

# *BULLETIN*

League of Women Voters  
Arlington, Massachusetts

*www.lwva.com*

## November/December 2011

### Calendar

11/8	Tuesday 7 to 9 p.m.	A Public Forum: Taking On the DC Budget Debate, Arlington Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave. See page 6 for details.
11/13	Sunday 1 to 3 p.m.	Joint Arlington/Winchester consensus meeting for National Public Education Study, Gosselin Law Offices, 1026 Main St., Winchester. All members invited. See page 5 for details.
11/14	Monday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board meeting at Phyllis Maddox's home, 55 Hillside Ave. All members welcome. See below for directions.
12/6	Tuesday 6 to 9 p.m.	LWVA Holiday Potluck Party at Joan Robbio's home, 4 Bradley Rd. Friends and family welcome. See page 3 for details.
1/16	Monday 6 p.m.	Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance at Town Hall. Details will appear in the January Bulletin.

#### **Directions to Phyllis Maddox's home:**

55 Hillside Ave. is between Appleton St. and Florence Ave.

Follow Mass. Ave. to Park Ave. in Arlington Heights. Take Park toward Rt. 2 for 2 blocks to Appleton. Turn right on Appleton for one block to Hillside, then turn left on Hillside. 55 is the 3rd house on the right with a front porch and a large yew bush in the front yard.

If you are coming down Park Avenue from the south, take a left on Florence, then the first right on Hillside. 55 is about 8 houses down on your left.

**Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski:** Co-Presidents  
[CarolynMParsons@msn.com](mailto:CarolynMParsons@msn.com), [amolszewski@gmail.com](mailto:amolszewski@gmail.com)  
**Ann FitzGerald:** Membership [AnnFitz@rcn.com](mailto:AnnFitz@rcn.com)

**Kim Haase:** Bulletin Editor [c.haase@comcast.net](mailto:c.haase@comcast.net)  
**Margaret Reiners:** Bulletin Mailing [mlreiners@gmail.com](mailto:mlreiners@gmail.com)

## Co-President's Message

To reiterate the obvious to most of us, the Town of Arlington has numerous opportunities for political expression. As a member of the League of Women Voters of Arlington, I will have attended the conversation, "Health Care Reform: Where Are We Now?", with political scientist Andrea Campbell and guests.

A public forum entitled "Taking On The DC Budget Debate" (see page 6 for details) will address the DC debt deal made this past August that requires reducing the federal deficit by \$2 trillion over ten years. We should think how such a proposed reduction in funds would impact the citizens of Arlington. Please consider joining the discussion.

I urge every local member to participate in the upcoming National consensus study on the Role of the Federal Government in Public Education. (Refer to the Calendar for time and location.) The October Bulletin has a link to the National study webpage and a list of all the consensus questions. If you would like a ride, please call me at 781-646-9309.

Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, December 6, when the League will host the DPW Director, Mike Rademacher. Arlington is a town with many miles of infrastructure that need to be maintained. Discover how we shape up!

*Carolyn Parsons*

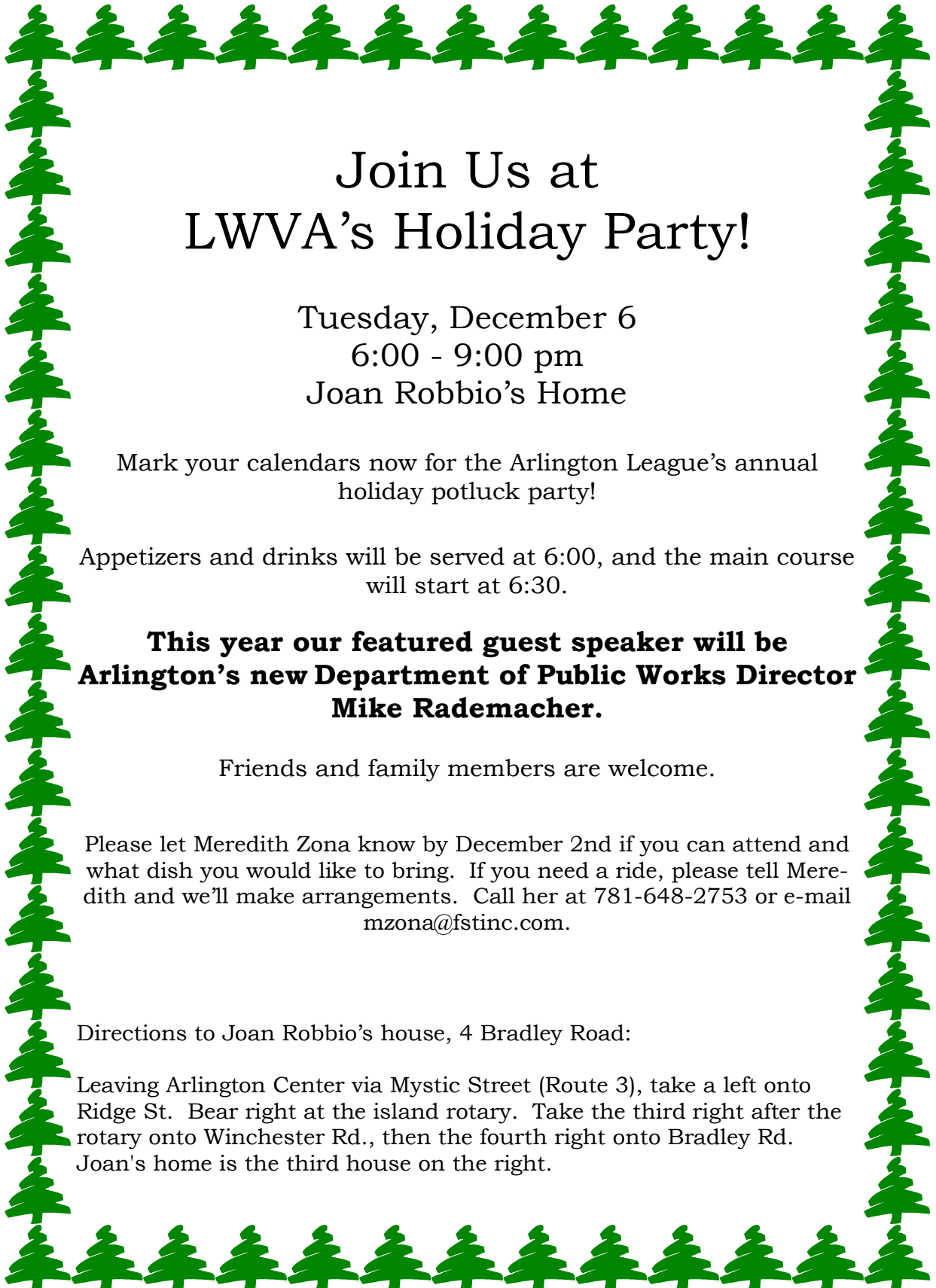
We extend a hearty welcome to our newest member:

**Pamela Meister**  
19 Village Lane  
Arlington, MA 02474  
781-646-8024  
pamela@themeisters.net

### LWVA LEADERSHIP 2011-2012

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
Patricia Lieberon, Local Action VP	781-646-1987
Kathleen Colwell, Treasurer	781-646-4522
Anne Linn, Secretary	781-643-0356
Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director	781-646-9711
Betsy Rulon, Publicity	781-648-0169
Katharine Fennelly, Voters' Guide	781-648-1794
Kim Haase, Bulletin Editor	781-643-3429
Margaret Reiners, Bulletin Mailing	781-646-9611
Janice Bakey, Email Coordinator	781-643-4345
Phyllis Maddox, Webmistress	781-646-4362

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.



# Join Us at LWVA's Holiday Party!

Tuesday, December 6  
6:00 - 9:00 pm  
Joan Robbio's Home

Mark your calendars now for the Arlington League's annual holiday potluck party!

Appetizers and drinks will be served at 6:00, and the main course will start at 6:30.

**This year our featured guest speaker will be  
Arlington's new Department of Public Works Director  
Mike Rademacher.**

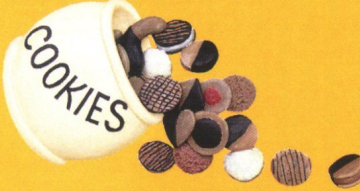
Friends and family members are welcome.

Please let Meredith Zona know by December 2nd if you can attend and what dish you would like to bring. If you need a ride, please tell Meredith and we'll make arrangements. Call her at 781-648-2753 or e-mail [mzona@fstinc.com](mailto:mzona@fstinc.com).

Directions to Joan Robbio's house, 4 Bradley Road:

Leaving Arlington Center via Mystic Street (Route 3), take a left onto Ridge St. Bear right at the island rotary. Take the third right after the rotary onto Winchester Rd., then the fourth right onto Bradley Rd. Joan's home is the third house on the right.

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*Initial Free Consultation for League Members*

## **Arlington and Winchester Leagues to Meet Jointly on Education Policy Consensus**



The Arlington League encourages every local member to participate in the upcoming National Consensus Study on the **Role of the Federal Government in Public Education**. The scope of the study is broad and includes the following areas under the role of the federal government in public education (pre-K through grade 12): the history, funding and equity issues which are addressed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the common core standards/assessments which are required for many federal grant programs but are national, not federal. The discussion will focus upon how the new standards called Common Core State Standards will be used by the federal government.

The Winchester League, with whom the Arlington League has worked cooperatively before, has invited us to join them in a consensus meeting. The meeting coordinates are as follows:

**Sunday, November 13, from 1 to 3 p.m.**  
**Gosselin Law Offices**  
**1026 Main Street**  
**Winchester**

We understand the law offices have a comfortable conference room for us to use.

Before the meeting, please read the materials on the National Study web page. The simplest way to find them is to go to <http://www.lwvma.org> and click the link partway down the left column to **Study 1; “The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education”**. **Link to LWVUS page with study papers etc.**

Also, please bring to the meeting the consensus questions printed in the October Bulletin, <http://home.comcast.net/~lwva/bulletins/Oct11.pdf>, starting on page 3.



## Forum to Discuss National Budget Impact on Town

The group Arlington 25% Solution is sponsoring a public forum, "Taking on the DC Budget Debate," in Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, on Tuesday, November 8 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Speakers will include Clarissa Rowe, Chair of the Arlington Board of Selectmen; State Representative Jay Kaufman; and Mike Prokosch, National Coordinator of the New Priorities Network. Music will be provided by Chris Nauman, an Arlington singer/songwriter. The moderator will be Annie LaCourt of the Board of Selectmen. Presentations will be followed by an open discussion and action steps.

Arlington 25% Solution says, "Let's talk about what we can do to bring Federal Dollars back into our community for the services and programs that sustain the quality of town-life we treasure here in Arlington. The DC 'Debt Deal' made this past August 1st requires reducing the federal deficit by more than \$2 trillion over ten years. Decisions are being made in Washington now which could heavily impact Arlington – from funding our schools, infrastructure, housing assistance and higher education to social service block grants, youth and senior programs, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and more. To save our town services, Arlington just passed an override. We do not want to be faced with new cuts and budget shortfalls. We do not want to balance the federal budget on the backs of our most vulnerable residents or our town's property taxes. We have other choices: Restore fairness to the tax system, cut military spending.... and fund jobs and services."

For more information, go to [www.arlington25percentsolution.org](http://www.arlington25percentsolution.org) or contact Susan Lees, [swlees@earthlink.net](mailto:swlees@earthlink.net).



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Contact Ann Fitzgerald, annfitz@rcn.com, if you have any questions.

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..... \$50
\_\_\_\_\_ 2nd member in household ..... \$23
\_\_\_\_\_ Student (full-time) ..... \$20
\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to help the LWV in Arlington, add \$ \_\_\_\_\_
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If \$50 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

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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 Phonothon \_\_\_\_\_
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 Tuesdays)
\_\_\_\_\_ 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



# Phonathon Reminder

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts Fall Phonathon will begin soon. Your generous donation will help support LWVMA plans for the coming year, which include:

- Citizen education programs in preparation for Fall 2012 elections
- Regional environmental educational forums on air and water quality and natural resources
- Improved communication with members and local Leagues
- Expansion of Membership and Leadership Development Program to more local Leagues
- Statewide effort to register 18-year-olds

If you have not already sent a contribution, please be generous when you are called.

To join the phoners, please contact Angela Olszewski at [amolszewski@gmail.com](mailto:amolszewski@gmail.com) or 781-648-8649.

**November/December 2011**

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Post Office Box 461  
Arlington, MA 02476

