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League Goes All Out on Voter Registration

The LWC of Loudoun County has been extremely busy with voter registration this year.

We went into 10 high schools, registering more than 2,000 high school seniors.

On May 24, we conducted voter registration at Woodgrove High School in Purcellville. Congressman Frank Wolf (R-10th District) addressed the students. His opponent, Kristen Cabral was invited. League member Jean Brown spoke to the students on the importance of voting.

We also spent two weekends in August at the Leesburg Corner Outlet Mall registering voters, explaining how to apply for an absentee ballot, and accepting forms for address changes.

Voter registration was conducted at Spring Arbor Assisted Living and Cascades Senior Center.

League members helped the Registrar's office October 12-15 in a voter registration blitz at libraries in Leesburg, Ashburn, Purcellville, and Cascades.



Above: Frank Wolf and Jean Brown at Woodgrove High School. Below Left: Peggy Maio, Frank Wolf, Jean Brown, and Priscilla Godfrey. Below: Jean Brown speaking to the students on the importance of voting.



Presidents Column By Glenda Parsons & Carla Wiley



Co-Presidents Carla Wiley and Glenda Parsons at Woodgrove High School.

**“Be the change
you want to see in
the world.” ~
Mahatma Gandhi**



Ask anyone involved in the election process and they will tell you that it's been a long year - and an even longer past few months. With elections come the opportunity for the League of Women Voters of Loudoun County to conduct voter registration, candidate fora, and educational outreach. Despite the fact that very few League members are active participants, a few dedicated members have been steadfast in doing all we can to participate in the process. In October alone, here's what the few accomplished:

- Served as extensions to the Registrar's office and registered voters at four libraries the October 13-15, the final days before the registration deadline.
- Served as workers in the Live Broadcast State debate in Richmond for the Virginia Senate candidates on October 8.
- Co-hosted with Delta Sigma Theta, Inc Loudoun Alumnae Chapter and Loudoun Education Association an

informational women's forum "Why Women Vote" on October 22.

- Unfortunately we cancelled the Meet the Town of Leesburg Candidates forum at Ida Lee Recreation Center on October 29, co-hosted with *Leesburg Today*.

In past Letters from the Presidents, we have tried to rally League members to help us when we host events, educate the public on issues, and conduct voter registration. We need all of our members to rise to the challenge. Because we are women (that is, most of us are) we are busy, but in order for our League to continue to carry out its important work of high school voter registration, candidate fora, and non-partisan discussions of issues that affect our daily lives, we need your help. Every year, another high school is opened, requiring more volunteers so we can go to all 11 high schools in Loudoun County. Last year we registered more than 2,000 high school seniors to vote.

Next year, the General

Assembly will once again introduce legislation that will affect our rights as women. Our voices must be heard – and numbers speak volumes. We can't fight alone. We can't advocate alone. We can't educate alone.

We need your help. Whether it's making phone calls, helping set up at an event, or spending one day to register the high school seniors, there is something for everyone. We need you to help us continue the momentum.

Many of you receiving this newsletter have been members for years, but have not renewed your membership in the last year or two. You will be receiving a call asking you to send in your dues. We need your monetary support as well.

There are only so many hours in the day, but we are asking for just a few hours of your time. The few active members are getting tired. We can't do everything but remember - if you can't help us, please don't criticize us, we are doing the best we can.

Condo Elections

The League of Women Voters of Loudoun County assisted with several condo elections this fall. The donations received from these efforts help fund projects such as forums,

debates, panel discussions, and ongoing voter registration.

League members secure and count ballots. This year we offered condos the use of a secure ballot

box. If you are part of a condo association, please keep the League in mind before conducting elections. Contact Glenda Parsons, gpars3@aol.com.

“Why Women Vote” Panel



The League partnered with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Loudoun County Alumnae Chapter and the Loudoun Education Association on a town hall-style forum on “Issues and Concerns That Motivate Women Voters.” The forum was October 22 at Cascades Library in Sterling. The program included:

- Jeff Dunn, who spoke on

testing and measurement of student progress. He noted that education was largely absent from the presidential campaigns.

- Phyllis Randall, speaking on education, noted that graduation rates tend to follow economics. She said that homeless students have the ability to succeed but may show little

Phyllis Randall, Jennifer Wexton, and Jeff Dunn. improvement in testing due to economic issues.

- Dr. Angela Bess discussed healthcare and the differences in

Obama’s and Romney’s plans for healthcare and Medicare. She reminded the audience that women make most of the health decisions.

- League member Angela Mitchell spoke about being a woman-owned small business. She observed that it is difficult to find qualified employees with the right skills and attitude.
- Jennifer Wexton, an attorney, noted that one effect of the economy is that the divorce rate is lower.

The League and Deltas hope to continue the discussion in future meetings.

“Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.”

Aldous Huxley

Virginia Public Access Project Launches Mobile App for Senate Election

Scroll the latest headlines about the US Senate race on your smartphone at m.vpap.org. The app, a product of the non-partisan Virginia Public Access Project, compiles articles

from more than 30 newspapers around the state. The mobile-enabled site also provides the latest poll results and campaign financial information.



“Like begets like; honesty begets honesty; trust, trust; and so on.”

James F. Bell



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Loudoun County

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A voice for citizens, a force for change.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy.

By joining the Loudoun County League of Women Voters, you will:

- Have and create the opportunity to contribute valuable service to the community.
- Gain knowledge and experience through the study and discussion of timely and important topics.
- Discover new interests, develop new skills, and learn about crucial issues in your community.

For information on joining, contact Carla Wiley, withac13@gmail.com or go to www.loudoun.va.lwvnet.org/join_us.html.

Dues are \$60 individual or \$90 family.

Voting Information



Voters' Guide

The League of Women Voters of Virginia Education Fund and the League of Women Voter Education Fund have published the *Fall 2012 Voters' Guide*. The *Guide* lists all candidates qualified to appear on the November 6 ballot. The candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to six specific questions, which appear in the *Guide*. Download the Guide at:

http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org/files/lwv-va_2012_voters_guide_wpavp-final.pdf

State Board of Elections

Check:

- Whether you are registered
- Your polling place
- **What's on the ballot**
- Constitutional amendment details
- How to contact your local Registrar,
- New voter ID requirements, and
- More.

Go to

www.sbe.virginia.gov/Index.html

General Election

November 6, 2012

- Last day to register to vote - Monday, October 15, 2012, 5:00 pm
- Last day to request an absentee ballot to be mailed - Tuesday, October 30, 2012, 5:00 pm
- Last day to vote an absentee ballot in person - Saturday, November 3, 2012 (office open 8:30 am to 5:00 pm)

Polling Places in Loudoun County

www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?NID=197