



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND, INC.

111 Cathedral, Suite 201, Annapolis MD 21401

Tel. 410-269-0232 and fax (call first)

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Online: www.lwvmd.org

www.facebook.com/LWVMD

Editor: Carol Blackburn

STATE BOARD LETTER

April 2015

Calendar

April

- 13 Monday Sine Die - General Assembly adjourns
- 15 Wednesday LWVMD Voter deadline
- 18 Saturday Spring Fundraising Event. See flyer page 3.
- 23 Thursday LWVMD Lobby Day on Capitol Hill. Contact LWVMD by April 14.
- 30 Thursday Voices on Immigration. See page 11.

May

- 2 Saturday LWNCA Convention See flyer page 9.
- 7 Thursday LWVMD Board meeting 10 a.m. Wilde Lake
- 11 Monday State Board Letter deadline
- 25 Monday Memorial Day – LWVMD office closed
- 30-31 Sat.-Sun LWVMD Convention, O'Callaghan's Hotel, Annapolis. See flyer page 4

BE A PART OF THE LEAGUE'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

This year's convention will offer a unique opportunity to honor the League of Women Voters on its **95th birthday** and celebrate with other Leaguers and League supporters. We are opening up the convention banquet, Saturday evening, May 30 in Annapolis, to anyone (as long as tickets last) who doesn't want to attend convention, but would like to support the League's work by buying a banquet ticket for \$95. The proceeds will boost the League's action and advocacy work as well as our voter service endeavors.

If you can't come to the banquet, consider buying an ad in the Birthday Book. This would be a great way for members of the public, League members, or local Leagues to show they appreciate the work done by LWVMD. Purchasers of ads can draft their own birthday wish or ask for help. Ads will be \$25 for a business card size, \$50 for a half page, and \$100 for a full page. Groups and individuals can purchased the ads.

More details on the specifics will be in the upcoming issue of the *LWVMD Voter*.

Nancy Soreng

President's Message

Dear Leaguers:

Don't let these April showers get you down. We are planning a sunny day on the Chester River in Chestertown, April 18, for a LWVMD fundraiser including yachting on the river, touring the quaint town and eating a delicious lunch in a historic church. And for those who choose it, there is tea at the White Swan Tavern. There is still time to sign up. The deadline is April 11.

Soon we will be having the fun of **LWVMD Convention 2015. On May 30 to 31 we will gather in Annapolis to learn, decide, network, enjoy.** See the workshop offerings in this publication, and the fliers for the day-before activities in historic Annapolis as well as the convention, itself. As you know, the voting delegates are important, but **this is a convention for all members.** It will include a **gala banquet to celebrate the 95th Birthday** of the League of Women Voters. The birthday bash will also feature a great speaker, soon to be confirmed.

Register for Convention 2015 by May 1 to get in the drawing for a worthwhile surprise. See the flier.

It is annual meeting time. Your liaison from the Board will attend your annual meeting, if at all possible. I also look forward to coming to many of your meetings, if

possible. Please be sure you send your liaison and me an invitation. If you have any questions, call the office.

Please send your Annual Meeting Workbook to me, your liaison, and the office for our information. We applaud all the work you do and how you meet your challenges.

I have had a **very interesting meeting with our liaison to the National League, Barbara Zia, who is very appreciative of the accomplishments of our League.** I also had a **conference call with president Elisabeth MacNamara and seven other state presidents, mostly in the Northeast states, about their legislative sessions.** They have worked valiantly and have notable successes. **Elisabeth reminded us how powerful the League can be.**

Thank you for responding to our action alerts during this legislative session. Your legislators are greatly influenced by your opinions on legislation. After sine die, Monday, April 13, our League reporters will make their final contributions wrapping up the session for the last edition of Report from State Circle. Be sure to download and enjoy.

In League,

Susan



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND

Bring family and friends and join us at



Historic CHESTERTOWN



SATURDAY, APRIL 18

- 10:00 am Meet at Kent County Visitors Center,
122 N. Cross Street, Chestertown, 21620
for a guided walking tour of historic district
- 11:45 am Lunch at historic Emmanuel Episcopal Church
- 1:00 pm Cruise on Chester River in luxury yacht
(Optional - additional charge)
or wander through district on your own
- 3:30 pm Tea at White Swan Tavern
(Optional - open menu choices)

Lunch Menu
Vichyssoise
Chicken Salad
Vegetable
Rolls
Dessert
Coffee/tea

Registration deadlines:

Tour, lunch and cruise - March 18

Tour and lunch only - April 11

April 18, 2015 Spring Fundraiser

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ League _____

Email _____

Tour, lunch and cruise of Historic Chestertown - \$65 per person

Tour and lunch only - \$45 per person

Mail your check made out to LWVMD to:
LWVMD, 111 Cathedral St., Ste. 201, Annapolis, MD 21401

Questions?: Andrea Gruhl - 301 328 1845



Celebrate 95 Years of LWV

LWVMD CONVENTION May 30 - 31, 2015

O'Callaghan Hotel, 174 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

FRIDAY, MAY 29

2:00 pm FUN FRIDAY IN ANNAPOLIS Pre-Convention Tours and Dine-Around (See separate flyer)

SATURDAY, MAY 30

9:30 am - 10:30 am Registration
10:30 am - Noon Plenary
Noon - 1:30 pm Lunch (on your own)
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Workshops
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Plenary
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Reception (Cash bar)
7:30 pm **BANQUET**
Celebrating the 95th anniversary of LWV!

BANQUET ENTREE CHOICES - CHOOSE ONE

☐ CASHEL BLUE CHEESE CHICKEN
STUFFED WITH SPINACH AND BLUE CHEESE IN A LIGHT CREAM SAUCE
☐ SALMON FILET WITH JAMESON WHISKEY SAUCE (GLUTEN FREE)
☐ VEGAN PLATE (GLUTEN FREE)

SUNDAY LUNCH BUFFET

Please check here if you would like
a vegan alternative ☐

SUNDAY, MAY 31

9:00 am - 11:45 am Workshops
Noon - 1:00 pm Networking lunch buffet
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Plenary
3:00 pm Adjournment

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Call 410 263 7700 or 844 845 5917 or reserve online:
<https://bookings.ihotelier.com/The-O-Callaghan-Annapolis-Hotel/bookings.jsp?hotelID=77530&groupID=1240662>

Reserve by April 29 for LWVMD room rate: \$149 per night + tax Parking: \$10 per day

REGISTRATION

All Convention attendees must register. If you or someone you know would like assistance from the Lois Stoner Scholarship Fund for the registration fee, please contact the LWVMD office.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
LOCAL LEAGUE _____
EMAIL _____

Please check here if you are a voting DELEGATE ☐

Please send this completed registration form with your check
payable to LWVMD to:
LWVMD, 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 201, Annapolis, MD 21401.

**YOUR CONVENTION REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 11, 2015.
SIGN UP BY MAY 1 TO ENTER LOTTERY FOR A SPECIAL PRIZE!**

Each attendee should fill out a separate registration form. Thank you!
Questions? Call the LWVMD office at 410 269 0232.

I WILL BE ATTENDING THE LWVMD CONVENTION

I have enclosed a check for
\$110.00 _____
(Includes materials, banquet and
networking lunch buffet)

I (WE) WILL BE ATTENDING THE BANQUET ONLY

I have enclosed a check for
\$95.00 per person _____

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION
I have enclosed a check
for _____



LWVMD 2015 Convention - Fun Friday in Annapolis

Friday, May 29, 2015

Hosted by the League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County

Tour #1: Historic Annapolis Trolley \$17/person

Enjoy an hour-long narrated tour of the city's historic sights and scenic bridges, in cushioned seats and air-conditioned comfort. Your "Little Trolley with Big Windows" will pass the city dock, colonial mansions, State House, Governor's residence, and the U.S. Naval Academy; visit the WWII Memorial and take in the view from across the Severn River...and more! **Minimal walking required.** Meet in the O'Callaghan Hotel lobby at 2:00 p.m. Payment will be collected that day (cash or check). **Registration deadline: May 15.**

Tour #2: "Behind the Scenes" Annapolis Limited to 20 people/no charge

This exclusive League-organized tour will provide an insider's look at our State House. Participants will be shown beautiful legislator lounges, offices and reception areas that aren't open to the public, and will be allowed to enter historic rooms and chambers, guided by knowledgeable staffers. **Tour will involve significant walking.** Meet in the State House Rotunda; tour will begin at 2:00 p.m. **Registration will be on a first come first served basis; maximum of one guest per member, please.**

Late afternoon Check-in, explore, shop, meet for Tea or Happy Hour, relax!

Early evening Dutch-treat Dine-around with LWVAAC hosts*

*LWVAAC will offer a choice of restaurants and your host will provide transportation, if needed.

Friday night accommodations are available at the LWVMD rate of \$149/night. Call 410-263-7700 or reserve online: <https://bookings.ihotelier.com/The-O-Callaghan-Annapolis-Hotel/bookings.jsp?hotelID=77530&groupID=1240662>

----- Pre-Convention Activities in Annapolis - Friday, May 29, 2015

Name: _____ League: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Tour selection (please circle one) Historic Annapolis Trolley "Behind the Scenes" Annapolis

of participants _____ Guest name(s), if any: _____

____ I/we will participate in the Friday Night Dine-around. Guest name(s), if any: _____

Dietary restrictions/preference: _____

RSVP by May 15. LWVMD, 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 201, Annapolis, MD 21401; phone 410-269-0232 or email lwvmd@verizon.net. Questions? Contact Niecy Chambers (bayroot5@comcast.net or 410-295-5228).

Looking Forward to Convention May 30-31

Voting Delegates for Convention

Computing Voting Delegates for Convention: Please use the chart below to see the number of voting delegates allotted to each League. **If you will not be sending your allotted number please let Susan Cochran know, as another League may have members who would like to be delegates.**

LWVMD By-laws (2011) Article VII, Convention

Section 4, Representation. Every local League shall be entitled to at least three delegates including the president or co-presidents. Local Leagues having more than fifty (50) voting members shall be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional fifty (50) members, or major fraction thereof, belonging to said local League on January 31st of the current year. The record in the state office of paid voting members as of January 31 of the current year shall determine the official membership count for this purpose. Any inter-League organization that includes local Leagues in Maryland shall be entitled to one delegate.

County/MAL unit	Number of voting delegates	
Anne Arundel LWV	3	(62 members)
Baltimore City LWV	4	(94 members)
Baltimore County LWV	5	(150 members)
Calvert County LWV	4	(82 members)
Frederick County LWV	3	(56 members)
Harford County LWV	3	(27 members)
Howard County LWV	5	(144 members)
Kent County LWV	3	(48 members)
Mid-Shore LWV	3	(42 members)
Montgomery County LWV	9	(350 members)
Prince George's County	3	(54 members)
Queen Anne's County LWV	3	(56 members)
St. Mary's County LWV	3	(33 members)
Washington County LWV	3	(16 members)

The Convention Workbook will be available online on the LWVMD website www.lwvmd.org by April 28. Hard copies will be provided at convention for all members who have registered. Members can indicate on their registration forms if they wish to have a workbook mailed to them before convention.

LWVMD Convention Workshops

Saturday	1:30 p.m.	New Maryland Voting System
	2:15 p.m.	The ABCs of IRV (instant Runoff Voting)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Leading Your League into the Future (Membership Leadership Development)
	10:15 a.m.	Our New Web Site

Attendees may participate in all the workshops.

LOCAL LEAGUE ACTION

Annual Meetings Scheduled

Anne Arundel County LWV will hold its Annual Meeting with lunch at Baywoods in Annapolis from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The speaker is Janice Hayes-Williams, local historian.
Betsy Singer, Liaison

Baltimore County Annual meeting is Saturday June 6. 2015
Location and time: The Country Club of Maryland 12 noon to 3 p.m.
Luncheon reservation: \$40. Guest speaker: Barbara Hopkins, Executive Director of Neighbor Space. JoAnn Ross, Liaison

Baltimore City LWV will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, at 5:30 p.m. at Gertrude's at the Baltimore Museum of Art. The featured speaker will be the Honorable Kurt Schmoke, former mayor of Baltimore and current president of the University of Baltimore.
Sherry Hyman, Liaison

Calvert LWV's Annual Meeting will be Tuesday, May 19, at Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall on Broome's Island Road starting at 5:30 with a pot luck dinner. Guest speaker will be the president of the Board of Education. The annual meeting will follow. Ralph Watkins, Liaison

Frederick LWV's 55th Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 25, at Gladchuk Bros. Restaurant in Frederick. This breakfast meeting starts at 9:15 a.m. and costs \$20 per person. Jan Gardner, County Executive, is the guest speaker on the "Status of Charter Government." The business meeting will follow at 10:15 a.m. JoAnn Ross, Liaison

Howard LWV is holding its annual meeting on Tuesday, April 21, at the Sheraton Columbia Town Center Hotel in Columbia. Registration is at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 and the annual meeting scheduled at 7:15. Cost is \$44. The guest speaker is newly elected Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman. Andrea Gruhl, Liaison

Kent LWV is holding its Annual Luncheon Meeting at Emanuel Episcopal Parish Hall on April 14 starting at noon. The guest speaker will be the director of Maryland Common Cause on the "Reclaiming of Democracy: What Citizens Can Do." Elaine Apter, Liaison

Mid-Shore LWV will hold its Annual Meeting at the Cambridge Yacht Club, Friday April 24, 2015. The business meeting is scheduled for 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. Susan Cochran, Liaison

Prince Georges LWV has scheduled its Annual Meeting at Colony South in Clinton on May 16 starting at 10 a.m. Nancy Soreng, Liaison

Queen Anne's LWV will hold a dinner meeting for its Annual Meeting, April 29, 6 p.m., at Prospect Country Club. Susan Cochran, Liaison

St. Mary's LWV will be holding its Annual Meeting at Rex Restaurant in Leonardtown starting at noon on Saturday, May 2. Anne Mychalus, Liaison

Washington County LWV is holding its Annual Meeting on May 19 at the Washington County Public Library. The speaker's topic is "Civic Engagement." Carol Blackburn, Liaison

Getting New Members Connected Right Away

When someone joins your League, log onto the LWVMD website, click on "Subscriptions" in the blue tool bar in the top right part of the home page. On the drop-down menu check off Action Alerts, Report from State Circle and the LWVMD *Voter*; fill in the new member's email and she will begin receiving these publications right away. Please remember to enter the member in the LWVUS database right away, too.

Database Lock Starts April 23

The LWVUS Membership Database will be locked starting April 23, 2015, in preparation for conversion to a new system. The database will be inaccessible for at least five weeks. Please download your roster by April 23 to ensure you have a copy of your member list at the time of the changeover. If you have questions or need assistance accessing the database before April 23, 2015, please contact membership@lww.org or click "More" to see the Online Database User Guide.

LWVMD Board Notes, April 6, 2015

1. The Board approved forwarding the recommendations of both the budget and the bylaws committees to the Convention. The nominating committee also informed the board of its slate of officers and board members. All will be voted upon at Convention.
2. The board also voted on recommended program for the next 2 years. Program will be decided at Convention, also.
3. Registration for the Spring Fundraiser, April 18, is looking very good.
4. The board voted to forward some specific questions to National League that could be used for US Presidential candidates.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA



Invites you to

Our 2015 Annual Convention

Saturday, May 2nd ~ 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Clyde's of Gallery Place Restaurant, Piedmont Room
707 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Keynote Speaker: *Chris Whatley*

***Executive Director of the
United Nations Association of the USA***

“The United Nations Today”

Agenda

Registration at 9:30 will be followed by a buffet breakfast and the keynote presentation. Our business meeting will include election of officers, approval of our 2015-16 budget, program for 2015-17 and a silent auction fundraiser.

Menu

Breakfast buffet with fruit, eggs, quiche, French toast bacon and sausage and assorted pastries.

Transportation

Clyde's is half a block from the Gallery Place Metro station. Garage and metered street parking is available. More information on transportation is on the registration form.

Public Transportation

The Gallery Place Metro Station serves the Red, Green, and Yellow Lines. Take the 7th Street exit from Metro Station to either the “Arena” exit and walk right on 7th Street one-half block to Clyde's, or take the “Chinatown” exit and walk left on 7th Street one-half block to Clyde's AT 707.

REGISTRATION

2015 LWVNCA ANNUAL CONVENTION

Parking

Parking in the Gallery Place Garage with Clyde's validation will cost approximately \$25. See the rates below. The Gallery Place Garage is on 6th Street between G and H Streets. From the garage, take the elevator to the second floor. The entrance to Clyde's is on the second floor just to the left of the elevator. Note: No turns can be made at the intersection of 7th and H Streets.

Discounted parking rates with validation:

up to 1 hour: \$5.50 (with discount) up to 2 hours: \$11 (with discount) up to 3 hours: \$15 (with discount) up to 4 hours: \$18 (with discount) 4-24 hours \$25

Metered street parking near Clyde's is less expensive than the garage.

Registration

Cost is \$40 per person. Provide a registration form for each person attending the convention. Make checks payable to:

League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area, or to LWVNCA.

Mail the form below and a check to: Barbara Ewalt, 11037 Saffold Way, Reston, VA 20190. Deadline for receipt of forms and checks is **Monday, April 27, 2015.**

-----LWVNCA Convention Registration Form----- (Please print) -----

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Local or State League: _____

Delegate: (Circle one) Yes No

Number of attendees: _____ **Amount of Enclosed Check:** _____

Your Voice Counts

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters
of Baltimore County and BCPL

LWV

Voices on Immigration: Is it good for America?



A panel discussion

Roy Beck, founder NumbersUSA
www.numbersUSA.com

Joyce Mucci, Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR)
www.fairus.org

Martin Ford, Associate Director for MD Office for Refugees and Asylees

Learn about

- immigration statistics, facts and laws
- what it means to be a refugee
- Who are our immigrants?
- How does immigration affect us?



A question and answer session will follow.

Refreshments will be served.



Thursday, April 30, 6:30 PM
Owings Mills Library,
10302 Grand Central Ave, Owings Mills
410-887-2092

In partnership with the
Baltimore County League of Women Voters, 410-377-8046.
lwwbaltimore@comcast.net