



NEWSLETTER

Summer, 2025

Dear Members and Friends,

In addition to having a busy summer with the League of Women Voters, this was an especially busy summer for me, personally.

It seems that this was the summer when everything major with our house decided it was time to need a major repair. Once we got one

thing up and working, another major item said, "Hey wait a minute, that's not fair – it's my turn to break down!" And on it went, but it was not all bad. We had a visit with my granddaughter and her beau from Charleston, and my sister-in-law came to visit for a week with a friend that she travels with from Tennessee. We played cards non-stop and did some sightseeing and ate way too much food. In addition, I became a great-grandmother to a baby girl, Lila Claire! So, the good definitely outweighed the bad!



I hope all of you had a wonderful summer and are ready to look forward to a busy fall and winter. The League of Women Voters of Queen Anne's County has some new and exciting projects we are working on – so read on to learn what we are planning!

INTRODUCING TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

At our recent Annual Meeting and Dinner, we voted on two new board members, Barbara Witten and Ann Grace. We are fortunate to have two very talented and community-minded women join our board and look forward to developing new projects and working with them!

Barbara Witten is a Maryland native and longtime Annapolis resident who now calls the Eastern Shore home. A Navy wife and daughter, she and her husband of 50 years moved across the Bay nearly



three years ago. Barbara brings over 30 years of nonprofit leadership experience and is co-founder of the DatoC Witten Group, a consulting firm helping mission-driven organizations grow their impact and fundraising. A graduate of the University of Maryland Global Campus, she chairs the Annapolis Dragon Boat Club and is a special advisor for the Annapolis Immigration Justice Network, and a member of the Commissioning Committee for the USS District of Columbia (SSBN - 826) the lead boat of the United States Navy's Columbia -class ballistic missile submarines and the Navy's first vessel to be named for the District of Columbia. She is passionate about civic engagement and community building.

At the age of 12, **Ann Grace** and her family moved from El Salvador to the United States, and she has lived in and around Maryland since the age of 17. She retired from the Department of Justice after a 37-year career. She began her employment as a part-time clerk while attending Strayer College, retiring as a Management Analyst. After her retirement, Ann and her husband Mike moved to Capitol Hill, Washington DC, where they spent 16 years participating in an active and diverse community. She focused her attention on volunteering and serving on the Board of Directors for Capitol Hill Village, a volunteer-first organization devoted to supporting one another to improve the community and live fulfilling lives. Ann and Mike moved to Centreville in 2023. She has been a member of LWVQAC for over a year. She intends to focus her efforts on strengthening voter literacy.



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OTHER BOARD NEWS

In other board news, our Past President, Patricia Jamison, has been re-elected to the League of Women Voters Maryland board, and our board member, Nancy Lynott, has been elected to the LWVMD board. They work on various committees and other assignments and provide our local board with State updates; so, we are well represented with the State League!

VOTER REGISTRATION EVENTS

KENT ISLAND DAY

The League of Women Voters of Queen Anne's County is always delighted to participate in Kent Island Day. This year it was held on Saturday, May 17. The weather was beautiful, and we handed out information about the League's mission of empowering voters and defending democracy, as well as providing resources for elections and voter registration. Kent Island Day offers a wonderful opportunity to connect with our neighbors, celebrate the county's history, and engage with the community on the importance of civic participation. We always look forward to meeting visitors and encouraging everyone to make their voices heard at the ballot box, and we always welcome support and participation of our members!



Jinny Guy, Patricia Jamison, and Carolyn Moorshead

...and in other important news!

The League of Women Voters of Queen Anne's County was so pleased to host the League of Women Voters of Maryland's Summer Convention on June 8–9 at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort in Grasonville. This annual gathering brings League members from across the state together to share ideas, set priorities, and strengthen our collective work of empowering voters and defending democracy. We are excited to welcome delegates and guests to Queen Anne's County and showcase the beauty of the Chesapeake Bay while engaging in thoughtful discussions and planning for the year ahead. Our County Commissioner, Chris Corchiarino, was the opening speaker, who stressed the importance of our local league here in Queen Anne's County. There were other interesting speakers and break-out rooms to discuss voter education and how to engage in public activities in our area.



PLASTIC FREE QAC

After our Annual Dinner (see the Spring, 2025 newsletter), we were asked by Plastic Free QAC to testify in support of the ban on single-use plastic bags. We don't normally get involved in testifying on legislative issues, but as the League of Women Voters US has done a study and developed a position on this issue, we were given the green light to go ahead and present testimony. Unfortunately, the ordinance did not pass, but it was an interesting experience.



At the hearing with our bags

ANNUAL RETREAT

On Wednesday, July 2, we held our Annual Retreat at the Chester House at the Four Seasons (thank you to our board member, Barb Witten, for arranging this for us). We do basically the same things as we do at the Summer Convention, except on a much smaller scale. We establish Standing Committees and committee members, make sure our operating procedures are up to date, plan events for the coming year and set long and short-term goals. We are re-establishing a Membership Committee (which will include planning some interesting events for our members to participate in). Some other ideas we are researching are establishing a potential Scholarship Committee and a potential Speakers Series. We would love you to attend some of our board meetings and offer your ideas and insights on any of the events and projects we are researching!



The board members at the retreat

INFORMATION ABOUT ADVOCACY TRAINING FROM LWVMD



Local
Meetings.
Statewide
Change.

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN.



LWVMD Local Advocacy Meetings

LWVMD is excited to launch a **new advocacy campaign** to bring our work directly to Maryland's 47 legislative districts — and **we need you** to make it happen. **We're calling on our members** to meet with their state legislators and speak up for the League's top priorities.

What You'll Do:

- **Meet with your state Senator and Delegate(s)** in your legislative district (with assistance from LWVMD's State Action Team).
- Share LWVMD's top **policy priorities** and **why they matter** to your community.
- **Represent the League's values** with confidence — we'll make sure you're prepared.

What We'll Provide:

- **Fact sheets** and leave-behind materials on each issue (see more below).
- **Sample scripts** and email templates.
- **[Training hours via Zoom](#)** every **Friday at 10:00 AM** from August 29 to October 17th. (Click link to join)
- **Ongoing support** from LWVMD's State Action Team)

How to Get Involved:

This campaign depends on members like you. Whether you're a seasoned advocate or new to lobbying, this is your chance to make a direct impact on Maryland democracy.

👉 **Complete the interest form to join the campaign:** bit.ly/InDistrictAdvocacy

Or simply join one of our [Friday morning trainings](#) — all members are welcome!

Questions? Contact stateoffice@lwwmd.org

[Sign Up Now](#)

Policy Priorities

Below are the 3 priority topics that members will be advocating for during their advocacy meetings. For each of the policy areas below, LWVMD will provide a fact-sheet, and any other relevant materials on the topic.

Special Elections for Vacancies: Support a constitutional amendment requiring special elections to fill legislative vacancies — not insider appointments.

Plain Language on Ballot Questions: Advocate for legislation that ensures all ballot questions are written in clear, easy-to-understand language.

Local Issue: Your local League may include an optional, additional issue relevant to your community. LWVMD will provide a one-pager template and guidance.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Event	Time	Location
Fridays in Aug & Sept.	Advocacy Trainings	10:00 a.m.	Zoom
Monday, Sept. 1	Labor Day		
Monday, Sept. 8	Voter Certification/Recertification Training	5:30 p.m.	Centreville Library
Monday, Sept. 8	LWVQAC Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Centreville Library
Tuesday, Sept. 16	National Voter Registration Day	Various	Kent Island H.S. Q.A. H.S. Chesapeake College
Sunday, Sept. 21	Corsica River Day	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Conquest Beach
Monday, Oct. 13	LWVQAC Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Centreville Library
Saturday, Oct. 25	Centreville Day	11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lawyers Row Centreville
Monday, Nov. 10	LWVQAC Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Centreville Library
Saturday, Nov. 1	Make a Difference Day	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Sudlersville Middle School
Monday, Nov. 10	LWVQAC Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Centreville Library

As we move forward, your involvement and support are crucial to the success of our mission! Whether you are a long-time member, a new member, or interested in becoming a member, your voice matters. Together, we can make a positive impact on our community and beyond!

This is a quarterly newsletter, and your feedback is very important to us. Your input and ideas are invaluable, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us. You can reach us by email at lwvqac@gmail.com, and visit our website at www.lwvqac.org, and check out our Facebook page!

The next newsletter will come out in the fall, but we would love to hear from you in the meantime! Please consider joining us at one of our upcoming events, and you are always welcome to attend a board meeting! If you are interested in volunteering at one of our events, please e-mail me at er93hammon@aol.com.

Thank you for your dedication to the League of Women Voters of Queen Anne's County.

With warm regards,
Liz Hammond
President

