



Charlottesville Area
League of Women Voters
Newsletter
December 2012/January 2013

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Program Planning

Tuesday, December 4, Noon to 1:30 pm
New County Office Building, 1600 Fifth St.

Join us for Pot Luck Lunch provided by the LWV CVA Board!

All members *as well as the public* are encouraged to attend the annual Program Planning meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, at 11:30 am, at the New County Office Building, 1600 Fifth St. **The LWV CVA Board of Directors will be providing a pot luck lunch, as we consider Program Planning at the Local and State levels of the League.** Do we wish to retain current positions, to act on them, and/or to begin new studies with the goal of establishing consensus and positions for action on other issues? This is what your League of Women Voters is all about and program planning is your opportunity to weigh in. You can find a list of local positions in our 2012-2013 Membership Directory. Click here to access the [LWVVA "Positions in Brief"](#). For further information, contact President Kerin Yates, 964-1840, or email: kerinyates@hotmail.com.

Lunch with the Legislators ***Friday, January 4, 2013, Noon*** ***The Boar's Head Inn***

*The state legislators who represent the Charlottesville area have been invited to attend the annual **League of Women Voters Legislative Luncheon** at the Boar's Head Inn, on **Friday, January 4, at noon**. Now we need you, your friends and relatives to join us. Don't miss this annual opportunity for listening carefully and speaking directly to our local representatives before the legislative session begins. Each legislator will give a brief presentation and then respond to questions from the audience. Registration deadline: Friday, December 28.*

See page 3 of this newsletter for reservation information.
Invite a friend to join you!

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

President's Message:

Dear LWV Members and Friends of the League,

The 2012 Federal Election is over! So the League can catch its breath? Not really. We are an integral part of our society - how people live with each other - and therefore, if we want to continue to have a healthy democracy we need to march on with advocacy and education.

Our next League-wide meeting is devoted to **Program Planning**. Please come together on December 4 (see front page of this newsletter for time and place) and voice your opinion on what should be a local topic for emphasis or study. Education has been mentioned by several members.

The national topic for study was chosen at the LWVUS convention in June - review of the LWVUS Agricultural Position written in 1988. This may not sound exciting to anyone who has not looked into the subject before, but it concerns a major Federal Bill that accounts for around \$290 billion of your taxes. It covers farm subsidies (and do not think of just the local family farm or even farms); the food stamp program, which one-fifth of the American population uses; and genetically modified foods, regulations and labeling. It is the intent of the LWVUS review to focus on finance and technology. Our local International Relations/Federal Government group studied the federal "Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008" which was the last time the agricultural bill came before Congress. With a federal review cycle of five to seven years, it is likely due again. League members are needed to create the study. We have been critical of several of the last studies from the LWVUS – particularly scope and questions. If you are interested and can devote the time, volunteer. See application for committee participation at LWV.org.

Following our program meeting on December 4, the Women's Legislative Roundtable Pre-Session takes place on December 5 in Richmond. You can learn what bills will be before the 2013 VA General Assembly convening in January.

The "Personhood Bill" from the 2012 session is on the agenda again as well as new bills on healthcare, women's rights, judicial appointments, transportation and all those areas that impact us as citizens and human beings. See details on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter. Usually one or two cars will be traveling from our League to this event. Consider going. Then you will personally be prepared to Meet and Greet your Virginia legislators at our Annual Legislative Luncheon January 4.

Why consider inserting these events in your already busy calendar? Because you are a League member whose mission is to encourage informed and ACTIVE participation in government. Carol Lindstrom, the Action Chair for the LWV VA has written:

"Yes, I am overwhelmed. Yes, I am sometimes distracted by other events going on. But, I am a member of the League of Women Voters. Those who came before me dealt with far harsher conditions and ridicule. They did that to open the door for me to walk in to a polling place and cast my vote. They were crucial in opening the workplace for me to have choices in life.

"In their memory, I will work, as they did, to fight injustice and oppression, to protect the rights of those who cannot speak up for themselves. It is not a choice to continue the fight that motivates me, it is a passion to follow in those footsteps, to see that good works continue, and that we do not, through complacency, lose the ground that those women gave so very much to attain."

Sincerely,
Kerin Yates
President, LWV CVA

In Memoriam: Barbara Yalden-Thomson
League of Women Voters Life Member
Barbara Yalden-Thomson of Earlysville
passed away on Friday, November 2, 2012.
She was 91 years of age.

Annual Legislative Luncheon
Friday, January 4, 2013
The Boar's Head Inn
New Pavilion Ballroom
Registration at 11:30 am
Luncheon/Program begins at Noon

Join us for the annual get-together with our local state legislators. At this time **Bryce Reeves (17th District), Thomas Garrett, Emmett Hanger (24th) and Creigh Deeds (25th)**; and our Delegates: **Dickie Bell (20th), Steve Landes (25th) Peter Farrell (56th), David Toscano (57th), Rob Bell (58th), Matt Fariss (59th) and Lee Ware (65th).** have been invited to attend, and this is a great opportunity to hear what they have to say about the upcoming legislative session in Richmond, as well as query them with informed questions while you enjoy a delicious lunch. Order your tickets early as last year's luncheon sold out!

This year's luncheon (\$30 per plate) will be held in the Pavilion ballroom at The Boar's Head Inn. The menu is:

Grilled Breast of Chicken with Glazed Baby Onions, Pancetta Lardons, Whipped Potatoes, and Natural Jus

Baby Pound Cake with Bavarian Cream and Fresh Berries

Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee with a Selection of Hot Teas

Iced Tea with Lemon

Email lww@avenue.org or call 970-1707; or Lois Sandy ljsandy@gmail.com or 296-8737 by noon on **Friday, December 28** to make reservations for luncheon.

NOTE: The Boar's Head will accommodate diners with special dietary needs if notified in advance. (Those who prefer a vegetarian or gluten free meal will be served soup and hearty salad.)

Cost of Lunch: \$30.

Make your check out to the LWV and mail it to the office:

League of Women Voters
1932 Arlington Blvd. #111
Charlottesville, VA 22903-1559

Yes, I plan to attend the Legislative Luncheon on Friday, January 4, at the Boar's Head Inn.

Enclosed is \$30 per plate for reservations for:

Name(s) _____ Telephone _____

_____ Telephone _____

_____ Telephone _____

International Relations/Federal Government News by Gerry Kruger

The International Relations/Federal Government Committee met in the home of Liz Kutchai on September 26 to prepare for two Community Dialogues on October 2, one at the County Office Building at noon and one at Tonsler Park at 7:00 p.m. **Marge Cox** organized their presentation on political campaign ads that can be checked by various Internet services for their veracity. Marge and several other members gave examples of political ads, campaign claims, and viral emails from both major parties that were found to be half true or completely fabricated. **Natalie Testa, Lois Sandy, Dena Imlay, Gerry Kruger, and Pat Hurst** assisted Marge in this presentation.

Flora Patterson hosted us on October 10, and **Liz Kutchai** and **Pat Hurst** reported on two issues of international interest. Dubbed “unnatural selection,” the process of only bearing male children is becoming widespread among well-educated, affluent women in Asian countries such as Japan. Because India and China have outlawed this practice, it is on the decline in those countries, but is on the rise in Viet Nam among upper and middle classes. As a result, the Asian fertility rate is lower than that of the United States, and the abortion rate is almost doubled. Having too few women for the men in these countries also results in more prostitution, sex trafficking, and bride buying. Much of the violence among young men is also attributed to the shortage of women.

Pat Hurst explained how the food crises around the world are sometimes exacerbated by the reports of a coming food crisis. When reports warn of an impending food shortage, prices immediately rise and make getting food more difficult. Therefore, food riots may be caused by mere reports of a food crisis that may not be as bad as predicted. In 2008 there were reports that there would be a shortage of rice and wheat. This year it is corn and soybeans. The USDA reported in July that a drought from June through September would be likely to develop and expand. Corn prices immediately soared in several continents. Then in September the USDA cut back its forecast.

Deborah Brooks opened her mountaintop home to us on October 24, as we explored the “Global Women’s Progress Report” from *Newsweek* with **Natalie Testa**. The magazine rated 165 countries around the world according to categories such as justice, protection, health, education, economics, and politics. Iceland, which has a female president, came out on top. The United States was eighth. Chad and Afghanistan were rated worst. Unfortunately atrocities still persist around the world and poverty among women has gone up. Natalie also gave us an impressive snapshot of Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff. She rebuilt her life and rose to her position after previously being jailed and tortured for fighting against the military dictatorship in Brazil.

Lois Sandy continued an earlier report on Haiti, a Caribbean island beset by problems caused by a dysfunctional government and the aftermath of an earthquake in 2010. Although billions of dollars have been given in aid by the UN, the US and other countries, there is no viable infrastructure. Many have died from cholera, caused by contaminated water. A president and prime minister run the country, but there is no structure in place for coordinating Haiti’s recovery.

Join us as we examine issues that influence the global community every second and fourth Wednesday at 9 :30 a.m. See the calendar on the back of this newsletter for more details.

*Season's Greetings and Happy New Year from your
League of Women Voters of Charlottesville Area*



Women's Legislative Roundtable Pre-Session

December 5

9:30am - 12:00pm

Senate Room 3

Speakers during the morning session come from diverse sectors providing a comprehensive view of what to expect during the 2013 General Assembly Session. There is no cost for this session.

Women's Legislative Roundtable PreSession - Luncheon Meeting

December 5

12:15pm - 3:00 pm

House Room 3

Preregistration is Required (see below)

Keynote Speakers with Question and Answer Session

Implementation of the Affordable Care Act in Virginia

Michael Cassidy: President and CEO of The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis, a nonprofit think tank focused on providing independent research, analysis and public education on budget and tax issues, with emphasis on the impact of fiscal decisions on low- and moderate-income Virginians.

David DeBiasi, RN: Associate State Director - Advocacy, AARP. Mr. DeBiasi served as the Chair of Stop TB USA (national coalition for the elimination of tuberculosis) for 2 years and served as Director of Advocacy and Public Education for the American Lung Association In Virginia for 8 years.

Registration for the Pre-Session Roundtable Luncheon:

Please complete this Women's Legislative Roundtable Luncheon Reservation form ([online form](#) or [.pdf printable form for mailing](#)).

Once you have completed the online form, you will be directed to a webpage with payment options. Cost of the luncheon is \$35 per person when preregistering (by November 25), \$40 (after November 25).

- Preregistration ends on November 25.
- If paying by mail, postmark must be by November 25 for the discounted rate to apply.
- This is a **non-refundable fee**.
- The final date for all registrations is November 29.

For complete directions for registering for the luncheon and making payment please [click here](#).

If you have any difficulty registering please contact [Elaine Head](#), Treasurer, LWV of Virginia, or [Carol Lindstrom](#), Action Director, LWV of Virginia.

Free Room Arrangements Available for 2013 Women's Legislative Roundtable Meetings

LWVVA will again be offering **free hotel rooms, double occupancy, for up to four people on Tuesday nights before the Women's Legislative Roundtable (WRT) meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings.** The WRT begins January 16 and will run through February 13, 2013. These rooms will be available on Tuesday nights throughout the Session (this is the 45- day session) for League members who would like to attend the WRT and observe the General Assembly at work on Wednesdays. Room reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis and names of the person(s) wanting the room(s) must be sent to Molly McClenon at mcclenon@cstone.net seven days prior to the Tuesday date.

What is Women's Legislative Roundtable? The Women's Legislative Roundtable (also referred to as WRT) was begun by the LWVVA to provide an opportunity for individual legislators to talk informally to interested Leaguers and others about the status of their own legislation and also about legislation of interest to the League. Starting with the first Wednesday of the Legislative Session in January, WRT meets each Wednesday morning at 8:30 am every week through January and February, and up to the end of the session. Meetings are held in a room in the General Assembly building in Richmond reserved by a member of the General Assembly for this purpose, and are open to anyone who wants to keep up to date on issues of interest. Each meeting is moderated by a representative of the LWVVA.

2013 Finance Drive to Launch on Saturday, January 26, 2013 9:00 am

Spend a morning of fun as we write notes and stuff the fund drive letters. **In these tight financial times, our fund drive letters are critical--we need your help on Saturday, January 26.** Carol Hogg, our finance director, will host the letter-writing and stuffing morning at her lovely home at **270 Ipswich Place.** So join us at 9 am--there will be lots of tasty goodies too!

Directions to Carol's house:

From the intersection of Hydraulic Road and Lambs Road (at Albemarle High School), turn onto Lambs Road, and continue for approximately one mile. You will pass radio towers on your right, and just after you pass them, take a right on Ipswich Place. 270 Ipswich Place is the fourth house on the left side of the street.

Voter Turnout Statistics for the November 6 Election in Our Area

Thanks to the phone calling efforts of League member Sharon Beeler, the following statistics from the November 6 election were gleaned from the registrar offices in the LWV CVA area:

Greene County: 73 % of registered voters (9,060 out of total 12,382) voted. Greene County population is approximately 18,400.

Albemarle County: 72.3% voted or 53,985 out of 74,628 registered voters. Population is 100,553.

Fluvanna County: 75.9% of registered voters voted. Total registration is 17,038 County population is approximately 26,000.

Charlottesville City: 65% registered voters voted out of 31,680 on rolls (may be somewhat over stated due to people who have moved but still listed).

Louisa County: 74% voted or 1511 voted out of 2045 who are registered. Approximate population is 33,000.

Nelson County: 75% of 10,982 total registered voters voted. Approximate population is 15,161.



League of Women Voters
 1932 Arlington Blvd. #111
 Charlottesville, VA 22903-1559

LWV C/A
President
 Kerin Yates

Newsletter Editor
 Michele Kellermann

2012-13 Membership Directories have been mailed! Have you received yours? If you have corrections, please contact the office: 970-1707.

Meetings and Events for December 2012/January 2013: *Mark Your Calendars*

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Tues., Dec. 4, noon	LWV CVA Program Planning and Pot Luck Lunch provided by LWV CVA Board	New County Office Bldg., 1600 Fifth St., Charlottesville	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Wed., Dec. 5, 9:30 am to Noon; Luncheon at 12:15 pm	Pre-Session Women's Legislative Roundtable	Senate Room 3, at the Virginia State Legislature, Richmond	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Tues., Dec. 11, 4-6 pm	LWV CVA Board Meeting	Virginia Nat'l Bank, Arlington Blvd.	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Wed., Dec. 12, 11:00 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Holiday Party	Home of Molly O'Brien, 250 West Main St., #602, 245-9806	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5528
Friday, Jan. 4 Noon	LWV CVA Legislative Luncheon Registration: 11:30 am Luncheon: Noon	Boar's Head Inn, Pavilion	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Tues., Jan. 8, 4-6 pm	LWV CVA Board Meeting	Virginia Nat'l Bank, Arlington Blvd.	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Wed., Jan. 9, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Jean Minehart, 1714 Yorktown Dr., 971-1801	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5528
Wednesdays, Jan. 16, 23, 30 - 8:30 - 9:30 am	Women's Legislative Roundtable (WRT)	Virginia State Legislature, Richmond	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Wed., Jan. 23, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Bobbie Williams, 108 B Oakhurst Circle, 245-0406	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5528
Sat., Jan. 26, 9 am	Finance Drive 2013 Letter Writing Campaign Launched	Home of Carol Hogg, 270 Ipswich Place, 974-7592	For more information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840