

Prince William Area Members-At-Large Unit

League of Women Voters Virginia

<http://lwv-va.org/pwc.html>

PWA Unit Holds Annual Meeting



PWA President Joyce Ard welcomes guests to the annual meeting held at Montclair County Club May 15, 2010

More than 25 members and friends attended our May annual meeting and luncheon highlighting a panel discussing restoration of voting rights for former felons.

Mr. Adisa Muse, former Director of the Virginia Voters Restoration Project, described the current Virginia restoration process which is time consuming and results in few voting rights restorations.

According to Mr. Muse, the Virginia process differs considerably from some states because the Virginia Governor is the only one who can restore voting rights.

The panel included Kari Galloway, Director of the [Friends of Guest House](#) in Alexandria, which houses women released from incarceration and assists them in returning to the community.

Ms. Galloway said over 1,000 women have been served at the Guest House.

Alumnae of the Guest House, Terry Garrett and Jennifer McDaniel, told their stories of overcoming challenges to become successful. The women still do not have the right to vote, however, and are eager to have that right. They have presented their stories to legislators at the General Assembly.

Mr. Muse explained there has not yet been successful legislation in Virginia to change the restoration process. A bill in Congress, the Democracy Restoration Act, has been introduced that would improve the process for voting in Federal elections, but would not affect State elections.

Our Unit is grateful to the panel members and Brenda Carswell who helped put together the program.