

LWV-US CONVENTION AT A GLANCE
Minneapolis, MN
June 10-13, 2006

Theme: Meeting in the Middle

People	Program	Budget	Other
<p>Nominating Committee's slate was elected. New President is Mary Wilson from New Mexico.</p> <p>Anne Sterling, LWV-VA Board Member/Lobbyist from Richmond, was elected to a position on the 2006-2008 LWV-US Nominating Committee.</p>	<p>Recommended Program was adopted, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 3-year study on Immigration Policy • Concurrence on abolition of the death penalty • All existing LWV-US positions 	<p>Recommended Budget was adopted with an amendment to add \$45,000 to income from Nationally Recruited Members (NRMs) [making the national membership rate \$55 instead of \$50] and increasing NRM Rebates by \$45,000 [\$10 per NRM instead of \$5].</p>	<p>Passed these by-laws changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widened our purpose by deleting "of citizens" so that we promote civic participation of the entire public. • Removed lump-sum life membership option [still have honorary category].
<p>24 Delegates from Virginia (out of about 750 nationwide) represented the state and every local League.</p> <p>LWV-VA Vice-President Olga Hernandez ably led the delegation.</p> <p>Bonnie Franklin and Anne Kanter were the other two LWV-VA delegates.</p>	<p>Non-recommended items passed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement of a paper trail on electronic voting systems • Action for internet neutrality • Inclusion of position on Checks and Balances in the Democracy Agenda action project 	<p>LWV-US Budget totals about \$4.3 million for the year 2006-2007 and depends more heavily on contributions and grants than per member payments.</p>	<p>Defeated by-laws changes that would drastically change the way that the Board conducts its business and national officers and directors are elected.</p>
<p>There were two ultimately unsuccessful nominations from the floor for Director/Trustee positions. One was Debbie Nuss from LWV Montgomery County, representing Lynchburg. She was nominated by Mary Houska, president of Montgomery Co.</p>	<p>Considered, but rejected, these non-recommended items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Care as a priority • Climate change as a priority • Requirement for cable to carry public affairs • Update of apportionment study 	<p>Per Member Payments Approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$26.30 for 2006-2007 • \$26.80 for 2007-2008 	<p>Keynote address "American Democracy in a Partisan Era" was by Dr. Thomas Mann, co-author of a new book <u>The Broken Branch</u> about Congress.</p> <p>There was also a judicial panel on "Understanding the System to Defend the Courts."</p>
<p>During direction to the Board, Delegate Anne Kanter suggested a fund to subsidize membership dues where needed.</p>	<p>Pat Brady, member of Fairfax Area LWV and representing Fluvanna Co., was one of the presenters in a workshop on Redistricting in the States.</p>	<p>Sheryl Wolfe of Loudoun LWV served on the Budget Committee.</p>	<p>Minneapolis rolled out the red carpet with welcoming billboards. Marshall Field's gave an opening reception at the store. Garrison Keillor was the banquet speaker.</p>