



Charlottesville/Albemarle
League of Women Voters
Newsletter
May 2011

Office Phone: (434) 970-1707	Office Hours: Tues. 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Thurs. 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Julie Neuman, Office Manager
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2011 LWV C/A Annual Meeting:

Tuesday Luncheon, May 10, Noon

Member/Guest Social at 11:30 am

The Greencroft Club, Charlottesville

Guest Speaker: Anne Sterling, Legislative Coordinator, LWV VA

"Secrets of the General Assembly

Or Why Redistricting Reform is Taking So Long"



The 2011 Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Charlottesville/Albemarle will take place on Tuesday, May 10, at the Greencroft Club. (See the inside page of this newsletter for program and luncheon reservations.) Our guest speaker will be Anne Sterling, Legislative Coordinator, League of Women Voters of Virginia. Anne has a long and distinguished service in the League: LWV member for 18 years. LWVVA Board member, 2005-present; LWVVA lobbyist. LWV Richmond Metropolitan Area, VA: first vice president. Other positions since 1998--Member: local university and public library boards; UN Association; World Affairs Council; United Nations NGO Conference. American Library Association Trustees Division, president-elect. Virginia Women's Network, past chair. School Board president, Harford County, MD. Journalist.

Anne has entitled her talk "**Secrets of the General Assembly or Why Redistricting Reform is Taking So Long.**" She will discuss the big push by the LWV VA over the past three years and longer to get redistricting in the interest of citizens. Having stood with LWV VA President Olga Hernandez at many a press conference together, she is ready to share some great stories, and dramatic moments along the way. Anne will also address other aspects of this year's session, which include observations about women legislators, and their position in the House and Senate, and her concern about the erosion in their numbers with redistricting. She will be glad to answer questions on any topic concerning the General Assembly beyond redistricting reform, including various aspects of how the legislature actually functions. As she says, she loves representing the League on Capitol Square! Be sure to join us for this delightful and enlightening presentation by our distinguished LWV VA state lobbyist.

This page is sponsored by Joan Jay of Roy Wheeler Realty Co.



LWV of Charlottesville and Albemarle County
Annual Meeting
Tuesday, May 10, 2011
Member/Guest Social: 11:30 am to Noon
Luncheon at Noon
The Greencroft Club
575 Rodes Rd., Charlottesville

**Annual Meeting Announcement of the League of Women Voters of
Charlottesville/Albemarle**

Tuesday, May 10, 2011, at The Greencroft Club, Charlottesville

PROGRAM

Member/Guest Social 11:30 am to 12 noon (Cash Bar)

Luncheon and Presentation by Guest Speaker Anne Sterling

Annual Business Meeting of Members (following speaker's presentation):

The Annual Meeting of our League is the time when members vote on the business of the League for the coming fiscal year, 2010-11. **We urge members to attend and give sanction to the newly revised By-Laws, Nominating Committee Report, Recommended Local Program and Proposed Local Study, and the Budget Proposal for 2010-11.** To facilitate your preparation to vote on these items, you should have received in the mail, the Annual Meeting Packet, containing all of these vital reports. *Please remember to bring this packet with you to the meeting!*

Please join us for luncheon at The Greencroft Club, just off of Route 250. From town, follow Route 250 west (Ivy Road), for approximately 5 miles, and turn left onto Rodes Road. **Social begins at 11:30 with cash bar, followed by luncheon at 12 noon promptly.** Menu is:

Grilled Chicken Breast with Marsala Mushroom Sauce

Wild Rice with Dried Cranberries and Almonds

House Salad

Roll and Butter

Dessert: Key Lime pie

Iced tea or coffee

Cost: \$30 per person. To place a reservation, call (970-1707) or email the League office, lww@avenue.org. Reservation deadline is: Tuesday, May 3, 2011.

Checks should be made out to The League of Women Voters and sent to:

League of Women Voters

1932 Arlington Blvd., Room 111

Charlottesville, VA 22903-1559

Name(s) _____

Amount enclosed: _____

International Relations/Federal Government Committee News

by Gerry Kruger

On March 23, 2011 our study of the Constitution kicked off with the viewing of "A More Perfect Union" at the home of Flora Patterson. The film dramatically detailed the soul-searching, debating, and ultimate compromising that gave birth to the document that formed our government. Flora gave each attendee a copy of *Thomas Jefferson & James Madison's Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Constitution* and a reading assignment. Our Constitution study will be open to the public as well as League members. See the back of this newsletter for times and dates.

Shirley Munson once again hosted our regular International Relations meeting on April 13. Jean Minehart researched and spoke on the Euro debt crisis. The Euro Zone is made up of 23 countries whose monetary system is based on the Euro. It is in the best interests of all of these countries to support economically weak countries such as Ireland, Greece, Portugal, and Spain because the costs of their dropping out are enormous for both the Euro Zone and the European Union. The same would be true if Germany, the strongest of them all, were to drop out. Jean also explained "Europe's Debt Trap." Because paying off debt is of utmost importance, there is a tendency to decrease spending, but a decrease in spending causes economic stagnation, thus they are caught in a trap.

Next, Marion Rothman shared a problem that Belgium is facing. With its diverse population, Brussels is having an identity crisis. Only ten per cent of Brussels' population speaks Dutch. Most speak French, but there is also a huge influx of immigrants from North Africa, Turkey, Rwanda, and the Congo. During a recent soccer game, the message board on display was in English!

Gun control was the subject of Gerry Kruger's report. Although this is an issue that the League strongly supports, Gerry analyzed the claims of a doctor who is against all restrictions on guns and writes articles criticizing medical literature that supports gun control. Some of his outlandish claims caused her to search the Internet for his credentials, and she found other articles that prove his distortion and misrepresentation of data. The lesson here is: Not everyone who quotes statistics is a straight shooter!

Our dynamic IR Committee invites you to join us for our regular meetings as well as our Constitution study during the next few months. See the last page/calendar of this newsletter for more information.

Finance Drive 2011: In the second month of our campaign, with great appreciation, we say **thank you** to:

Members Donating to the Operations Fund and/or The Education Fund

Mimi Bender (Operations Fund)
Susan Seidler (Operations Fund)
Sue Keyser (Education Fund)

Nonmember Donating to the Operations Fund

Gail Troy

Total 2011 Finance Drive as of April 15:

Totals to date - Operations: Members = \$3007.00 Nonmembers = \$668.00
Ed Fund: Members = \$1610.00 Nonmembers = \$1575.00
Grand total: \$6860.00

Please, if you haven't already done so, mail in your donations (specifying Operations Fund or Education Fund) to League of Women Voters, 1932 Arlington Blvd., Room 111, Charlottesville, VA 22903-1559. Thank you so much!

Welcome New Members

**Marvin Edwards
Celestia Hollen
Cynthia Neff
Bill Strickland**

**For more information on
joining the League of
Women Voters of
Charlottesville/Albemarle,
go to our website:**

<http://avenue.org/lwv>

**or call our office:
970-1707**



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Newsletter Editor
 Michele Kellermann

Meetings and Events for April/May 2011: *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

U.S. Constitution Study

On Wednesdays, April 27 and May 25, our local League will hold morning meetings to deepen our understanding of the U.S. Constitution. Our instructor will be J. David Gowdy, JD, founder of *The Washington, Jefferson & Madison Institute in Virginia*. Each attendee will receive a copy of Mr. Gowdy's *Thomas Jefferson & James Madison's Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Constitution*. Open to both women and men, both meetings will start at 9:30 AM at the home of Frank and Flora Patterson. Please email floramaepatterson@gmail.com, or call at 295-5532 if you are able to attend so we may prepare properly. Hope to see you there!

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Wednesdays, April 27 and May 25, 9:30 am	"The U.S. Constitution" Instructor: J. David Gowdy	Home of Flora Patterson, 685 Flordon Dr., 295-5532	For more information, contact Flora Patterson, 295-5532
Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1, 9 am to 3 pm	LWV VA Convention	Hilton Gardens Inn, 900 Plantation Rd., Blacksburg	For more information, go to LWV VA website at www.LWV-VA.org
Tuesday, May 10, 11:30 am to 2 pm	LWV C/A Annual Meeting: Luncheon reservations due Tuesday, May 3	The Greencroft Club, 575 Rodes Rd., Charlottesville	For more information, contact the office, 970-1707
Wednesday, May 11, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Marge Cox, 514 Rosemont Dr., 245-5228	For more information, contact Flora Patterson, 295-5532
Thursday, May 12, 4:30 pm	Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 145 Ednam Dr., (Boar's Head Inn complex)	For more information, contact Linda Goodling, 296-9865
Monday, May 16, 4-6 pm	LWV C/A Board Meeting	Jordan Bldg., Pepsi Place (behind the Senior Center)	For more information, contact the office, 970-1707