



Charlottesville Area
League of Women Voters
Newsletter
September 2013

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2013 Election Season Is On!

'Tis the Season of Voter Registration, Voter's Guides, and Candidate Forums

Our League is once again actively focusing on local elections here in the Charlottesville Area. In partnership with *Charlottesville Tomorrow*, we are helping prepare a Voter's Guide that will be mailed (one week before elections) to all registered voters for the contests of City Council (City of Charlottesville) and Board of Supervisors (Albemarle County). This guide will also be available online at our website: lwv.avenue.org.

Coverage of the Charlottesville City and Albemarle County school board races (uncontested) will appear in *Cville Weekly*. Our League has provided information on the House of Delegates candidates in the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Area for **Vote 411** (vote411.org) the LWV-US website for 2013 local and state elections across the U.S.

We have been asked to participate this fall in forums for school board candidates in Albemarle County and Charlottesville City in partnership with *Charlottesville Tomorrow*. The *Sierra Club Piedmont Group* would like LWV CVA to co-sponsor a forum for Albemarle County Board of Supervisors candidates on environmental issues on September 23, 7 pm, at Lane Auditorium. We have also been invited to moderate a forum for the Greene County Board of Supervisors candidates on October 19.

Requests for voter registration are arriving weekly. In accordance with the newly passed State law on voter registration, it is required that individuals and groups conducting voter registration drives, when obtaining 25 or more voter registration applications from the State Board of Elections or local registrar offices, must "receive training and execute a sworn affidavit that they will abide by all Virginia voter registration laws and rules." (SB 1008, 2013 Virginia Legislation). Fortunately, the "training" is easily done online. **James Madison University has requested that we provide voter registration on their campus and we are looking for volunteers to help on Wednesday, September 25** (see page 2).

All members who would like to participate in our Voter Service effort should contact: Dena Imlay by email at arlimlay@comcast.net or telephone [\(434\) 296-6651](tel:4342966651).

*This page is sponsored by Joan Jay of Loring Woodriff Real Estate Associates
phone: 906-1806 or email: joanjayrealtor@gmail.com*

League of Women Voters of Virginia

Save the Date: Saturday, September 28, 2013

"Power of the Vote"

Annual Fall Workshop – Richmond, VA

8:30 a.m. – Registration and Gathering Time

9:00 a.m. – Welcome and Special Announcements

10 a.m. - Morning Workshops (at the Hilton)

#1: “Increasing Civil rights for Felons: (Review of recent developments and suggestions for action.)

#2: “Will Virginia be the next North Carolina?” (Now that the floodgates are open due to Supreme Court decision on the Voting Rights Act, what is likely to happen in our state regarding voting rights restrictions?)

11:50 p.m. – Luncheon and Keynote Speaker

2:30 p.m. - Afternoon Workshops (at the New LWV-VA office complex)

#3: “Local leagues power the vote “ (Survey of best practices among attendees in efforts to register voters.

#4: “Putting a face on legislative action” (You too can engage in action to affect legislation.)

4 p.m. – Adjournment

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, 501 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23109, Telephone: [804-344-4300](tel:804-344-4300)

LWV-VA Office: 501 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23109 (2 blocks from Hilton; shuttle available)

Registration forms to follow in *The Virginia Voter*.

LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee Meetings

The LWV CVA Natural Resources Committee meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Virginia National Bank Building, Board Room (second floor), from 4:30 to 6 pm. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 18, and is open to all Leaguers and friends who are interested in environmental concerns for our area including: energy, land use, and water resources. Please join us at our September meeting. For further information, contact Linda Goodling, 296-9865.

Voter Registration Drive at James Madison University on September 25: Volunteers Needed

We have been asked to provide voter registration on the campus at James Madison University on Wednesday, September 25, 2 to 8 pm. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Kerin Yates: phone: 964-1840 or email: kerinyates@hotmail.com

The League of Women Voters of the United States supports **National Voter Registration Day which this year is Tuesday, September 24.** For information about this event, go to the website: <http://www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org/>

2013 Voter Registration Deadline: October 15!



Pictured on the porch of Kerin Yates' Free Union home for the Annual Board Retreat on August 6 are: (Front row left to right) **Sue Lewis**, Vice President, **Kerin Yates**, President, **Pat Hurst**, Treasurer. (Back row left to right) **Michele Kellermann**, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster, **Lois Sandy**, Arrangements, **Dena Imlay**, Voter Service, **Molly O'Brien**, International Relations/Federal Government, **Gerry Kruger**, Community Engagement, **Rosalie Simari**, Membership, and **Gerry Yemen**, Secretary.

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area 2013-14 Board of Directors

ELECTED OFFICERS

President 2014

Kerin Yates

Vice President 2015

Sue Lewis

Secretary 2014

Gerry Yemen

Treasurer 2015

Pat Hurst

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Community Engagement 2014

Gerry Kruger

Membership 2014

Susan Roberts

Voters Service 2015

Dena Imlay

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster 2014

Michele Kellermann

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Natural Resources 2014

Linda Goodling

Arrangements 2014

Lois Sandy

International Relations/Federal Government 2014

Molly O'Brien

Marge Cox

Social Policy 2014

Anne Linden

International Relations /Federal Government Committee News

by Gerry Kruger

On July 10, the International Relations/Federal Government group met in the home of Jean Minehart and were treated to a timely report from **Flora Patterson** about the **recent uprisings in Egypt**. Flora gave us an in-depth account of the geography and history of terrorist groups in the Middle East as well as the reasons for and possible repercussions of the overthrow of President Morsi in Egypt.

After Morsi's election last year the Muslim Brotherhood tried to make Egypt exclusively an Islamist government. This, combined with Morsi's incompetence in handling the economy, rising crime, electricity cuts, objectionable treatment of women, and gas shortages, caused the military and protestors to overthrow the president.

Although the general population seems satisfied with military rule, this is cause for concern because it sets a precedent for other fledgling democracies and promotes solutions based on violence and revolution rather than in parliaments. It also sends a message to Islamists that their opponents will use non-democratic means to oust them even though they win power by election. If the new leaders don't include and respect the Islamists in their decision-making, they will try to crush their opponents by any means necessary.

Natalie Testa not only hosted us in her lakefront home on August 13, but also reported on the status of the **millennium goals set for 2015 by the United Nations** and adopted by 189 countries. The targets set are for the undeveloped countries. Many of these goals have already been met because of private NGO's as well as governments. For example, the number of people in extreme poverty has been cut in half. There have also been gains in the fight against malaria. Hunger has been reduced by half, and the mortality rate for children has dropped 41% although the target for this is 2/3.

We also learned that President Obama's plan for Africa is to increase their access to electricity, which is now available to them only about an hour a day. This is especially important for health clinics and hospitals.

Liz Kutchai reported on **U.S. teen birth rates** which, according to the December 2012 *Reporter*, declined four straight years through 2011. A March 2013 *Reporter* showed teen pregnancy rates, birth rates, and abortion rates all declined. More teens are delaying sex or using contraception. The teen birth rate is the lowest since record-keeping began in the 1040's.

From 2008-2010 there was a free birth control and counseling study for 9,000 poor and uninsured women in St. Louis. Among these women there were 6.3 births for every 1000 women. The national rate was 34.3. Results of the study also showed a significant decrease in abortions for these women compared with the general population. Counseling and free birth control make a huge difference in birth and abortion rates.

The economic downturn has also been a factor in the number of single mothers. Men who have no jobs are not considered husband material by many women. They prefer to raise children as single mothers rather than marry the fathers. This in turn perpetuates the cycle because the sons tend to follow in the footsteps of their fathers and have no jobs.

We were most surprised to learn that compared with European developed countries, the United States has the highest number of births per 1000 girls ages 15-19 at 37.9. The United Kingdom is next with 25/1000.

We invite you to join us for informative, fun gatherings every second and fourth Wednesday as we study and discuss issues of global importance. See the calendar on the back of this newsletter for dates and venues.



League of Women Voters
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 Charlottesville, VA 22903-1560

LWV CVA
President
 Kerin Yates

Newsletter Editor
 Michele Kellermann

2013 Voter Registration Deadline is: October 15th, 2013: <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/>

Meetings and Events for September 2013: *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Tues., Sept. 10, 4 to 6 pm	LWV CVA Board Meeting	Virginia National Bank Bldg., Arlington Blvd.	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Wed., Sept. 11, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Molly O'Brien, 250 West Main St., #602, 245-9806	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5228
Wed., Sept. 18, 4:30 to 6 pm	Natural Resources Committee meeting	Virginia National Bank Bldg., Arlington Blvd.	For further information, contact Linda Goodling, 296-9865
Mon. Sept. 23, 7 pm	Albemarle County Board of Supervisors Candidates Forum on Environmental Issues co-sponsored with the <i>Sierra Club Piedmont Group</i>	Albemarle County Office Building, Lane Auditorium, McIntire Rd.	For further information, contact Dena Imlay, 296-6651
Tues., Sept. 24	National Voter Registration Day!		For information, go to: www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org/
Wed., Sept. 25, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Lydia Peale, 211-A NW Second St (McGuffey Hill Condos), 296-6806	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5228
Wed., Sept. 25, 2 to 8 pm	Voter Registration Drive	James Madison University campus	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840 or email: kerinyates@hotmail.com
Sat., Sept. 28, 8:30 am to 4 pm	LWV VA Annual Fall Workshop: "Power of the Vote"	Hilton Garden Inn, 501 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23109, Telephone: 804-344-4300	For further information, see the LWV-VA website: http://lwv-va.org/