

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM AREA



LWV-PWA Newsletter  
Spring 2020

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## The President's View

Dear Members,

We are going to remember this Spring as we remember 9/11. Most of us remember where we were when we heard about the attacks that September, and it will be easy for most of us to remember where we were this Spring – at home! Most of our activities have been cancelled due to COVID-19. Any that we do have are online – quite a change and quite a challenge. In the League we are taking this time to prepare for the future. We are changing in-person activities to virtual, planning programs for the Fall and beyond, using social media more heavily than ever before. There will come a time when we will be able to meet as a League, and how wonderful that will be!

Our Annual Meeting is going to go on – virtually, on May 21. Our State League is having our council meeting – virtually, on June 6, and the US League is having their convention, virtually, at the end of June. The Annual Meeting is when we meet to review the past year, look forward to the new year, and approve the budget and elect new officers. We will still review the past year, look forward to the new, and hopefully approve the budget. There are no offices that need to be filled this year.

### Officers

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Carol Proven

1st Vice President

Barbara Amster

2nd Vice President

Connie Gilman

Treasurer

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Recording Secretary

Barbara Greiling

Corresponding Secretary

Jessie Barringer

Voter Services

Carol Noggle

Membership Chair

Johnette Fisk

Newsletter Editor

Bonny Fahy

You have received the budget already; please review it. If you have ideas for future programs or plans for next year, please let us have them. I hope you will attend the Annual Meeting. We are using Zoom, I will be sending out instructions to everyone on how to use it, several days before.

Stay safe, stay home, and I hope to see you all in person, soon.

*Carol*



## LWV-PWA 2020 Annual Meeting

### Suffragists Heritage Committee Report

The LWV-PWA Suffragists Heritage Committee has completed a number of its planned programs and activities during the past year and continues with the planning for others. Unfortunately, a few have been postponed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic that has affected all of our lives.

Beginning with the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Suffragist Turning Point Memorial Silent Auction netted a total of \$340 toward achieving the League's donation goal of \$1,000, which was fully achieved in September 2019. League members also participated in the Turning Point hosted Women's Equality Day Tour: "Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote."

In partnership with the Prince William Library System and the Chinn Friends of the Library, the League co-hosted a successful author and book signing event: "*Suffragists in Washington D.C.: The 1913 Parade and Fight for the Vote*" by Rebecca Roberts, with 17 attendees. The LWV-PWA Book Group selected for review, "*Votes for Women: American Suffrage and the Battle for the Ballot*" and is working with the library staff to compile a list of the Suffragists movement books and designing a bookmark to be distributed to the public.

In partnership with the Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation, the League began planning and confirming arrangements for the "*Honoring Women of Achievement Day: The Suffragist Movement in Prince William County*" Suffragist Tea. The event will be held at the Ripon Lodge historical site. The planned agenda includes Mrs. Robert Walker enactment performance by Lynne Garvey-Hodge, character actress, a musical soiree, a poetry soiree, a wine and cheese tasting corner, a suffragists book shop, an "In Your Suffragists Bonnet Parade" with period costume welcome, and a champagne hors d'oeuvre reception. Due to the Governor's Coronavirus guidance, the Tea is postponed until spring 2021.

Currently the Committee is working on two activities: a request to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors Chair Ann Wheeler, to issue a proclamation on August 20, 2020 in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; and exploring hosting a panel round table forum, "100 Years Past Women's Suffrage" Where are the women in public life now? Where do we go next and how do we get there? Panelists: Elected Officials, Academia's, Business Owners, etc.

*Janet Gorn*

**Report to LWV-PWA for 2020 Annual meeting**  
**Voter Services Activities**

**Voter Registration/Education/Protection**

New Prince William teacher orientation, C.D. Hylton High School: 8/14 and 15

Mt. Olive Baptist Church: 9/8, 9/15, 9/29

Envoy Skilled Nursing Center: 9/12 and 9/19; voter registration and absentee by mail requests (16)

Prince William Electoral Board meeting; 8/27; hearing re proper signatures on candidates qualifying list

Prince William Electoral Board emergency meeting; 9/17; hearing re a proposed decrease in days allotted for absentee voting

Little Union Baptist Church: 2/15/20

Protection: Ensure Accuracy and Integrity: Audit of Prince William June 11 Primary: Carol Noggle assisted to verify tally of ballots with set of actual ballots; 8/27

**Census: Complete Count**

Prince William Complete Count Committee: Stakeholders workshop re “Hard to Count” population

Virginia Complete Count Commission (meeting 9/24)

Voter Guides: 2019 VOTE411: Included the two ballot questions for all Prince William Voters

**LWV-VA Advocacy:**

Virginia Crime Commission hearings re gun bills; 10/19, 20; Richmond (Carol Noggle statement)

Carol Noggle attended Jail Board meeting at Adult Detention Center: 9/18/19, research function of Jail Board; Sheriff’s job description; admin of Adult Detention Center; justice issues. Made statement re activities of League with Re-Entry Council; Restoration of Rights and Ban the Box information; community resource fair; Dorm pre-release program.

Redistricting advocacy; Members participate in OneVA2021 weekly conference calls and provide literature to the public at polling places on election days.

1/4/20: Statements to legislators at McCoart Building: Carol Proven and Carol Noggle

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**Candidate Debates:**

The League partnered with several organizations to sponsor debates among our local candidates for Chairs of the School Board and Board of County Supervisors (BOCS), Sheriff, Commonwealth Attorney district representatives to the Board of County Supervisors and Delegates to the General Assembly.

9/10: Regency (residents only): BOCS Chairman candidates: (League/Regency)

9/23: Regency (residents only): Gainesville District Supervisors; 87<sup>th</sup> House District (League/Regency)

9/25: Sheriff and Chair of BOCS (C100/League)

9/28: Chair of BOCS at Ner Shalom (Ner Shalom/League)

10/10: Occoquan and Potomac District Supervisors; 31<sup>st</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> House District (C100/League): Dar al Noor Community Center

10/17: Justice Forum: Sheriff and Commonwealth's Attorney at Freedom High School; Multiple co-sponsors:(LWV-PWA, NAACP, VICPP/Pan-Hellenic Council, Delta Sigma Theta, ACLU)

10/22: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> House District candidates at 7 p.m.; Dumfries Community Center; LWV-PWA organizer (Noggle and Saggars); Moderator: Uriah Kiser of Potomac Local.

10/23: Brentsville, Coles, Gainesville District Supervisors

13<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> House District Candidates. (Red Rose Banquet and Event Center) (Committee of 100/League)

**Fauquier: Debates**

9/25: 18<sup>th</sup> House District; Marshall District Supervisors

10/2: Commissioner of the Revenue; School Board Districts: Scott, Center, Lee

**Voter Registration/Education:**

9/22: Latino Festival in Manassas; 12 to 5; shared space with Hispanic Organization for Leadership and Action (HOLA) and National Association for Mental Illness (NAMI)

9/24: National Registration Day: Libraries: Chinn, Potomac, Haymarket/Gainesville

9/25: Naturalization Ceremony (2) at Hylton Center: 9 to 12; and afternoon

9/29: Mt. Olive Baptist Church; 9:30 and 11:30 AM

10/3: Fairmont Senior Center: 1:45 to 4:15; voter registration if needed and absentee application

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10/5: Manassas Jubilee Community event; tent set-up; voter registration

10/7: Dumfries Library

10/7: Ferlazzo Building; Mental Health Awareness event (per HOLA/Jose)

10/12: Dar al Noor Block Party

10/19: Haymarket Day

10/29: Adult Detention Center: Community Resource Fair (ROR and voter registration)

1/16/20 Naturalization Ceremony; Hylton Center

**Honors:**

Delegate Suhas Subramanyam (87<sup>th</sup> House District) recognizes LWV-PWA with [House Resolution 447](#); agreed to in House of Delegates on March 3, 2020 and in Senate on March 5, 2020.

*Carol Noggle, Voter Services Director, LWV-PWA*

## **Annual Report, Member Participation**

Members support LWV-PWA in a variety of ways. Whether you attend meetings, volunteer at Voter Registration venues, bring guests to events, or contribute in other ways, your efforts make a difference. Thanks to the following members who stepped up over the past year.

Barbara Amster, Barbara Greiling, Bonita Sherman, Bonny Fahy, Brenda Jackson-Sewell, Brenda Lee Carswell, Catherine Ring, Carol Messito, Carol Noggle, Carol Proven, Cheryl Saggars, Clarice Torian, Connie Gilman, Cynthia Chambliss, Denise Andrews, Eleanor C. Scarcella, Grace White, Helen Marie Stackhouse, James Jones, Jane Maddocks, Jane Touchet, Janet Gorn, Johnette Fisk, Judy Anderson, Judy Smith, Judy Hingle, Judy Shelly, and Kara Pitek

Also, Katherine Nelson-Tracy, Kim McCusker, Laura Feld-Mushaw, Leslie Plummer, Lois Page, Lorraine Schooner, Louise Morello, Lucia Anderson, Lyssa Walker White, M.A. Sargo, Miggy Strano, Miriam Anver, Patricia Freed, Peggy Kenney, Ron Page, Ruth Balton, Ruthann Litchford, Sally Yankee, Shaun Tryce, and Tracy Sarang.

## **Welcome New Members**

LVA-PWA is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Sheila Arrington, Nancy Burns, Elizabeth Dalecky, Fanny Fiddmont, Darcy Kreutz, Grace Lintner, Marsha Melkonian, Ron Page, and Leslie Plummer.

## 2019 – 2020 Annual Report of the 2nd Vice President

### General and Special Meetings

The LWV-PWA Kickoff meeting was on September 21, with a luncheon at City Tavern. Guest speaker was Courtney Tierney, Director of Social Services Prince William County, who spoke on Affordable Housing.

On October 6, 2019, the League had a joint program with Chinn Park Regional Library, The Suffragists in Washington, D.C. Rebecca Boggs Roberts, author of *Suffragists in Washington, D.C.: The 1913 Parade and Fight for the Vote*, discussed the first civil rights march to use the nation's capital as a backdrop; The Great Suffrage Parade of 1913. The heroic struggles of Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party and how they worked to earn the vote for women were highlighted.

On Saturday, October 26, from 10:00 until noon, members of the League discussed *Cane River*, by Lalita Tademy. They met at Jirani Coffee House, 9425 West Street, Manassas, and Judy Shelly led the discussion.

On the same day, at 1:00 p.m., Carol Proven presented, "The History and Relevancy of the LWV" for the Life Long Learning Institute, which met at Dar Al Noor.

The first meeting of 2020 was to be held on January 19 at the John Barton Payne Building in Warrenton. The program was to be a forum to educate members and the public on gun safety in the home and the community. Due to the possibility that the intent of the program would be misunderstood, the Board decided to cancel.

On February 16, the program focused on voter suppression. Karen Hughes White, a co-founder of the Afro-American Historical Association, spoke on voter suppression among African Americans. In addition, Keith Scarborough, a member of the Prince William County Electoral Board, provided a contemporary take on how voting continues to be suppressed. This meeting was at the John Barton Payne Building in Warrenton.

On March 15, the planned program topics were; the 2020 Census, libraries working with the League of Women Voters, and what the next steps were to be for the Prince William Area League. This meeting was to be held at Bull Run Library but was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

April 1, 2020, the PWA League was set to partner with the Prince William Public Library System for its Census Awareness Day at the Woodbridge campus of Northern Virginia Community College. This was to be a daylong event, where the League would register voters and hand out educational materials on voting. The event was cancelled.

The April 19 general meeting was cancelled before plans could be completed.

The book *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond, was discussed on May 5<sup>th</sup>, virtually. Miggy Strano served as the moderator.

The Annual Meeting was scheduled for May 17. It was to be a Centennial Celebration and Tea Party at the Manassas Park Community Center, but became a virtual meeting with all committee reports sent electronically.

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Upcoming meetings in the works...

September 19<sup>th</sup>, Kickoff meeting featuring a round table discussion of **100 Years Past Women's Suffrage**. Location TBD.

October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2- 4 p.m. the meeting topic will be How Libraries and the League can work together to educate the public on the importance of Voting. TBD

November 15<sup>th</sup>, Showing and discussion of the film "Suffragette", 2-4 at Bull Run Regional Library

December No General Meeting.

*Connie Gilman, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP*



## 2020 Book Discussion Report

On January 27, 2020, from 12:30 to 2:30 P.M. League members gathered at the Jukebox Diner in Manassas to discuss The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every President, by Chris Whipple. Grace White led the discussion. Following the discussion, this group talked about possible titles for the 2020 Book Discussions. The list and schedule for 2020 is below.

### League of Women Voters – Prince William Area 2020 Book Discussion Schedule

#### April 28, 2020

*Evicted* by Matthew Desmond

In *Evicted*, Princeton sociologist and MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond follows eight families in Milwaukee as they each struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Hailed as “wrenching and revelatory” (*The Nation*), “vivid and unsettling” (*New York Review of Books*), *Evicted* transforms our understanding of poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving one of twenty-first-century America’s most devastating problems. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home, without which nothing else is possible. **6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, 7501 Broken Branch Lane, Manassas, VA Miggy Strano, Moderator. This discussion was moved to May 5 and took place virtually.**

#### July 13, 2020

*The Boy Crisis: Why Our Boys Are Struggling and What We Can Do About It*, by Warren Farrell, Ph.D. and John Gray, Ph.D.

What is the boy crisis? It’s a crisis of education. Worldwide, boys are 50 percent less likely than girls to meet basic proficiency in reading, math, and science. It’s a crisis of mental health. ADHD is on the rise. And as boys become young men, their suicide rates go from equal to girls to six times that of young women. It’s a crisis of fathering. Boys are growing up with less-involved fathers and are more likely to drop out of school, drink, do drugs, become delinquent, and end up in prison. It’s a crisis of purpose. Boys’ old sense of purpose—being a warrior, a leader, or a sole breadwinner—is fading. Many bright boys are experiencing a “purpose void,” feeling alienated, withdrawn, and addicted to immediate gratification. **11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Effingham Manor Winery, 14325 Trotters Ridge Place, Nokesville, Cheri Sagers, Moderator. We will meet in the new events center...bring an hors d'oeuvre to share, wine is \$8-10 glass.**

#### October 13, 2020

*All the Presidents Men*, by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward

The most devastating political detective story of the century: the inside account of the two Washington Post reporters who broke the Watergate scandal.

This is the book that changed America. Published just months before President Nixon’s resignation, *All the President’s Men* revealed the full scope of the scandal and introduced for the first time the mysterious “Deep Throat.” Beginning with the story of a simple burglary at Democratic headquarters and then continuing through headline after headline, Bernstein and Woodward deliver a riveting firsthand account of their reporting. Their explosive reports won a Pulitzer Prize for *The Washington Post*, toppled the president, and have since inspired generations of reporters.

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*All the President's Men* is a riveting detective story, capturing the exhilarating rush of the biggest presidential scandal in US history as it unfolded in real time. It is, as *Time* magazine wrote in their "All-Time 100 Best Nonfiction Books" list, "the work that brought down a presidency...perhaps the most influential piece of journalism in history." **12:30 – 2:30 p.m., Jukebox Diner, 8637 Sudley Road, Manassas, 20110, 703-33-0850. Barbara Amster, Moderator.**

## **January 26, 2021**

*When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present*, Gail Collins

Gail Collins, *New York Times* columnist and bestselling author, recounts the astounding revolution in women's lives over the past 50 years, with her usual "sly wit and unfussy style" (*People*). A comprehensive mix of oral history and Gail Collins's keen research -- covering politics, fashion, popular culture, economics, sex, families, and work -- *When Everything Changed* is the definitive book on five crucial decades of progress. The enormous strides made since 1960 include the advent of the birth control pill, the end of "Help Wanted -- Male" and "Help Wanted -- Female" ads, and the lifting of quotas for women in admission to medical and law schools.

**12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Brittany's Restaurant and Sports Bar, 12449 Dillingham Square, Woodbridge, 703-730-0728. Moderator TBD**

**The LWV – PWA is partnering with the Prince William Public Library System to offer programming on Civic Engagement. As part of this project, they will hold book discussions at several branches on the title below. Dates will be determined, but we encourage League members to pick up the book, read, and join in the discussions at a library near them. Once the dates and locations are announced, they will be shared with the membership.**

*Votes for Women!: American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot* by Winifred Conkling  
For nearly 150 years, American women did not have the right to vote. On August 18, 1920, they won that right, when the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified at last. To achieve that victory, some of the fiercest, most passionate women in history marched, protested, and sometimes even broke the law—for more than eight decades.

From Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who founded the suffrage movement at the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, to Sojourner Truth and her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech, to Alice Paul, arrested and force-fed in prison, this is the story of the American women's suffrage movement and the private lives that fueled its leaders' dedication. *Votes for Women!* explores suffragists' often powerful, sometimes difficult relationship with the intersecting temperance and abolition campaigns, and includes an unflinching look at some of the uglier moments in women's fight for the vote.

By turns illuminating, harrowing, and empowering, *Votes for Women!* paints a vibrant picture of the women whose tireless battle still inspires political, human rights, and social justice activism.

Connie Gilman, Chair of Book Discussions

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Note:** The future events that have been scheduled may be cancelled, or may be held virtually. Please check back on our website for more information.

### May

- 19: Board Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Virtual via Zoom
- 21: Annual Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Virtual via Zoom

### June

- 6: LWV-VA Council, Lynchburg, Virtual via Zoom
- 16: Board Meeting, 7 :00– 9:00 p.m., Virtual via Zoom
- 20: Voter Registration Training with DSTs (as of now, Live)
- 25-28, LWVUS 54<sup>th</sup> National Convention, DC, Virtual via Zoom

### July

- 13: Book Discussion, *The Boy Crisis: Why Our Boys Are Struggling and What We Can Do About It* ,\_11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Effingham Manor Winery, 14325 (as of now, Live)
- 21: Board Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Virtual via Zoom

### August

- 3: Civic Lab, TRY table, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Montclair Library
- 18: Board Meeting
- 25: Women’s Equality Day Tour, 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m., National Archives Museum, “Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote” and National Portrait Gallery “Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence”, Lunch Kogod Courtyard. Tickets \$75.
- 26: Turning Point Dedication, Occoquan Rec. Park, more TBD
- 26: Movie, Iron-Jawed Angels, with discussion, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Montclair Library

### September

- 13: Book discussion, [Votes for Women!](#)  
2:00-3:00 p.m., Montclair Library
- 15: Board Meeting
- 19: Kickoff meeting featuring a round table discussion of 100 Years Past Women's Suffrage. Location TBD.