



Voter

League of Women Voters of Loudoun County

February 2007

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**ALL-MEMBERSHIP UNIT MEETING
LEESBURG AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 7:00 - 9:00 PM
GUEST SPEAKER
KELLY MCFARLAND STRATMAN, LWVUS**

Have you wondered what happens at the LWVUS office? What priorities and projects are being undertaken to build our great organization? Save yourself the drive into Washington, DC and come hear LWVUS staffer Kelly McFarland Stratman talk about the League's national efforts to build visibility, gain new members, and advocate for change. Learn the impact of your membership and support when it is added to the League's other 150,000 members and supporters! This is a rare opportunity to meet a representative from the National League Office. Almost half of our dues go to the LWVUS so we should be interested in where our money goes and what it is used for.

Kelly McFarland Stratman is a Senior Manager in the Membership/Field Support Department of the League of Women Voters of the United States. She works with the League's almost 850 affiliates throughout the country on issues of organizational development and training. Currently, she is managing the pilot phase of the League's membership recruitment initiative. In addition, she contributes to the administration of a number of the public education efforts at the League, including those related to civil liberties and openness in government. Prior to joining the national office, Kelly served as the executive director of the League of Women Voters of Ohio, where her primary focus was on judicial independence and a redistricting ballot initiative. Kelly lives in neighboring Fairfax County with her husband and two young daughters.

The Airport is at 1001 Sycolin Rd. From the Rt. 7 bypass, take Sycolin Rd. East to the 3rd driveway after the light at Sycolin Rd. and Tolbert's Lane. The Conference Room is on the 3rd floor.

By Jean Sagan

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President's Column

We had a program planning meeting January 11 and a most exciting proposal was brought forth which the Loudoun League has sent to the State League. This proposal recommends a study on Ethics in Government that will encompass Conflict of Interest and Campaign Finance. I invite all members who would like to work on this committee to contact me as soon as possible at emayr59433@aol.com; 703-777-9425. There is a great need for this study and for all levels of League to have a position that we can use. The recent articles in the *Washington Post* and subsequent articles in the local papers only reinforce the need, as public confidence in all levels of government has greatly eroded during the past few years. The sunshine in Virginia has not been too bright in recent years. Statewide, bills are dispensed at the will of small sub-committees without a recorded vote. This is done in the name of efficiency! We need to pay attention during this election cycle as all State Senators, State Delegates, Constitutional Officers, Board of Supervisors, and School Boards will stand for election. We need to know what each will do to make government transparent.

The members present also voted to retain all of the LWVVA Positions on:

- **Government:** Delegation of Power, Election Laws, Fiscal Policy, and Reapportionment and Redistricting
- **Transportation**
- **Women's Rights & Virginia Law**
- **Natural Resources:** Air Quality Land Use, Water Supply, and Distribution
- **Social Policy:** Adult Domestic Violence, Child Care, and Children at Risk
- **Education:** Funding and Quality of Education
- **Justice**
- **Juvenile Justice**
- **Mental Health.**

Natural Resources and Mental Health were given action priority. A summary of LWVVA positions were enclosed in the December 2006 *Voter* or go to at <http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org>.

On a completely different topic, several Loudoun organizations are sponsoring a visit by Shelby Knox, a college student from Texas who travels across the country, trying to raise awareness of the need for comprehensive sex education. According to LWVLC member Jeri McGiverin, "While in high school, Shelby became an unlikely advocate for comprehensive sex education. A devout Christian who had pledged abstinence until marriage, Shelby became aware that the abstinence-only education was tragically ineffective: Her school in Lubbock, TX had some of the highest teen pregnancy and STD rates in the nation. Shelby joined her town's Youth Commission and became involved a campaign for comprehensive sex education in public schools, at times struggling to reconcile her newfound political beliefs with her conservative religious views." A documentary movie of her efforts, "The Education of Shelby Knox," will be shown on March 9 at the GW University campus. Shelby Knox will then talk about her experiences and her mission, and a Q&A session will follow. I hope you and your children or grandchildren will attend.

Betsy Mayr, President

Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I may not remember. Involve me and I will understand.

Native American Proverb

What have you done for the LWVLC today?

Call for Nominations to LWVLC Board of Directors

Several current Officers and Board members' terms expire at the next Annual Meeting. If you would like to be considered, or know someone who would like to serve, please contact Gem Bingol, Nominating Committee Chair, at 703-771-1645; gbingol@pecva.org.

Women's History Month



March 2006

Future Voters- LWVLC To Register Students In 10 High Schools

Once again, the Loudoun County LWV will go to 10 Loudoun County high schools to register the next generation of voters. If you would like to help, contact the team leader for the high school where you would like to assist:

- Eleanor Towe (540-338-6161): Loudoun Valley and Loudoun County
- Peggy Maio (540-338-6679): Heritage and Potomac Falls
- Jean Sagan (703-327-4346): Freedom and Stone Bridge
- Glenda Parsons (703-729-5665): Briar Woods and Broad Run
- Denise Moore (703-697-4603): Dominion

If you can volunteer for Park View, contact Jean Brown (540-338-7628)

November 6, 2007, is Election Day. Contests for this year for our locally elected officials include: Board of Supervisors, School Board, Constitutional Officers (Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Commissioner of Revenue, Treasurer, and Commonwealth Attorney). In addition, Loudoun will be selecting its General Assembly Representatives: five Virginia House of Delegate races and two Virginia Senate races.



I think it's about time we voted for senators with breasts. After all, we've been voting for boobs long enough.

Clarie Sargent

Celebrate Women's History Month with Tea

Cathleen Magennis Wyatt, President of The Journey Through Hallowed Ground, will be the guest speaker at an Afternoon Tea to Celebrate Women's History Month in March. The League of Women



Voters of Loudoun County is sponsoring the event on Saturday, March 10, 2007, at the Thomas Birkby House in Leesburg, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Magennis-Wyatt was Secretary of Commerce and Trade for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Vice President of Xerox Realty Development, and held many other positions. She founded Remington International, which invests in or creates corporations in emerging markets. She has led the creation of businesses in London, Moscow, and Kazakhstan. She has served on many Boards, including The George C. Marshall International Center, Oatlands, and Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Art. She lives in Waterford with her husband Steven and two children.

The public is invited to the Tea. Reservations are required as seating is limited. Admission is \$25. Please call 540-338-7628.

*Never trust a man, when left alone in a room
with a tea cozy, who doesn't try it on.*

Billy Connolly

*There are few hours in life more agreeable
than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as
afternoon tea.*

Henry James Portrait of a Lady

*Find yourself a cup of tea; the teapot is behind
you. Now tell me about hundreds of things.*

Saki

National, State, & Local League News

National LWV

The Next Form of Democracy by Matt Leighninger features the LWV's important role in an evolving democracy. He discusses a phenomenon that is happening beneath the national radar, where the relationships between citizens and government is undergoing a shift and where communities are seeking out new ways for people and public servants to work together to solve some of our most challenging problems. Ordering information is in the November 2006 National Newsletter at www.lvw.org and LWV members get a 25% discount.

Earn money to support the LWV Education Fund (LWVEF) every time you search the Web! Just log onto www.goodsearch.com, designate the League of Women Voters Education Fund (Washington, DC) as your charity of choice, and start using GoodSearch as your primary search engine. Each time you search, a donation will automatically go to the LWVEF. GoodSearch is powered by Yahoo!, so you'll get the same high quality search results you're used to. GoodSearch is a new search engine that donates 50% of its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to designated charities.

National Capital Area

NCA Convention is May 12, 9:30 - 1:00, at Jurys Washington Hotel. Registration, which includes breakfast, is \$30. Contact Bonnie Franklin, 703-578-1935, bfrank317@aol.com.

The Airport Study Group has completed its update on, "The Washington Region's Commerical Airports." If you are interested in reviewing it, please contact Betsy Mayr, 703-777-9425 emayr59433@aol.com, or Marla McIntyre, 703-932-5068, mmcintyre@sio.org, for a copy.

LWV Virginia

The LWVVA has posted an Action Alert at <http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org/actionalerts.html>. Del. Robert Marshall has introduced legislation to limit a woman's right to choose. The LWVVA is asking you to contact your legislators to voice opposition to any legislation that would limit a woman's rights to reproductive choices.

Lulu Meese, President, reports that February 6 will be the final day for bills to be considered by the originating House. February 7, the LWV Lobby Day, is ideal timing for LWV members to talk with legislators. Legislation is being considered to ban smoking in public places, fund transportation, and redistricting.

The Governor issued an executive order that prohibits smoking in state government offices and common areas as of January 2007. Twenty two states and District of Columbia limit smoking in state buildings.

The 33rd Convention of the League of Women Voters of Virginia in Richmond Virginia at the Roslyn Center is Saturday, April 28 and Sunday, April 29.

The agenda includes:

- Election of 2007-2009 Officers and Directors
- Budget recommendation for LWVVA Fiscal Year 2007 -2009
- Proposed amendments to the Bylaws,
- Tour of the Richmond Capitol
- Speaker Del. Kenneth Plum

Montgomery County is hosting a luncheon March 26 with Royce Hanson, Planning Board Vice Chair, Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, speaking on land use.

Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching.

Anonymous

Let us take more responsibility, not only for ourselves and our families, but for our communities and our country.

Bill Clinton

2007 Calendar

February 7	Local LWV Lobby Day Richmond
February 8	Unit Meeting* - National League 7:00 - 9:00 Rep speaker
February 27	Board Meeting* 7:00 - 9:00 Leesburg Police Station
March	Women's History Month
March 10	Tea*, Birkby House, Leesburg 2:00 - 4:00
March 27	Board Meeting* 7:00 - 9:00 Leesburg Police Station
April	Legislative Night
April 24	Board Meeting* 7:00 - 9:00 Leesburg Police Station
April 28-29	LWV VA Convention Richmond
May 12	NCA Annual Meeting
May 22	Board Meeting* 7:00 - 9:00 Leesburg Police Station
June 9-11	LWVUS Council Meeting

*** Open to all League members**

Internet Sources of Information

LWV US - www.lwv.org/
LWV VA - <http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org>
General Assembly - <http://legis.state.va.us/>
VA Board of Elections - www.sbe.state.va.us/
LWVLC - www.loudoun.va.lwvnet.org

Live with intention.
Walk to the edge.
Listen hard.
Practice wellness.
Play with abandon.
Laugh.
Choose with no regret.
Continue to learn.
Appreciate your friends.
Do what you love.
Live as if this is all there is.
Mary Anne Radmacher

*Great achievers are often great troublemakers.
Don't they have to be, at least some of the time?
Annie Leibowitz*

Think You Know Women?

The Miss America Pageant began the same year as:

- Elle* magazine was launched.
 - Women were given the right to vote.
 - The first female doctor began practicing.
 - Brown University began its women's studies major
- According to Forbes, the richest woman in the world:
 - Hosts a talk show.
 - Is heir to a makeup company
 - Owens eBay.
 - Is married to a king.
 - The woman with the most Grammys is:
 - Madonna
 - Aretha Franklin
 - Alison Krauss
 - Whitney Houston
 - Dolly Parton
 - The first woman to walk in space is a citizen of:
 - The United States
 - Russia
 - China
 - None of the above
 - Put the following in chronological order, starting with which happened first:
 - First female drives in Indy 500.
 - First female Secretary of State is appointed.
 - First female anchors the nightly news.
 - First female appointed president of a national bank.
 - First female wins Nobel Prize.

Answers: 1. B. In 1920, women were given the right to vote and the chance to become Miss America. 2. B. The world's richest woman is Liliane Bettencourt of France, heiress to L'Oreal fortune, with a net worth of \$16 billion. 3. C. Alison Krauss with 20. 4. B. Svetlana Savitskaya walked in space in 1984. 5. D. In 1917 Kate Gleason became the first woman president of a national bank. E. In 1931, Jane Addams won the Nobel Prize. C. In 1976 Barbara Walters anchored the nightly news. A. In 1977, Janet Guthrie competed in the Indy 500. B. In 1997 Madeleine Albright became Secretary of State.

Reprinted from the Washington Business Journal, December 1-7, 2006.

Join the League of Women Voters of Loudoun County

Please add my voice to the over 120,000 members and supporters nationwide!

Name _____

Address _____

City, Stat, ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

_____ \$48 Individual or _____ \$72 Family (payable to LWVLC)

Yes, I want to suport the League of Women Voters of Loudoun County with a donation so it can continue its work to promote informed participation in government. Please make donation checks payable to the **LWVLC Education Fund**. Contributions to the LWVLC Education Fund are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Send to: Hatsy Cutshall, 20371 Cockerill Rd., Purcellville, VA 20132

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LOUDOUN COUNTY**

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(703) 777-9425

www.loudoun.va.lwvnet.org/

Betsy Mayr – President

February 2007