



THE VOTER

Newsletter of the

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF THE WILLIAMSBURG AREA

Celebrating our 47th Year

P.O. Box 1086, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1086

Summer 2010

www.lwvwilliamsburg.org

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90th Anniversary Celebration of LWV: Afternoon Tea

Sunday August 29th 3:00 – 5:00PM

Reservations Required

Location: The College of William and Mary Alumni House
1Alumni Drive, Williamsburg
Details inside newsletter.

Candidates Forum

Candidates for 1st District U.S. House of Representatives

Wednesday, October 13 7:00PM

Location: Williamsburg Regional Library, Theatre (515 Scotland St, Williamsburg)
Details inside newsletter.

A Breakfast Meeting

Speaker: Nancy Rodriquez, Virginia Chief Officer of Elections

Topic: Behind the Curtain of Democracy

Thursday, September 30th 8:00AM

Location: The Gazebo (409 Bypass Road, Williamsburg)
Details inside newsletter.

Film Showing: Iron Jawed Angels

Monday, September 20th 7:00PM

Location: Williamsburg Regional Library, Theatre (515 Scotland Street, Williamsburg)
Details inside newsletter.

William and Mary School of Law: Celebrating Women in the Legal Profession with 2010 Women's Law Week

October 18th – October 22nd

Details inside newsletter.



Note from the President

Kathy Pickering, President

I hope you are all enjoying the summer break, but now it is time to get back to work and think about getting involved in our events for the coming year.

Before I list some of the exciting program we have planned, on a rather sad note Nancy Hummel is resigning after many years of service to the League. She will be greatly missed.

In August we will be celebrating the 90th anniversary of women’s suffrage. We do hope you will join us for the very special occasion. In addition, in August the State League is holding their summer workshop in Hampton. This is so convenient to Williamsburg I hope many of you will be able to attend.

On September 20th we will be showing Iron Jawed Angels. In addition, on September 30th we will hold another breakfast meeting, our speaker is Nancy Rodriguez, Chief Officer of Elections.

On October 13th there will be a candidates’ forum with candidates for the First District, U.S. House of Representatives candidates.

Check the full calendar of events.

Please make note of Val Nelson’s request for members to step up to the plate and assist with membership, voter service and special events.

However, it is not all work – we will be holding our annual Holiday party on December 3rd. Hard to believe that is really just around the corner.

Cheers, everyone.

Kathy

Kathy Pickering, President, LWV-WA



Save this Date: Holiday Party

This year our Holiday Party will be on December 3rd from 5:00-7:00PM. Save the date, mark your calendar and plan to bring your spouse or friend. More details to come.

Join us for our League’s Holiday Party!

90th Anniversary Celebration of LWV: Afternoon Tea *Patricia Janot, Hospitality Chair*

Please be sure to attend this very special event as we celebrate the ninety year history of the League and also welcome our new members. You won’t want to miss the special oral history program and champagne toast all combined with an elegant afternoon tea served at the Alumni House in Williamsburg! Please make your reservations and plan to bring guests to this event.

Sunday August 29, 2010, 3:00 to 5:00

at

The College of William and Mary Alumni House
1 Alumni Drive, Williamsburg, Virginia

Cost \$10.00 per person

RSVP by Friday **August 20, 2010** to:

Mrs. Patricia Janot 757 221-0289

Checks payable by Friday, the 20th of August to
LWV-WA

P.O. Box 1086

Williamsburg, Virginia 23187



A Breakfast Meeting

On **September 30, 2010** at **8:00AM** our League will hold a Breakfast Meeting with Nancy Rodriguez, Virginia Chief Officer of Elections. She will speak on “Behind the Curtain of Democracy”.

We will meet at the Gazebo restaurant (401 Bypass Rd, Williamsburg), 8:00AM and the price will be \$9 (includes breakfast buffet, tax and gratuity).

Watch your email for further details.

2010 Women’s Law Week

The William and Mary School of Law, Women’s Law Society and the LWV-WA will sponsor a week long series of events recognizing women in the legal profession from October 18th to the 22nd. A series of distinguished speakers and panel discussions will address a multitude of issues. All are invited and no registration is required.



General Election: November 2nd

Three candidates are on the ballot for the First District U.S. House of Representative:

- Robert J. "Rob" Wittman Incumbent (R)
- Krystal M. Ball (D)
- G. Gail "for Rail" Parker (IG)

In addition to the U.S. Representatives there are three proposed amendments on the ballot.

- Article X. Taxation and Finance, Section 6. Exempt Property
- Article X. Taxation and Finance, Section 6-A. Property tax exemption for certain Veterans
- Article X. Taxation and Finance, Section 8. Revenue Stabilization Fund

See the State Board of Elections web site for further information www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Introducing Facts for Voters 2010

Barbara Worthen, Voter Service Chair

The 2010 Edition is hot off the press! Pick up your copy at the Anniversary Tea on August 29. Smaller than the last edition which was published in 2006, it is current as of May, 2010 and lists all the officials Williamsburg area voters elect, as well as some appointed officials. The Facts for Voters 2010 covers the City of Williamsburg and James City and York counties.

We plan to distribute copies to the local libraries and schools, plus provide extra copies to the Registrars for new voters in the Williamsburg Area. And it is available on line on our web site www.lwvwilliamsburg.org.

Providing this document free of charge to our members and the community is one of the most important Voter Service projects we do. Since many of our representatives have changed over the past four years, we are anxious to put this "new, improved, better than ever" product into the voters' hands!

October 13th Candidates Forum Scheduled!

Barbara Worthen, Voter Service Chair

Circle the date Wednesday, October 13 for the Candidates Forum for the First District House of Representatives! Although the incumbent representative, Rob Wittman, could always be called back to Washington, DC at any time during the current congressional session, we are proceeding with plans to host him and his two challengers, Democrat Krystal Ball and Independent Gail Parker. All three candidates have indicated they are planning to attend. The location is the **Williamsburg Library Theater**; time is **7:00 PM**.

The first part of the forum will be questions from the moderator; the second part will be written questions from the audience.

Note that a map of the First District is in the Facts for Voters 2010. The district extends from northern Virginia in a southeast direction to the Williamsburg area.

Voter Service is a Team Sport

Barbara Worthen, Voter Service Chair

Presenting forums in 'league like' fashion -- well organized, well run, and hopefully well attended! - requires your help. Please send an email note or call that you will help with the October 13th event! This is a particularly good time for new members to take an active role in a Voter Service project.

Also, I do need a league member to train to take over my position as Voter Service Chair. Obviously, none of us should be in a particular job forever!!! One of these days I need to 'pass the baton.' This is probably one of the most interesting jobs the league board offers: there is no better way to learn about the structure of government in the area and get to meet the various candidates and officers. Be aware, however, that the Voter Service Chair may NOT take any role in partisan politics.

Please, please do not be intimidated by the nature of this job -- it is not 'rocket science.' I am ready, willing and able to work with someone for a year or two to learn this position. And it is really important that new ideas, new thinking, new ways of doing things be introduced to our Voter Service efforts with a new chairman. Email me at bjworthen@earthink.net to ask questions, or call me at 757-220-9296 after August 28.



Annual Meeting 2010

During our Annual Meeting on Wednesday June 2nd, the LWV of the Williamsburg Area membership had an opportunity to meet other members of our league, to discuss our league activities and to enjoy an excellent lunch. This year our luncheon speaker was the Chair W/JCC County School Board, Elise Emmanuel.

Thanks to those who helped make the event successful! A special thanks to Kathy Pickering, Pat Janot and the Board members for the hor d'oeuvres.

Highlights and Activities for the Year July, 2009 – June, 2010

- Coordinated the Great Decisions program. The 2010 topics featured the following world issues:
 - *Global Financial Crisis*
 - *Peace Building*
 - *Russia/Neighbors*
 - *Globalized Crime*
 - *Special Envoys*
 - *Preventing Genocide*
 - *U.S-China Security Relations*
 - *The Persian Gulf*
- Held new members reception in September
- Held the following candidates' forums:
 - October 8, 2009: Powhatan District School Board;
 - October 14, 2009: 93rd District, House of Delegates;
 - October 22, 2009: 64th District, House of Delegates;
 - April 20, 2010: City of Williamsburg Council
- Hosted a breakfast meeting with speaker Cathy Lewis on November 20, 2009
- Held the annual Holiday Party on January 10, 2010
- Participated in Oxfam's conference on Climate Change in Washington on March 8-9, 2010
- Attended the Southside League's 90th anniversary celebration on Feb. 14, 2010
- Spoke to Peninsula MAL on March 25, 2010
- Sponsored a forum on the proposed Dendron Coal Plant on April 6, 2010
- Held our Annual Meeting on June 2, 2010
- Assisted with the Stonehouse HOA elections on June 3, 2010
- Participated in the Naturalization Ceremony on June 14, 2010
- Attended the following LWVVA programs:
 - Attended the summer workshops in Charlottesville on August 29, 2009
 - Pre-Session Roundtable on Dec. 2, 2009
 - League Day at the General Assembly on January 27, 2010
 - State Council in Lynchburg on May 1
- Held consensus discussion and provided feedback on LWV-VA's Civil Rights of Felons study. Distributed LWVVA brochures on Voting Rights of Virginia Felons
- Held consensus discussion and provided feedback to LWV-VA's Reapportionment study.
- Continuing participation in LWV-VA's study on the State Board of Elections
- Followed through on members' recommendations by changing formats and adding events
- Maintained up-to-date e-mail addresses for better communication with members
- Published six editions of our newsletter **The Voter**.
- Provided availability of our newsletters on our website.

2010-2011 Board

Many thanks to retiring board members Nancy Hummel, Jean Jackson, Edie Meyers and Lynn Gordon for their contribution to the League activities.

Thank you to the new board members: Jo Solomon and Linda Rice for their willingness to serve.

LOOKING FOR GOOD WOMEN (and men, too!)

Valerie Nelson, Vice President LWV-WA

The Board of your League is looking for help from the membership. Please read the following descriptions and see if there is something that fits your interests and/or skills:

1. **Membership co-Chair.** Carol Wynder does an incredible job of maintaining our membership roster; sending out emails to the membership; and other technical aspects of being the Membership Chairperson. However, Carol needs a co-chair who can work on the recruiting aspect of the job. This would be a Board position.
2. **Voter's Service Chairperson.** Barb Worthen is ready to step down from this position which she has held for the past several years. The Voters Service Chair is a Board position with responsibility for our Candidate Forums; revisions and printing of Facts for Voters; and other election and voter oriented programs and issues. Barb will train the new person. You must be willing to refrain from partisan political participation while holding this office.
3. **Voter's Service Committee.** To assist the Voter's Service Chair (see above).
4. **Events Committee.** To assist the chair, Pat Janot, when we have activities that include a social element, such as our Holiday Party and Annual Meeting.

If you see something above that is of interest, or would like further information about how to become more involved in our League chapter, please call VP Val Nelson at 757-229-2904 or President Kathy Pickering at 253-1833. We look forward to hearing from you!



Free Film Commemorating the 90th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote and the 100th Anniversary of the Virginia Suffragist Movement

Iron Jawed Angels

When: Monday, **September 20**, 2010
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Where: Williamsburg Regional Library
 515 Scotland Street, Williamsburg
 757-259-4070

Golden Globe Winner and Five Emmy Award Nominations
Official Premiere Selection - SUNDANCE Film Festival 2004

"They had no vote, no political clout, no equal rights. But what they lacked under the law they made up for with brains, determination and courage." Oscar®-winner **Hilary Swank** leads an outstanding cast, which includes **Anjelica Huston** who was awarded a Golden Globe as Supporting Actress in this film. This is an inspirational true story of women who dared to make a stand for women's rights, and ended up shaping the future of America.

"Iron Jawed Angels" is an important history lesson told in a fresh and blazing fashion.
Two thumbs up! (**Roger Ebert** and **Richard Roeper**)

Will **YOU** exercise your right to vote on Election Day, November 2, 2010?

*Sponsored by the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE WILLIAMSBURG AREA
in cooperation with the Williamsburg Regional Library*



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
WILLIAMSBURG AREA
MEMBERSHIP NOTICE**

Name of Member(s): _____

Address: _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** (9 digits if known) _____

Home #: _____ **E-mail Address:** _____

New _____ **Renewal** _____ **Returning** _____

Membership Categories

Please indicate your membership category and any additional contributions below:

Basic Dues:	_____ Individual (\$45)	_____ Family (\$70)
Contributing Membership:	_____ Individual (\$65)	_____ Family (\$90)
Leadership Circle:	_____ Individual (\$100+)	_____ Family (\$100+)

Membership in the League of Women Voters of the Williamsburg Area also includes membership at the national, state and regional levels. Members receive the National Voter, the Virginia Voter and the Williamsburg Voter. (Dues and Dedicated Fund Contributions are not tax deductible. For tax-deductible contributions, make a separate check payable to: LWV Education Fund.)

Dedicated Fund Contributions

Please include addresses of honorees or of families of those memorialized, if known.

In Memory of: _____ **Amount:** _____

Family's Address: _____

In Honor of: _____ **Amount:** _____

Honoree's Address: _____

Checks should be made payable to: LWVWA Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Check No. _____ **Check date** _____

Please mail your check and completed form to:

**LWVWA
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 1086
Williamsburg, VA 23187-1086**

DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT - BE INVOLVED

What interests or expertise do you have to help with the various League of Women Voters study and administrative programs?

ADMINISTRATION

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts/Graphics/Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budgeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations/Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desktop Publishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising/Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Tree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Team Building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership/Committee Chair _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Editing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lobbying | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

PROGRAMS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights/Human Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Observer Corps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Election Laws | <input type="checkbox"/> Reapportionment and Redistricting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Decisions | <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia State Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Relations | |

Mark Your Calendar!!

For full calendar of events see www.lwvwilliamsburg.org/calendar.html

August 4	LWV-WA Board Meeting, 4:00PM
August 28	LWV-VA Summer Workshops
August 29	90 th Anniversary Celebration: Anniversary Tea, 3:00PM, William & Mary Alumni House, Reservations required
September 1	LWV-WA Board Meeting, 4:00PM
September 20	Film Showing: Iron Jawed Angels, 7:00PM, Williamsburg Library Theatre
September 30	Breakfast Meeting: Nancy Rodriguez , 8:00AM, The Gazebo, Williamsburg
October 6	LWV-WA Board Meeting, 4:00PM
October 13	Candidates Forum: 1 st District U.S. House of Representatives, 7:00PM, Williamsburg Library Theatre
October 18-22	William and Mary School of Law: 2010 Women's Law Week

REMINDER:

Time to renew your membership!!

Please take a moment and fill out the membership renewal form attached in this Newsletter.

Membership in the League of Women Voters runs from July 1st to June 30th

*Note: If you joined after January 1, 2010
you are paid through June 30, 2011
and do not need to renew.*



www.lwvwilliamsburg.org

Serving the people of greater Williamsburg and surrounding areas

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government at all levels. We do this in two ways: one is through Voters Service activities that provide nonpartisan information and programs to the public, the other is through our advocacy activities on issues we have studied.

Who are the members?

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages.

Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Why should I join?

Through participation in League projects, you will

- contribute valuable service to the community
- gain knowledge and experience through the study and discussion of timely and important topics
- discover new interests, develop new skills and learn about crucial issues in your community
- make professional contacts and develop lasting friendships as you meet others in League who share your interests

Contact us at league@lwvwilliamsburg.org