



BULLETIN
lwva.com

April 2023

Calendar

<p>Saturday April 1</p>	<p>The LWVA's fiscal year begins. Please send in your dues, using the form on page 7.</p>
<p>April 1 Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Town Election.</p>
<p>April 11 Tuesday 7 p.m.</p>	<p>LWVA Board Meeting via Zoom teleconference. The meeting URL will be sent to attendees; email one of the Co-Presidents if you would like to attend.</p>
<p>April 23 Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.</p>	<p>Annual Legislators' Brunch, in person at Kathy Fennelly's home, 97 Gray Street. Details on page 3.</p>
<p>April 24 Monday 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Town Meeting begins.</p>
<p>May 7 Sunday 4 p.m.</p>	<p>Mark your calendars for Cantilena's concert "Fired Up!", a call for equality and activism, at First Parish UU Church. Details will appear in the May Bulletin.</p>

Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski: Co-Presidents
CarolynMParsons@msn.com, amolszewski@gmail.com
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


Spring is in the air as I write this. The Town Election is coming up in less than one week. We held Candidates' Night in-person at Town Hall for the first time in four years. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make it a success. Aside from a brief sound issue, the program went off without a hitch. The League, once again, provided a good opportunity for voters to hear from the candidates for townwide office and for Town Meeting members, candidates for Town Meeting, and constituents to meet informally.

Next on our schedule will be an in-person (yes, with real food!) Legislators' Brunch. Please dust off those recipe cards and mark your calendar for Sunday, April 23rd. This event is a great opportunity to hear from and discuss topics of interest with our state representatives and senator. Please consider bringing along a friend (or two or three!) to join in the conversation.

The board is beginning to make plans for our annual meeting in late May. More information will be available soon.

Please enjoy the weather. I hope to see you at Legislators' Brunch!

Angela Olszewski



LWVA LEADERSHIP 2022–2023

Carolyn Parsons, Co-President	781-646-9309
Angela Olszewski, Co-President	781-648-8649
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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.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:
LWV ARLINGTON'S ANNUAL LEGISLATORS' BRUNCH
& BRING A SPOUSE, FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR!**

**Sunday, April 23, 2023, 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
@ Kathy and Paul Fennelly's Home, 97 Gray St., Arlington**

Here's your chance to meet and hear what's happening with our current State Legislators – Senator Cindy Friedman and Representatives Sean Garballey and Dave Rogers.


The last time we were able to meet in person for this event was April 2019, so we are thrilled to be able to resume the traditional venue this year!

Please contact Meredith Zona, Meredith.Zona@stantec.com or tel. 781-648-2753, if you can come and bring your favorite brunch food. Meredith will also arrange for a ride to and from the brunch if you need that.

Directions: 97 Gray St. is at the intersection of Gray St. and Churchill Ave., which is the 4th right after you turn onto Gray St. from Pleasant St. (Route 60). If you're traveling on Gray St. from Arlington Heights, Churchill Ave. is the 4th left after the lights at Highland Ave. The house is a large gray home on the right side if you're traveling up from Pleasant Street. There is plenty of on-street parking.



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Calling All Voter Education Projects!

From the State League

The Lotte E. Scharfman Citizen Education Grant Program can help your League cover costs for voter education programs. A Scharfman grant can help with events around elections, candidate forums, Voters Guides, issues meetings, and meet-and-greet with Legislators. Grants can be written for non-election projects, too. Successful Scharfman grants have funded art exhibits, Know Your Town programs, Town Meeting informational handbooks and tech infrastructure like Zoom for voter service programs in our post-pandemic world. Think creatively: if it is a voter service project, it probably meets the guidelines. Need some ideas? Go to the LWVMA for a list of previous grants:



<https://lwmma.org/citizen-education-fund-2/citizen-education-grants-for-local-leagues/>

The grant forms are easy to complete and you can get up to \$300 for an individual League. Want to work with two other Leagues? Scharfman grant applications for 3 or more Leagues working together can request up to \$600.

Share your ideas with you local League board. The next grant cycle deadline is April 17. The June grant cycle deadline is June 12. Start planning now or plan for a future event.

Editor's Note: Our Organization VP, Meredith Zona, applies for these grants regularly. As you'll remember from the February *Bulletin*, Arlington was awarded a grant early this year for our Arlington Votes signs. Please send Meredith any ideas you have!

Save the Date: LWVMA Convention is June 10, 2023

From the State League

We're excited to announce that the LWVMA Convention will be held in person for the first time since 2019! We are looking forward to reconnecting with many of you – it's been a very long four years! This Convention will be hybrid, so there is an option to participate virtually.

Where: Clark University, 950 Main Street, Worcester, MA & Zoom

When: Saturday, June 10, 2023

- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (in-person)
- 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Zoom)

Why:

- Participate in interactive break-out sessions on important topics
- Plan the program and pass the budget for the next biennium
- Elect LWVMA Officers and Directors



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Initial consultation is free for LWVA members

Candidates' Night Report

By Carolyn Parsons, Co-President

Candidates' Night involves a lot of moving parts. One of the candidates for town-wide office might not respond to the invitation to Candidates' Night (and need to be chased), or they might respond in a maybe/maybe not way. Different versions of the script need to be generated to accommodate this non-committal. Having appropriate questions for each office is another hurdle.

The setting up and cleaning up of the Town Hall is not difficult but requires a few people. I was quite pleased to have help in moving chairs further apart and indeed out of the auditorium so that townspeople would be able to talk to candidates for Town Meeting. It took three people to hang the banners as they are just a bit heavy and awkward. Tent cards need to be generated, water provided, the public greeted, the answers to questions timed, and the candidates introduced to the moderator. Oh, and someone needs to respond to complaints; there are always complaints.

I do not do well with complaints. I did think that the acoustics were poor. Thank heavens for a member of the audience who helped to fix the problem.

Many thanks to everyone who helped!

**Our fiscal year begins April 1, so now is the time to send your dues!
Thank you!**

**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

- Action: phone calls _____ letters _____
- Bulletin: mailing _____ soliciting ads _____
- Membership
- Nominating Committee
- Publicity
- Voter Service: Rides to the polls _____
 - Candidates Night
 - Voters' Guide
- Host a meeting in my home

**FOLLOW ISSUES, KEEP LEAGUE
AND COMMUNITY INFORMED**

- Congress/Presidency/Election Process
- Discrimination/Equal Employment/Civil Rights
- Education
- Environment/Climate Change
- Health Care
- Justice/Courts/Prisons
- Housing/Zoning/Community Development
- Taxation/Budgets/Deficits
- Transportation/Urban Policy
- Voting Rights
- Basic Human Needs
- Women's Issues/Gender Issues
- Housing/Zoning/Community Development
- Other

**OBSERVE AT
TOWN BOARD MEETINGS***

- Select Board (Mondays)
- Redevelopment Board (Mondays)
- School Committee (2nd & 4th Thursdays)
- Conservation Commission
- Housing Authority

SKILLS LEAGUE COULD DRAW ON

- Writing articles
- Computer spreadsheet
- Desktop publishing
- Website management
- Moderating meetings
- Membership development

*Some of these can be seen on cable TV

Please add my name, street address, phone number, and email address to the LWVA mailing list: ____ Yes ____ No

(Note: This information will not be sent to anyone outside the LWVA)

April 2023

League of Women Voters of Arlington
Post Office Box 461
Arlington, MA 02476

