

End of Summer 2012 LWVFC E-Bulletin



League of Women Voters
of Falls Church

*A Voice for Citizens and
A Force for Change in the United States*

The League of Women Voters of Falls Church is a nonpartisan 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. For more information, go to www.lwvfallschurch.org.

Dear League Members,

I hope you have enjoyed your summer. It is difficult to believe that the season is nearly over and the fall and a presidential election are right around the corner.

Your League began preparing for the months ahead with an effort to register the newly graduated class from George Mason High School. Thanks to longtime member Ed Strait for conceiving the idea and helping to fund it and Voter Service Chair Genie [Flahie](#) for excellent execution, 142 members of the Class of 2012 who had not yet registered to vote received a letter from LWVFC encouraging them to exercise their civic duty. Each graduate also received a Virginia voter registration form and a return envelope addressed to the Registrar. We hope to make this an annual League initiative.

Genie is also marshalling Falls Church League members to work with the Arlington League to register new US citizens following naturalization ceremonies this month and in early September. We encourage you to sign up for one of these moving events (see article below for specifics).

Membership Co-Chair Bunny Jarrett is similarly reaching out to the American Association of University Women (AAUW)-Falls Church Branch to conduct voter education next month, with tables at the elementary and middle school PTA information fairs. AAUW has as a major focus this year on voter education, and particularly on encouraging women to vote. We are pleased to be working

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encouraging women to vote. we are pleased to be working with them.

Our programs for the fall also reflect a collaboration between Falls Church and neighboring Leagues. Vice President for Programs Linda Garvelink is working with Bonnie Franklin, program chair for Arlington, to put on two timely events in October. The first is on October 17, 7:00 PM showing of the film "Patriocracy" at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), located at the intersection of Wilson and Glebe in Arlington. This 90-minute film by Brian Malone explores the extreme polarization in America that makes it difficult for the country to tackle our most serious problems.

The second program is a panel discussion scheduled for October 30 on the proposed Virginia constitutional amendment on eminent domain, which will be Question 1 on the November 6 ballot. This event will be held in the Falls Church City Council Chambers at 7:30 pm and will feature local experts on the subject. Referred to the voters by the Virginia legislature, this measure would prohibit eminent domain from being used for private enterprise, job creation, tax revenue generation, or economic development, thereby restricting it to being invoked only to take private land for public use. The Leagues' goal is to help voters understand the purpose and ramifications of this amendment.

Before we get to October, though, LWVFC will host a membership kick-off event in the party room of The Byron on Thursday, September 20th, located at 513 W. Broad St. in Falls Church. We hope you will join us from 7:00 to 9:00 PM for conversation, food and drink, and a brief talk on the state of civics education in our country.

Sincerely,
Edith Snyder
President

*Marian (Bunny) Jarrett
Rebecca Shaw*

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DIARY OF A DELIGHTED DELEGATE

Linda Garvelink attended the June 2012 LWVUS Biennial Convention and wrote a report about her experience. To see Linda's report, please click [here](#). Her "Diary of a Delighted Delegate" is available with this newsletter as a PDF file. Linda also recommends to every member the musical presentation of the Women's Suffrage Movement's

fight for the right to vote, modeled after Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance" and found by clicking [here](#).

NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS TO REGISTER NEW CITIZENS AT NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

We are quickly coming upon an important election for president of the United States and other offices. We want to make sure that all eligible citizens are registered to vote. One of the criteria for eligibility is that the person be a citizen of the United States.

Prior to the election, hundreds of residents in Northern Virginia will be sworn in as citizens. We have the opportunity to join with LWV Arlington in working to register these new citizens. How exciting it would be to watch these residents take the oath of allegiance to the United States and then help them register to vote! There may be up to 400 people to be sworn in at each ceremony. Below is the list of scheduled ceremonies for which we are seeking volunteers.

- **August 25, 11:00 AM:**

Kenmore Middle School, 200 S Carlin Springs Rd,
Arlington, VA 22204

- **August 25, 2:00 PM:**

Kenmore Middle School, 200 S Carlin Springs Rd,
Arlington, VA 22204

- **August 31, 11:00 AM**:**

George Mason University Arlington Campus,
Founders Hall, 3351 Fairfax Dr, Arlington, VA
22201

- **September 8, 11:00 AM**:**

Kenmore Middle School, 200 S Carlin Springs Rd,
Arlington, VA 22204

- **September 8, 2:00 PM:**

Kenmore Middle School, 200 S Carlin Springs Rd,
Arlington, VA 22204

**indicates a special need for volunteers

The time commitment is two hours for each date. If you would like to help out, please contact Kristin Goss as soon as possible at kagoss@aol.com and identify yourself as a LWVFC member, stating which ceremony you are volunteering for. Thanks for considering this!

We are also going to work with the McLean branch of the LWV Fairfax County to register voters. The dates are not yet scheduled. Please let Genie Flahie know if you would be willing to work on one of their events (genief@verizon.net).

FALL FESTIVAL IS SEPTEMBER 15!

The League of Women Voters of Falls Church hosts a booth at the annual Falls Church Fall Festival. We distribute information on membership, the upcoming elections, and how to register to vote. This year, in particular, we want to make sure as many people as possible are registered. Please volunteer to help staff the booth. We need the following:

- 7:45am - help setting up the booth
- 10:00am to 12:00pm - two people to staff the booth
- 12:00pm to 2:00pm - two people to staff the booth
- 2:00pm to 4:00pm - two people to staff the booth and to help with disassembling

If you can help, please email Genie Flahie, Voter Service Chair, at genief@verizon.net.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR LWV MEMBERSHIP?

Thank you to the 69 LWVFC members who have renewed their membership for the 2012-2013 year. Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. If you have not yet renewed, please send your dues to LWV Falls Church, PO Box 156, Falls Church, VA 22046. Individual membership is \$50, and family membership is \$75. If you are not sure whether you have renewed, please contact Bunny Jarrett, Membership Co-Chair with Rebecca Shaw, at mjarrett@gwmail.gwu.edu or 703-533-8230.

When you renew, please consider donating to the LWVFC Scholarship Fund, the LWVFC Education Fund, and the LWVFC General Fund. You can send your donation to the

same address.

The LWVFC Membership Kick-Off is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 7:00 PM, at The Byron party room. Begin thinking about friends and acquaintances that you think would make good League members and plan to invite them to the Membership Kick-Off!

MEMBERS INVITED TO REVIEW LOCAL LEAGUE POSITIONS

Local Affairs Chair Barry Buschow is undertaking a review of local League positions that were formed prior to 2000 to determine whether they remain relevant. Up for examination are positions on land use (1984), recreation (1969, 1981), human services (1990), sustainable development (1995), and changing demographics in the City of Falls Church (1997). Barry will lead a committee of three to four League members in exploring whether these positions need to be edited, updated, restudied, or eliminated. The committee's recommendations will be presented at LWVFC's January 2013 planning meeting. If you are interested in helping with this work, please contact Barry at bbuschow@verizon.net.

CORRECTIONS TO THE FALLS CHURCH MEMBERSHIP LIST

Please note the following telephone and address corrections to the membership list issued at the annual meeting in June:

- Johannah Barry: (703) 532-2104
- Madalyn Cafruny & Jeffrey Tarbert: 426 Park Ave
 - Robert Crowe: PO Box 242
 - Phil Duncan: (703) 209-2005
- Linda Garvelink: (703) 532-2859
- Mona Johnston: (703) 534-8039
- Sally Phillips: (703) 532-5693

Here are a few of the LWVFC upcoming events:

Tuesday, September 4, 2012

Board Meeting at 7:30pm, Snyder Residence, 116
Great Falls St.

Saturday, September 15, 2012

Fall Festival - LWVFC Booth

Thursday, September 20, 2012

LWVFC Membership Kick-Off at the Byron Party
Room at 7:00pm

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