



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PRINCE WILLIAM AREA

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### In This Issue...

#### Upcoming Events

October 13, 2018-  
Haymarket, Day

November 17, 2018  
Opioid Crisis

## The President's View

SEPTEMBER 2018

We celebrated Women's Equality Day on August 26 throughout the US, with parades, visits to historic sites and activities celebrating the 98<sup>th</sup> year of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the US Constitution, giving women the right to vote. It is almost inconceivable in this day and time that the vote for women would even be an issue. But, taking a tour on Sunday down Pennsylvania Avenue given by the Turning Point organization, as the tour leader dramatically narrated the events surrounding the first civil rights march in our Nation's Capital, it was stunning to realize that the fight didn't stop with the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. In 1913 women marched for the right to vote and were heckled, shoved, hit, and abused by crowds of men, while the police stood by and did nothing. We know the story of the "Iron Jawed Angels" who were sentenced to time in Occoquan Workhouse for the crime of obstructing public walkways, and the victory which came in 1920 with the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote.

Women's Equality Day did not celebrate the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. It couldn't, because it hasn't happened. How, almost one century after the passage of the right to vote for women, do we not have an Equal Rights Amendment in our Constitution? The right to vote does not equate with equal rights for all. We must work hard this year for the passage of the ERA in Virginia, ensuring equality for all in the US Constitution, so that on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment we have the ratification of another amendment to celebrate.

Our League is having a program on Sept. 23 to focus on the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. One of our League members from Richmond, Pat Fishback, will be speaking on the necessity for the ERA, and two of our Delegates to the VA General Assembly will also be at this meeting. Jennifer Carroll Foy, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> District and Hala Ayala, from the 51<sup>st</sup> District, are sponsors of a House Joint Resolution 579, calling for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution. I hope you will all come, be inspired, and join our fight to get equal rights for all, 100 years after we succeeded in our fight to vote.

Carol Proven, President

## VOTER REGISTRATION

Our first Fauquier voters' registration/information drive was, a huge success, although the rain kept it down to 1 1/2 hours. It was the handiwork of the super-competent Fauquier contingent of our League and, although it was a "mentored" event, I ended up doing no work at all. The bright, attractive booth reflected the hard work and detailed planning of Ruthann (and her daughter), Kim, Miriam, Miggy. Barbara Amster, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

## VOTER SERVICES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### VOTER SERVICES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LWVPWA has been popular in the last month! A number of community programs have contacted us asking for voter registration and education services for their events. With your help, we are reaching new and registered voters at a community college, a high school, public libraries and an assisted living facility.

Many thanks to the members who have filled all the volunteer slots for the following events:

NVCC Woodbridge Community Day	9/17/18
Potomac High School Community Day	9/22/18
Chinn Park Library	9/25/18
Haymarket Gainesville Library	9/25/18
Envoy of Woodbridge	9/25/18

If these events don't work for your schedule, there's more to come! Look in your inbox for the latest SignUpGenius email with volunteer opportunities from late September to mid-October at Signal Hill Park, a Manassas assisted living facility, Harris Pavilion, NVCC Manassas, Vint Hill and Dar al Noor Mosque.

SignUpGenius Information

When you open the volunteer opportunities email, you'll see some basic information about the dates and locations of the upcoming events and a reminder that all volunteers must complete the required Virginia Voter Registration Drive online training after July 1 each year. The video is online at [elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/training-video.html](http://elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/training-video.html)

As you scroll down the page of opportunities you'll see more detailed information about the individual events. There is no need for you to create a SignUpGenius account. When you click a signup box for an event, it automatically registers your name and email. Please include your mobile phone number when it is requested. The point of contact for the event will then have your email and mobile phone number in case last minutes updates are needed.

#### Other Ways to Volunteer

If attending events just doesn't work for you, there are other ways to support LWVPWA.

#### Organize supplies for events

Voter registration forms, Top Ten flyers and other materials are needed for each event. Tasks include stamping information, counting and bundling materials so we can keep track of what is distributed. Easy to do from home!

#### Planning events and services

As the number of events and activities has increased with membership, your help with planning and executing events and services is needed. Your participation in an expanded Voter Services committee will keep us moving forward.

If you have questions, ideas or would like to join us with volunteering for Voter Services, please contact one of us:

Judy Hingle	jkhingle@gmail.com	703 868 6301
Judy Shelly	jdbshe11@aol.com	571 451 4585
Carol Noggle	cnogg@comcast.net	571 437 8343

Thanks for all that you do for LWVPWA. You make democracy work.

Deborah Buckley Dodd  
11525 Attingham Court  
Manassas, VA 20111-  
Home phone 703-368-9504  
[deborahdodd55@aol.com](mailto:deborahdodd55@aol.com)

Dawn M. Lewis  
11525 Attingham Court  
Manassas, VA 20111-2975  
Home phone 703-368-9504  
[lewisdm1@hotmail.com](mailto:lewisdm1@hotmail.com)-8737

Bonita Sherman, 4041  
Cardinal Crest Drive,  
Woodbridge, VA 22193-  
1667  
703-987-8845  
[bksherman9@gmail.com](mailto:bksherman9@gmail.com)

Even if you have already attended a showing of "Chasing the Dragon," this 3-part program will be an extraordinary opportunity to learn more. We are partnering with the Lifetime Learning Institute, to answer some of the questions you may have had after the Opioid Forum we held at the Regency in August. What can we as individuals do about it? and what will be available to use instead of opioids as we age and need pain relief? The program will also, in response to your questions about medical marijuana, feature experts in this area as well, So far, our speakers include Detective Hulse, Delegate Roem, Michele Leith (Commonwealth Attorney General's office), Lora Peppard (GMU Katrina King (recovered addict in the film), Shane Dana (FBI) and, of course, Heather Martinsen and Chrissy Fauls. We also hope to feature and representatives from Novant and the Manassas Park Fire and Rescue.

The program will be held at the Manassas Park Community Center in a comfortable room, and participants will be seated around tables.

You can attend all (or any) of the three sessions, held at the Manassas Park Community Center:

- 1. 10:00 am - 11:30. What is the Opioid Epidemic?** Film and panel discussion
- 2. Noon-1:30. Laws and their Impact on this Family Disease in Virginia.** Expert on the actions of federal and state lawmakers to combat this crisis will lead a discussion on specific laws and actions
- 3. 1:45-3:30 pm . What Can You Do About the Opioid Epidemic?** Deep examination with knowledgeable panelists drawn from the FBI, Attorney General's office, GMU Health, PWC and Manassas Fire and Rescue, and PWC police department.

\*Box lunches will be available for \$12. There is no cost to the LWV for the program.

\*RSVP to Judy Shelley if you plan to attend: [jdshe11aol.com](mailto:jdshe11aol.com)

### MEET THE MEMBER – GRACE WHITE

Hi all! I am a native Tar Heel, having grown up in a small town in western NC. I've been a resident of Virginia since 2001 and of Prince William County since 2006. I am a retired federal employee having spent my career in federal procurement across a dozen or so agencies in NJ, IL, SC, GA and DC. The women's movement first interested me in the early 1970's when I lived in NJ and was a member of NOW and the NJ Women's Political Caucus. After moving back in NC a few years later, a friend introduced me to the LWV, and I managed her campaign for the NC Senate, unsuccessful unfortunately.

Since 2004 my favorite vacation has been to spend a week with 100+ other choral singers in various places working on a major choral masterwork culminating in a concert, usually with an orchestra. These choral weeks have taken me to the Berkshires of Massachusetts, Winter Park (FL), Asheville (NC), Vancouver (Canada), Edinburgh, Vienna (Austria, not Virginia), and Canterbury (England). This summer's choral week was spent in Newcastle (England) with a concert in Durham Cathedral, which was an awesome space for our sound!

In the mid-1980's, while on a flight to Denver, a fellow passenger introduced me to genealogy, and I've been an addict ever since. I have managed to find a family grave as well as family records in England in 2006, and this year found the farm where family lived in Northern Ireland. On the ground family research has taken me to places from beautiful Lake George, NY to burned out areas of Detroit to the Lake District of England.

My other passion these days is clean energy and energy efficiency. I installed solar panels on my home in 2010, and have volunteered my home several times to be on the Annual Metropolitan DC Tour of Solar & Green Homes, held the first week-end in October every year. I try to find something to do each year to make my home a bit more energy efficient.

I share my home with two very spoiled cats.

What are the Re-Entry programs in Prince William - Manassas Regional Adult Detention Center (ADC).

One of the missions of the ADC is to conduct rehabilitative programs that reduce the likelihood of recidivism among prisoners released from the Detention Center.

How does the League participate in these programs?

Several years ago, when our League learned of possible cuts to the budget for the ADC and its programs we contacted a probation officer who explained to us what is needed for rehabilitation programs. At that time we joined the Re-Entry Council to learn more about programs within the jail and the community resources available upon re-entry. Not surprisingly resources are limited even though numerous agencies and volunteer groups offer help with housing, transportation, job training, job-seeking, clothing and health care. We continue to attend the Re-Entry Council meetings.

Our participation focuses on making sure that inmates are correctly informed on restoring their voting rights and exercising those rights. We meet with inmates at the jail when the ADC sponsors its community resource fairs in the small gym. Sections of inmates are scheduled through the day to confer with community resource groups. We are able to provide printed handouts on Restoration of Rights, our TRY booklet, and Voter Registration forms. Some inmates are felons, so they are not eligible to register but some are misdemeanants and some are awaiting trials so they may be eligible to register. It is not unusual to talk to at least one felon who has, at some time, received misinformation that he can *never* get his rights back. When he learns about the correct process we see an actual change in his posture.

Those who are, or have been, registered to vote, and are not felons can apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to his jail address.

We also network during the day with other resource groups.

In addition, we meet at the quarterly Family Re-Entry evening meetings to give similar information. Each resource group gives a two-minute description of their services and then confers at their table with resource information. Very popular then is news about the modified job applications for county agencies. Previously the job application had a box for applicants to check if they have had a criminal conviction. This was often a deterrent for a chance to even have an interview and explain his/her skills. In Prince William County, and other jurisdictions, the check box has been banned. The applicant gets a full interview before a background check is done. The inmates and families are very encouraged to know of the "Ban the Box" policy.

The DORM program is specifically for those who will be entering the community soon, such as within 90 days. The ADC describes the program as a way to reduce recidivism, "Keeping people out of jail after they've served their time is often a matter of connecting them with resources in the community, which can help them find and keep a job while they meet probation requirements and reestablish family connections. It's also a matter of helping inmates change the way they think, so that they're ready to receive that help once they are released. The program, which provides structured living in a dormitory setting, started in November 2016 and stems from recognition that inmates could use preparation for life outside of incarceration before they're released."

Special training is required before meeting with the inmates in this dorm setting. About three hours is required to learn about protocol and safety before being authorized to receive the entry pass. Scheduling times to meet with a group is done online. The inmates are housed in an open dorm-like setting. Each dorm may have about 16 to 20 inmates near a classroom or casual meeting area for table games and discussions. All areas are supervised by jail personnel.

Group discussions with the dorm residents has yielded their ideas about what laws they might want changed. "They Represent You" (TRY) is provided so that they can determine who represents them so that they can state their concerns and ideas to an elected official.

For more details, please contact Carol Noggle, Brenda Carswell, Jane Touchet, or Helen Stackhouse who have all had experience at the Resource Fair in the Adult Detention Center.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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2018 was a year of explosive growth in our membership, with the enrollment of 30 new Leaguers since January 1st. These newcomers constitute a third of our current total membership! We are now sending reminder emails and making phone calls to those members whose dues expired on June 30. If you are one of those, please consider renewing your membership by mail to our Treasurer, Grace White, at 12334 Macrina Court, Lake Ridge, VA 22192. You can make your check out to Prince William Area LWV-VA. An even easier way to renew is by going to the PayPal connection on our website: [www.princewilliamlwv.org/calendar.html](http://www.princewilliamlwv.org/calendar.html) and clicking the "Donate" button.

With so many new activities included in our yearly calendar, there are more and more ways to enjoy your membership in the PW Area LWV. We have started a fun event, "Sips and Civility", which is periodically held at a local restaurant. It's our own version of a happy hour. And if you are a reader you might enjoy our newly formed Book Club - our next book discussion will be held on November 3rd at 10 am at the Chinn Park Library. We will discuss The Sea Around Us by Rachel Carson.

I am also the T-Shirt Lady! Our shirts, which pronounce "**Vote! Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport**" are available for sale in bright red or royal blue. They cost \$15 per shirt and come in sizes S, M, L, XL, and XXL. To let me know you want one, just email me at [janetouchet@gmail.com](mailto:janetouchet@gmail.com) or call me at 703-405-4120.

Please consider bringing a friend into our League. If you would like to talk about membership or have a question or comment about the PWA League, please feel free to call me at 703-405-4120 or send me an email ([janetouchet@gmail.com](mailto:janetouchet@gmail.com)). I look forward to hearing from you. Jane Touchet, Membership Chair

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY PREVIEW

Join us Dec. 4 for a panel discussion of the upcoming Virginia legislative session. State legislators will update us on their plans and priorities before the General Assembly convenes in January, and we will have an opportunity to ask questions and share our ideas and concerns.

We will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 at a central Manassas location.

## CHASING THE DRAGON

On August 30, the League was invited to The Regency Education Club's program on opioid addiction. There were excerpts from "Chasing the Dragon", a panel discussion with a representative from the Virginia Attorney General's Office, a community activist, a recovered addict and a medical doctor, with experience treating addiction. Over 65 people attended. The League was acknowledged as a partner in this education effort and we distributed our Top Ten and TRY brochures. We also invited attendees to the Nov. 17 program on Opioid Addiction sponsored by the League and LLI.

## MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

10/13	Haymarket Day	Haymarket	9-4	3 shifts of 3 8:30- 11, 11-1:30, 1:30 -4 <b>POC Carol Noggle</b> (One of 1 <sup>st</sup> shift should arrive early to help w/set up, 1 of 3rd shift should help w close)
9/17	NVCC WB Community Day	Woodbridge Campus	12-3	<b>POC Judy Hingle</b>
9/22	Potomac HS Community Day	401 Panther Pride Dr, Dumfries	10-12	2 volunteers share table w DST <b>POC TBD DST Bonita Sherman</b>
9/25	National Voter Registration Day			
9/25	Chinn Park Library	13065 Chinn Park Dr, Woodbridge	10-2	2 volunteers <b>POC Judy Shelly</b>
9/25	Haymarket Gainesville Library	14870 Lightner Rd Haymarket	10-2	2 volunteers <b>POC TBD</b>
9/25	Envoy of Woodbridge	14906 Jefferson Davis Hwy	2-4	4 volunteers (training for voter assistance needed) <b>POC Carol Noggle</b>
10/11	NVCC MN	Manassas Campus Breezeway	10-2	2 volunteers <b>POC TBD</b>
10/12	NVCC MN	Manassas Campus Breezeway	10-2	2 volunteers <b>POC TBD</b>
10/13	Dar al Noor Block Party	5404 Hoadly Rd, Manassas	Noon - 4	4 volunteers <b>POC Judy Hingle</b>