



# **Voter**

---

**Sept. 2011**     *Encouraging active and informed citizen participation in government*

---

## **Presidents' Message**

It's 3 o'clock in the morning and I'm awakened by a dream -- or it is a nightmare? The 2011 election results are in: fewer than half of eligible voters have decided who will make decisions that affect our jobs, our taxes, our children. They will chose Virginia's leaders -- the people who will control our roads, our safety, our environment. It was a nightmare -- but, it could become a reality.

That's what happened in the 2010 election: 45% of the eligible voters went to the polls. The other 55% of U.S. citizens didn't vote. They either weren't registered, or informed, or interested. The League of Women Voters has the power to change this in Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk and Virginia Beach. How?

The first step is registering as many voters as we can -- and we have just the leader to make that happen: Terri Thompson, the LWV-SHR Voter Services Chair. She is ready with the forms, the knowledge and the energy to get going. All Terri needs is the volunteers and the information on events, times and places. She led the first registration drive of the year at a three-hour ODU event. With the help of League volunteers Randy Lougee, Linda Armstrong, M Finn and Carolyn Caywood -- they registered 74 new voters!

What can YOU do? Contact Terri ([tntluck@aol.com](mailto:tntluck@aol.com)) or 757-647-6667; or me ([armstrongv@cox.net](mailto:armstrongv@cox.net)) or 757-502-4973.

In the next issue of The Voter I'll share with you more ways to achieve our mission in South Hampton Roads "...to encourage informed and active participation in government." Hampton Roads to "...to encourage informed and active participation in government."

*Virginia R. Armstrong*  
[armstrongv@cox.net](mailto:armstrongv@cox.net)

## ***You are Invited!***

### **General Meeting and Greeting with the League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads**

Sunday, September 25, from 3-5 p.m. at the YWCA, 5215 Colley Avenue, in Norfolk, we will hold a wine and cheese party, with fellowship and music, followed by a League meeting, with reports on activities from the Board of Directors.

Invite your friends, family, and potential members. Please RSVP by calling the League phone: 541-8598, no later than September 22.

## **September Unit Meetings**

Plan to come to lunch on Thursday the 22d to continue our exploration of the federal role in education. Take a look at the LWVUS [Education Study](#) resources and the consensus [questions](#).

Come to breakfast on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> to explore local issues related to water, from seafood management to sea level rise.

### **General Meeting**

Sunday, Sept. 25, - 3 pm - YWCA

### **September Lunch Unit - Education**

Thursday, Sept. 22, Noon  
Bangkok Garden, 339 W. 21<sup>st</sup> St. Norfolk

### **September Breakfast Unit - Water**

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 7am  
Tabbs Restaurant, 4019 Granby St. Norfolk

### **Voter Registration Drive**

Oct. 6-9 Suffolk Peanut Festival



## LWV SHR Sponsors Forum

On Monday, September 12, a Constitution Day forum at Norfolk State University asked students to think about the question, "Does Your Vote Really Count?" As people arrived they were greeted by LWV-SHR members Lee and Arnold Barr, Carolyn Caywood, and Terri Thompson, and given our new handout with local voting information. Our president, Dr. Virginia R. Armstrong, led the Forum. Mrs. Barbara Hamm-Lee of WHRO moderated a panel that included Mr. Lawrence Guyot, Civil Rights Leader; Prof. Carol Pretlow, Political Science NSU; Delegate Matthew James, Virginia House of Delegates; and Ms. Sandra Brandt, Political Consultant and member of the LWV-SHR. At the end of the forum, the moderator asked the panelists to summarize their messages. Each one emphasized the importance of voting. Mr. Guyot spoke of the courageous groups registering voters during the Civil Rights movement and that "Together we changed the world!"

## Voter Registration drives

On Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, the League was hot. We sweltered in the sun to register 74 ODU students as voters. This was our first time participating in ODU's Week of Welcome. In addition to registering students to vote, we provided information on upcoming elections and the League of Women Voters. The LWV SHR volunteers were Linda Armstrong, M. Finn, Carolyn Caywood, Randy Lougee, and Terri Thompson who pulled it all together!

We learned some lessons we'll put to use at the Suffolk Peanut Festival on October 6-9.

1. Expect the wind to blow and make sure the papers don't.
2. Many students did **not** know their Social Security Numbers thanks to all the privacy protections now in place.

3. But they do want to be good citizens and voters.
4. Bring something to drink.
5. Memorize our League phone number – 757-what-was it? 627-3397 You'll write it on enough receipts to learn it.
6. Shade – Does anyone have a parasol?
7. Know "[What's on my ballot?](#)"

But despite sizzling in the sun, we felt appreciated and gratified by many students' enthusiasm for voting. I hope they will remember the League of Women Voters.

And come October, you too can make a difference by registering voters at the Suffolk Peanut Festival. Contact our Voter Services Chair, Terri Thompson at [tntluck@aol.com](mailto:tntluck@aol.com) to get on her schedule. Don't forget that October 17 is the deadline for voter registration before the November election.

Carolyn Caywood

---

## Coming up - Privatization Study

Nationally, the League of Women Voters is launching a study to identify those parameters and policy issues to be considered in connection with proposals to transfer federal, state or local government services, assets and/or functions to the private sector. It will review the stated goals and the community impact of such transfers, and identify strategies to ensure transparency, accountability, and preservation of the common good.

Recommended Reading:

[Government Privatization: History, Examples, and Issues](#)

Paul Starr, "[The Meaning of Privatization](#)," Yale Law and Policy Review 6 (1988): 6-41.

[Privatization: A Seattle League Study](#)

---

## We have a Yahoo group

In order to distribute the Voter and timely messages from our President, we need to get the Yahoo Group updated. This will happen most easily if those of you not currently on the list will join it. If you are on the list, you received a flier about the September 12<sup>th</sup> forum. If you didn't, please go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LWVSHR-Action/> and click on **Join**.

---

## LWVUS Education Study

If you would like to be on our committee to handle the consensus between now and November 30, please let Virginia R. Armstrong know – [armstrongv@cox.net](mailto:armstrongv@cox.net). Use these links to review the LWVUS [Education Study](#) resources and the consensus [questions](#). For the September Lunch Unit, please think about the following questions:

*What should be the role of the federal government in public education?* (Rank)

To ensure that all students preK-12 receive a quality education.

To develop accountability measures that will study the progress of all students so that they achieve adequate yearly progress.

To mandate Common Core Standards for all students K-12.

To monitor state efforts for funding

To measure teacher effectiveness through test data

*Should there be a national assessment aligned with the common cores standards?*

*If Yes, Should implementation be voluntary or federally mandated?*

*If No, What other accountability measures might you suggest?*

*National standards should lead to:* (choose one)

a. A nationally mandated curriculum to be aligned to the national standards and assessments.

b. A national curriculum that is only suggested but not mandated.

c. A suggested structure for states and local education agencies to develop their own curriculum.

d. No national curriculum.

These are questions 2, 5, and 6 of the [consensus questions](#) on the [www.LWV.org](http://www.LWV.org) website. They assume that we will continue to use standards and testing to ensure school accountability in order to improve the quality of education and student success. Within that framework, the questions ask us how much responsibility we want to shift from state to federal government. Do we want to see more uniformity in public schools across the United States or do we want to stick with Virginia's current approach.

Carolyn Caywood

## The Unnatural History of the Sea

by Callum Roberts

What happens when there aren't more fish in the sea? Callum Roberts shows us in *The Unnatural History of the Sea* how, time after time since the Middle Ages, people have exhausted one supply of fish and shifted to another. He says that when Captain John Smith claimed he could have walked across the Chesapeake Bay on the backs of fish, Smith was not exaggerating.

Long after Jamestown, it was still an article of faith that the sea was inexhaustible. We hear echoes of it today. Roberts explains that we are confused by "shifting baselines," which encourage us to think that what we remember from our own youth is how it always was. And so we sneer at the "fish stories" of old geezers. And we forget that cod used to be a staple, not a luxury, and that we now eat fish that used to be considered bait. Eventually, the only seafood left will be jellyfish.

Callum explains that it is likely too late for some kinds of fish to recover. After the cod population collapsed, fishing moved on, but the cod didn't rebound. A comparison of fishery logbooks from the 1850s with the 1990s shows there are just one third of one percent of the cod left. This isn't simply due to the number of cod taken, but also to the fishing methods that scraped the sea bottom bare. And now other life forms have taken up residence leaving no room for the cod's return. Roberts says, "To bring a species from a state of such plenty to the point of annihilation indicates that there is much more going wrong than the mere removal of a species from its ecosystem, It is a symptom that the ecosystem itself is at the point of ruin."

This is an important book, and not just because of what it tells us about the state of the Chesapeake Bay and of the seafood we love. The concept of "shifting baselines" affects our ability to make wise public policy decisions across a wide spectrum of issues.

Carolyn Caywood

---

### Fort Monroe

A Deactivation Ceremony is scheduled for Sept. 15, 10am. Fort Monroe's colors will be cased to symbolize the completion of the Army's mission at the historic fort, which will transfer to the Commonwealth of Virginia's control. The LWV SHR supports preservation of Fort Monroe as a national park. See <http://www.cfmnp.org/> for more on the future of "Freedom's Fortress."

## This is our 2-sided redistricting handout

Contact Virginia R. Armstrong for copies

### ELECTION 2011: IMPORTANT REDISTRICTING INFORMATION



#### Don't Be Confused About:

*New precincts*

*New polling places*

*New local districts*

*New Virginia Senate districts*

*New Virginia Delegate districts*

As required by law, the Virginia General Assembly redrew the lines for the Virginia Senate and House of Delegate districts, and local city councils redrew the lines for their districts this year. These changes will affect many district and precinct boundaries and will be effective for the November 8, 2011 general elections.

#### HOW DOES THIS AFFECT ME?

Your home may be in a new district or precinct, or you may cast your ballot in a new location or not recognize any of the candidates on the ballot.

#### HOW WILL I FIND OUT WHAT DISTRICTS I AM IN AND WHERE I GO TO VOTE?

All registered voters should receive new voter cards with this information from the Virginia State Board of Elections (SBE) or local Office of Elections by early October. Check to make sure that it has your correct name and address.

#### WHAT IF I DON'T RECEIVE A NEW VOTER CARD?

##### Call the Office of Elections:

Chesapeake (757) 277-9797

Norfolk (757) 664-4353

Portsmouth (757) 393-8644

Suffolk (757) 514-7750

Virginia Beach (757) 385-8683

**Online:** Go to the Voter Information section of this website: [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov)

#### WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO HAVE FOR THE ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER?

**Voter registration deadline:** October 17, 2011. If you are not registered to vote, you can download and print a voter registration form and information from the SBE website or obtain one from your local library or government office. Mail or deliver to the address given on the form before **October 17, 2011**.

**Absentee Voting by mail:** To find out if you are eligible to vote absentee or to download an absentee ballot application, go to the Absentee Voting Information section of the SBE website or your local Office of Elections. The deadline for requesting the application is November 1. Absentee ballots must be received by the local Office of Elections by 7 p.m. on November 8.

**If you want to vote absentee in person:** Contact your local Office of Elections for locations, days and times when you can vote absentee. In-person absentee voting begins on September 23 and ends on November 5, 2011.

#### When are the polls open on November 8?

The polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

*This pamphlet was prepared by the League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads (LWV SHR).*



League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads

P.O. Box 1010, Norfolk, VA 23501

757-627-3396

[www.lwv-shr.org](http://www.lwv-shr.org)

## LVA-SHR CALENDAR 2011-2012

### July 2011

- 4 Independence Day
- 9 Board meeting -YWCA 10am**
- 26 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am
- 28 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden - Noon

### August 2011

- 6 Board meeting -YWCA 10am**
- 25 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden - Noon
- 26 Women's Equality Day
- 30 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am

### September 2011 – Education Consensus preparation

- 1 **ODU Welcome voter drive**
- 5 Labor Day
- 12 Community Forum – NSU – 6:30pm
- 17 Constitution Day
- 17 **LWV-VA Workshops –Richmond**
- 22 Lunch Unit – Bangkok Garden – Noon
- 25 General Meeting – YWCA –3 pm**
- 27 Breakfast Unit–Tabb’s – 7 am

### October 2011 – Education Consensus process

- 1 Board meeting – YWCA –10 am**
- 6-9 **Suffolk Peanut Festival voter drive**
- 17 **Last Day to Register for General Election**
- 25 Breakfast Unit–Tabb’s – 7 am
- 27 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden - Noon

### November 2011 - Election review

- 5 Board meeting – YWCA –10 am**
- 8 ELECTION DAY**
- 17 Lunch Unit – Bangkok Garden – Noon
- 25 Thanksgiving**
- 29 Breakfast Unit–Tabb’s – 7 am
- 30 Consensus results do to LWVUS

### December 2011 - Preview general assembly

- 3 Program Planning meeting/holiday party**
- 7 **Women’s Roundtable (WRT) Pre-session & Luncheon, Richmond @ Capitol Bldg.**
- 13 Breakfast Unit–Tabb’s – 7 am
- 15 Lunch Unit – Bangkok Garden – Noon; Bill of Rights Day

### January 2012 - Immigration

- 7 Board meeting -YWCA 10am**
- 17 General Assembly (GA) Convenes
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 26 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden – Noon
- 31 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am

### February 2012 - League birthday (Iron Jawed Angels)

- 1 **League Day/WRT Richmond**
- 4 Board meeting -YWCA 10am**
- 14 League Founded 1920 (92<sup>d</sup> Anniversary!)
- 21 Presidents’ Day
- 23 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden - Noon
- 28 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am

### March 2012 - Privacy

- 3 Board meeting -YWCA 10am**
- 11-17 Sunshine Week (open government)
- 16 Freedom of Information Day
- 22 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden – Noon
- 27 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am

### April 2012 - Environment (Water & Food)

- 14 Board meeting – YWCA –10 am**
- 24 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am
- 26 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden – Noon

### May 2012 -- Role of government & tax policy

- 5 Board meeting – YWCA –10 am**
- 19 **LWV-VA Council - Charlottesville**
- 23 Annual meeting 3:00-6:30p.m.**
- 22 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am
- 24 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden – Noon
- 27 Memorial Day

### June 2012 - Basic Human Rights

- 2 Board meeting – YWCA –10 am**
- 8-12 **LWVUS Convention in Washington, DC**
- 26 Breakfast Unit –Tabb’s – 7 am
- 28 Lunch Unit –Bangkok Garden – Noon

Notes: All Board members are expected to attend event dates shown in bold.



# 2011-2012 Board of Directors

## Officers

President: Virginia R. Armstrong  
[armstrongv@cox.net](mailto:armstrongv@cox.net) 757-502-4973

1st Vice Pres.-Program: available

2nd Vice Pres.-Membership: Lee Barr  
[abarr67@att.net](mailto:abarr67@att.net) 757-440-1460

Secretary/Asst to Pres: Susan Sharp  
Email: [secretary@lwg-shr.org](mailto:secretary@lwg-shr.org)  
757-581-6192

Treasurer: Arnold Barr  
[treasurer@lwg-shr.org](mailto:treasurer@lwg-shr.org) 757-440-1460

## Directors

Development Chair: available

Action Chair: available

Public Relations: Kaye Tice [jkkd@cox.net](mailto:jkkd@cox.net)

Web Administrator: Kim Lewandowski, Linda Armstrong. [kim@lewandowski.net](mailto:kim@lewandowski.net)

Voter Services: Terri Thompson [tntluck@aol.com](mailto:tntluck@aol.com)

Units: M. Finn, Jennette Franklin [mv.finn@cox.net](mailto:mv.finn@cox.net)

Voter Editor: Carolyn Caywood [cacaywood@cox.net](mailto:cacaywood@cox.net)

Immigration Chair: Melanie Perez-Lopez  
[mperezlope@aol.com](mailto:mperezlope@aol.com)

Environmental Chair: Susan Sharp  
[ssharpbiz@gmail.com](mailto:ssharpbiz@gmail.com)

Transportation Chair: Randy Lougee  
[rtlougee@yahoo.com](mailto:rtlougee@yahoo.com)

Gun Study: Jennette Franklin, Kaye Tice  
[jfranklin16@cox.net](mailto:jfranklin16@cox.net)

# Upcoming Events

## General Meeting

- Sunday, Sept. 25, 3 pm
- YWCA - 5215 Colley Ave. Norfolk

## Breakfast Unit Meeting –

- Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011, 7 am
- Tabb's Restaurant, 4019 Granby St
- Topic: Local water issues study
- \$5 continental breakfast available
- For more information, contact Unit Leader Martha Rollins, 423-0205

## Lunch Unit Meeting –

- Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011, Noon
- Bangkok Garden, 339 N. 21st Street
- Topic: Federal role in education
- For more information, contact Jennette Franklin [jfranklin16@cox.net](mailto:jfranklin16@cox.net)

## Voter registration drive

- October 6-9, Suffolk Peanut Festival
- For more information, contact Terrie Thompson [tntluck@aol.com](mailto:tntluck@aol.com)

The VOTER is published 10 times per year to inform members of LWV-SHR about League activities and events and to provide other information of interest to League members.

Submissions from all members are encouraged. The deadline is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Send submissions to [newsletter@lwg-shr.org](mailto:newsletter@lwg-shr.org) or [cacaywood@cox.net](mailto:cacaywood@cox.net).

***The League of Women Voters of  
South Hampton Roads  
P.O. Box 1010  
Norfolk, VA 23501-1010***

***757-627-3396  
www.lwg-shr.org***