



Voter

League of Women Voters of Loudoun County

July 2008

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Meet the new Board of the LWV of Loudoun County. Left to Right: Shelley Tamres, Jennifer Severance, Maria Walker, Marla McIntyre, Glenda Parsons, Barbara Bearman, Carla Wylie, Denise Donnelly, Hatsy Cutshall, Jean Sagan. Not pictured: Betsy Mayr and Rosemarie Pelletier.

Photo by Bob Pierce

LWV Loudoun County Annual Meeting

Thirty League members and guests attended the 2008 Annual Meeting June 1 at the Carver Center in Purcellville. Guests included Melpi Jeffries, President of the LWV of the National Capital Area and Aleen Starkwether from LWV Montgomery County.

Priscilla Godfrey did an outstanding job of filling in for the invited speakers, who cancelled at the last minute. Ms. Godfrey, School Board member representing the Blue Ridge District, covered issues from the proposed high school in Purcellville to the many accomplishments of Loudoun's students.

Marla McIntyre was elected President, Glenda Parsons, 1st Vice President, Shelley Tamres, 2nd Vice President. New Directors are Rosemarie Pelletier, Carla Wiley, and Maria Walker. President McIntyre thanked outgoing Board members Bob and Denise Pierce for their term of service.

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President's Column

It's a new League year! I am looking forward to working with the new Board members and the returning Board members. We're starting the year off with a Retreat in late August to plan our calendar and activities, organize portfolios, and discuss what our League should be and do. If you have thoughts on the matter, have suggestions or direction to the Board, please call or e-mail me.

The LWVUS has some great information on the November elections, Convention, and other resources on its Web site at www.lwv.org. If you haven't visited the Web site lately, please do so.

And don't forget to visit our own Web site at www.loudoun.va.lwvnet.org. We'll have a new design soon that captures more design elements from the LWVUS Web site. Shelley Tamres, our capable Webmistress, keeps it updated, but is looking for suggestions on improvements. Let her know your ideas at wm@loudoun.va.lwvnet.org.

Marla McIntyre

President

MarlaMcIntyreLWV@gmail.com

Thank You for Your Contribution

<i>Barbara Bearman</i>	<i>Ken Lacey & Joan Walker</i>
<i>Terry Bell</i>	<i>Gladys Lewis</i>
<i>Gem Bingol</i>	<i>Betsy Mayr</i>
<i>Alice Calhoun</i>	<i>Marla McIntyre</i>
<i>Bob & Aurora Charnoff</i>	<i>Susan & Ken Parks</i>
<i>Hatsy Cutshall</i>	<i>Rose Pelletier</i>
<i>Nancy Doane</i>	<i>Tina Pruett</i>
<i>Diane DuCharme</i>	<i>Riverbend at Leisure World</i>
<i>Juanita & Gene Gould</i>	<i>Jean & Marc Sagan</i>
<i>Joan & Fred Hand</i>	<i>Eleanor Towe</i>
<i>Nancy Jennings</i>	<i>Barbara Wayne</i>
<i>Lori Kimball</i>	<i>Sheryl Wolfe</i>

To make a donation to the LWV Loudoun County Education Fund, see the form on last page of this Voter.

LWVUS Convention 2008

By Shelley Tamres

Convention was WONDERFUL! Lots of fun, lots of people, and lots of learning. Barbara Roberts, the first woman governor of Oregon (1991-1994) gave a delightful and interesting opening address.

I helped present the caucus on Ranked Choice Voting. We're trying to encourage studies by state and local leagues, so I plan to follow up by trying for a Virginia study on the subject.

I attended Olga's [President of the LWVVA] caucus on the proposed Redistricting concurrence, plus caucuses on NPV (National Popular Vote for President), Election Integrity, and Public Financing Campaign Reform, plus workshops on Growing Membership and Media Outreach Tactics. I also attended part of the caucus on the Massachusetts Healthcare Reform...they seem to have gone the wrong way by simply adding another layer of bureaucracy and are already very in the red financially.

John Kitzhaber, another ex-Governor of Oregon (1995-2002), gave a Health Care address (he is a doctor as well as a politician). LWVUS is hoping to get permission to place

the information on its website. Other presentations included a Climate Change panel and a speech by a representative of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

Convention Rules: A new rule was created due to complaints at the previous two conventions regarding last minute resolutions that everyone had to vote on without knowing much about them. Under the new rule, resolutions for this convention were due 30 days prior and had to meet criteria to be "approved" by a committee. The approval was just informative. The delegates had a chance to decide for themselves which resolutions to address at Convention and which to skip over. The rule was amended to remove most of the restrictive criteria and then passed.

I learned there is a growing concern about using resolutions and motions to "bypass" our concurrence process and amend Program without studies. The convention rule 10.1 was an attempt to try out something that, if successful, could be proposed as a Bylaws change later. However, it had the

unfortunate illogical effect of creating a committee PRIOR to the convention, but Convention Rules are only adopted AT convention and in effect DURING convention. So the so-called rule was “kinda sorta” in effect before its official adoption. Obviously, this caused quite a stir. Fortunately, a compromise was reached - a resolution was passed to work on a “resolution procedure” in time for discussion at Council 2009 as a possible rule for Convention 2010.

Bylaws: Bylaws amendments that passed included: authorization for electronic board meetings; addition of one convention delegate per each 100 members-at-large; clarifies that the national board may propose changes of national positions by concurrence, with the same required notifications to all leagues; reduced the Nominating Committee from seven to five members; clarifications to the call to council. All other Bylaws proposals were defeated, including the proposal to elect the Board by the membership rather than at Convention.

Resolutions passed: LWVUS has been requested to redesign fundraising requests so they cannot be misconstrued as membership recruitment or dues notices; the “resolution procedure” mentioned above. The redistricting concurrence proposed by VA and OR was defeated.

The Principles were amended with the addition of a sentence mentioning a balance among all three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial (up to now, judicial has not been mentioned anywhere).

Other motions: The Board recommended Health Care program was approved, as was a global climate change Education and Advocacy Campaign. The non-recommended study item on NPV was approved. (I went to the Convention feeling neutral on NPV, but the caucus I attended convinced me this is a worthwhile study, especially since New York has already nearly completed it, and was then told it was a National issue, and they couldn’t adopt a position. Some of the points raised: most of the Presidential campaign time and money are spent in the few “battleground” states, contributing to voter apathy in the remaining states; the battleground states have a 10% higher voter turnout; discussion of issues is distorted by what is important to the battleground states.)

Budget: PMP of \$28 for 2008-9 and PMP of \$29.20 for 2009-10 were approved.

Board: No nominations were made from the floor. The proposed slate was approved unanimously, which includes the LWVUS’ first male director.

Guidance To The Board: The first full day, a caucus was announced for those interested in the Presidential Debates. About 20 of us got together and decided it’s high time for the League to get back into running them if possible, so we determined to offer “Guidance” in the form of strongly urging the LWVUS to run a debate this year. It’s not likely to happen, but it should at least pave the way towards an effort in 2012, and may result in some publicity this year. I suggested, to put some weight behind the Guidance, that we circulate a petition among the Delegates and ask them to sign to show support. So Barbara DeWilde from PA, the leader of this effort, created a petition and those of us on the “Steering Committee” passed it around the remainder of the Convention, collecting 500+ signatures from the 600+ delegates attending. There was a lot of excitement generated, and someone heard an announcement on NPR that the petition was being circulated at out Convention! League President Mary Wilson announced, even before the Guidance portion of the agenda, that the Board would definitely follow up on this.

Other Guidance To The Board: Provide a “Young Leaders” award; provide financial assistance, if needed, to Leagues receiving awards so they can attend the Convention to receive the award; webcast the next Convention; be sure that speakers engaged for the Convention are asked to join the League; create a new membership category in the Bylaws for HOAs and other organizations; try for a clause in the contracts for conventions that will protect us in case of labor disputes at the chosen site or weather issues that affect transportation; investigate alternatives to PMP; create procedures for state and local leagues so they can lobby their federal delegation or contact federal agencies without “waiting on” National.

I was very impressed at how people could work towards solutions. I think the concurrence process permeates the organization. Or maybe it’s just because most of us are women, and we try to lessen conflict. President Mary Wilson is FANTASTIC...she runs a really mean convention with grace and a very quiet voice...she is awesome at sorting out issues and proposing ways of dealing that are fair and efficient.

In Passing

Alexandria League member **Ellen Pickering** died in April. She served on the Alexandria City Council and was noted for her environmental activism. She battled developers who wanted to destroy Alexandria’ historic waterfront. She organized Save the GW Memorial Parkway and was instrumental in the National Park Service approving the Mount Vernon biking and hiking trail.

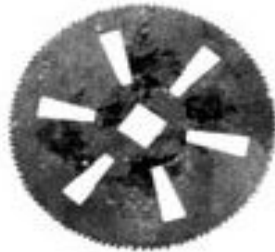
Elizabeth Masters, a long-time Loudoun League member, died May 2. She joined League in the late 1960s and served as Secretary in the early 1970s. Jean Sagan, who was President during that time, said “I am greatly saddened. She was my mentor and a lifesaver.” Ms. Masters was a Loudoun Woman of the Year. Her many activities included the Loudoun Valley Community Center, Loudoun Food Closet, and Upper Loudoun Little League.

Who Invented the Circular Saw? A Woman of Course!

Tabitha Babbitt, a Massachusetts Shaker, invented the circular saw in 1813. She was working in a Shaker spinning house when she realized that the wheel could be applied to cutting logs. At the time, two-man pit saws were used in saw mills. Babbitt made a toothed disk, put it on the spindle of her spinning wheel, and discovered that her rotating circular blade could saw wood more efficiently.

Babbitt's other inventions included a new method of making false teeth, an improved spinning wheel head, and cut (as opposed to individually forged) nails. This latter invention enabled mass production of nails.

However, because of Babbitt's Shaker beliefs, she did not obtain patents for her inventions.



1943 Guide to Hiring Women

Excerpts from the July 1943 *Transportation Magazine*:

#1 Pick young married women. They usually have more of a sense of responsibility than their unmarried sisters, and they are less likely to be flirtatious.

#2 When you have to use older women, try to get ones who have worked outside the home at some time in their lives. Older women who have never contracted the public have a hard time adapting themselves and are inclined to be cantankerous and fussy.

#3 General experience indicates that "husky" girls - those a little on the heavy side - are more even-tempered and efficient than their underweight sisters.

#4 Retain a physician to give each woman you hire a special physical examination - one covering female conditions. This will reveal whether the employee-to-be has any female weaknesses that would make her mentally or physically unfit for the job.

#5 Be reasonable considerate when using strong language around women. Even though a girl's husband or father may swear vociferously, she'll grow to dislike a place of business where she hears too much of this.

Perhaps whoever wrote this would have had more respect for women had he known about Tabitha Babbitt.

Poll Workers Needed

The League of Women Voters of Virginia predicts long lines at the polls on November 4. The State Board of Election Secretary states that Virginia may be short 10,000 Election Officials on election day. If you are 18 by November 4 you are eligible to be a poll worker. Pay is \$100. For more information go to <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Officers/Index.html> or call 800-552-9745.

LWVLC Voter 4

League Web Sites

LWV US - www.lwv.org
www.vote411.org

NCA - www.lwvnca.org

LWV VA - www.lwv-va.org

LWVLC - www.loudoun.va.lwvnet.org

LWVLC Webmaster e-mail -
wm@loudoun.va.lwvnet.org

LWVLC e-mail - league@loudoun.va.lwvnet.org

2008 CALENDAR

Calendar events are open to all League Members

July

- 24 Thurs. Library of Virginia Brown Bag Lecture
“Money in Politics” Richmond VA,
co-sponsor LWV VA
Info and agenda at www.lwv-va.org
- 21 Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm LWVLC Board of Directors,
Bacchus Restaurant, Leesburg

August

- 8 Fri. LWFVCA Board Meeting, Washington DC
- 18 Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm LWVLC Board of Directors,
Bacchus Restaurant, Leesburg
- 22-23 Fri-Sat. LWFVVA Board & Workshops, Richmond
Register & info at www.lwv-va.org
- 23 Sat LWVLC Board Retreat
- 25 Mon. Democratic Party Convention, Denver
- 26 Tues. Equality Day 19th Amendment Ratified

September

- 1-4 Republican Party Convention, St. Paul
- 15 Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm LWVLC Board of Directors,
Bacchus Restaurant, Leesburg

October

- 3 Fri. 10:00 - 2:00 LWFVCA President’s Brunch & Board
Meeting, Washington DC
- 6 Mon. Last day to Register for General Election
- 20 Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm LWVLC Board of Directors,
Bacchus Restaurant, Leesburg

November

- 4 Tues. Election Day
- 7 Fri. LWFVCA Board Meeting
- 15 Sat. 10:00 - 4:00 LWFVCA Eleanor Roosevelt Tour,
Washington DC
- 17 Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm LWVLC Board of Directors,
Bacchus Restaurant, Leesburg

December

- TBD LWFVVA Program Planning
- 3 Wed. Women’s Roundtable Pre-session & Lunch,
Richmond
- 5 Fri. LWFVCA Board Meeting
- 15 Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm LWVLC Board of Directors,
Bacchus Restaurant, Leesburg
- 16 Tues. Restoration of Felon’s Rights Consensus Due

*About the time we can
make ends meet, some-
body moves the ends.*
Herbert Hoover

*If all the economists
were laid end to end, they
would not reach a
conclusion.*
George Bernard Shaw

*It was we, the people;
not we, the white make
citizens; nor yet we, the
male citizens; but we, the
whole people, who formed
the Union...Men, their
rights and nothing more;
women, their rights and
nothing less.*
Susan B. Anthony

*We haven’t come a
long way, we’ve come a
short way. If we hadn’t
come a short way, no one
would be calling us baby.*
Elizabeth Janeway

*My advice to the
women’s clubs of America
is to raise more hell and
fewer dahlias.*
James McNeill
Whistler

*They that can give up
essential liberty to obtain
a little temporary safety
deserve neither liberty
nor safety.*
Benjamin Franklin



Ask a Friend to Join the League of Women Voters of Loudoun County
Please add my voice to over 120,000 members and supporters nationwide!

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

_____ \$60 Individual or _____ \$90 Family (Make dues checks payable to: LWVLC)

- Yes, I'd like to receive my LWV Voter Newsletter by e-mail. (*Please provide your current e-mail address*)
- Yes, I'd like to receive notifications of League activities by e-mail. (*Please provide your current e-mail*)
- Yes, I want to support the League of Women Voters of Loudoun County with a donation so it can continue its work to promote informed participation in government. Enclosed is my donation of \$_____.

Please make donation checks payable to **LWVLC Education Fund**.

Contributions to the LWVLC Education Fund are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Mail dues and donations to: Hatsy Cutshall, Treasurer LWVLC
20371 Cockerill Rd.
Purcellville, VA 20132

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LOUDOUN COUNTY

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Marla McIntyre, President

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