



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND, INC.

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STATE BOARD LETTER

Mid-May 2017

LWVMD Calendar

May

19 - Friday, last day to register for convention without paying \$50 extra

29 - Monday, Memorial Day holiday, LWVMD office closed

June

2 - Friday, LWNCA Board meeting

9 -11- LWVMD Convention, Washington College, Chestertown, see pages 3, 4, & 5

11- Sunday, calendar planning session with new board (at convention)

July

23 - Sunday, 1:45 p.m. LWVMD Fundraiser, "Thurgood," a play about Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall at the Olney Theatre. See flyer, page 10.

Register Before May 19 for Our 2017 Convention!

LWVMD's biennial convention will be held in just a few weeks, **June 9 – 11, at Washington College in Chestertown.** To register for convention, go to LWVMD.org, click on "Calendar, then "Events," and then on "2017 LWVMD Convention." If you would like to share a suite with someone in particular, please contact Nancy Smith at nismith@verizon.net. Questions? Contact Jane Hardy at janewhardy@gmail.com or 410-639-7811.

Please keep this **deadline** in mind -- **May 19 is the LAST DAY to sign up for convention without paying \$50 extra.** **Please help us make timely arrangements by registering as soon as possible; thank you!**

Save the Date for Our Summer Fundraiser

Looking for something special to do this summer? Mark your calendars for July 23. LWVMD is sponsoring a summer theatre party for a performance of Thurgood, a one-man **play** about the life of **Thurgood Marshall**, at the Olney Theatre, Olney, MD, on Sunday, July 23 at 1:45. Tickets are \$65 each. To purchase tickets, go to the LWVMD website, lwvmd.org, and click on Calendar, and then "Events"; tickets will also be available at our convention. We have purchased a block of tickets, which will be handled on a first come basis, since the performance is sold out. If needed, we can try for a second date.



PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



This is the last message we will be sending to you via SBL. It was an honor serving as your co-presidents for the past two years. It has been wonderful seeing the new faces in your Leagues and growing our relationships with long-time members.

We hope to see many of you at the Convention. The members of the Kent County League have been working overtime to provide a great experience for you. Please register today and encourage your fellow League members to sign up too. We hope to use our time together to set the stage for a strong and impactful future for the League of Women Voters. We also hope to learn more about how LWVMD can collaborate with local Leagues and League members to provide a sustainable foundation for our work.

The LWVMD nominating committee: Betsy Sexton, Chair, Rebecca Goode, Anne

Mychalus and Andrea Gruhl did a phenomenal job. We can't wait until you get to meet the wonderful people that they found to serve on the LWVMD Board. It makes it much easier to step down from a leadership role knowing that the LWVMD will be in such capable hands.

And finally, we would like to thank our Board and all the Local League Presidents for their contributions over the past two years. LWVMD participates in many coalitions and interacts with many public officials and they are always surprised and impressed by how engaged we are and how much we accomplish as volunteers. Of course, we couldn't get nearly as much done without our office in Annapolis and Ashley Oleson (and Linda Hamm before her) to keep us on track.

We hope you have a great summer! Looking forward to seeing you in Chestertown and then at the performance of Thurgood in Olney.

In League,

Barbara Schnackenberg and Nancy Soreng
LWVMD Co-Presidents

LWVMD Board Meeting Highlights, May 1, 2017

- Financially we are in good shape, many thanks to all who support the League.
- The Action Team should be proud of all their accomplishments this year, in particular the Ban on Fracking. Maryland is the first state to ban fracking through its Legislature. Congrats and thanks for all the hard work.
- The Board discussed the DRRA Study and reviewed the feasibility of future studies. Civics Education; Bail Practices and Corrections Review; and Caring for Our Aging Population were three ideas for studies that we might adopt for next year, providing the studies have adequate leadership and local League involvement.
- Plans for the Convention in June are moving along nicely. Be sure to make your reservations early.
- Many thanks go out to Barbara S. and Nancy S. for a fine job as co-presidents of the LWV State Board.

Theresa Freligh, LWVMD Secretary

LWVMD 2017 State Convention
Washington College, Chestertown: Friday, June 9 through Sunday, June 11

Deadline for reservation submission is Friday, May 19. Due to requirements by the College, any reservations received after the deadline will cost Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) more.

Please check below:

- 3 day/2 night package: Includes room and linens Fri and Sat nights, room key use, dining hall lanyard, breakfast Sat and Sun, lunch Sat and Sun, cocktail party and banquet ("Chesapeake Specialties" buffet) Sat night, early morning beverages in dorm, convention registration fee, and all meeting materials. **\$230.00**
- 2 day/1 night package: Includes room and linens for Sat night, room key use, dining hall lanyard, breakfast Sun, lunch Sat and Sun, cocktail party and banquet ("Chesapeake Specialties" buffet) Sat night, early morning beverages in dorm Sun, convention registration fee, and all meeting materials. **\$180.00**
- Day Trippers: (Sat and Sun sessions) Includes all meeting materials, convention registration fee, cocktail party and banquet ("Chesapeake Specialties" buffet) Sat night, dining hall lanyard, lunch Sat and Sun, refreshments during session breaks. **\$125.00**
- Banquet Only: For Banquet ("Chesapeake Specialties" buffet) and Cocktail Party Sat night. **\$41.00**
- Fri afternoon guided walking tour of historic Chestertown. **\$20.00**
- Fri afternoon "Dessert Tea" at White Swan Tavern in Chestertown. **\$8.00**
- Waterside Picnic on Fri. Summer evening picnic at the home of a Kent County member near the Chesapeake Bay. A casual, catered *al fresco* dinner at 7 p.m. **\$40**

Another option on Friday night: National Music Festival presentation of Brahms Piano Concerto, No. 2 in C, Nikolai Lalav, Conductor, Michael Gurt, Pianist, at Decker Hall on the Washington College campus. Dinner on your own in College dining hall or at a restaurant in town. This concert is expected to sell out, so make a reservation early and pay at <http://nationalmusic.us/events-and-tickets/>

Total enclosed: \$ _____ Will you be a voting delegate? (Y or N) _____ (see pg. 7)

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

League: _____

Phone: _____

One dormitory has been set aside for our use. This is an all-suite dorm; each suite contains one bathroom and either 2 or 3 bedrooms. We will assign one bedroom to each person who attends. If you would prefer to choose your suitemate(s,) please provide the name(s) in the space provided below. Linens will be provided, but you will have to make your own bed. A refrigerator on the first floor is available for medical needs and your own drinks. The dorm has 3 floors – an elevator is available.

Name of preferred suite mate(s): _____ and _____

Mail to: LWVMD, 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 201, Annapolis, MD 21401

OR register online – lwvmd.org/2017_lwvmd_convention. Questions?? Contact Jane Hardy, janehardy@gmail.com, 410/639-7811.

If you or someone you know would like assistance from the Lois Stoner Scholarship Fund for the convention fees, please contact the LWVMD office at 410-269-0232 or by email: lwvmd@verizon.net.

More About Convention

Convention Agenda: During our two plenary sessions on Saturday and two on Sunday, we will approve the minutes of our last convention; hear reports on our accomplishments since 2015; consider ideas for new studies and program updates, and adopt a new program of action and study for 2017 - 2019; discuss and approve a new budget; meet nominees to be officers and director and elect a slate for 2017 - 2019. Our Sunday lunch will be an opportunity for us to connect with those with similar leadership positions in other local Leagues. See below for a detailed draft agenda.

Convention Foot Ware: Please be aware that 90% of the sidewalks at historic Washington College are made of brick, and are therefore beautiful but bumpy! Though driving from the dorm to our main meeting place is a possibility, it may be easier to walk, about 12 - 15 minutes at a leisurely pace. Don't try this in high heels! Please bring low-heeled foot ware, e.g., flats, sandals, tennis shoes.

Convention Workbook: The Convention Workbook will be online shortly. Members will receive notification when it is available to view. 2017-18 budget and 2017-19 nominating committee reports will have gone out to members by Tuesday, May 9. A printed copy of the Convention Workbook will be given to all registered members upon registration at the State convention.

Friday Afternoon Activities: Join us for a guided tour through historic Chestertown, followed by an optional dessert tea at the White Swan Tavern.

Friday Night Waterside Picnic: Our setting will be at the waterfront home of a Kent County LWV member and our menu will be pulled pork barbeque with rolls; baby red potato salad; cabbage and pepper slaw; asparagus salad; orzo salad; strawberry dessert; beverages. Cost is \$40.

Networking Lunches: On Saturday join one of three "Discussion Tables" during lunch -- Engaging Your Leaguers in the Current Political Climate, OR What You Need to Know to Be a Local League Treasurer, OR New and Experienced Local League President Sharing. On Sunday get to know others with similar portfolios statewide informally by joining them at designated tables.

Saturday Night: We will commence with a cocktail party (cash bar), during which we will hold our "Roll Call of Leagues," followed by a "Chesapeake Buffet Dinner" including such delicacies as crab soup, fried oysters, crab cakes, fried chicken, a vegan dish, salads and dessert. Our banquet speaker will be Ms. Sheila Bair, President of Washington College. (Note: for those of us bringing spouses or partners who will not attend the convention but would like to come to the banquet, there is a "Banquet Only" option on both our online and mail-in [see page 3 of this *State Board Letter*] registration forms.)

Special Workshops: Saturday workshop – "Creating a Sustainable Future for Your League." Sunday workshops (concurrent) – "NationBuilder: Using the League Website Platform for Communications (refresher) and Working with Membership and Donations" **OR** "A Briefing on LWVMD Primary Election Study, Part II."

Our other meals will be in the college cafeteria, which offers an array of choices for every meal. Your convention "package" fee includes the cost of all meals. Once you arrive you will receive a lanyard that will gain you "free" access to all-you-can-eat meals in the dining hall. If spouses or partners not attending the convention would like to eat at the college dining hall they may do so on their own. (For these folks breakfast costs \$7.85, lunch \$10.00, and dinner \$13.40. For the rest of us, every meal's cost is already covered.) We will have a whole room set aside for us to eat in, which will be helpful during our "networking" lunches.

We will live in the Sassafras Dorm at Washington College; we will have the whole building to ourselves. The rooms are all suites, though the bedrooms are separate and no one will share a bedroom unless by design. If you would like to share a suite with someone in particular, please contact Nancy Smith at nismith@verizon.net. There is an elevator in the dorm. In fact, all buildings at the college are handicap accessible.

Other questions, concerns? Please contact Jane Hardy, janewhardy@gmail.com, 410-639-7811.

2017 LWVMD Convention Agenda
Washington College, Chestertown
June 9 - 11

Friday, June 9, 2017

PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

- 12 noon - 10:00 pm** **Check-in at Washington College - Sassafras Dormitory**
- 2:00 pm** **Guided walking tour of historic Chestertown, followed by optional tea at the White Swan Tavern.**
- 6:45 pm** **Sunset cruise on the Chester River aboard the Chester River Packet.** Casual cuisine buffet dinner included. Cash bar. Boarding at 6:45 p.m. (No longer available for registration. Deadline for signing up for cruise was May 5.)
- 7:00 pm** **Waterside Picnic.** Summer evening picnic at home of Kent County member on Chesapeake Bay. A casual, catered al fresco dinner.
- 7:30 pm** **National Music Festival** concert, Decker Hall at Washington College. (Those interested in attending need to make their own arrangements)

Saturday, June 10, 2017

- 8:00 am - 10:00 pm** **Dormitory check-in at Sassafras Dormitory**
- 9:00 am - 10:30 am** **Convention Registration for all at Toll Science Center.**
- 10:30 am - noon** **PLENARY SESSION I, Litrenta Hall, Toll Science Center**
- Call to Order: *Barbara Schnackenberg, Co- President*
Welcome: *William Pickrum, Pres, Kent County Commission*
Appointment of Credentials Committee
Report of Credentials Committee: *Elaine Apter*
Parliamentarian's Comments: *Diane Hibino*
Adoption of Rules of Convention
Adoption of Order of Business
Appointment of Minutes Readers
Appointment of Action Motions Committee
Approval of Minutes from LWVMD 2015 Convention
Co-Presidents' Report: *Barbara Schnackenberg and Nancy Soreng*
Treasurer's Report: *Carolyn Hetterick*
Membership Report: *Betsy Grater*
- Noon - 1:30 pm** **Lunch, Hodson Hall Dining Hall - Choose a Discussion Table**
- Engaging Your Leaguers in the Current Political Climate

or
What You Need to Know to Be a Local League Treasurer
or
New and Experienced Local League President Sharing

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

WORKSHOP, Litrenta Hall, Toll Science Building

Creating a Sustainable Future for the League

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

PLENARY SESSION II

Report of Credential Committee: *Elaine Apter*

Legislative Action Report: *Ruth Crystal*

Nominating Committee Report & Introduction of Nominees:

Betsy Sexton

Presentation of 2015-17 Proposed State Program and Motion to Adopt:

JoAnn Ross

Motions for Consideration of Non-Recommended Items

Program Discussion and Debate (no motions)

Presentation of the 2017-18 Budget: *Melanie Cox*

Budget Discussion (No motions)

Call for Action Motions

Announcements

5:45 pm - 7:00 pm

RECEPTION: CASH BAR & HOR D'OEUVRES, Welcome Center, Casey Academic Center

6:30 pm

Roll Call of Local Leagues

7:00 pm

BANQUET, Casey Academic Center, ground floor

Key Note Speech - "Ban the Debt: Rebuild the Middle Class; Winning at the Game of Loans" presented by Sheila Bair, President of Washington College, former chair U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, author of *Bull by the Horns: Fighting to Save Main Street from Wall St. and Wall St. from Itself.*

Sunday, June 11, 2017

8 am to 10 am

Dormitory check-out, Sassafras Dormitory

11:30 am to 3 pm

Dormitory check-out, Sassafras Dormitory

9:30 am - 11:00 am

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Using the League NationBuilder website platform for communications (refresher) and working with membership and donations.

Room 100, Goldstein Bldg.

or

Briefing on LWVMD Primary Election Study Part II
Litrenta Hall, Toll Science Center

11:15 - 11:45 am **PLENARY SESSION III, Litrenta Hall, Toll Science Center**

Report of Credentials Committee: *Elaine Apter*
Election of Officers, Directors, and Nominating Committee

11:45 - 1:15 **Networking Lunch, Hodson Hall Dining Hall**

New Board meets to review to adopt 2017-18 LWVMD calendar and set date for retreat.

Other tables: treasurers, membership chairs, webmasters, local League Presidents

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm **PLENARY SESSION IV, Litrenta Hall, Toll Science Center**

Report of Credentials Committee: *Elaine Apter*
Presidents' Acceptance
Discussion, Motions and Vote on Program for 2017-2019
Discussion, Motions and Vote on Budget for 2017-2019
Action Motions Report
Vote on Action Motions
New Business
Directions to the Board
Announcements

2:30 pm **CONVENTION ADJOURNS**

Turning Point Suffragist Memorial



This memorial is planned for a park near where the suffragists were imprisoned for silently picketing President Woodrow Wilson's White House in support of the right to vote for women. The suffering of these and other women across the country who led the way to establish our right to vote is being recognized through this memorial planned for a riverside park in Lorton, VA where suffragists were imprisoned, brutalized, and force fed. Too few of our history books record the full extent of their suffering. If

the members and friends of the Maryland League contribute at least \$1000, **our League will be named on the wall of donors at the memorial.** To see the park setting and central figure of the suffragist who was hung by her wrists from the ceiling of her cell, go to www.suffragistmemorial.org. An anonymous donor has already contributed \$500 in the name of the Maryland League. Additional donors for the remainder to get us to the minimum of \$1000 may contribute by clicking here: <http://www.lwvmd.org/memorial>.

Those who are going to convention may contribute to a collection that will be taken up there.

Barbara Schnackenberg, Co-President, LWVMD

Good News Page!

What Would Alice Paul Do? Melissa Currence, Shur Fellow Coach and LWV Cincinnati member, and Amy Hjerstedt, former Shur Fellow Coach and LWVUS Board Director (and both served together as chairpersons to the LWVUS Young People's Taskforce), have created a podcast to share stories, tips, and how-tos to make sure League members and activists have the tools and confidence to actively engage their communities. **What Would Alice Paul Do? Podcast** explains League lingo, grassroots organizing, and what it means to be a League of Women Voters member in a transformational time—both politically and technologically. Join the conversation by leaving comments on Facebook, Instagram and the alicepaulpodcast.com website. Checkout the podcast on the website and subscribe to iTunes or Stitcher. And, please see the flyer on the following page!

LWV Frederick County Lauded: On April 22, at the Annual meeting of the League of Women Voters of Frederick County, the County Executive Jan Gardner and County Council President Bud Otis surprised Melanie Cox, the Frederick League's president, with the presentation of a Certificate of Recognition from the County. The Certificate referenced the return to County ownership of Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center and Montevue Assisted Living Facility (the only subsidized assisted living in the State of Maryland), which was an action item for the League for two years; strengthening of the County ethics ordinance; expansion of the League's role in local election process through work with the Board of Elections; increase in membership and diversity of the League's membership, testimony to communicate the League's positions at many local and state meetings; service as a respected advocate for seniors as Co-Chair of the County Executive's Seniors First Task Force; and Melanie's work as President of Advocates for the Aging of Frederick County, a new 501 c-3 organization to address the needs of the County's frail and needy seniors.



Frederick County Council President Bud Otis and County Executive Jan Gardner honor Melanie Cox, center, for her service to the community. Photo by Linda Norris-Waldt.

The Kent County LWV has created a booklet, "Run for Office in Kent County, 2017 – 2018," that it hopes will encourage many Kent Countians to run for elected positions ranging from Town Councilman to U.S. Senator. The booklet contains information about the offices for which legal residents of the county may run, the duties of the offices, how the elections are conducted, the office terms, and the base salary for each position. Also within the booklet is an election calendar, including filing deadlines. For more information about this publication, contact Nancy Smith at nismith@verizon.net, or Lillian Zelinski at kzelinski@gmail.com.

What Would Alice Paul Do? Podcast



What Would Alice Paul Do? Podcast

You're inspired to do greatness! And we're inspired by you! This podcast demystifies what it means today to be in the League of Women Voters.

We are volunteers with the League of Women Voters, and we're sharing stories, tips and how-tos to make sure you have the tools and confidence to actively engage your community.



What Would Alice Paul Do?

Podcast hosts:

Melissa—LWV National Coach

Amy—LWVUS Board Director

We're Social!

[Facebook.com/alicepaulpodcast](https://www.facebook.com/alicepaulpodcast)

[Instagram.com/alicepaulpodcast](https://www.instagram.com/alicepaulpodcast)

Website: alicepaulpodcast.com

Email: alicepaulpodcast@gmail.com



JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND
AT THE OLNEY THEATRE ON JULY 23

THURGOOD



By George Stevens, Jr.

Directed by Walter Dallas

Starring Brian Anthony Wilson as Thurgood Marshall

*"You do what you think is right and let the law catch up."
So said Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall,
who changed the face of American jurisprudence.*

*Spend an evening with the late Justice at this one-man show,
and consider just how far we've come... or have we?*

Sunday, July 23, 2017 at 1:45 p.m.

Open seating - Doors open at 1:15 p.m.

Olney Theatre Center

Maryland Route 108 (Olney-Sandy Spring Road), Olney, MD

Directions and Parking: <http://olneytheatre.org/more/plan-your-visit/directions-parking>

Tickets \$65

Limited number of tickets available!

Purchase Tickets At:
www.lwvmd.org/thurgood