

BULLETIN

League of Women Voters
Arlington, Massachusetts

www.lwva.com

March 2015

Calendar

2/28	Saturday 7 p.m.	“Unequal Justice: Consequences of Race and Class in Our Criminal Justice System” panel at Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave. Details below.
3/2	Monday 7:30 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting at Angela Olszewski’s home, 1 Watermill Place, Apt. 428. Note change from usual time. Directions on page 6.
3/7	Saturday 5 p.m.	Deadline for registering to vote in the Town Election.
3/19	Thursday 7:30/8 p.m.	Candidates’ Night for the 3/28 Town Election, co-sponsored with Vision 2020, in Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave. Meet Town Meeting candidates starting at 7:30; the forum will begin at 8. See page 3 for details on volunteering.
3/19	Thursday 7 to 9 p.m.	“Economic Inequality and Political Participation” forum at Bentley University, rescheduled from January. See lwvma.org for details.
3/28	Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Town Election. If you can give rides to the polls, please contact Phyllis Maddox. See last page for details.
4/12	Sunday 11:30 a.m.	Save the date for our annual Legislators’ Brunch at Kathy Fennelly’s home, 97 Gray Street! The April Bulletin will have more details.
	Monday 4/27	Town Meeting begins.

Unequal Justice: Consequences of Race and Class in Our Criminal Justice System

All are invited to this free panel discussion at Town Hall Saturday, February 28 from 7 to 9 p.m., organized by the Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group. Doors open at 6:30. Refreshments will be available. The LWVA is a co-sponsor of this event.

Panelists will include Fred Ryan, Arlington Police Chief; Peniel Joseph, Tufts University civil rights historian and activist; Frank Rudy Cooper, Suffolk Law School professor specializing in race and masculinity; and Don Perry, parole reform activist. David Whitford will moderate.

Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski: Co-Presidents
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Ann FitzGerald: Membership AnnFitz@rcn.com

Kim Haase: Bulletin Editor c.haase@comcast.net
Margaret Reiners: Bulletin Mailing mlreiners@gmail.com

Co-President's Message

As I write this message, a winter storm is again approaching for this coming Sunday and another for the middle of the coming week. Oh joy! The last board meeting was held via email. I did not find this very satisfactory, but I did not want to slip on the ice, and, of course, there was no place to park.

This year's Legislators' Brunch is to be held on April 12th, hopefully under clear, blue skies. This is a great opportunity to hear from our state legislators and for us to lobby for a particular position. Local aid, transportation issues, or affordable housing would be interesting talking points. Please mark your calendar and come. A friend or neighbor would be most welcome.

Vision 2020 and the League are once again co-sponsoring Candidates' Night, which will be held on March 19 at the Arlington Town Hall. As questions from the audience are screened before being put to the candidates, there is a need for thoughtful and relevant questions to be crafted. Give some thought to topics that you would like to hear explored, bring a few questions, and enjoy the evening.

A group of League members has been observing the board meetings of the Arlington Housing Authority. It is never boring and sometimes quite educational. There are always two people in attendance. Sometimes there is a scramble to get a second person. Any interest? If so, contact Janice Bakey at jbjb15@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Carolyn Parsons

LWVA LEADERSHIP 2014–2015

Carolyn Parsons, Co-President	781-646-9309
Angela Olszewski, Co-President	781-648-8649
Meredith Zona, Organization VP	781-648-2753
Patricia Muldoon, Action VP	781-648-1019
Joan Martin, Local Action VP	781-646-0752
Kathleen Colwell, Treasurer	781-646-4522
Anne Linn, Secretary	781-643-0356
Elizabeth Thompson, Voter Service	781-646-5942
Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director	781-646-9711
Abigail Fair, Publicity	781-643-0666
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The BULLETIN is published monthly except during the summer and December by the League of Women Voters of Arlington, PO Box 461, Arlington, MA 02476.

Local Candidates' Night
Thursday, 7:30 PM, March 19, 2015
Town Hall Auditorium, Arlington, MA

Co-sponsored by
Arlington's Vision 2020
and the
League of Women Voters of Arlington, MA

I would like to thank all League members who have already volunteered to help the LWV at Town Hall on March 19.

Starting about 7:30 PM, the candidates for major town offices will attend to say hello to members of the public before the televised event begins. League members will post precinct number signs in the corridors for Town Meeting candidates and existing Members to chat with their constituents.

We will be happy to have you and other League members to help that night for the following activities:


- Post Precinct Number signs (please arrive before 7:15 PM so they will be in place before the Town Meeting Member candidates arrive)
- Greet candidates and members of public
- Help set up before and/or pack up after the event

If you would like to lend a hand, please phone or email me and let me know what you would like to do. See you at Candidates' Night.

Elizabeth Thompson
Voter Service Chair
LWV Arlington
elizw.thompson@gmail.com
781-646-5942



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To advertise in our Bulletin,
please contact Kim Haase at
c.haase@comcast.net or
781-643-3429.

Quiz: How Has the League Helped Improve Our Democracy?

From the LWV-US

Ninety-five years ago, Carrie Chapman Catt called for a League of Women Voters to “finish the fight” to ensure that every eligible voter has free and fair access to the polls as well as to empower voters to influence their government to better serve their interests. The League’s first major victory came just six months later with the passage of the 19th Amendment, which secured women the right to vote.



But that success was just the first of many. Since then, the League has been critical in Making Democracy Work® across a range of issues.

How well do you know the League’s impact on Americans’ lives? Test your knowledge and learn more about just some of the League’s great accomplishments over the past 95 years!

1. In what year did the League, along with partners NBC and Life magazine, host the first televised U.S. presidential debate?
 - a. 1944
 - b. 1948
 - c. 1952
 - d. 1956

2. On what national issue did the League work to bring business leaders to the table in the 1970s and 1980s?
 - a. Campaign Finance Reform
 - b. Equal Rights Amendment
 - c. Environmental Protection
 - d. Health Care Access

3. What is the official name of the law commonly known as Motor Voter that the League helped to pass and continues to work to strengthen?
 - a. Voting Rights Act
 - b. Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act
 - c. Clean Air Act
 - d. National Voter Registration Act

See next page for answers.

Directions to Angela Olszewski's home, 1 Watermill Place, Apt. 428 (Phone: 781-648-8649)

Watermill Place is a condo building located next to the Old Schwamb Mill on Lowell Street in Arlington Heights.

From Arlington Center:

Follow Mass. Ave into the Heights. At the former Nicola Pizza, bear right onto Lowell Street and pass a few houses. Watermill Place will be on your right. Continue to the end of the building to the large Watermill Place sign. Turn right into the parking lot and drive past the green awning. There will be marked visitor spaces in front of you. If none are available you can park on Lowell Street, on the side where the building is.

From Park Avenue:

Follow Park Avenue down the hill to Mass. Ave. Continue straight and cross over Mass. Ave. (Brigham's Ice Cream and the UPS Store on two of the corners). Go over a bridge (Gold's Gym on the right). Take the first (sharp) right onto Lowell Street (Peter Pan Superette on the corner). Go over another bridge. There are about six houses very close together on the left. Watermill Place is on the left after the houses. Take a left into the driveway and drive past the green awning (entrance) to marked visitor spaces. If no spaces are available, you can park on Lowell Street, on the side where the building is.

Enter the building at the green awning. The name list is alphabetical by last name. Press A to get to the middle of the alphabet, then press Z repeatedly to arrow down to my last name, Olszewski. When my last name is highlighted, press the CALL button.

Answers to Quiz: 1. c 2. b 3. d



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League of Women Voters
for its contribution to
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Dues are due! Our fiscal year begins on April 1. Thank you for your support.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON Membership Application/Renewal Form

Fiscal Year runs from April 1 to March 31

Name _____ Precinct _____ Date _____
Address _____ Zip _____ Occupation _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

_____ Please indicate if you do NOT want your contact information sent to Arlington League members

_____ Basic Membership Dues..... \$60
_____ 2nd member in household \$23
_____ Student (full-time) \$20
_____ Contribution to help the LWV in Arlington, add \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

If \$60 is a hardship, please pay what you can and let us know that this is your dues payment.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: League of Women Voters of Arlington
MAIL TO: Ann FitzGerald, 162 Summer St., Unit 1, Arlington, MA 02474

Please check areas of interest and activity even if you can't be actively involved THIS year.

SPECIAL LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

- Join the Board. Position: _____
Action: phone calls letters
Bulletin: mailing soliciting ads
Membership
Nominating Committee
Publicity Writer
Voter Service: Rides to the polls
Candidates Night
Voters' Guide
Attend State League's Phonathon
Be a discussion leader at local meetings
Fundraising activities
Offer meeting refreshments
Post fliers and deliver brochures
Host a meeting in my home
Monitor elections for nonprofit organizations

FOLLOW ISSUES, KEEP LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY INFORMED

- Congress/Presidency/Election Process
Discrimination/Equal Employment/Civil Rights
Education/Child Care
Environment/Recycling
Health Care
Justice/Courts/Prisons
Land Use
Taxation/Budgets/Deficits
Transportation/Urban Policy
Voting Rights
Warrant Articles Review
Welfare Policies/Basic Human Needs
Women's Issues
Zoning/Community Development/Land Use

OBSERVE AT TOWN BOARD MEETINGS*

- Selectmen (Mondays)
Redevelopment Board (Mondays)
School Committee (2nd & 4th Thursdays)
Conservation Commission (1st & 3rd Thurs.)
Housing Authority

SKILLS LEAGUE COULD DRAW ON

- Computer database Fundraising
Graphic design Writing articles
Desktop publishing Other
Web site maintenance
Membership development
Moderating meetings

BEST TIME TO CALL YOU:

(for phone tree reminders) Call before _____ o'clock

*Some of these can be seen on cable TV

Rides to the Polls

We will be offering rides to the polls for the Town Election on Saturday, March 28.

We'll be offering rides from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you can help as a driver at any time during those days, please let Phyllis Maddox know by calling 781-646-4362 or emailing PhyllisMaddox@comcast.net.

— *Phyllis Maddox*

March 2015

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Post Office Box 461
Arlington, MA 02476

