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## {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }}'s LWVCV Newsletter January/February 2024



## "Ready to Vote" Marks LWVCV's First Event in Alexander County

The #UniteNC “Ready To Vote” presentation by Common Cause North Carolina, co-powered by LWVCV, at the Alexander County Senior Center on January 18, 2024 was well-attended and well-received—despite the cold weather that night.

**Alexander County Board of Elections Director Patrick Wike** was there to answer questions and provide input as well. The timely information-packed presentation explained changes in voter registration, voting and elections for 2024. Based on the train-the-trainer model and with the intent of spreading the message, attendees were provided with the presentation to download and handouts to share with others.

**This was the first ever LWVCV-sponsored event in Alexander County.** It was an excellent start to the League's collaboration with the Alexander Board of Elections. More photos from the event are on the League website [here](#).

The Catawba County "Ready to Vote" event, originally scheduled for January 30th in Newton, had to be postponed. The makeup date will be some time after the March primary elections. *Keep an eye on your inboxes for information on the new date and location!*

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## Meet the Candidates, Round 1: A Knockout

The February 6th Meet the Candidates event in Terrell was a rousing success for the League. 12 of the 17 invited candidates were present, and 66 community members took the opportunity to attend and speak to the hopefuls for Catawba County elected offices. Many attendees and candidates expressed their appreciation to League members for hosting the event. (See more photos from the event [here](#).)



The event also featured the debut of the League's new banner (pictured here). Guests were invited to complete the sentence "Let's Vote Because...", with the banner serving as the backdrop for a photograph of the guest and their reasons for voting.

"Let's Vote Because" photos are [here](#), and more will be added as the 2024 season progresses!

## Help Us Spread the Word about Round 2!

The second Meet the Candidates event will be held Tuesday, February 13th, from 6:00-8:00 PM at the CVCC Workforce Solutions Complex in Hickory. Be sure to let your friends and neighbors know about this opportunity to meet and speak with our local primary candidates! (For more details, see the League website [here.](#))

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## Call for LWVCV Officer Nominations

As we enter 2024, the LWVCV Nominating Committee is seeking to identify and nominate potential individuals for officers. We need you now more than ever! While it is the Nominating Committee's responsibility for ensuring a qualified slate of officers for each position, **we need you as members to help identify nominees** for the future of the organization. Please, take time to consider who you believe has the qualities and skills to best lead our organization, including yourself! If you know of someone who is not ready for nomination for 2024 but wants the Nominating Committee to follow up for future consideration, please let the Nominating Committee Chair know.

**The Nominating Committee welcomes nominations or self-nominations** for the following positions. Candidates must be current League members in good standing. Any current member may nominate a fellow member or may self-nominate.

### Two Year Term of Service:

- **President:** Serves as the spokesperson, promoting the League and its initiatives and activities.
- **Secretary:** Keeps effective communications to inform Executive Board members, officers, and League members.

### One Year Term of Service:

- **Treasurer** (Completing the second year of an incomplete term, June 2024-May 2025) Organizes, documents and records of the League's financial activities.

- **Nominating Chair:** Coordinates with Committee members to identify, interview and present a slate of the best candidates for the open officer positions before the annual meeting.
- **Nominating Committee Member:** Collaborates with the Nominating Committee members to develop a slate of officers prior to the annual meeting.

(To review the full descriptions of each position, please log in to the League member page [here](#) and find "Job Descriptions" in the League Documents area. For login assistance, send a message [here](#).)

**Submissions and/or questions should be sent** to the Nominating Committee Chair, Kathy Bradham, [here](#), including the position of interest. **The nomination deadline is March 8th.**

On behalf of this year's Nominating Committee members — Carol Trivette, Cindy Lundy, and Kathy Bradham (*pictured L-R*) — we appreciate your consideration!

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## Learn What You Need to Know for Primary Season 2024

**NC voters have choices many choices** to make as we elect officials in 2024. Some of these races will hold a primary to narrow the field of candidates for the November general election. Our primary election day is **Tuesday, March 5, 2024.**

**Most of our races this cycle are partisan.** That means that candidates file by one of our state's 5 recognized political parties (Democratic, Green, Libertarian, No Labels and Republican). Primary voters affiliated with any political party will be given a ballot of candidates for their party. Unaffiliated voters can choose to vote in either the Democratic, Libertarian or Republican primary. (The Green and No Labels parties did not submit candidates for the primary, but each may nominate candidates for the November general election.)



A different timeline for voting, a new batch of candidates, expanded voter ID laws and redrawn voting district lines are all part of this election. Be informed! The LWVCV website has pages for these topics:

[Full Primary Voting Info](#) for the Catawba Valley

[New Voting ID requirements](#)

[Voting FAQ's](#)

[Become a Poll Worker for the November election](#)

And, as always, check out [VOTE411](#) for your personalized ballot, your districts, and more!

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## Notes from the President by Tiffany Canaday

Happy almost Valentine's Day everyone! I hope you are well, enjoying the somewhat longer and warmer days.

Please note that the February Business Meeting will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Please join the meeting to share in the love of the League.

With NC primary elections less than one month away on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, LWVCV is ramping up its activities to promote VOTE411 and to encourage people to vote. Please actively encourage others to vote and tell them about [VOTE411.org](#).

At the end of January, we received the sad news that LWVUS President, Dr. Deborah Ann Turner, [passed away](#). Her passing leaves us with an imperative to continue the work which she championed. We are ONE League with the mission to empower voters and to protect democracy. We each need to do our part in whatever capacity we are able.

Thank you, as always, for your commitment to the League and the work thereof.

Tiffany

**League of Women Voters of Catawba Valley (LWVCV)** is a nonpartisan grassroots organization dedicated to empowering voters and defending democracy. It works to inform and engage the community and to encourage participation by citizens in government.

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## Now Open: Online Absentee Ballot Request Portal

The NC State Board of Elections portal for requesting absentee ballots is now open and accepting requests [here](#).

The deadline for submitting these requests for the spring primary election is Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

[Click here](#)  
to request your absentee ballot!

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## Save the Date: March 14th Women's History Month Celebration



Mark your calendars for Thursday, **March 14, 2024**, from 6:30 PM-8:00 PM in the Coe Gallery in the Hickory Museum of Art. (*Bring a friend!*)

Our League is partnering with several local groups for [a fun and edifying evening](#) in celebration of Women's History Month. St. Stephens Tractor Shed Studio will present dramatic interpretations of historical figures, and the Women's Resource Center and Friends of Ridgeview Library will recognize several outstanding women for their service and contributions to our community.

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# LWVCV Charges Up at *Power the South* Event



**LWVUS' *Power the South: North Carolina*** was held in Greensboro on January 26-27, 2024. Two LWVCV Board members, Linda Greenwell and Betty Lohr, and LWVCV President and LWVNC Board Member Tiffany Canaday were in attendance. Presentations included: "Strengthening Our People-Powered Movement," focused on volunteer engagement; "Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV)," advancing a comprehensive voter contact strategy; "Proactive Practices and Tactics to Combat Mis/Disinformation"; "Membership Recruitment & Leadership Development"; "Leveraging Litigation"; and a SWOT Analysis Activity to help Leagues overcome challenges.

**The engaging and informative presentations** were delivered by LWVUS staff and LWVNC President Jennifer Rubin. LWVCV attendees left the conferences invigorated with fresh ideas and possibilities for LWVCV. LWVCV Board member Linda Greenwell said, "This was a great opportunity to meet and interact with three groups - national staff, state officers and local chapter members. Getting ideas from three perspectives was very helpful and, hopefully, our group will benefit from what we learned at the sessions."

**Power the South (PTS) is a campaign for Leagues**, alongside regional and local partners, to strengthen our people-powered organizing as an antidote against the rising systemic threats to our democracy, such as white supremacy, patriarchy, classism and authoritarianism.

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## High Time for Magnets & Signs



It's your chance to share your love of VOTE411 with your neighbors and friends!

Put your VOTE411 magnet on your vehicle, and put a sign in your yard (or elsewhere, with permission) for the primary elections.

*In need of another magnet or sign?* Send a message [here!](#)

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## Save These Dates for Member-Selected Topics



**Thursday, May 16, 6:00-7:30 PM:**

**[What is Ranked Choice Voting?](#)**

A representative from Better Ballot North Carolina will explain the Ranked Choice Voting process and answer questions in an in-person presentation.

**Saturday, June 15, 11:30 AM-2:30 PM:**

**[LWVCV Annual Meeting](#)**

**(Members Only)**

Dr. Amanda Sturgill, Associate Professor of Communications at Elon University, will address *Mis-/Disinformation* at the LWVCV Annual Meeting.

Thanks for reading our newsletter. Please forward this edition to any friends who might like to know more about the League. They or anyone may **join the LWVCV** by tapping [this link](#).

## Calendar

*More details on these events are available on the [League Calendar](#). The new version of the calendar also allows you to add events to your personal calendar.*

**Meet the Candidates Event in Hickory**  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024  
6:00 PM-8:00 PM  
CVCC Workforce Solutions Complex on Campus  
1980 Startown Rd, Hickory, NC 28602



Meet the Candidates is a casual and easy way to be introduced to candidates. Attendees can visit with candidates in any order to have the chance to ask questions and hear their answers. Candidates for local and state offices representing Catawba County who have primary challenges have been invited.

**LWVCV February Business Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 14, 2024**  
**11:00 AM-12:30 PM**

Meeting link and additional materials will be made available to members prior to the meeting.

**NC Early Voting**  
**Thursday, February 15, 2024, 8:00 AM**  
**Saturday, March 2, 2024, 3:00 PM**

Check in with [VOTE411](https://www.vote411.com) for candidate info, your registration and for early voting sites. Be sure to bring a Valid ID. [See here for details.](#)

**NC Primary Election Day**  
**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**  
**6:30 AM-7:30 PM**

The deadline for absentee ballots to arrive at the Board of Elections office is also 7:30 PM this day.

**Women's History Month Event**  
**Thursday, March 14, 2024**  
**6:30 PM-8:00 PM**  
**Coe Gallery, Hickory Museum of Art**  
**243 3rd Ave NE, Hickory, NC 28601**

An LWVCV collaboration with Women's Resource Center, Friends of Ridgeview Library, Hickory Museum of Art, and St. Stephens Tractor Shed Theatre to recognize and celebrate Women's History Month.

**Canvass of the 2024 Presidential Primary**  
**Friday, March 15, 2024**  
**11:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**What is Ranked Choice Voting?**  
**Thursday, May 16, 2024**  
**6:00 PM-7:30 PM**  
**Location TBD**

**LWVCV Annual Meeting w/ Guest Speaker (Members Only)**  
**Saturday, June 15, 2024**  
**11:30 AM-2:30 PM**  
**Location TBD**

**Photo credits: Kline Pepper, Linda Greenwell, and Tiffany Canaday.**

**Thanks to Jeanne Abbott & Margo Morganti for reviewing this newsletter.**

***Any remaining errors are the editor's.***

Claremont, NC 28610  
info.lwvcv@gmail.com

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