



# The Anchorage VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANCHORAGE  
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**ANNUAL  
MEETING  
NOTICE**

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April 2018

Hi League Members:

**Our annual meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, May 16, to begin at 6 p.m.**

Thank you for your understanding. Hope to see you on May 16th. The annual meeting is a time to reconnect and develop new friendships! Additional information was outlined in the March newsletter sent on March 19th.

**Come and hear about the successful April 3, 2018 Vote-by-Mail municipal election.**

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The LWVAK Annual Convention is being held in Soldotna on Friday, April 27, through Sunday, April 29. Pat Redmond and Diane Mathisen, state board members, will be attending as well as Heather Flynn and myself as delegates representing the Anchorage League. We are excited to reconnect with other League members from Fairbanks, Juneau and Kenai.

**Please Note:** The State board is recommending the LWVAK and the LWVAK Education Fund [a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity] be combined and the LWVAK move to a 501(c)(3) entity. Action will be taken at the convention. There will be a short report at our annual May meeting with updates about activities on the state, local and National level.

Joyce Anderson, President

## **MARK THE DATE!**

**WHAT: Annual Meeting**

**WHEN: Wednesday, May 16  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**WHERE: BP Energy Center  
900 East Benson Blvd  
Alder/Cottonwood Rm**

**All members are encouraged to attend. Voice your opinion as we chart our direction for the coming year.**

**2017-18 was an extremely busy and exciting time for League. 2018-19 is already in high gear.**

**We need your INPUT, EXPERTISE and EXPERIENCE.**

**Bring a friend!**

**BE ACTIVE and BE INVOLVED! Be an active participant in shaping our future! Become involved in your community!**



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person 16 years of age and older, male or female, may become a League member.



## Letter to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee promoting the issuance of a commemorative stamp in honor of the ratification of the 19 Amendment

On April 24, 2018 the Anchorage League sent a letter endorsing the commemorative stamp: We understand that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee is considering the issuance of a commemorative stamp in honor of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment which gave women the right to vote. Since over half of the citizenry of the United States are women, we trust this stamp would receive widespread support.

As a representative of League of Women Voters of Anchorage, Alaska, I am asking the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to recommend to Megan J. Brennan, our Postmaster General, that this stamp be approved for general circulation. Since the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was ratified on August 18, 1920 and was officially proclaimed the law of the land on August 26 of that same year, we encourage the release date of the stamp to occur in 2020, coinciding with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this significant, historic event.

As you know, the League of Women Voters (LWV) was created by the suffragists who were members of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) on February 14, 1920 at their convention in Chicago. It was this group of suffragists that fought for nearly a century to gain the right to vote for women which culminated in the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The League's centennial also occurs in 2020.

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of Anchorage, Alaska, in conjunction with the National League of Women Voters (LWVUS), I request that you share my letter with the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. I strongly support the issuance of a commemorative stamp in 2020 honoring the centennial of 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment's ratification.

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### Turning Point Suffragist Memorial

The LWVUS has endorsed the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association and its mission to write Carrie Chapman Catt and the other suffragists back into history through the national Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. League founder, Catt, was a visionary who persisted in her endeavor to win suffrage for all American women and when success was imminent she created the League of Women Voters. The League is her lasting legacy. But most do not know who she is or what she and the over five million suffragists accomplished over seven decades — engineering the greatest expansion of democracy the world has even seen on a single day upon ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment! Historians like to say that the suffrage movement is the best kept secret in American history—it is.

The memorial is to be dedicated on August 26, 2020, the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The event will take place in Occoquan Regional Park in Virginia, part of the historic prison grounds where scores of suffragists were jailed, kept in inhumane conditions and tortured for picketing the Wilson White House. Everyone is invited!

Detailed information can be found at [www.suffragistmemorial.org](http://www.suffragistmemorial.org). If you would like to make a donation to the Suffragist Memorial, visit the web site. What will be dedicated will depend on funding received. The estimated cost is \$2 million. Collected so far, just under \$1 million with potential large gifts on the horizon. But there is a long way to go. League members are a significant part of the “base” of donors—who are *directly* connected to the suffrage movement.