

# “The Prince William - Fauquier Voter”



September 2022 Newsletter



Library of Congress

**I would rather make history than write it.**

*Susan B. Anthony*

*Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, pioneers of the Women's Rights Movement, 1891.*

## *F*rom the *D*esk of the *P*resident ....

**Janet Gorn, LWV-PWFA President**

### **The LWV Education Trident: The Game Changer**



During the election season, League members and the general public are lavishly showered with information, and with disinformation, through the news media, emails, US mail, flyers, Town Hall Meetings, and candidate fora, often in a bias attempt to tip the balance. This raises the question how do League Members and the public go from uniformed to informed, to gain confidence as to what is truthful, factual, and unbiased? This is more important, than ever, because we are living in a crucial time in which the future of Democracy is threatened and our country's future weighs in the balance.

The League of Women Voters of the Prince William - Fauquier Area's Mission encourages informed and active participation in government, by working to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influencing public policy through education and advocacy. The LWV-PWFA Members are among the most active and best informed on a variety of topics of interest and political issues that are in the forefront. What is the game changer? How does the League battle disinformation and biased information, to ensure Members continue to be active and knowledgeable? To

maintain informed “LWV Smart Power,” the LWV-PWFA League provides its Members three (3) opportunities to fulfil its Education Mission.

First, the League prepares and distributes nonpartisan information to its members and the public through its Top Ten Palm Cards, Trifold Information Brochures, Flyers, letters to the editor and elected officials, news media ads, and voter registration and information campaigns and hosting candidate fora.

Second, the League conducts issue studies to form policy positions on the State and local levels. At the LWV-VA level, there are four (4) ongoing Issue Study Committees: 1) Child Care, 2) Education Equity, 3) Money in Politics, and 4) Environmental Justice. The LWV-PWFA League is a member of all four. The committees will present their policy position proposals for adoption at the LWV-VA 2023 Convention. At the LWV-PWFA level, there two (2) issue studies ongoing: 1) PWC Racial and Social Justice Commission Report, and 2) PWC 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update. These two committees will present their policy position proposal for adoption at the 2023 LWV-PWFA Biennium Meeting.

Third, the League provides Member informative activities through its workshops, the Newsletter, Constant Contact notices, SignUpGenius volunteer notices, webinars, and speaker Invitations to general meetings.

Because of the League’s education programs and activities, Members greatly contribute knowledgeable, nonpartisan leadership in the community, shaping the issues that ensure community health, vibrancy, equity, inclusiveness, sustainability, and resilience.



## **A Bit of LWV-PWFA History**

**Connie Gilman, Vice President**

**“Thoughts on Voter Registration at NOVA Community College”**  
**By Ethel Lee, December 15, 2015**

The world seems to be in constant turmoil. Every day brings new accounts of destruction and savagery. Desperate people are attempting to escape their homelands. I am safe, secure at NOVA. The students seem so young. For some, this is their first experience away from home and parents. They are so friendly, helpful to this old lady-show me how to use the parking lot meters. Meters take credit cards! Walking down the path to the designated spot for the LWV registration table with my blue canvas LWV bag, folding lawn chair and cushion lashed with purple cat lead onto my bag lady shopping cart dragging behind me, some nice young man or woman will offer assistance.

Carol Noggle is my leader and mentor. She does the heavy lifting – brings everything that is needed for registration. If a registrant has a question, she has the answer. If she doesn't, she knows how to find it.

Student reactions to our red, white and blue REGISTER TO VOTE displays vary from indifference to curiosity. Some are eager – they just turned 18 years old. Others don't feel the necessity. Occasionally a student will comment that it doesn't matter if he votes or not. The politicians have the elections fixed.

I tell him that his vote is important. If he is unhappy with the government he must use his voice – his vote – to change the government.

If the registrant has time, usually they are rushing between classes, I like to chat with them.

They are a varied group. Many are children of military families. Military families know the importance of voting.

At the end of the day, we count the registration forms. It's a good day when we exceed our goal.

We pack up our gear and Carol delivers the registrations to the Election Office in Manassas.

As I leave this pleasant green campus full of vibrant, vigorous young people seeking education to fulfill their dreams and ambitions, I wish them well. Too soon the problems of the world will be on their shoulders. Today, many of them have taken a first step in preserving the way of life they enjoy.

Hopefully, they will continue by voting, participating in and preserving this marvelous democracy – this United States of America.



## KICK OFF MEETING

Sunday September 18, 2022

2:00-4:00 pm

Below is the agenda for this virtual meeting.

Sign up through SignUpGenius.

### **Engaging with Sustainability Planning in Prince William County**

presented by Giulia Manno, Prince William County Environmental and Energy  
Sustainability Officer

An overview of League of Women Voter's History

A workshop on Voter Registration, Absentee Ballots and Training

An LWV-PWFA Business Meeting to vote on By-Laws and Standing Rules

You are encouraged to invite a friend, neighbor or colleague to this Zoom event.

Just share the Zoom meeting information.

***Virtual Refreshments are also on the agenda!***

Sunday, September 18, 2022 2:00 - 4:00PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87253276535?pwd=cC9FUUpsUXVzd1plckh6ejFKV>

[WVtQT09](#)

Meeting ID: 872 5327 6535

Passcode: 293188

One tap mobile+13017158592, 87253276535# US (Washington DC)

Please review the information and click on the button below to sign up.

Thank you!

## **Prince William County Hires New Environmental and Energy Sustainability Officer**

**February 15, 2022** [\[PWC Office of Communications Press Release, February 15, 2022.\]](#)

Prince William County has hired Giulia Manno as the new Environmental and Energy Sustainability Officer in the Office of Executive Management. Ms. Manno has over 10 years of experience in supporting large institutions and communities in reducing their environmental footprint.

“With the passage of my ‘Climate Mitigation & Resiliency Goals’ resolution, this Board of Supervisors committed to meeting regional sustainability goals that tackle climate change head-on. Establishing the county’s new Office of Sustainability is critical to meeting these goals. I am eager to begin working with Ms. Manno in her new role, enabling Prince William to become a leader in the fight against climate change,” said Supervisor Kenny Boddy, Occoquan District.

Ms. Manno comes to Prince William County from the World Bank where she was an Environmental Analyst in Corporate Responsibility. Previously, she was a Program and Metrics Manager in Georgetown University’s Office of Sustainability where she led efforts to create a strategic sustainability plan, and she managed national waste reduction programs with the environmental non-profit, Keep America Beautiful.

“I’m pleased with the hiring of Ms. Manno, an individual whose background will serve our county well. Our new Office of Sustainability coupled with our new Sustainability Commission will finally make Prince William County eco-friendly and a leader in sustainability,” said Vice-Chair Margaret Angela Franklin, Woodbridge District.

Ms. Manno holds a master’s degree in Conflict Analysis and Resolution and a Bachelor of Science degree in Conservation Studies, both from George Mason University, which will serve her well as she facilitates the creation of Prince William County’s energy and sustainability master plan. She joined Prince William County on March 21, 2022.



### **Re-Entry Council Family Orientation Carol Noggle, Voter Services Director**

Thank you to Sheila Arrington (first time at this event) and Brenda Carswell for helping at the Re-Entry Council Family Orientation meeting at Mt. Olive Baptist Church on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Brenda and I were pleased that this meeting's format was better than one earlier this year. Each community group had about 2 minutes or less to speak to the entire "audience" before they visited our tables -- last time we did not have that opportunity. Not only was the format better but the attendance was greater -- more returning citizens than family members.



*Brenda Carswell at the Reentry Program*

I very briefly explained Restoration of Rights (ROR) and Ban the Box (BTB) law on job application forms. This gave the opportunity for one man to ask just the right question that I could answer for everyone there. He asked if an employer could ask for his conviction record at any point. I explained that the employer could do so *after* the interview if the applicant might be considered for the job.

When the attendees finished the overall orientation, they circulated to the tables of community groups. One of the first to visit our table was a young man (and his mother, I think) who was keen on getting his rights restored. We explained and gave him our brochure and the sample application form that is on the website of the Secretary of

the Commonwealth. There were only about 3 other attendees who had significant interest in ROR.



## Voter Registration at Community Events

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Dale City Celebration

Volunteers were there to provide voting Information to interested citizens.



*Carol Noggle and Lucia Anderson at the Dale City 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration*

## Black Lives Matter Vigil in Warrenton



*Barbara Amster representing the LWV-PWFA*

The Saturday Vigils continue, and the Prince William Fauquier Area League is there to provide voter education to those attending.



## OBSERVER CORPS CORNER

Sheila Arrington, Chair

### Electoral Board Meeting, August 19, 2022

PWC Office of Elections 101:

The Constitution and Code of Virginia define the structure and function of Virginia's electoral system and the qualifications for voting and holding elective office. The majority of the judges of the Circuit Court appoint the three members of the Electoral Board, who serve staggered three-year terms. Two members must be of the political party of the Governor and one of the other major parties. The Constitution provides that the Electoral Board appoint the Officers of Election and the General Registrar.

Meeting Highlights:

Meeting called to order at 10:30

Citizens' Time

Chairman of the Prince William County Republican Party, Denny Daugherty, comments:

- To remove 'either' to be done away with. Rationale either you are a member of the party or something else.
- Do not refer to citizen participation as 'interference.' Precinct identification is better than using common names. Use addresses, which are used on registration.

Election Officer recruitment techniques, nomination and selection process discussed: Fifteen hundred letters were mailed to Republicans party members. Dena McBride, Election Officer Staffing Coordinator, reports over 100 officers have been recruited. To distinguish Election Officers (EO) applicants makes it easier for party chairs to identify potential election officers. Use middle initials to distinguish candidates with common names.

Eric Olsen is the General Registrar and Director of Elections for PWC. The Registrar manages the voter registration system; conducts a public information program; assists the Election Board (EB) in formulating and implementing policy; identifies externalities that will affect voter registration and elections; provides information and analysis needed to plan ahead and coordinate programs with the State Board of Elections, County Officials, Voter Registrars' Association of Virginia and other registration and election groups. The General Registrar's term is four years.

- Staff to practice assessment to distinguish who is a democrat and who is a republican.
  - October 11, 2022 first EO training day. (Tommy)
  - February thru September is the Election Officer recruitment season.
  - Early voting starts on November 23, 2022.
  - Six officers needed in small precincts and ten officers are needed in large precincts
- Targeted groups needed: Republicans, currently there are 230 republicans, the goal is to recruit 800.

And Spanish speakers, to appease the Justice department.

One hundred EO candidates were lost waiting to be poll officers.

Eric Olsen proposed: Ask to approve the EO we have now, so we can process the new applicants.

Motion made by Pamela Walker – to move that we have general register to provide the list of EO from February 2022 to September 1, 2022 to the party chair by September 2, 2022. Passed unanimously.

New issues adopted:

Change Language regarding officers can be removed for cause. To specify reasons and provide examples:

Officers constantly talking about politics during the day

Giving the other EO party members a difficult time

New business 2022 General Election updates/improvements

- Review of Provisional ballots during week of Veterans Day
- Clarify EO job description
- Social media has a designer to update EO handout
- Second notice from the state was sent to each household regarding where to get help and ballots.
- All of the registration staff have returned to the office, which is good for cohesion.

Next meeting will be on September 9, 2022 at 4:00 pm at the Old Court House.

*Questions? Contact Sheila Arrington [arringtgl@verizon.net](mailto:arringtgl@verizon.net)*





## Congratulations!

At the National LWV Convention in June, 2022, the League of Women Voters – Virginia, was presented with the **Powering Democracy Award**.

This award showcases how Leagues activated their grassroots network to empower voters and advocate change around key issues, such as protecting voting rights or increasing voter registration and turnout.



### Sips and Civility Event at Montclair Community Library

On Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, members of the LWV-PWFA met at Montclair Community Library for “Sips & Civility”. Librarian Lena Berrios Gonzalez organized the event so members could view the special traveling exhibit from the State Library.

*We Demand: Women’s Suffrage in Virginia* explored the history that led to the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment granting women the right to vote. A series of 8 double-sided panels and an interactive kiosk was viewed and discussed.



*Sipping and Civil at Montclair Library!*



**Membership Outreach**  
Cathy Ring, Director



*A Warm Welcome to our newest members!*

Jacqlyn Baker [JackieOBaker3@gmail.com](mailto:JackieOBaker3@gmail.com)  
Deborah (Debby) Bruce [dave2deb@verizon.net](mailto:dave2deb@verizon.net)  
Cynthia Cole [ccolern2@gmail.com](mailto:ccolern2@gmail.com)  
Frances Croson [francescroson@yahoo.com](mailto:francescroson@yahoo.com)  
Brenda Foster [fosterbk@mac.com](mailto:fosterbk@mac.com)  
Lisa Grant [lisagrانتfamily@gmail.com](mailto:lisagrانتfamily@gmail.com)  
Nancy Jacobs: [nancy.jacobs349@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.jacobs349@gmail.com)  
Sheila Koester [sdkoester@verizon.net](mailto:sdkoester@verizon.net)  
Joanne Mazza [jocarmaz@yahoo.com](mailto:jocarmaz@yahoo.com)  
Melody Michael [mellemike@gmail.com](mailto:mellemike@gmail.com)  
Michelle Maldonado [DelMMaldonado@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelMMaldonado@house.virginia.gov)  
Randy Freed (household member) [jrandallfreed@gmail.com](mailto:jrandallfreed@gmail.com)



## **MAJOR CHANGES AFFECT THE 2022 ELECTIONS**

Carol Noggle, Voter Services Director

With major changes in Prince William and Fauquier County district boundaries, and because of a significant increase of residents in PW, our 2022 elections have significant changes from the past. Instead of 3 Representatives to Congress, PW will elect only 2 Representatives –one from the 10<sup>th</sup> and one from the 7<sup>th</sup> District -- with significant boundary changes. Most important for voter information is any change to precincts and polling places. Prince William has had to add 10 additional precincts to meet the requirement of the maximum number of voters allowed in each.

### **For November:**

- Election Day, November 8<sup>th</sup>, may provide easier participation for some because it is designated as a Virginia State Holiday.
- The Voter Registration deadline will be extended to November 8<sup>th</sup>. (A person who registers that day will need to vote with a provisional ballot.)
- Mail-in absentee ballots MUST have a Witness Signature this year because there is not the emergency that was declared last year.
- Drop boxes for Absentee Ballots will be allowed.
- There is no change in the identification requirement; that is, a Photo ID is not required. The list of what can be used is available on the LWV-PWFA website.



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## Woman's Health

Laura Feld-Mushaw, Contributor

### Be Stroke Smart!

Strokes are the #1 cause of long-term disability in the U.S. and they are common!

One in six of us will suffer a stroke. Up to 80% of stroke patients arrive at the emergency room too late to access effective treatment. Stroke patients often live with a lifetime of disability because they failed to recognize the signs of a stroke and call 911 immediately.

The Virginia Department of Health aspires to reduce death and disability from strokes by ensuring more of us recognize the signs of a stroke and know to call 911 immediately upon spotting those signs.

To that end, YOU are invited to become Stroke Smart! Prince William is joining other jurisdictions by embracing the impactful Stroke Smart program and sharing this straightforward, simple training with our staff and volunteers. Please allow up to 1 hour for this training (roughly 30 minutes of information followed by 15 minutes of Q & A as needed). EMS professionals can receive CE credit!

Live, virtual training sessions are scheduled for the dates and times below. To register, email Margaret Probst at [margaret@vaems.org](mailto:margaret@vaems.org) with "Stroke Smart Prince William" in the subject line.

Thursday, Sept. 8 at 1:00 pm  
Monday, Sept. 12 at 2:30 pm  
Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 11:00 am  
Friday, Sept. 16 at 11:00 am



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### **League Meetings are open to all members!**

Board of Directors Meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:00-9:00 pm  
General Meetings and Events, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, 2:00-4:00 pm

LWV-PWFA Website: [www.princewilliamlw.org](http://www.princewilliamlw.org)

LWV-PWFA Email: [lwvpwfa@gmail.com](mailto:lwvpwfa@gmail.com)



## LWV-PWFA Board of Directors

President, Janet Gorn [jgorn4@verizon.net](mailto:jgorn4@verizon.net)  
Vice President, Connie Gilman [conniewg51@gmail.com](mailto:conniewg51@gmail.com)  
Treasurer, Trish Freed [freedsrt@Verizon.net](mailto:freedsrt@Verizon.net)  
Recording Secretary, Cynthia Chambless [cynthia57@comcast.net](mailto:cynthia57@comcast.net)  
Membership Outreach Director, Cathy Ring [ring.cw@gmail.com](mailto:ring.cw@gmail.com)  
Membership Records Director, Sheila Arrington [arringtgl@verizon.net](mailto:arringtgl@verizon.net)  
Volunteer Director, Judy Hingle [jkhingle@gmail.com](mailto:jkhingle@gmail.com)  
Program and Events Director (Acting), Janet Gorn [jgorn4@verizon.net](mailto:jgorn4@verizon.net)  
Voter Services Director, Carol Noggle [cnogg@comcast.net](mailto:cnogg@comcast.net)  
Meeting Co-Directors, Miriam Anver [anvermr@gmail.com](mailto:anvermr@gmail.com)  
Laura Feld-Mushaw [smushaw@comcast.net](mailto:smushaw@comcast.net)  
Fauquier Unit Coordinator, Ruthann Litchford [r.litchford@live.com](mailto:r.litchford@live.com)  
Advocacy Coordinator [cnogg@comcast.net](mailto:cnogg@comcast.net)  
Communications Coordinator, Carol Proven [carol.proven01@gmail.com](mailto:carol.proven01@gmail.com)  
Media Relations Coordinator, Pat Reilly [reillypat18@gmail.com](mailto:reillypat18@gmail.com)  
Book Discussion Chair, Connie Gilman [conniewg51@gmail.com](mailto:conniewg51@gmail.com)  
Newsletter Chair, Connie Gilman [conniewg51@gmail.com](mailto:conniewg51@gmail.com)



Please send in ideas for the November Newsletter by October 25<sup>th</sup>. Better yet, submit an article, ask some questions, share a joke!

Contact Newsletter Chair Connie Gilman  
[conniewg51@gmail.com](mailto:conniewg51@gmail.com)