sexuality, and Disability*, in its 7th edition (2015). Karen now teaches a course on Social Problems at VCU and relishes no longer commuting to Fairfax!

Why the League? For its tremendous voter education projects.



Marie Stella

Marie Stella worked as a system engineer and cyber security engineer beginning in 1980 and held a Certified Information System Security Professional Certification from 2000 to 2014. She served as a consultant and director for private companies like IBM and MITRE, retiring from the federal government as a lead system engineer for air traffic control. While at the FAA, Marie ran the cyber security portion of NASA's annual international conference on Communication, Navigation, and Security for four years. She also served in a variety of special assignments, from managing the command center after 9/11 to running a series of special conferences on Complexity and Security for Condoleezza Rice at the National Defense University. Marie is a published author and editor of a book on security.

Why the League? Marie was a long time supporter of the League of Women Voters, but only became active after her retirement. She believes

the League is one of the true non-partisan organizations that speaks for and is aimed at protecting the citizen and democracy. Voting is essential for both these efforts.



Lynn Johnston, Alan & Ann Loxterman, and Dottie Vye.

Dottie Vye. I grew up in a small Philadelphia suburb. I was an all around activity girl, a three-sport athlete, and graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University, where I was All Great Lakes in Field Hockey, with a major in the then new field of Recreation Leadership and Physical Education. I earned an M.Ed. at Temple University, joining the faculty in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation and met my husband, Bud, at the National Recreation Congress in Atlantic City. He worked for the Philadelphia Department of Recreation at the time. Retiring when my first of two children was born, I officiated high school basketball games and became a community activist around mostly education and environmental issues, especially land use. As president of my neighborhood association, I led negotiations with a developer – making my point by standing in front of his bulldozer. In dealing with city officials and my councilman, I learned the value of playing to the male ego by flattery and seeking their wise counsel. When we moved to Richmond in 1983, I joined the League and was a member of the Natural Resources Committee which was lobbying for the "bottle bill" of early recycling days. I have also been an early organic food advocate. The thing I am most passionate about is what we are doing to God's earth.

Why the League? I am fascinated by the discussions that occur during Consensus meetings.

HELP WANTED!

Volunteer Activities

FRIDAY CHEERS

MAY 26 - FRIDAY CHEERS, BROWN'S ISLAND, DOWNTOWN RICHMOND, 5:30 TO 9:30 PM

Leaguers sell tickets and pour adult beverages at this outdoor concert to earn money for our treasury. For details and to volunteer contact Evelyn Glazier, 804-358-0011, emglazier1@gmail.com. Thanks and TGIF!

MONTHLY NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

Every month on the third Wednesday, LWV-RMA members distribute voter registration applications to our newest citizens as they exit the naturalization ceremony. A minimum of two, and preferably three, League volunteers are needed each month. The pride and happiness of these new citizens is a real inspiration. Volunteer from 10:45 am to 2:00 pm at the Federal District Courthouse, 701 West Broad Street, 7th floor courtroom. Allow time to get through security. Cell phones and other electronics are not allowed in the courthouse, so leave them at home or in your car.

Be prepared to pay for parking, which could cost up to \$15-\$20 for the day. Contact Barbara Greenleaf, 804-359-2982, deltabsg@aol.com for details and to sign up for coming months.

2017 VOTE411 VOTER GUIDE

League volunteers are needed to help create and publicize the VOTE411 online voter guide for the November election. The guide will be available at www.VOTE411.org. An initial training meeting is being planned for mid- to late June. To learn more and to get involved, contact Lynn McMartin, lynnmcmartin@gmail.com, 703-447-4103 or Evelyn Glazier, emglazier1@gmail.com, 804-358-0011.

Voter Services

AN EXCITING YEAR

by Valarie Fillgrove

You may not think this is an exciting year for Voter Service, so take another look. We have a primary and general election this year. The Voter Service Committee met April 7 and we have another meeting scheduled for May 11, 2017 at the Tuckahoe Library at 9:30 am. This is open to all members, so please put this on your calendar and plan to attend.

Our League received a \$600.00 grant from LWVUS to work on Youth Voter Registration. We are gathering information from school officials and Voter Registrars to make sure we do not duplicate other programs. Our emphasis will be to target high schools, technical colleges, vocational schools, VCU and Virginia Union with voter registration drives. Be sure to bring your ideas and contacts to the meeting on May 11th.

The Naturalization Ceremony Voter Registration continues to be a success. Barbara Greenleaf has graciously offered to coordinate volunteers. She will be posting monthly on Facebook and e-mails for sign-ups. Ceremonies are held the third Wednesday at the Federal Courthouse at 8th and Broad Streets, 7th floor, 10:30 am. We need three to four people per ceremony. This is a wonderful activity for new members and you won't be alone. So check your e-mails and League Facebook.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Evelyn Glazier and Lynn McMartin have been working to make Vote 411.org an extremely successful program for our League. This program enables the League to reach more citizens through a website and educate voters. With all their hard work, there is still room for extra help. Please sign up or call Evelyn or Lynn.

National Voter Registration Day, September 26, 2017. Voter Registration Drives throughout the City. Need lots of help! Check e-mails and Facebook.

We work with Channel 12 to answer telephone calls the night before elections and on Election Day. Call Valarie Fillgrove

Voter Registration Training, August 19, 2017, Tuckahoe Library, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Training by Garry Ellis from the Virginia Dept. of Elections. If you were certified last year, your certification expires Jul 30, 2017, so you need to

attend. Training is also available to the public, so bring a friend. Check e-mails and Facebook for more information.

Get on the Voter Service Bandwagon and make Democracy Work



Mary Crutchfield and Lynn Johnston at the LWV-RMA Voter Service table in front of the American Civil War Museum, April 8th.

Hot Topics

FALSE NEWS, FALSE FACTS: SORTING OUT WHAT WON'T GO AWAY

by Karen Rosenblum

Hot Topics is a new discussion series from LWV-RMA. It is held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Perhaps the bottom line about false news and false facts is in the Hot Topics subtitle: none of this is going away. Defined as “deliberately circulated and utterly false” (Borel), here is what Brooks Borel, author the *Chicago Manual of Fact Checking*, concludes:

But for all the hand-wringing, hot takes and congratulatory posts about the latest fact-checking heroics, fake news continues to do what it does best: adapt. Google and Facebook may block well-known abusers from advertising networks, but the fake newsmakers will just launch new sites.... Fake news purveyors have even co-opted the term “fake news.” In early December, conspiracy theorist

Alex Jones published his own list of fake news sites. At the top are The New York Times and The Washington Post. (Brooks Broel, “Fact Checking Won’t Save Us From Fake News,” Jan 4, 2017, <https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/fact-checking-wont-save-us-from-fake-news/>)

While fact checking web sites have proliferated – Snopes, FactCheck, PolitiFact – the production of false information remains too politically and financially lucrative to go away. On the financial side, producing false news/facts requires a minimal start-up in cost or skill – as little as \$5 can get you a domain name, one needn’t even leave the house to do research, and generally it’s not illegal. Planet Money uncovered one person they described as running a “fake news empire”; he estimated his earnings at \$10,000 to \$30,000 a month, employing 20-25 writers operating globally and producing stories like these:

A few days before the election, an extraordinary story popped up in hundreds of thousands of people’s Facebook feeds. This story was salacious. It was vivid, filled with intriguing details. There was a photo of a burning house, firemen rushing in. The headline read, “FBI Agent Suspected In Hillary Email Leaks Found Dead In Apparent Murder-Suicide.”

It was all fake. There was no FBI agent. There was no shooting. The site it was published on, The Denver Guardian, [isn't a real news source](http://www.denverguardian.com). It was one of many fake stories that play into conspiracy theories about the Clintons and it worked. . . . Someone was making profit off a fake story that suggested a presidential candidate was a killer. (Planet Money, Episode 739, Dec 2, 2016, “Finding the Fake News,” <http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2016/12/02/504155809/episode-739-finding-the-fake-news-king>)

While false facts/news resemble tabloid journalism, the context and fuel is a highly-politicized environment, a segmented media market, and a 24-7 news cycle. Its impact is wide enough to produce the characterization of “weaponized disinformation,” as for example in the 2016 U.S. Presidential election, the deliberate promulgation of misinformation background to the Brexit vote, the toppling of Matteo Renzi’s government in Italy, Dutch rejection of an EU trade agreement with Ukraine, and the reception of Syrian refugees in Germany (where false stories about sexual assaults appeared). Indeed, the story of false news is now itself an ongoing

story in both press and politics, with Rush Limbaugh proclaiming that traditional news sites “just make it up,” and Breitbart News dismissing intelligence assessments as “left-wing fake news” (Jeremy Peters, The New York Times, “Wielding Claims of ‘Fake News’ Conservatives Take Aim at Mainstream Media,” December 25, 2016.

Alongside the incentive for its production, there is also an incentive for its consumption – the closure and certainty that accompanies finding heroes and villains, the confirmation of one’s assumptions and biases, a framework to manage uncertainty, and the seduction of conspiracy.

Since we are not only potential consumers, but also potential publishers through our social media reposting of false news, here is a distillation of the best advice I’ve found:

- Read and view widely and carefully, including outlets that you don’t immediately agree with.
- Be skeptical of stories that you haven’t seen in multiple news sites.
- Notice the stories to which you have strong emotional reactions, especially those that affirm your political positions – be especially suspicious of these.
- Here is a list of websites to avoid (<http://boston.cbslocal.com/2016/11/16/fake-news-sites-websites-list-professor-merrimack-college-zimdars/>)
- Here is a link to an NPR story about how to self-check the news. <http://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2016/12/05/503581220/fake-or-real-how-to-self-check-the-news-and-get-the-fact>
- And these are the best-known fact checking web sites:
 - o Snopes <http://www.snopes.com/>
 - o FactCheck.org <http://www.factcheck.org/>
 - o Politifact.com <http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/>



Marie Stella presenting the April Hot Topic: “Cyber Security” on April 24th.



Lynn Johnston gave the League's March Hot Topic presentation on "Refugees in Richmond."

International Affairs

Contemporary Russian Politics

by Lorraine Waddill

How do we understand contemporary Russian politics? That is the question that Dr. Allen Lynch, Professor at the Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics at the University of Virginia, explored at the World Affairs Council in March. Dr. Lynch considers the U.S. – Russia relationship as bad today, with little listening and little understanding between the two countries. And he considers stability between the United States and Russia as not good for the future, regardless of President Trump. With Trump isolated from the Democrats and from some in his own party, how much capital would Trump want to spend on this problem?

Lynch’s view is that the years of Boris Yeltsin were over in the late 1990’s and since then, the Russian domestic experience has been a disaster and the Russians associate it with following democratic values. The Russian liberal democrats are associated with failed domestic policies.

Although Putin cooperated with the U.S. after 9/11 with the mission in Afghanistan, it was in Russia’s self interest for security reasons to do so, the cooperation did not extend to Iraq. And although the United States said it didn’t want a regime change in Libya in 2011, Putin didn’t see it that way.

Dr. Lynch believes that the crux of the problem is

that Putin wanted Russia to be equal to the United States after the fall of the Soviet Union. And Putin wants the U.S to recognize the geographic lines of the old USSR and wants the United States to recognize Russia's primacy in those former USSR areas. Not only will the U.S. not do that, the U.S. uses NATO for a reasonable approach for security in Europe – which puts Russia on the outside. And conflicts arise when countries such as Ukraine or Georgia want to escape the influence of Russia.

Putin wants to “protect” the ethnic Russians living in those countries and keep them under Russian influence. As an example, Dr. Lynch pointed out that Georgia sent troops to help the U.S. in Iraq and Georgia also wanted to join NATO. But Putin then promised to drop all trade barriers and withdraw troops from Georgia, provided Georgia didn't join NATO.

Dr. Lynch also points out that while Putin seems to be tolerant of Muslims and other religions, it is in his (And Russia's) self interest to tolerate, since Muslims and other religions are more prominent in those former USSR countries bordering Russia. Putin doesn't want trouble or uprisings there.

In response to a question about Russia interfering in the U.S. election between Clinton and Trump, Dr. Lynch said he thought Russia did interfere. However, Dr. Lynch said that although Putin held contempt for Clinton, he didn't think the interference was to elect or defeat a certain candidate. The intent was to show flaws in the American election system. And then the American system would look bad when compared to other election systems, including Russia's.

Transportation

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

by Virginia Cowles

Mary Crutchfield and Virginia Cowles attended the March 16, 2017, meeting of the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) and heard presentations on Go Virginia and on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Go Virginia is a state-incentivized organization to promote economic development in each region of Virginia. The Transportation Improvement Program is a federally required four-year plan that allocates funds for building transportation projects. After the meeting Barbara Nelson, Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) Secretary, gave a few

interested members an update on barge service between Hampton Roads and Richmond.

Virginia attended meetings related to fine-tuning the plans affecting the fifth and first districts for building the Pulse BRT line from Willow Lawn to Rockett's Landing. On April 1, 2017, she also attended a joint meeting of the National Association of Railway Passengers (NARP) and the Virginia Association of Railway Patrons (VARP) in Alexandria. There she heard presentations by Jennifer Mitchell, Director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), by Chuck Riecks, NARP Vice Chair, and by Jim Matthews, NARP President and CEO. Matthews urged NARP members to resist the proposed elimination of long-distance passenger trains by calling and writing their members of Congress.

Women's Issues

Report from the Women's Issues Committee

*by Donna Granski, Chair
Women's Issues Committee*

This has truly been a year of highs and lows in terms of women's issues, but League members have continued to educate the public about the need to pass the Equal Rights Amendment so that women have their rightful place in the United States Constitution.

The committee that formed for the Centennial Rally met on a monthly basis throughout the fall to discuss strategies for the upcoming session of the General Assembly. We agreed that reaching out to organizations such as those in the Virginia Federation of Women in an effort to educate for the need of the ERA is vital and have made efforts to attend meetings in the Richmond area.

Working with the other organizations that are part of the Virginia Women's Equality Coalition, we took part in the Women's Summit in December. In addition, we have been on hand for Monday afternoon phone calls in which members of the Coalition discuss upcoming plans and strategies.

During the short session of this year's General Assembly, we attended meetings of the P&E of the Senate and were disappointed that it did not pass this year as it had in the previous 5 years.

During the month of January, many League members took part in the March on Monument

as well as the March on Washington in support of women's issues. Whether or not in attendance at these events, members feel hopeful that what we consider to be of vital importance for women and their families will remain at the forefront of our work.

In March we joined Women Matter and the Virginia Commonwealth University's Chapter of Amnesty International to sponsor a showing of EQUAL MEANS EQUAL at the University. While we did not have the attendance we had hoped for, those who attended were quite impressed by the film. Toward the end of the month, some of us attended a live streaming of the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment by the 36th state: Nevada. Now instead of a Three State Strategy, we march forward with a Two State Strategy!

With this in mind, League members have spoken whenever asked to those activist groups that have materialized after the election, Together We Will, Indivisible, Liberal Women of Chesterfield County to name a few. Our focus has been to educate women as to the importance of passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. Because of the incremental laws passed since the 1970's, many people do not recognize the need for passage of the ERA so that the Constitution provides a foundation for the protection of rights for all citizens no matter their gender.

We shall continue this educational mission throughout the coming year.

Black History

REPORT FROM THE BLACK HISTORY COMMITTEE

*by Mabel Wells, Chair
Black History Committee*

Included in the Mission of the League of Women Voters is the influencing of public policy through education and advocacy. One of our programs is the commemoration of the nationally established and annually celebrated Black History Month. Our League program is planned by the Richmond Metropolitan Area's Black History Committee, and is celebrated every fourth Saturday in February.

Over the years our practice has evolved as a tour of a local black establishment or program every other year, with travel to an out-of-town facility the opposite year. All of the programs are educational - chosen to acquaint our members with the history, struggles and progress of black citizens, to help

with the understanding of relationships over the years.

In past years we have toured the Fredrick Douglass Home in Washington, D. C. and U Street, N. W., which in earlier years was known as "Black Broadway." Other interesting travels have included Louisa and Goochland counties, Virginia, where we visited with alumni of the Rosenblum Schools, established for black children in the 1930's. Alumni are now renovating their schools, establishing museums. Another year we visited the Moton High School Museum in Farmville, Virginia where high school student, Barbara Johns, led the black student protest to demand a better structured and equipped school building for black students.

Locally we have visited the Richmond Black History Museum in its earlier quarters on Clay Street, and lunched at a black-owned restaurant. Several local programs have featured panel discussions and lectures, and one year we visited a part of the Richmond Slave Trail. We were informally joined by a large hiking group and other interested persons. On this activity we received a huge media coverage, which served to acquaint citizens with the League's organization. For the year 2016 we visited the Virginia Randolph Museum and the School where she taught, now continuing as a Henrico County high school. Virginia Randolph was a highly dedicated black teacher, who received educational appointments and acclaim for her life-long dedication to teaching black children.

For 2017 our out-of-town program featured a bus-ride visit to the National African-American Museum of History and Culture. In maintaining our educational focus and sharing with the community, we are always joined by members of the community, who anticipate our commemoration. Our bus was full of Leaguers and members of the community, so it developed, as always, that this was a way to familiarize ourselves to the community. As a result several guest participants have applied for League membership.

For 2018 the tentative plan is to have a local activity to commemorate Black History Month. The success is in fostering the attitude of respect for and appreciation of the history of all people and the building of respectful relationships.

*Black History Committee LWVRMA : Virginia
Cowles, Mary Anne Stone, Mabel Gilbert Wells*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF VIRGINIA

2017 Biennial Convention “Honoring Our Legacy With Action”

June 10 - 11, 2017

The Clarion Historic Inn

1500 E. Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia 20176

(703) 771-9200 www.clarioninnleesburg.com

Room Rate: \$90/night +tax (Double Occupancy)

Deadline for Room Reservations is May 12; mention LWV-VA



Speaker List

Banquet Speaker: Dahlia Lithwick, Senior Editor, *Slate*

Plenary Speakers: Honorable Nancy Rodriques, Virginia Secretary of Administration

Lloyd Leonard, Senior Director for Advocacy, LWVUS

Brenda Rogers, LWVUS Board Liaison to LWV-VA

Please Register and Pay Online Using PayPal or Credit Card.

Copy and paste the following URL into your browser.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4ea8ad2aa3fc1-2017/4996573>

Or you can register by mailing in this form:

Name (please print): _____

League Name: _____ Delegate?: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

IF NOT a member, please give phone number or email address: _____

Registration Fee: ____ @ \$125 each \$ _____

Extra Buffet Tickets: ____ @ \$50 each \$ _____

Donations to LWV-VA (not tax deductible) \$ _____

Total Remittance: \$ _____

Make check payable to LWV-VA and mail to Jeanne Fradianni, 719 Rockland Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Questions??: Call Pat Hurst, 434-978-4532

To donate to our tax deductible Ed Fund, please write a separate check to LWV-VAEF

Please join or rejoin the League of Women Voters of the Richmond Metropolitan Area.

Annual dues are \$55 for a single membership; \$85 for two members in the same household; and \$20 for student memberships.

The fiscal year runs from July 1-June 30. Membership in the LWVRMA also confers membership in the League of Women Voters of Virginia and in the League of Women Voters of the United States. Membership is open to all U.S. citizens of voting age.

Please make your check payable to LWVRMA and mail to: Mary Anne Stone, LWV-RMA Treasurer, P.O. Box 25492, Richmond, VA 23260-5492

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Telephone _____

E-mail address: _____

Name of additional Household member if applicable: _____

I want to support the LWV with a contribution of \$ _____

Membership dues and contributions to the League of Women Voters are not deductible as a business or personal expense for tax purposes. Contributions to the League of Women Voters Education Fund are tax deductible.



**League of Women Voters of the
Richmond Metropolitan Area
P.O. Box 225492
Richmond VA 23260-5492**