

The Virginia Voter



Published by the League of Women Voters of Virginia

Volume 50, Issue 1 ~ Spring 2003



Second Call to State Convention 2003, May 3 and 4

Hosted by the League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads
To be held in the largest resort city in the world



Virginia Beach, Virginia, at the Clarion Hotel, Town Center

Featuring

Kaye Maxwell, LWVUS President—Keynote Speaker

Don't Miss It! Details on Page 4

State Program— Adoption to Action

Why did you join the League? Perhaps the answer is to be able to discuss current issues with other members. More likely the answer is that you wanted to be able to make a difference—to have your voice heard on issues.

Effective action in the League is dependent on the League's position on issues derived from program study and agreement. Successful action relies on choosing a workable program for study.

In reviewing the recent responses to program planning, it was difficult to determine whether some were a listing of interests of those responding or recommendations for program study at the state level. State program needs to be one local members are willing to be involved with—in study and decision making over the next biennium and supporting state League action that would make a difference in the state. This involvement requires member involvement in committee study and preparation and adequate funding in the state budget. Without those things it will be impossible to implement new program activities.

Program adoption and study involves all levels of the League; action takes place at all levels also. Local Leagues may use

(Continued on page 3)

Convention Info from the LWVVA Bylaws

LWVVA bylaws, Article VII, Convention, Section 2, Composition, provide that the state convention shall consist of:

- a. Delegates chosen by the members of Local Leagues in the number provided in Section 4 of this Article.
- b. The presidents of local Leagues and chairs of member-at-large units or an alternate in the event the president or chair is unable to attend.
- c. The members of the Board of Directors of the LWVVA.
- d. LWVVA off-board committee chairs with portfolio, and
- e. One delegate chosen by the board of each ILO.

Article VII, Section 3, Delegates' Qualifications and Voting states that all delegates shall be voting members of the League. No delegate shall be entitled to more than one vote and absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. Delegates of local Leagues that have failed to make a reasonable effort to meet the per member payment to the LWVVA within one year of the assessment shall be denied voting privileges.

(Continued on page 5)

The League of Women Voters of Virginia

1001 East Main St. Suite 701
Richmond, VA 23219
Ph: (804) 649-0333
Fax: (804) 649-0339
www.avenue.org/leagueva
LWVVA@msn.com

Board of Directors

President

Freda Wenditz, Richmond

1st Vice President, Program
Barbara Sherrill

*2nd Vice President,
Voter Service*
Sue Lewis, Charlottesville

Secretary
Leo Burgett, Richmond

Treasurer
Margaret Skovira, Alexandria

Legislative Coordinator
Phyllis Bailey,
Montgomery County

Action Coordinator
Susan Goranson,
South Hampton Roads

Membership
Pam St. Clair, Alexandria

Organization
Barbara Sherrill,
National Capital Area

Public Relations
Jinny Batterson, Richmond

Voter Editor
Sue Friedman, Charlottesville

Guest Voter Editor/Webmaster
Kim Lewandowski
South Hampton Roads

Nominating Committee Chair
Heidi Elam, Williamsburg

President's Outlook

The scene at the General Assembly has been very active.

There are many Reproductive Rights Bills:

HB1402 Parental Consent: Requires a physician to obtain parental consent prior to performing an abortion on a minor.

HB1406 Choose Life License Plate: Authorizes a license plate bearing the legend "Choose Life" with the funds raised going to non-profit agencies that charge no fees in supporting adoption placements.

HB1499 Parental Health Notification for Health Services: Any government agency providing health services for a condition posing a serious risk to health to a minor must notify parents within 48 hours of providing such services for STD, pregnancy, drug use, promiscuous sexual behavior and contemplation of suicide; parents must be notified seven days before providing contraceptives to a minor.

There are a number of these bills; I will list some of the numbers and you can look them up, if interested: HB1541, HB1547, HB1548 and HB1580. This is not the complete list.

There are I think four bills on re-districting. It will be over nine years before this can be done, but the good news is they are beginning NOW and this gives time. If the bill that states a committee of non-partisan citizens will make up the committee, this would be a big help. There are three or four states that have done this; New Jersey is one.

Thank you, Elaine!

The Board of the LWVVA says, Thank you very much! (applause, applause) to Elaine McBeth of the LWV-Williamsburg, for her dedicated service as the 1st Vice President, Program. Elaine had to resign in December 2002 to accept an offer to serve on a local board in Williamsburg. Barbara Sherrill of the LWV-National Capital Area has been appointed to serve the remainder of Elaine's term, which will end with the Convention in

The National Board has set the League's Legislative priorities for the new 108th Congress. They also discussed League action on the international situation relating to Iraq.

The following legislative priorities were adopted for 2003.

Top Priority and Core Issues: Election Reform, Campaign Finance Reform.

Action as Needed: Reproductive choice and clean air, oil drilling in the Arctic Wildlands, Title IX.

The League will also when possible, take advantage of lobbying opportunities to achieve longer term success on CEDAW (the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women), D.C. voting rights and financial issues, health care and global warming.

There is much more than can be listed in this issue of the *Voter*. I did want you to know the priorities.

The official Call to Convention is in this issue. Please adhere to the dates— this is very important. We do not want anyone to be left out.

I look forward to seeing you at Convention!

Just remember: Working together, each accomplishes more.

Freda Wenditz, President, LWVVA

May. Thanks again, Elaine, and congratulations on your new appointment!



Convention 2003 Details

Slate of Nominees for 2003-2005

The Nominating Committee has completed its work and presented the following slate of nominees to be voted on at the 2003 Convention:

Officers:

President	Katie Hobbs (Charlottesville)
1st VP (Program)	Lulu Meese (Waynesboro)
2nd VP (Voter Service)	Barbara Sherrill (Arlington)
Secretary	Sue Worden (Fairfax)
Treasurer	Leo Burgett (Richmond)

Directors:

Phyllis Bailey (Montgomery County)
Susan Goranson (South Hampton Roads)
Sue Lewis (Charlottesville)
Nancy Warren (Montgomery County)
Kim Lewandowski (South Hampton Roads)
Marjorie Witting (Falls Church)

Nominating Committee:

Amy Burgett (Richmond)
Elaine McBeth (Williamsburg)
Margaret Skovira, Chair (Alexandria)

Respectfully submitted,

Nominating Committee:
Janet Hays
Sue Lewis
Margaret Skovira
Nancy Warren
Heide Elam, Chair

The Board of Directors of the LWVVA would like to express their appreciation to the Nominating Committee for their hard work on a challenging task. Great job!

Good News—No PMP Increase!

The budget to be presented to the delegates at the League of Women Voters of Virginia convention in May will not include an increase in dues for Members-at-Large (MALs) or in Per Member Payments (PMP) from local Leagues.

As was the case with the previous two biennium budgets, the 2004-2005 budget funds the difference between expected income and expenses from reserves. Dues for MALs will remain at \$40 per year, and PMP at \$15 per local League member

(\$7.50 for second household members and students). The budget committee is chaired by Anne Treichler of Williamsburg.

Convention 2003 Schedule

Friday, May 4

LWVVA Board Meeting; members welcome
6 p.m. Dinner, location TBA
7 p.m. Meeting, at the same location.

Saturday, May 5

Wares market all day
8-10 a.m. Registration
10-11:30 a.m. Workshops (2):
“Help America Vote Act,” Nancy Tate
Topic and speaker for second workshop TBA
11:45 a.m. -
12:45 p.m. Lunch
1-5 p.m. Plenary
6-7 p.m. Cash bar and silent auction
7 p.m. Banquet, with Kaye Maxwell,
President, LWVUS
Keynote Speaker

Sunday, May 6

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Plenary
1 p.m. Adjourn

Hotel Details

Clarion Hotel-Town Center of Virginia Beach
4453 Bonney Road, Virginia Beach
Phone number: 757-473-1700
Fax: 757-552-0477
Toll Free: 800-847-5202 (8 AM - 5 PM)

Directions: From Richmond, Suffolk, and points West and South: Take I-64 East to I-264 East. Exit I-264 at Exit 17B (Independence Blvd./Pembroke Area). Turn right at the first traffic light. The Clarion will be approximately one half mile up on the right.

- Indoor heated pool with outdoor sundeck and Jacuzzi
- Exercise room with locker rooms and saunas
- Laundry facilities on premises and dry-cleaning services available
- 7 miles from downtown Norfolk
- 9 miles from the Virginia Beach Oceanfront
- More Info: www.clarionvirginiabeach.com

League of Women Voters of Virginia

1001 East Main Street, Suite 701
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Tel: (804) 649-0333 - Fax: (804) 649-0330

Non-Delegate Registration Form—Return by April 16, 2003

LWVVA Convention - May 3-4, 2003 “Don't Be Left Out”

Clarion Hotel-Town Center of Virginia Beach
4453 Bonney Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462
Tel: 757-473-1700 Fax: 757-456-5778

Two Saturday Workshops—10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Topics:

“Help America Vote Act” - Nancy Tate
Second workshop topic to be announced

Banquet - Chicken Cordon Bleu

If you have special dietary requirements, please let us know.

Send a separate sheet for each attendee. Please print or type.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Home Phone () _____ LOCAL LEAGUE: _____

One Day Convention Registration Fee: \$20.00

Saturday Banquet Fee: \$23.00

Payment to LWVVA Enclosed \$ _____

Complete one form for each person and enclose check payable to LWVVA. Send to:

League of Women Voters of Virginia
1001 East Main Street, Suite 701
Richmond, VA 23219

Registration Forms and Payment Must Be Received By April 16, 2003

League of Women Voters of Virginia
1001 East Main Street, Suite 701
Richmond, VA 23219

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 232
Charlottesville, VA

**LWVVA Convention
May 3-4, 2003
Details on Page 4

Don't Be Left Out!**

Fund-Raising Opportunity

Reserve Your Table Today at the Wares Market at the LWVVA Convention in Virginia Beach, VA in May

Anyone interested in selling literature or products at the state convention needs to:

1. Provide their own people to staff the table.
2. Let us know if they need a half table or a whole table.

There is no fee to have a table, but Leagues need to reserve their table by March 30, 2003. Reservations should be sent to: **LWV-SHR c/o Samantha Boucek, PO Box 61033, Virginia Beach, VA 23466**. Anyone with questions should contact Samantha at boucek@erols.com or 757-615-6428. Reservation information may also be faxed to 757-430-1173.

Reservation forms will also be mailed with the president's packages.