



September 2014 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear League Members,

I hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer. September has arrived and with it the run up to Election Day on November 4.

The Board has finalized a calendar of League activities, which you will find on our [website](#). These activities include events with Leagues in Arlington and Fairfax to meet and greet candidates for the US House of Representatives, 8th Congressional District, on September 22 in McLean and again on October 21 in Alexandria. In addition, please save Sunday afternoon, September 28, for LWVFC's first program in its 2014-2015 year, a forum on "What's New in Voting" featuring members of the Falls Church Electoral Board at the Falls Church Community Center from 3:00-4:30 pm. And we look forward to seeing you at LWVFC's Membership Kickoff social here in the City.

New Photo ID Rules. We will have a great deal to discuss at the forum on September 28. Much has changed about voting in Falls Church and Virginia this summer. On July 1, 2014, the law requiring a photo ID to vote went into effect for future elections. The Virginia State Board of Elections (SBE) then approved implementing regulations early in August that eliminate as valid for voting purposes any ID that has expired more than 12 months before Election Day. Previously, the expiration date was not a factor in determining an ID's validity. In fact, the photo voter ID being issued under direction of the SBE does not include an expiration date. Approximately 300,000 Virginia voters lack a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)-issued ID. The new rules went into effect just 13 days before four special elections on August 19, one of which was subject to these requirements.

League letter in *The Washington Post*. Several organizations, including ProgressVA, Virginia New Majority, Project Vote, Fair Elections Legal Network, and the League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA)

In This Issue

Volunteers Needed for Voter Service Events

On the Ballot Nov. 4

LWVNCA August Retreat Summary

AAUW Sept. 8 STEM Program Focuses on Girls

2014-2015 LWVFC Board and Off-Board Members

President
Edith Snyder

Vice President, Programs
Linda Garvelink

Co-Chair, Programs
Robert Crowe

Co-Chair, Local Programs
Dick McCall

Secretary
Marian (Bunny) Jarrett

Treasurer
Eleanor Karro

Voter Service Co-Chairs
Grace Rissetto
Sandra Tarpinian

Membership Co-Chairs
Pamela Spofford
Sarah Snyder

Fundraising Chair
Bernadette Baroukh

Liaison to NCA
Ellen Salisbury

Administrative Team
Madalyn Cafruny
Cindy Donaldson
Genie Flahie
Ann McCleary

criticized the SBE's decision. Anne Sterling, president of LWV-VA, said, "Since many forms of acceptable ID under the new photo ID law don't have an expiration date, it makes no sense to rule out some of the most common forms of ID simply because they're expired. Changing the rules again this close to the election means voters and election officials will face new confusion over who can vote." At the suggestion of the League in Arlington, Sterling signed a letter backed by several Leagues, including LWVFC, challenging the SBE decision. The Leagues' letter, titled "Voting Rights Trampled in VA", was published in *The Washington Post* on August 23. See the [complete letter](#). The state League and our local Leagues as well as other voting rights advocates are now focused on educating the public about the new requirement to ensure every eligible voter has what he or she needs to vote. Acceptable forms of ID for voting include:

- ε A Virginia driver's license or other photo ID issued by Virginia
- ε A United States passport
- ε Any photo ID issued by the United States government
- ε A student ID that has a photograph and was issued by any institution of higher learning in Virginia
- ε An employee identification card that has a photograph

Any voter lacking one of the above forms of ID can obtain a free voter photo ID from any local Registrar's office, including Falls Church City's Voter Registration & Elections Office (<http://www.fallschurchva.gov/vote>). For more information on the new ID requirement and how to obtain a free ID, Virginians can visit www.GotIDVirginia.org or call the election protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

Please renew your membership. We rely on your support to educate voters about changes in how they vote as well as the candidates and issues on the ballot. If you have not yet renewed your LWVFC membership for the 2014-2015 League year, please do so now. We will put your dues and gifts to the LWV Education Fund to good use as we prepare voter education materials for November's races for the US House of Representatives

Special Projects

*Marty Meserve
Jane Scully*

Communications

Mona Johnston

Webmaster

Bob Donaldson

**AAUW Falls Church Branch
Sponsors: STEM program --
*Inspire her Mind, Electrify her
Future***

Monday, Sept. 8 2014
Falls Church Community Center
223 Little Falls Street

How we talk to our girls impacts how they see themselves and the choices they make for their future. Learn how to help shape their self-image. Encourage them to explore with curiosity and creativity. Foster an interest in science, math and technology. Expand their opportunities. Discuss Strategies for long-term success.



[AAUW STEM Flyer](#)

and Senate and Falls Church City Treasurer as well as referenda on a Virginia constitutional amendment and a Falls Church school bond. Thank you for supporting the League!

Edith Snyder

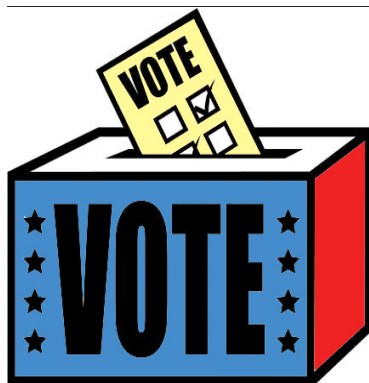
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please help LWVFC by volunteering for one or two upcoming voter service events:

- ε Saturday, September 13th at the Falls Church Fall Festival. Help staff the LWVFC Booth for a one- or two-hour shift between the hours of 10:00 am and 5:00 pm.
- ε Tuesday, September 23rd at George Mason High School between the hours of 11:00 am and 2:00 pm as LWVFC works with the Student Council Association to help register students who will be 18 years of age by the November 4th General Election to vote.

National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 23. Come participate with us on the 13th and the 23rd! One to two hours of your time would be greatly appreciated.

For more information or to sign up, please contact LWVFC's Voter Service co-chairs: Sandy Tarpinian at 703-356-7186 or shoptarp@gmail.com, or Grace Risetto at 703-241-0442 or gracerisetto@yahoo.com.



ON THE BALLOT:

NOVEMBER 4, 2014 GENERAL ELECTION

On November 4, 2014, citizens of Falls Church will vote for the following offices and referenda:

- ε **US Senator for Virginia.** Vote for only one candidate. Candidates include:
 - ε Ed W. Gillespie - Republican
 - ε Mark R. Warner - Democrat
 - ε Robert C. Sarvis - Libertarian

- ε **US Congressional Representative for the 8th District of Virginia.** Vote for only one candidate. Candidates include:
 - ε Micah K. Edmonds - Republican
 - ε Donald S. Beyer, Jr. - Democrat
 - ε Jeffrey S. Carson - Libertarian
 - ε Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III - Independent Green Party of Virginia
 - ε Gwendolyn J. Beck - Independent

- ε **Proposed Virginia Constitutional Amendment:**
Question: Shall Section 6-A of Article X (Taxation and Finance) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried? Yes or No.

- ε **City Treasurer:** Special election to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2017
 - ε Jody Acosta - Democrat
 - ε Chris Johnson - Independent

- ε **Proposed bond referendum for the City of Falls Church Schools:**
Question: Shall the City of Falls Church, Virginia, be authorized to contract a debt and issue its general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Fifteen Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$15,600,000.00) for the purpose of paying the costs incident to constructing, reconstructing, equipping and/or reequipping, in whole or in part, the Mount Daniel Elementary School, and shall

Ordinance No. _____ of the City authorizing the issuance of such bonds be effective? Yes or No.

Voter Registration: October 14, 2014 is the last day to register to vote for the November election. To register to vote, you can register online or change your registration at www.Vote.Virginia.gov, or you can download the voter registration application or visit the office of the Falls Church City Registrar at 300 Park Avenue, Suite 101.

New Photo ID Requirement: Please remember that effective July 1, 2014, photo ID is required to vote in person in Virginia. A photo ID is not required if you vote via absentee ballot.

Absentee Voting: Registered voters unable to go to the polls on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot by mail or in person with reason.

- ⌘ **Voting By Mail:** Applications to vote absentee by mail must be received by the Registrar at least seven days before the election, or Tuesday, October 28, for the November 4th General Election. Voters can obtain an application from the Falls Church City Registrar or online by downloading the application from [here](#).
- ⌘ **Voting In Person:** In-person absentee voting begins on Friday, September 19, and ends at 5:00 pm on the Saturday before the election, November 1. State law requires every Registrar's office to be open for absentee voting on the two Saturdays immediately preceding each General Election from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Other special evening and weekend hours may also be scheduled. To vote absentee in-person, voters should visit the Registrar's Office within 45 days preceding the election, fill out the absentee voting application, and vote on the e-Slate voting machine (the same type of machine as the one used at the polls on Election Day).

LWVNCA AUGUST RETREAT - "USEFUL AND ENJOYABLE"

The League of Women Voters National Capital Area

(LWVNCA) held a retreat for local Leagues in early August. Virginia Long, president of LWVNCA and a member of the Falls Church League, welcomed the group, which represented ten local Leagues and three state Leagues. More than 30 individuals attended this action-packed day.

Dianna Haskell, Shur Fellow from the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS), described the Membership and Leadership Development Program being instituted in Leagues across the nation. Retreat participants then met in small groups to develop new and innovative ideas for membership. Topics discussed included Media Outreach, Education and Community Outreach, Community Partnerships, and Coalitions and Outreach to Members. The very creative ideas that resulted will be shared and developed further at future events.

After lunch, Nancy Soreng and Judy Morenoff from LWV Montgomery County reviewed program planning and how to use LWV positions to advocate at the local, state, and national levels. Olga Hernandez, secretary LWVNCA, gave an overview of what LWVNCA can do and is doing, and participants responded with ideas that LWVNCA will consider.

Remarks from those who attended included "worthwhile," "useful and enjoyable," "met to trade ideas," "productive, informative, and well run." Stay tuned for future LWVNCA programs.

~Olga Hernandez



About Us

The League of Women Voters Falls Church is a non-partisan organization that serves the citizens of Falls Church City through encouraging informed and active participation in government, working to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

A Voice for Citizens and a Force for Change in the United States.

[Forward email](#)



WkLv#hp dL#z dv
vhq#wr
urehw}grqd@vrrqC yhu}rq1qhw
e |
[hqlkkrø hvC drdfrp](#)
i
[Xsqdwh](#)

[Sur ilh2Hp d1](#)
[Dqquhv](#) ;#Uds1g#
uhp ryd#z lk
[VdihXavxevfuleh](#)0 #
; [Sulydf](#) | [#Srdf](#) | 1



Ohdjxh#r i#Z rp hq#Y rwhuv#r i#I d#w#F kxufk #;#SR #Er { #4 8 9 #;#I d#w#F kxufk #;#YD #;#5 3 7 3