



The mission of SSV, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational and advocacy organization, is to enable seniors to identify and articulate their viewpoints on the issues affecting all citizens of Virginia, to encourage knowledge of and active participation in the legislative process of government, and to disseminate information about the social, governmental, and educational institutions that offer support and assistance.



## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next meeting of the **Senior Statesmen of Virginia** will be held on  
**Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 1:30 – 3 p.m.**  
at the **Senior Center, Inc., 1180 Pepsi Place**

## CANDIDATES FORUM

### Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

### Charlottesville City Council

Candidates for the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors and the Charlottesville City Council will present their views on many of the issues and priorities for the County and City. All candidates will participate except Wes Bellamy who has a prior obligation with his school and Ann Mallek who is running unopposed for the White Hall District seat (because of the decision by the SSV board to limit the forum to contested races).

The program will be moderated by **Chris Callahan**, senior reporter for 1070 WINA News Radio. Chris has been with the station for 41 years and was honored in 2014 by the Associated Press Broadcasters for the Best News Operation of the Year.

The program is free and open to the public.



**Chris  
Callahan**

#### Board of Supervisors—Rivanna District



**Norman  
Dill (D)**



**Lawrence  
Gaughan (I)**



**Richard  
Lloyd (R)**

#### Scottsville District



**Rick  
Randolph (D)**



**Earl  
Smith (R)**

#### Charlottesville City Council



**Alvin  
Bandy (I)**



**Wes  
Belamy (D)**



**Kathleen  
Galvin (D)**



**Anson  
Parker (R)**



**Michael  
Signer (D)**

## ***In case you missed the June 10 Meeting:***

Officers of the Charlottesville Area League of Women Voters: **Kerin Yates**, **Gerry Yemen** and **Patricia Hurst**, provided an overview of the mission of the League of Women Voters, its history and the positions adopted by the organization.

Kerin began by explaining how this meeting with SSV came about. About a year ago she saw the announcement in the Daily Progress that Dahlia Lithwick would be speaking on the Supreme Court at the upcoming SSV meeting. Kerin attended the meeting and found it to be very exciting. She then looked up SSV on the Internet and saw that there were many similarities between the League and SSV and so she emailed the SSV board and suggested they explore if we could coordinate our work. This led to a couple of informal meetings and then finally to today's program.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Members study issues for two to four years (recent example is the issue of prisons in our country), and if consensus is achieved, then they lobby as a group. The League has a very good reputation for intellectual integrity. They are invited by legislators to testify on various issues. Their greatest asset is their reputation on intellectual rigor. This allows the League to open doors and to be invited to the table and to be taken very seriously. This is important because we are in an age when absolutely anything goes in public debate. Allegiance to the truth doesn't exist very much anymore because the first consideration is often getting your way or getting elected.

Pat Hurst reviewed the history of the League which was founded in 1920 (the year the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified) by Carrie Chapman Catt who was a leader in the women's suffrage movement that lasted for 71 years. There were many small steps towards the march to women's suffrage, examples of which are: in 1896 Utah joined the union and granted full women's suffrage; in 1906 Idaho adopted an amendment to the state constitution enfranchising women to vote; and in 1917 Montana elected the first woman to the House of Representatives.

Gerry Yemen described the profound impact her membership in the League has had in her life. A Canadian citizen, she credits the League in large part for her eventually achieving U. S. citizenship and the honor of being sworn in at the ceremony held at Monticello.

**Note:** You can listen to the entire presentation on the Charlottesville Podcasting Network at:

<http://www.cvillepodcast.com/category/senior-statesmen/>.



**Gerry Yemen**  
President

**Kerin Yates**  
Treasurer

**Patricia Hurst**  
Secretary

*Membership in the SSV is open to all past and present citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. **Join now!** Annual dues are just \$20.00. Mail your check in the amount of \$20.00 (payable to "SSV") to Senior Statesmen of Virginia, P.O. Box 6591, Charlottesville, VA 22906. Telephone: 434-806-4474. E-mail: [jimp@videoprovirginia.com](mailto:jimp@videoprovirginia.com)*

**Please visit our website at: [www.seniorstatesmen.org/](http://www.seniorstatesmen.org/)**

### **Senior Statesmen of Virginia**

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