

VOTE ✓

**Your choices can
make a country, a state, a
county, a town you want to
live in.**



**Annual
Report**

2021 / 2022

It's been a year of transitions:

- Learning how to work as a 501(c)(3) charity: new rules, new benefits
- Changing how we perform our day-to-day work: new website, new membership platform, new tools for communicating with the outside world and with each other
- Updating our strategy for the next five years of growth
- Keeping up with changes
 - In ourselves (Are we ready to come out of Zoom hibernation yet?)
 - In the law (Voting rights! When will we ever expand Medicaid?)
 - In the culture (Women's rights! Censorship!)
 - In the world (What can we do in the face of a hotter world?)
- Finding new ways to get across our message, new ways to reach voters, new ways to work toward our goals

What hasn't changed? Our commitment to our mission: empowering voters and defending democracy.

To find out more about what we've been doing, from one end of our League to the other, keep reading...

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Message From the President

At LWV-Wake, we envision a community in which the League of Women Voters of Wake County is a trusted source of information empowering everyone to participate fully in our democracy. While the global COVID-19 pandemic continued through much of our fiscal 2021-2022 year, it did not keep members from focusing on our vision and creating a positive impact in Wake County.

Our accomplishments include:

- 57 virtual events, including 24 public events, providing educational content on a variety of important topics affecting our community
- Ten redistricting presentations to community groups encouraging advocacy for transparency and fair maps during the redistricting process
- Three candidate forums for municipal elections in Wake County
- Distribution of 3,450 door hangers in Apex, Fuquay-Varina, and Cary for our Local Elections Matter campaign, as well as 2,500 postcards mailed



2021-2022 is the first year that LWV-Wake has existed as a 501(c)(3) organization. This designation has brought about many changes internally for our organization, requiring compliance with new IRS rules and regulations. Since receiving this designation from the IRS in March 2021, we have seen many benefits. For our supporters, this allows donations to be tax-deductible. For the League, it has created additional funding opportunities, such as allowing us to take advantage of Amazon Smile and Facebook fundraising matches, as well as tax-exemption status.

The LWV-Wake Board has been actively working to ensure compliance and making sure our organizational profile is complete and transparent to grant makers, foundations, and donors. To this end, we have:

- Joined NC Center for Nonprofits in order to take advantage of resources and services available to nonprofit organizations to ensure the strength of our organization
- Created organization profiles on GuideStar/Candid and Charity Navigator, earning a Platinum Seal of Transparency for 2022 from GuideStar/Candid and Score of 98 from Charity Navigator
- Worked towards improving the onboarding/orientation to ensure incoming board members understand their role and responsibilities of serving a nonprofit organization

We are in the final stages of updating our strategic plan for 2022-2027. This will help guide our organization in engaging in opportunities that help to fulfill our mission of empowering voters and defending democracy. We are extremely grateful for the support of our donors who understand the importance of our mission. As we look for new ways to engage members and increase our impact in Wake County, we invite our members and community to embark upon this journey with us!

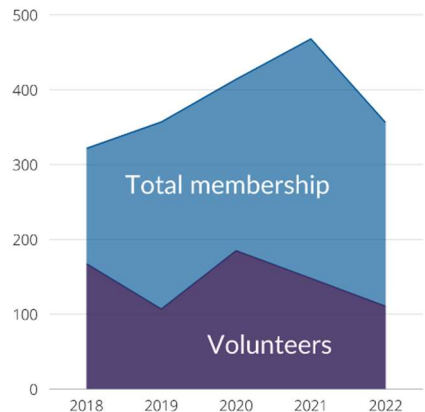
Cheryl Tung, president

2021-2022 by the Numbers

In the past year, we have found many ways to make a difference—many ways to empower voters and defend democracy.

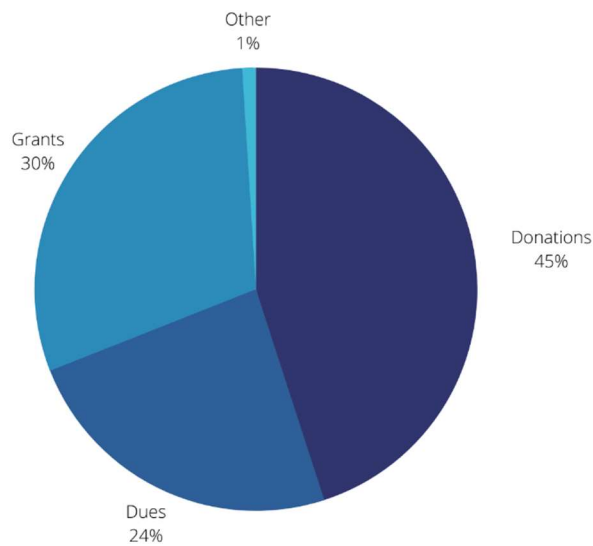
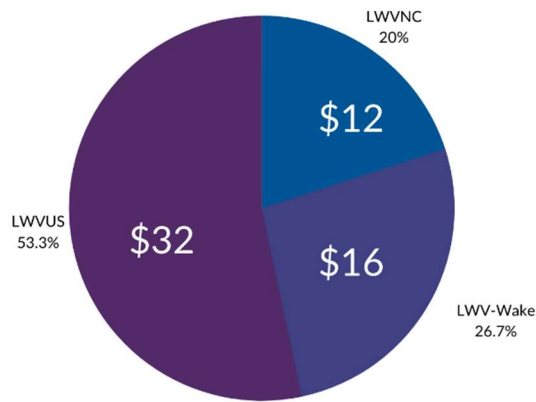
Voter registration events	55
Voters registered	750
Candidate forums held	3
Redistricting presentations to outside groups	10
Door hangers distributed to encourage voters	3450
Postcards sent to encourage voters	2500
VOTE411 candidates contacted	100%
VOTE411 candidate participation rate	90%
VOTE411 users in 2021 Wake municipal elections	3382
League Lit book group meetings	10
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion roundtable discussions	9
Committee meetings with guest speakers, open to all LWVNC members	7
Events open to the public	24
Pieces of litter collected by Environment committee members during national Litterati challenge	1687 and counting
LWV-Wake members now serving on local government committees	3
Facebook followers	1576
Instagram followers	554
Twitter followers	611

2021-2022 by the Numbers



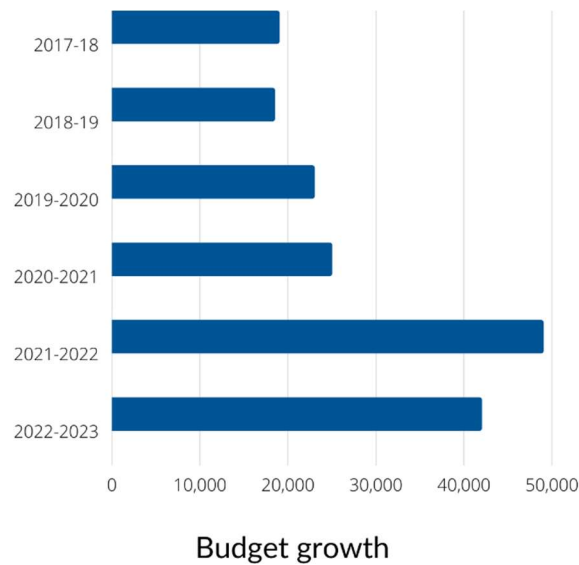
31% of our members are active volunteers.

Our member dues are shared with LWVUS and LWVNC.



Member dues cover only about a quarter of our operating expenses.

To increase our impact, we need to keep our funding growing.



Voter Services: It's What We Do

The Voter Services Committee fulfills one of the core missions of the League—empowering voters. The committee organizes candidate forums, manages the VOTE411 election guide for Wake County, registers voters, encourages voter turnout, monitors election-related issues, and advocates for better election processes.

Sixty-seven League members volunteered with Voter Services in some way this past year, contributing almost 1500 volunteer hours. The inherent value of this work is a major reason why members join; the satisfaction involved is a major reason why members stay committed to the League.

Candidate Forums: The elections of 2021-2022 were affected by Covid-related delays to Census information, which led to delays in municipal redistricting.

For municipalities that did hold 2021 elections, we conducted the following forums as in-person events, with recordings posted to our YouTube channel.

- Wake Forest Mayor and Town Board of Commissioners
- Fuquay-Varina Mayor and Town Board of Commissioners

Town of Cary elections will take place in May 2022; we conducted an in-person forum for Town Council candidates in April, with the recording posted on YouTube. City of Raleigh elections have moved to November 2022; candidate forums for Raleigh candidates will be closer to the November election.



VOTE411: Using the League's essential online resource, voters can find out how to register, where and when elections are held, how to manage an absentee ballot, and exactly what their own ballot will look like. Candidates introduce themselves to voters in their own words. VOTE411.org is nonpartisan and free to voters and candidates. Voters can zero in on the races that are actually on their own ballot.

Our volunteers contacted all candidates running in the 2021 municipal races in Wake County, with 90 percent participation—56 out of 62 total candidates.

VOTE411 usage peaked on the day before and the day of the election (November 1-2), with a smaller bump on the first day of early voting. In Wake County, 3382 separate voters visited the site

a total of 3649 times; of that number, 2993 were first-time users: impressive numbers for an off-off-year election.

Numbers for the May 2022 primaries and Cary municipal elections are not yet in, but LWV-Wake volunteers again contacted all local candidates with a majority responding.

Get-Out-the-Vote Efforts: Voter participation in past municipal elections has been disappointingly low. To encourage greater participation, we created and distributed 3450 paper door-hangers telling the importance of local elections. Forty members took essential voter education efforts door to door, targeting new voters in Holly Springs and Morrisville in 2021; 30 League volunteers partnered with Zeta Phi Beta sorority to do the same in Cary in 2022. We also created and mailed 2500 postcards to Wake Forest voters, timing the postcard arrival to coincide with the candidate forum.



Voter turnout in Wake’s 2021 municipal elections increased 50% over 2019. We should take a small amount of credit for that result!

Voter Registration: Our volunteers helped register voters throughout the year, working within many restrictions due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Extremely dedicated members conducted outdoor voter registration drives, regardless of the weather (sometimes without access to restrooms).



We held 55 events at the U.S. Customs and Immigration Services, where we waited outside as new citizens took their oaths one by one this year. In addition, we held eleven community events at various local venues and festivals. Volunteers helped more than 750 voters register or update their voter registration records.

Advocating For Better Election Processes: Our Election Protection subcommittee monitors election-related issues and advocates for better election processes. This year we attended and reported on meetings of both the North Carolina and the Wake County Boards of Elections meetings. Members presented their comments on voting issues both at public hearings and online.

“Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world.”

Howard Zinn

Keeping an Eye on Government

Throughout the year, members observed and sent public comments to various local and state government bodies in support of our issues. Among those we observed:

- Cary and Raleigh Environmental Advisory Boards
- Transportation Committee of the Wake County Planning Board
- Wake County Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee
- Sustainability, Wildlife, and Urban Trees Committee (a standing committee of the City of Raleigh's Parks, Recreation, and Greenway Advisory Board)
- Umstead Coalition
- NC State Board of Elections
- Wake County Board of Elections
- Raleigh City Council
- Wake County Board of Commissioners and its committees
- NC General Assembly Redistricting Committees
- NC General Assembly Joint Legislative Committee on Access to Healthcare and Medicaid Expansion
- NC House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future
- Cary Town Council and its committees
- North Carolina Housing Coalition
- Raleigh Planning Commission and its committees

"Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country."

--Franklin D. Roosevelt

"The government is us; we are the government, you and I."

--Theodore Roosevelt

2021-2022 Events Summary

LWV Members-Only Events

- Five Affordable Housing committee meetings hosting guest speakers from the community
- Guest speakers presented by the Healthcare committee: The Growing Impact of Mental Illness in North Carolina, and Health Inequities in North Carolina
- Nine Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion roundtable discussions
- Ten League Lit book club meetings
- Boot camp for website administrators and coordinators
- Member training for new website
- League Meet-Up at Blueprint Brewery in Apex
- Love the League 102nd Birthday Celebration
- LWV-Wake Annual Meeting
- LWV-Wake Strategic Planning meetings
- LWVNC Webinar: Presenting Public Comment at Government Meetings and Hearings

Public Events

- Three candidate forums: Cary Town Council, Wake Forest Mayor and Town Board of Commissioners, Fuquay-Varina Mayor and Town Board of Commissioners
- LWV-Wake and Sigma Rho Zeta Chapter Meetup to launch GOTV effort
- National Day of Racial Healing
- Redistricting Basics presentations for Hayes Barton UMC in Raleigh, Baptist Men in Johnston County, Cary-Page Rotary Club, LWVNC, Cypress Retirement Community, OLLI June (Redistricting Basics) and July (Transparency), Wake Democratic Men, Social Justice Rotary, and Raleigh District A Town Hall
- Webinar: Strategies for Talking About Redistricting
- Timely Topics Presentations:
 - Environmental Injustice—Why Should We Care?
 - Campaign for King's Ridge—The Solution for Homelessness Is Housing
 - Improving Resident Quality of Life in Cities and Towns
 - The Intersection of Race, Stress, and Health
 - An Introduction to the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Framework
 - The Mission and Programs of the NC Institute of Political Leadership
 - State of the State
 - Working for the Future—What Do We Do When 100 Years Is Not Enough?

Affordable Housing

Our Affordable Housing committee advocates for living space in Wake County. Activities start with regular meetings to keep our members informed, often with outside speakers and open to the public. They extend to action that supports affordable housing plans in our county.

The committee sponsored a Timely Topics event in January 2022 on the Kings Ridge Development for permanent support housing; the development is projected to reduce homelessness in Wake County by ten percent.

Speakers at our committee meetings have included:

- Committee member Yvette Holmes, the new CEO of Southeast Raleigh Promise, on the work that group is doing in affordable housing as well as with the Wake County School System and the Southeast Raleigh YMCA.
- Cary Town Council members Dr. Ya Liu and Lori Bush, Assistant Town Manager Danna Widmar, and Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison for Town of Cary Morgan Mansa. Morgan Mansa returned to brief us on the Town of Cary's new housing plan and the Laurel Street affordable housing development planned on property that the town owns.
- Rep. Julie von Haefen, representing District 36 in the NC House of Representatives, on affordable housing initiatives at the North Carolina General Assembly and what we could do to influence legislation.
- Jonathan Melton, Raleigh City Council At-Large Member, on the progress Raleigh has made since the passage of the affordable housing bond in 2020.
- Commissioners Vickie Adamson and Matt Calabria on Wake County's affordable housing work.

Committee members tracked the issue of housing in meetings of municipal government and local community groups, including:

- Congregations for Social Justice
- Wake County Housing Justice Coalition
- Western Region Affordable Housing Action Group
- WakeUp Wake County Transportation, Land Use, and Housing Committee
- Livable Raleigh
- One Wake Affordable Housing Committee
- Habitat Wake's Affordable Housing Advocacy Ambassadors training program

The committee studied Cary's Affordable Housing plan and formulated a position for LWV-Wake, resulting in a press release in support. We also attended the Cary Town Council meeting to speak in support of the plan.

DEI: A Year of Intersectionality and Innovation

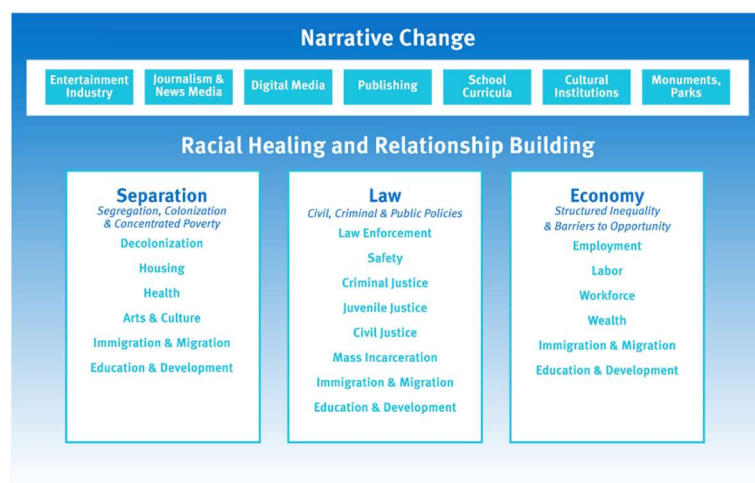
Because Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is not just a committee name but a lens through which all our decisions should be viewed, we began bringing conversations about diversity, equity, and inclusion to other committees, among them Voter Services, Affordable Housing, and Healthcare.

At the same time, we continued to hold our educational roundtable discussions. Meeting virtually, we welcomed members from across North Carolina, averaging around ten attendees per meeting. Topics this year included:

- Systemic Racism—Gun Violence
- Are We a Democracy? Round Table and follow-up discussion
- LWV Past, Present, and Future: Dr. Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins, former LWV president, led our Round Table discussion, giving us the rare opportunity to acknowledge our past and use that knowledge to move ahead in the League.
- Ableism
- Restorative Justice
- Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation
- What's Up with Pronouns?
- Invisible No More: Missing and Murdered Native American Women
- The Wealth Gap

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation: Not only did we devote a roundtable discussion to this topic; we also sponsored speakers from the Duke University Center for Truth, Racial Healing, and

Transformation at the December Timely Topics event. As part of the National TRHT Coalition, LWV-Wake participated for the first time ever in the National Day of Racial Healing on January 18, 2022. Across Wake County, League members joined the nation in discovering shared values and opportunities for healing from the effects of racism. Our event was listed as part of the National Registry for the National Day of Racial Healing.



Development Committee: Raising the Funding for Our Missions

Membership dues alone do not cover LWV-Wake expenses. The adoption of virtual or hybrid meetings; a new Citizens Education project; and continuing, important Voter Services projects with their associated printing and equipment costs—all come with expenses. The Development Committee faces the challenge of looking for additional donations to fund both these current needs and our continued growth.

LWV-Wake's largest annual fundraiser, our Women's Equality Day event, honors women elected officials each year on the anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment in August. This year's theme was "Here's Looking at All You Do." The 2021 catered event was scheduled to take place at All Faiths Chapel at Dix Park, with performing artist and cultural arts leader Carly Jones as keynote speaker.

Unfortunately, after months of planning and preparation, we found it necessary to cancel the event three days before it was to take place, due to the late summer spike in COVID-19. However, a slide/video presentation was created to recognize and honor the women elected officials and donors. In addition, student League members Simran Saini and Eesha Desai read the Governor's Proclamation in honor of the event. In spite of the cancellation, 46 sponsors and ticket holders contributed \$10,140. We thank them all for keeping our work alive, and we look forward to the 2022 event at Dix Park.

In addition to Women's Equality Day, fundraising events for 2021 included:

- **Giving Tuesday** – Our end-of-year giving takes place the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This year, we presented a matching challenge for our members. In addition, as a 501(c)(3) charity, we participated in Facebook fundraising and received a small percentage of matching donations from Meta. We raised \$4691, surpassing our fundraising goal of \$4000.
- **Personal Fundraisers** – Two members, Brittany Bryan and Marlene Wilson, hosted personal birthday fundraisers on Facebook benefitting LWV-Wake. We encourage our members to consider this innovative way to assist the League in fundraising.

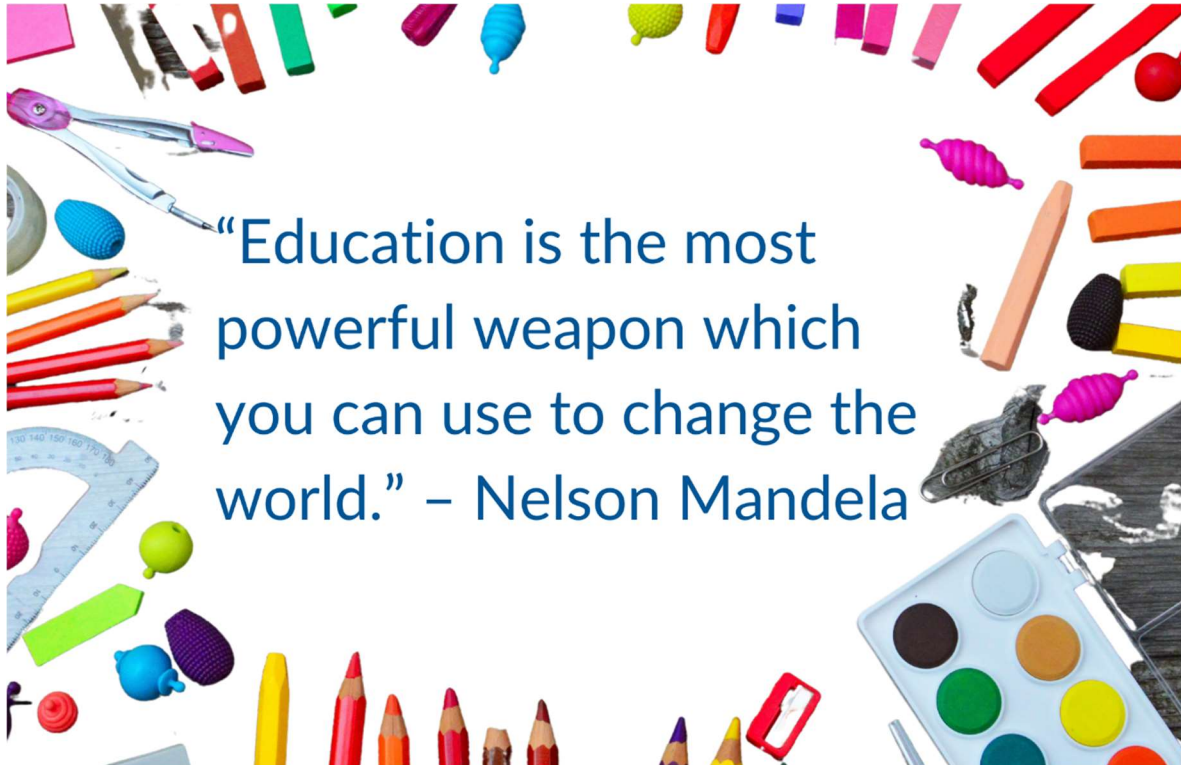
In addition to fundraising, we also created our organizational profile on both Candid/GuideStar and Charity Navigator, two sources that provide information about the strength of non-profit organizations. By providing information about the League and our programs, we earned a Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid/GuideStar. This important accomplishment represents the efficiency of our organization and is an important resource for grant funders and donors when considering grant requests and donations.

Year-to-date donations have totaled \$17,072. We are grateful for our members, who remain our largest source of financial support, and for all our additional funding sources. Their support makes our massive volunteer effort possible, as we work to fulfill the League's mission: empowering voters and defending democracy.

Education

We believe a flourishing democracy requires educated citizens who can achieve their full potential in a fair and prosperous society. The Education Committee started meeting monthly in February 2021 to educate and advocate toward that end in Wake County. Our activities this year include:

- Working with the LWVNC Education Action Team and the North Carolina PTA to advocate for the statewide Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan for funding public education
- Participating in state Action Alerts to support Leandro funding
- Presenting public comment to the NC House Select Committee on An Education System for North Carolina's Future
- Undertaking a long-term, multi-part research project about Wake County schools, to be published on our newly created Education page at lwvwake.org. The results will describe the populations and intent of the various Wake County schools, including:
 - Public schools
 - Magnet schools, many with a specialized curriculum such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) or International Baccalaureate
 - Charter schools
 - Private schools, both religious and secular
- Sharing information on education issues via social media



Environment

The Environment committee explores and advocates on Wake County issues related to climate change, clean energy, clean water, litter, tree preservation and reforestation, food waste management, and environmental justice. This year's many activities included:

- Observing and participating in meetings of local government committees. In addition, Jackie Giordano recently joined Robin Hammond in serving on the Wake County Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee.
- Collaborating with Raleigh architect/Wake County Planning Board member Ted Van Dyk on a reforestation proposal, and reaching out to Wake County Commissioners Matt Calabria and Susan Evans for help with the reforestation project.
- Participating in Litterati, a national crowd-sourced program that promotes litter clean-up and data analysis. Our team, led by Jeri Gray, collected 1687 pieces of litter over the past year—and there will be more to come.
- Creating three new action teams, all working on local environmental issues:
 - Food Waste Management: The Too Good to Waste Challenge (reducing home food waste)
 - Food Waste Management: Anaerobic Digestion (turning food waste into usable biofuel). We invited a guest speaker to present to the team on food/swine waste and biodigestion.
 - Tree Preservation and Reforestation (undoing some of the deforestation caused by development and road-widening projects)
- Participating in NCSU's Urban Heat Island Temperature Mapping Campaign
- Working with environmental advocates to protect land adjacent to Umstead State Park from development and environmental degradation

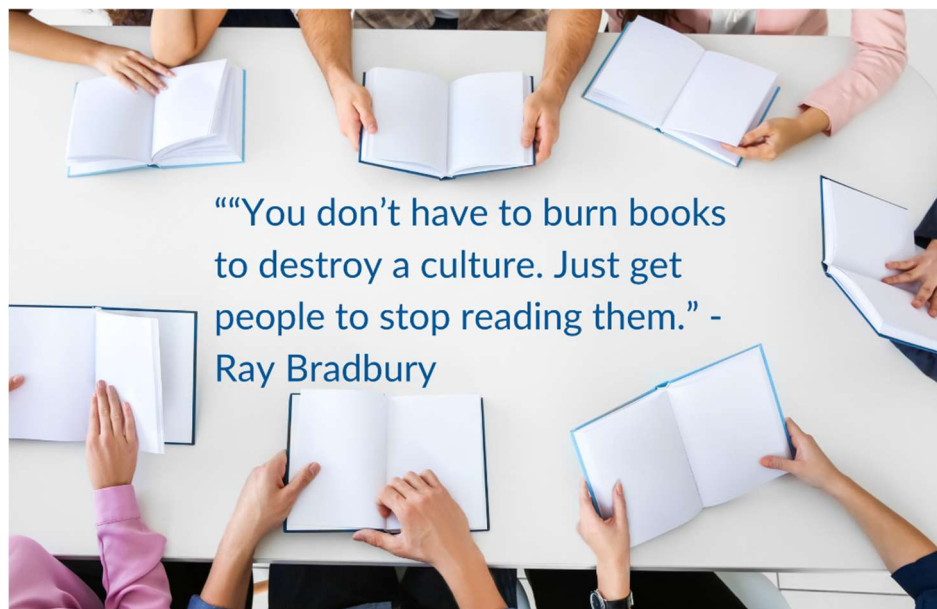


- Organizing a Timely Topics event: "Environmental Justice—Why Should We Care?"
- Organizing a field trip to two NCSU composting facilities and a guided hike at Swift Creek Bluffs Nature Preserve
- Working with Jennifer Rubin of LWVNC to convene a meeting of environment committee chairs and members from Wake, Orange/Durham/Chapel Hill, Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Lower Cape Fear, and Asheville-Buncombe
- Participating in a Timely Topics event on offshore wind energy organized by LWV Cape Fear

League Lit Book Clubs

Our two League Lit book clubs choose books that help us learn more about our country, culture, history, politics, and persons who inspire. Different group members lead the conversation each month; the discussions are reliably lively and fun. League Lit motivates members to read books that otherwise might not be on our radar and also helps us to get to know each other. This year's titles:

- Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Insisted on Equality for All, by Martha Jones
- The Daughters of Kobani: A Story of Rebellion, Courage, and Justice, by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon
- Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life, by Barbara Kingsolver
- The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation, by Anna Malaika Tubbs
- Proud Shoes: The Story of An American Family, by Pauli Murray
- The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present, by David Treuer
- The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America, by Richard Rothstein
- The Undocumented Americans, by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio
- The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together, by Heather McGhee
- Our Time Is Now: Power, Purpose, and the Fight for a Fair America, by Stacey Abrams



Healthcare: A Basic Human Right

The League of Women Voters believes the U.S. health care system should provide a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost to all U.S. residents. The Healthcare committee advocates and educates to further those goals. Activities this past year include:

- Capping a year of research into Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina with the publication of [Medicaid in North Carolina](#), a set of five short summaries:
 - An Overview
 - The Medicaid Coverage Gap: What Is It? Who's in It?
 - What Would Medicaid Expansion Mean in North Carolina?
 - How Would North Carolina Pay for Medicaid Expansion?
 - Traditional Medicaid and Expansion of Medicaid: A Timeline of Critical Legal Action
- Sponsoring and making presentations to members and the public:
 - A Timely Topics presentation entitled "Intersection of Race, Stress and Health"
 - William Munn, Ph.D., of the NC Justice Center, on healthcare inequities in North Carolina
 - Deepa Avula, of the NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services, on the topic of mental health
 - Committee members presenting information on NCCARE 360 and on the transformation of NC Medicaid to a managed care system
- Creating a Healthcare page on our website lwvwake.org
- Regularly sharing information on timely healthcare issues on social media and encouraging citizen engagement on the issues
- Observing the NC General Assembly Joint Legislative Committee on Access to Healthcare and Medicaid Expansion



Membership

LWV-Wake is the largest local League in North Carolina. The Membership Committee focuses on recruiting, welcoming, and engaging members. Current membership is 357 including 10 students. Although not our all-time high, this is a healthy number, given the erratic pandemic-laden two years we have experienced!

While the pandemic has impacted many of our Membership Committee activities, we did persevere.

- We successfully transitioned our annual dues payment portal to a new management system with a “floating” renewal date (as opposed to an annual drive).
- We developed and implemented an active campaign to support members in renewing their membership this year with our new system. Outreach avenues included email, phone calls, and postcards.
- We contacted all new members in a variety of ways, including a welcome email, a phone call, and the offer of an opportunity to meet with a committee member.
- During a pandemic lull, a committee member planned and executed a local member gathering.
- We had an outside luncheon meeting of the Membership Committee with good participation and discussion.
- Two committee members twice taught League 101 in a digital format, with total attendance of 22. Along with another committee member, they are developing a new agenda for the League 101 & 102 classes.



Redistricting

This was the year of redistricting at all levels of government—redrawing voting maps to match changes in population. Our Redistricting committee worked to inform the public in various ways. We made our voices heard throughout the process. The final maps leave room for improvement to one extent or another, but we were a constant, loud voice for fair maps drawn in a transparent way.

To spread the word, we:

- Held a Fair Maps Art Contest, with the support of a grant from the League of Women Voters of North Carolina. The winning entries took different approaches, but both told the same story: fair maps are crucial to fair representation.
- Spoke to the news media via interviews, Letters to the Editor, and press releases
- Presented information to the public and other League members, virtually and in person
- Kept the public informed throughout the redistricting process in the state house, county, and municipalities
 - Issued four action alerts with talking points and contact information, asking voters to talk to their representatives about state and local redistricting. Many members responded by calling, sending emails, and tweeting.
 - Provided regular updates on state and local redistricting issues in bimonthly newsletter
 - Attended and live tweeted at state and local redistricting hearings and meetings. Some even braved the NCGA committee rooms during the pandemic (wearing our masks).



We also spoke loudly and clearly to government officials/agencies in charge of drawing maps:

- NC General Assembly (Cheryl Tung)
- Raleigh City Council (Cheryl Tung)
- Wake County Board of Commissioners (Cheryl Tung)
- Cary Town Council (Laurel Voelker/Mike Jennings)





Timely Topics Event Planning

The Timely Topics committee plans and conducts public events addressing important issues. In this pandemic year, our virtual events were well-attended, both during the live showing and after by way of videos on YouTube and Facebook. The virtual presence connected us with speakers and attendees from outside Wake County without incurring a cost to the League or speaker. Speakers presented the following topics this year.

Topic	Speaker	Attendees
Environmental Injustice: Why Should We Care?	Veronica Carter - Leland Town Council member; and Amin Davis, PWS, PWD - Board Member, Partners for Environmental Justice, and on the staff of NC Department of Environmental Quality	24 online, 51 YouTube
Working for the Future: What Do We Do When 100 Years Is Not Enough?	Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins, Ph.D., former president, League of Women Voters of the United States	67 online
Improving Resident Quality of Life in Cities and Towns	Jennifer Cohen, Director of Business Development, NC League of Municipalities	24 online, 4 YouTube
An Introduction to the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Framework	Gail Christopher, Ph.D., of the Duke Center for Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation	100 online, 6 YouTube
Campaign for King's Ridge: The Solution for Homelessness Is Housings	Missy Hatley, Senior Director of Resource Development at CASA; and Fraley Marshall	54 online, 1 YouTube
The Mission and Programs of the NC Institute of Political Leadership	Brad Young, Executive Director of the North Carolina Institute of Political Leadership	30 online, 1 YouTube
\$tate of the \$tate	Dale Folwell, North Carolina State Treasurer	41 online
Intersection of Race, Stress, and Health	Regina Petteway, MSPH, Retired Health Administrator, and Michelle Laws, Ph.D., Chief Experience Officer with the North Carolina Medical Society	41 online, 6 YouTube

Women's Rights



The Women's Rights Committee works on a range of issues impacting women rights, investigating North Carolina laws to determine where improvements can be made and where new laws are needed. This year the committee dedicated several meeting sessions to determining priority issues and future activities: we choose to focus on family issues in the workplace and passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. This year's activities include:

- Advocating for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment
- Advocating for reproductive rights
- Collaborating with the Healthcare committee on a partnership with Wake County's Best Babies Zones (BBZ) to address disproportional infant mortality rates among Black babies
- Researching intersecting workplace and family issues, such as childcare, family leave, and pregnancy discrimination
- Educating each other and the community on women's "Herstory," with meeting presentations and social media postings during Women's History month and other dates of importance to women's equality
- Developing a feminist reading list
- Organizing upcoming field trips to locations of interest for the next fiscal year

Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

League of Women Voters of Wake County			
Proposed Budget July 2022 to June 2023			
	2021 - 2022 Budget	2021 - 2022 Received/Spent ^{SEP} as of March 2023	2022 - 2023 Proposed
Income			
Bank Interest	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.73	\$ 2.25
Donation	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,290.00	\$ 8,000.00
Dues	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 10,080.00	\$ 22,000.00
LWV Product Sales	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 175.00
Timely Topics Income	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 2,400.00
WED Income	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 8,070.00	\$ 12,000.00
Total Income	\$ 49,502.00	\$ 29,706.73	\$ 44,577.25
Expenses			
Ad hoc Committees	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Affordable Housing	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Communications-PR	\$ 6,070.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
DEI Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Development	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Education Committee	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Environment Committee	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Girl Scouts Expenses	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Healthcare Committee	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Insurance	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
LWV Product Sales Expense	\$ 400.00	\$ 47.00	
Membership Committee	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 221.00	\$ 500.00
Nominating Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Office Supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 250.00
Operational Expenses	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,130.00	\$ 4,300.00

PayPal Administration Fees	\$ 900.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 900.00
Per Member Payments LWVUS	\$ 11,344.00	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 10,000.00
Per Member Payments LWVNC	\$ 4,254.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,800.00
Property Tax	\$ 22.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 20.00
Redistricting Committee	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 900.00	\$ -
Rent	\$ 9,612.00	\$ 7,233.00	\$ 9,954.00
Timely Topics	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,375.00
Voter Services Committee	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,441.00	\$ 4,500.00
Women's Equality Day Expenses	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 3,366.00	\$ 4,407.00
Women's Rights Committee	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Total Expenses	\$ 49,102.00	\$ 31,869.00	\$ 44,806.00
			\$ (228.75)

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

—Anne Frank

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”

— Dr. Seuss

Many Thanks to our Donors

There is no way the League could do the work we do without the support of our generous donors. Thank you to the following people (as well as numerous anonymous donors) for their generous donations in 2021-2022.

Carol Atwood
Elizabeth Axtell
Ann Baker Ward
Laurie Bader
Paula Baumann
Peggy Birkemeier
Candace and Ron Blackley
David and Betty Bland
Suzanne Botts
Brittany Bryan, *in memory of Sheila Denn*
Pat Butler
Lucinda Chew
G. Dale Cousins
Vanessa Crow, *in memory of Sheila Denn*
Barbara di Ciero
Dina Deaton and David Collier
Phyllis Demko
Karen J. Brock Dyser
Mary Ellin Eisele
Estate of Sheila O'Reilly Denn
Stephanie Fanjul
Catherine Freeman
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Vicki and Tom Gerig
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Susan Griffin
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Megan Hull

Dana Jennings, *in gratitude to Claudia Kadis*
Paula and Mike Jennings
Claudia Kadis
Sam Kalat, *in memory of Sheila Denn, equality warrior and LWV-Wake volunteer, always in our hearts*
Jackie King
Jenny Kotora-Lynch, *in memory of Sheila Denn*
Naomi Lambert
Carol B. Lenhardt, *in gratitude for the work of the Wake League in its tireless support for protecting democracy*
Marian Lewin
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Elaine Okal
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Sally and Jack Pinnix

Rebecca Poling, *in gratitude to the Wake chapter of the LWVNC*
Terri Ring
Retta Riordan and Jack Clark
Theresa Rosenberg
Barbara Ryan
MaryJane K. Selgrade
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Nancy Shoemaker
Becky Showalter
Marcee Silver
Penny Simpson
Mary Jane Slipsky
Kim Stahl, *in memory of Sheila Denn*
Anita Stejskal
Marilyn Stevens
Sue Stevens
Marsha Stickford
Charmaine Stone, *in honor of Gayle Stone*
Theresa Strader
Mary Williams-Stover
Roberta Sweeney
Karen Taber, *in gratitude to Cheryl Tung*
Mary Thompson
Cheryl and Henry Tung
Laurel Voelker
Ouida Watson
Teresa Watts
Jennifer Weiss
Marlene Wilson, *in honor of Dianna Wynn*
Carol Winner
Dianna Wynn and Brian Holland
Monica Yates

Don't forget: Amazon Smile is an easy way to donate to the League with every purchase.

Thank You to our Volunteers

The League of Women Voters of Wake County is an all-volunteer organization. Our work would not be possible without the members who devote countless hours to the hard work of grassroots nonpartisan political education and advocacy. Thank you to the many members who are willing to contribute their knowledge, skills, and passion to the League's mission.

<i>Marianne Abely</i>	<i>Dina Deaton</i>	<i>Nelda Holder</i>	<i>Ali Mabel</i>	<i>Liz Simon</i>
<i>Mary Ellen Anderson</i>	<i>Phyllis Demko</i>	<i>Yvette Holmes</i>	<i>Ira Mabel</i>	<i>Mary Jane Slipsky</i>
<i>Laurie Bader</i>	<i>Heather Dennis</i>	<i>Pauline Houlden</i>	<i>Nancy Merrick</i>	<i>Sandy Sosne</i>
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<i>Paula Baumann</i>	<i>Judi Egbert</i>	<i>Tracy Hurley</i>	<i>Debbie Moose</i>	<i>Anita Stejskal</i>
<i>Peggy Birkemeier</i>	<i>Mary Ellin Eisele</i>	<i>Sandy Hutchinson</i>	<i>Bob Moxley</i>	<i>Marilyn Stevens</i>
<i>Candace Blackley</i>	<i>Elizabeth Fensin</i>	<i>Dana Jennings</i>	<i>Nancy Moxley</i>	<i>Marsha Stickford</i>
<i>Suzanne Botts</i>	<i>Karen Ferguson</i>	<i>Mike Jennings</i>	<i>Bobbi Mullins</i>	<i>Fiona Susie</i>
<i>Yevonne Brannon</i>	<i>Marion Flint</i>	<i>Paula Jennings</i>	<i>Elaine Okal</i>	<i>Fiona Susie</i>
<i>Linda Brinkley</i>	<i>Jeanne Ford</i>	<i>Cheryl Keeton</i>	<i>Sally Pinnix</i>	<i>Yolanda Taylor</i>
<i>Brittany Bryan</i>	<i>Steve Ford</i>	<i>Dave Kidd</i>	<i>Rebecca Poling</i>	<i>Mary Thompson</i>
<i>Becky Burmester</i>	<i>Catherine Freeman</i>	<i>Jackie King</i>	<i>Shannon Price</i>	<i>Cheryl Tung</i>
<i>Pat Butler</i>	<i>George Frink</i>	<i>Lauren Jean Knepley</i>	<i>Saroj Primlani</i>	<i>Eve Vitaglione</i>
<i>Shirley Church</i>	<i>Jackie Giordano</i>	<i>Holly Knox</i>	<i>Aliana Ramos</i>	<i>Laurel Voelker</i>
<i>Jack Clark</i>	<i>Geri Goldstein</i>	<i>Jenny Kotora-Lynch</i>	<i>Dorothy Raynes</i>	<i>Ouida Watson</i>
<i>Jane Clayton</i>	<i>Eleanor Goodwin</i>	<i>Catherine Lambe</i>	<i>Mark Ring</i>	<i>Carmen White</i>
<i>Helen Cleereman</i>	<i>Jeri Gray</i>	<i>Naomi Lambert</i>	<i>Terri Ring</i>	<i>Katherine Wilkinson</i>
<i>Erin Cleghorn</i>	<i>Annette Green</i>	<i>Mary Lelik</i>	<i>Retta Riordan</i>	<i>Dianna Wynn</i>
<i>Claudia Clements</i>	<i>Beth Hahn</i>	<i>Carol Lenhardt</i>	<i>Theresa Rosenberg</i>	<i>Sue Young</i>
<i>Diane Corbin</i>	<i>Shannon Halbur</i>	<i>Tess Lineback</i>	<i>Joyce Rothchild</i>	
<i>Dale Cousins</i>	<i>Robin Hammond</i>	<i>Louise Lockwood-Zorowski</i>	<i>Irene Rusnak</i>	
<i>Rita Cabbage</i>	<i>Sherry Heuser</i>	<i>Judee Lonnee</i>	<i>Simran Saini</i>	
	<i>Judith Hoffman</i>		<i>Maggie Scroggs</i>	
			<i>Marcee Silver</i>	
			<i>Diane Simmonds</i>	

League Leadership

Board of Directors 2021-2022		2022-2023
President	<i>Cheryl Tung</i>	<i>Cheryl Tung</i>
Secretary	<i>Laurel Voelker</i>	<i>Laurel Voelker</i>
Treasurer	<i>Elaine Okal</i>	<i>Elaine Okal</i>
Voter Services Director	<i>Marian Lewin</i>	<i>Marian Lewin</i>
Communications Director	<i>Jenny Kotora-Lynch</i>	<i>Brittany Bryan</i>
Membership Director	<i>Dale Cousins</i>	<i>Dale Cousins</i>
At-Large	<i>Candace Blackley</i>	<i>Candace Blackley</i>
At-Large	<i>Retta Riordan</i>	<i>Retta Riordan</i>

Past Presidents of the League of Women Voters of Wake County

1920-1921	<i>Elsie Riddick</i>	1978-1979	<i>Ann Mackie</i>
1921-1923	<i>Cornelia Jerman</i>	1979-1980	<i>Bonnie Medinger</i>
1923-1925	<i>Frances Doak</i>	1980-1982	<i>Sheila Nader</i>
1925-1927	<i>Etta Cross Crozier</i>	1982-1984	<i>Joan Baron</i>
1927	<i>May Smillie Handy</i>	1984-1986	<i>Patricia Watts</i>
1927-1928	<i>Nell Battle Lewis</i>	1986-1988	<i>Lucinda Chew</i>
1928	<i>May Smillie Handy</i>	1988-1990	<i>Elizabeth McCrodden</i>
1928-1929	<i>Nell Battle Lewis</i>	1990-1991	<i>Karen Ferguson</i>
1929-1934	<i>Kate Maude Herring Highsmith</i>	1991-1992	<i>Claire Pratt</i>
1948-1950	<i>Mary Anderson</i>	1992-1993	<i>Susan Stone</i>
1950-1951	<i>Helen Lehew</i>	1993-1994	<i>Eve Vitaglione</i>
1951-1953	<i>Mattie Erma Parker</i>	1994-1995	<i>Ricki Grantmyre</i>
1953-1955	<i>Adele Covington</i>	1995-1997	<i>Beth McAllister</i>
1955-1957	<i>Mildred Reynolds</i>	1997-1999	<i>Betty Ellerbee</i>
1957-1960	<i>Inez Ray</i>	1999-2000	<i>Mary Jane Slipsky</i>
1960-1961	<i>Virginia Sherril & Inez Ray</i>	2000-2001	<i>Management Team</i>
1961-1963	<i>JoAnn Kistler</i>	2001-2002	<i>Karen Ross</i>
1963-1965	<i>Ruth Cook</i>	2002-2004	<i>Victoria Gerig</i>
1965-1967	<i>Sylvia Ruby</i>	2004-2006	<i>Annemarie Evans</i>
1967-1969	<i>Margot Maddock</i>	2006-2008	<i>Diana Haskell</i>
1969-1971	<i>Betty Doak</i>	2008-2009	<i>Joan Robertson</i>
1971-1973	<i>Jane Hamner</i>	2009-2011	<i>Lisa Mowat</i>
1973-1975	<i>Betty Ann Knudsen</i>	2011-2013	<i>Mary Martorella</i>
1975-1976	<i>Cynthia Wertz</i>	2013-2014	<i>Victoria Gerig</i>
1976-1977	<i>Sylvia Arnold</i>	2014-2019	<i>Marian Lewin</i>
1977-1978	<i>Patricia Pierce</i>	2019-2021	<i>Dianna Wynn</i>

Committee Leadership

Most of the League's work is accomplished by volunteers serving on various committees. The following are the committee chairs/co-chairs for 2021-2022 and the upcoming year.

Committee	2021-2022 Chairs	2022-2023 Chairs
Affordable Housing	<i>Robin Hammond, Jeanne Ford</i>	<i>Robin Hammond, Jeanne Ford</i>
Budget	<i>Elaine Okal</i>	<i>Elaine Okal</i>
Communications	<i>Jenny Kotora-Lynch, Brittany Bryan</i>	<i>Brittany Bryan, Jenny Kotora-Lynch</i>
Communications: Social Media	<i>Bobbi Mullins</i>	
DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion)	<i>Ouida Watson, Shannon Halbur</i>	<i>Shannon Halbur</i>
Development	<i>Cheryl Tung, Carol Lenhardt</i>	<i>Carol Lenhardt</i>
Education	<i>Rebecca Poling, Mary Lelik</i>	<i>Rebecca Poling, Mary Lelik</i>
Environment	<i>Jackie Giordano, Eve Vitaglione</i>	<i>Jackie Giordano, Eve Vitaglione</i>
Field Trips	<i>Pat Butler</i>	<i>Pat Butler</i>
Girl Scout Outreach	<i>Laurel Voelker</i>	<i>Laurel Voelker</i>
Healthcare	<i>Retta Riordan, Mary Lelik</i>	<i>Retta Riordan, Mary Lelik</i>
League Lit Book Groups	<i>Jan Ramquist, Terri Ring, Paula Jennings, Jacqueline King</i>	<i>Jan Ramquist, Terri Ring, Paula Jennings, Jacqueline King</i>
Membership	<i>Dale Cousins, Jude Lonnee</i>	<i>Dale Cousins, Judee Lonnee</i>
Nominating	<i>Jackie Giordano, Naomi Lambert</i>	<i>Jackie Giordano, Judee Lonnee</i>
Redistricting	<i>Laurel Voelker, Mike Jennings</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Timely Topics	<i>Katherine Wilkinson, Cheryl Keeton</i>	<i>Heather Dennis</i>
Voter Registration	<i>Siobhan Millen, Nancy Moxley, Debbie Moose</i>	<i>Siobhan Millen, Nancy Moxley, Debbie Moose</i>
Voter Services	<i>Marian Lewin</i>	<i>Marian Lewin</i>
Women's Equality Day	<i>Candace Blackley</i>	<i>Candace Blackley</i>
Women's Rights	<i>Elaine Okal, Nancy Hartge, Dianna Wynn</i>	<i>Elaine Okal</i>

Five-Year Strategic Plan Goals 2017-2022

League leaders agreed on a five-year strategic plan in 2017. These are the goals we have worked toward over the past five years. Today we are engaged in developing a new strategic plan to take us through the next five years; the new plan will take effect in June 2022.



Priority Area 1: Organizational Effectiveness	
1.1	Improve leadership's coordination of LWV-Wake activities.
1.2	Increase the number of members volunteering on behalf of LWV-Wake by 30%.
1.3	Increase leadership opportunities within LWV-Wake.
1.4	Improve LWV-Wake's use of technology.
Priority Area 2: Voter Services	
2.1	Increase voter participation in county, municipal, and mid-term elections.
2.2	Increase the number of registered voters in Wake County.
2.3	Improve voters' access to information about county and municipal issues and candidates.
2.4	Promote election integrity.

Priority Area 3: Policy Advocacy	
3.1	Strengthen LWV-Wake's policy committees.
3.2	Improve LWV-Wake members' advocacy efforts in the NC General Assembly.
3.3	Encourage transparency and accountability in local and state government.
Priority Area 4: Programs/Education	
4.1	Improve the quality and variety of LWV-Wake education programs.
4.2	Increase attendance at each type of event by 15% per year.
4.3	Improve members' knowledge of League policies, procedures, and positions.
4.4	Improve public understanding of local and state government.
Priority Area 5: Membership Recruitment & Retention	
5.1	Increase membership to 400 members in the next five years.
5.2	Retain 90% of members each year.
5.3	Engage 50% of new members in LWV-Wake activities.
5.4	Cultivate greater diversity in membership.
Priority Area 6: Communications	
6.1	Develop a comprehensive communications plan.
6.2	Improve internal communications between leadership and members.
6.3	Improve external communications with the public.
Priority Area 7: Development/Fiscal Health	
7.1	Increase income from membership dues.
7.2	Increase income from fundraising activities 15% per year per capita (based on membership levels).
7.3	Ensure and improve the fiscal integrity of LWV-Wake.

The complete strategic plan report is available upon request.



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