

THE VOTER
Newsletter of the
League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham
April 2022 Edition

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK ...

I hope that all of you are having a wonderful spring!

We recently sent a [Membership Interest Survey](#). We want to know more about you and request your input regarding the activities of the LWVGB. If you are a member and have not yet had time to complete the survey, please do so at your earliest opportunity.

The primary season is upon us and the general election will not be far behind. We will be busy registering voters and educating voters with our vote411.org work. Please let us know how you would like to help with these efforts!

Please mark your calendar for our annual business meeting. This year we have decided to have an in-person meeting for those who are comfortable. We will also have the option of virtual attendance.

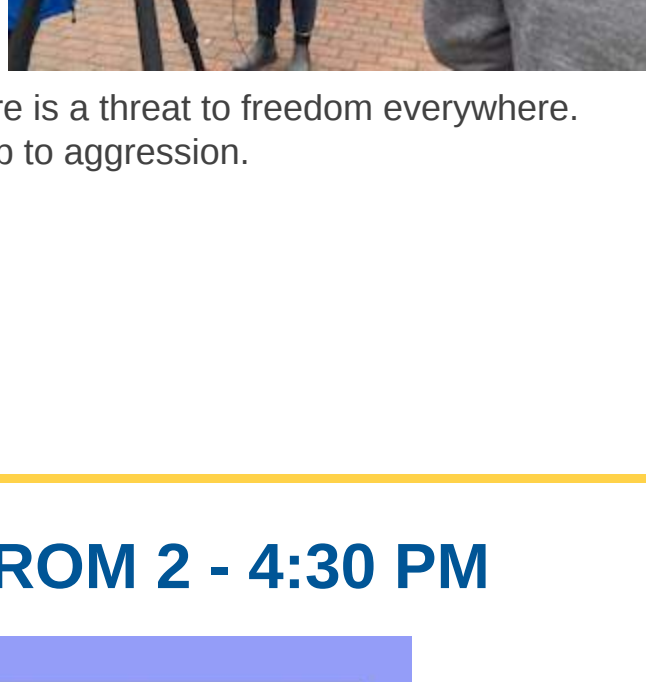
We will meet at the **Homewood Public Library on March 12, at 6:30 PM**. If you plan to attend in person, please let me know by emailing dellis@lwvbg.org. For those who wish to attend virtually, [please register at this Zoom link by clicking here](#).

Thanks so much for all you do!

- Dana Ellis

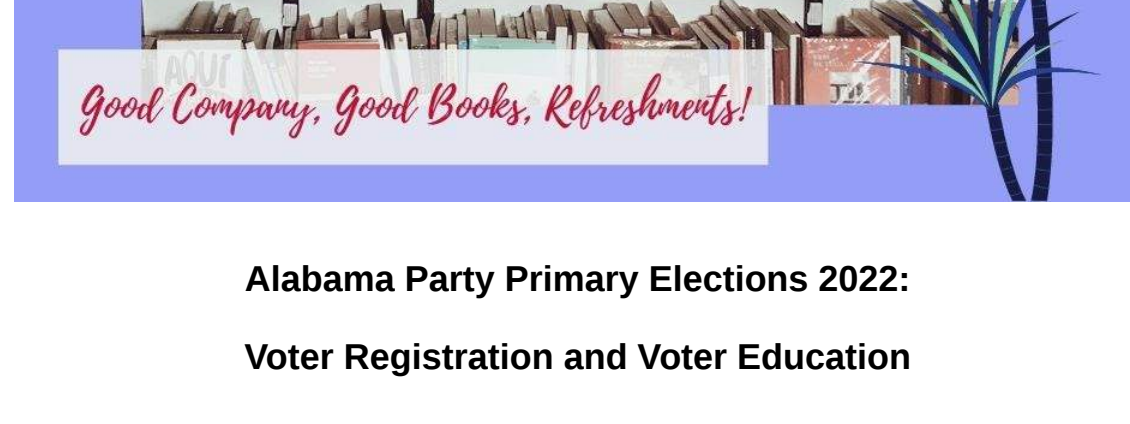
A NOTE ABOUT UKRAINE

As a member of LWVGB and Honorary Consul for Ukraine to Alabama I wanted to ask and implore that fellow member join me to advocate for support for freedom of Ukraine. I have for 25 years worked in Ukraine for democratization and modernization of my beloved adopted second homeland. These are people who embody the spirit of freedom and democracy that we as LWVGB strive to promote. We have seen over 1,700 Russians arrested protesting the aggression of the dictator they suffer under. I ask League members to use their voices to support Ukrainian democracy in this time of peril. Reach out to our representatives to express your support for our efforts to bring Russia into civilized behavior and to stop pillaging an innocent democracy. Freedom trampled by tyrants anywhere is a threat to freedom everywhere. Let us join our fellow free people of Ukraine as they stand up to aggression.



Respectfully,
Scotty Colson
Honorary Consul for Ukraine to Alabama

NEXT MEETING - MAY 1 FROM 2 - 4:30 PM



**Alabama Party Primary Elections 2022:
Voter Registration and Voter Education**

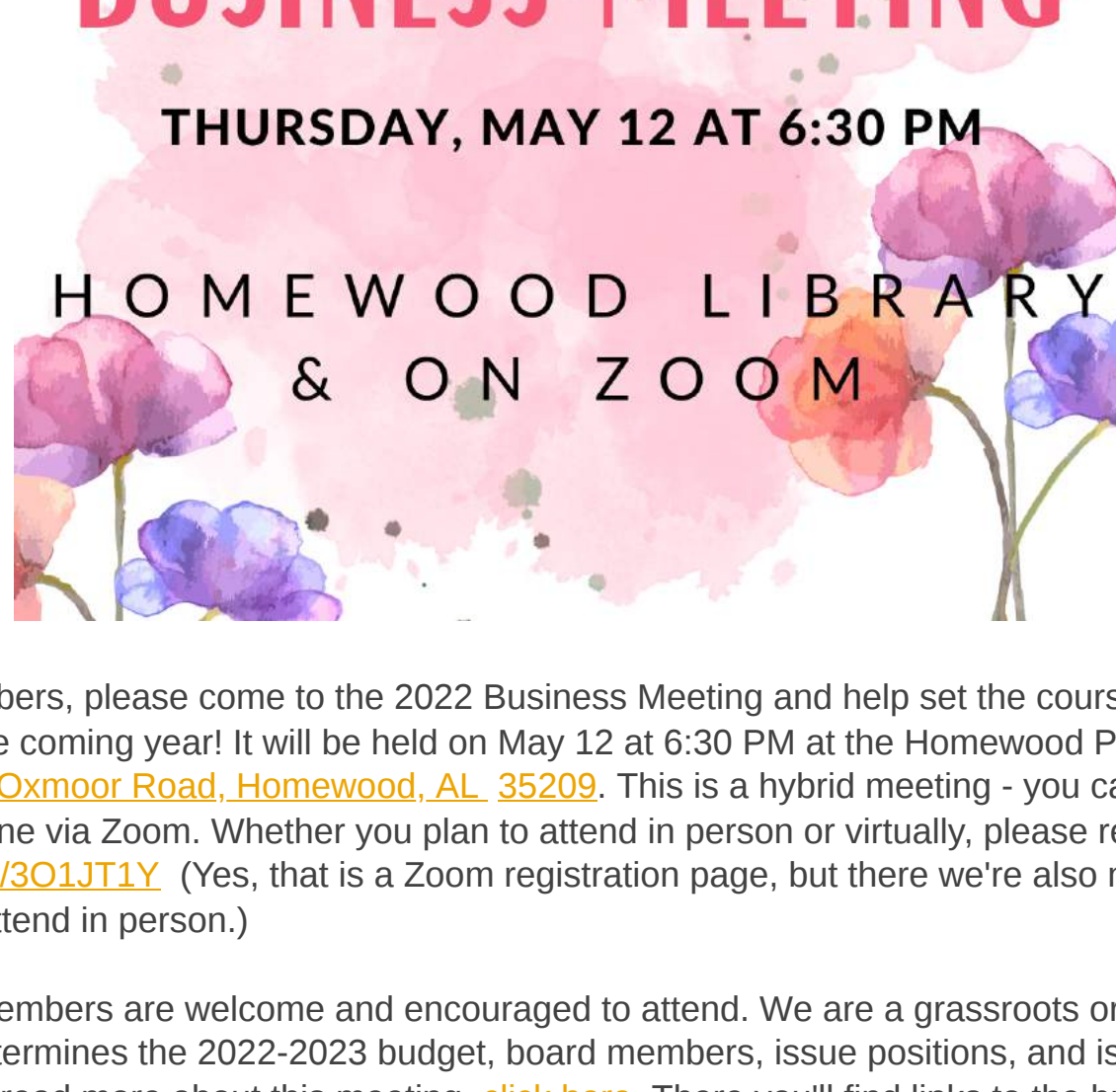
Sunday, May 1, 2022, 2:00 - 4:30 PM CDT
at [Thank You Books](#)

5502 Crestwood Blvd, Unit B
Birmingham AL 35212

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Join us on Sunday, May 1st, 2:00 - 4:30 PM CDT, at Thank You Books in Crestwood Village (Crestwood Shopping Center) for a special in person program of the League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham. We will have voter registration and education about the upcoming primary elections. Plus shop for great books at this new indie, woman-owned, local bookstore! Refreshments will also be provided. Candidates, no campaigning at this event, please!

We look forward to seeing you at this in-person (at last!) event on Sunday, May 1, 2022.
Drop by any time between 2:00 and 4:30 PM CDT!

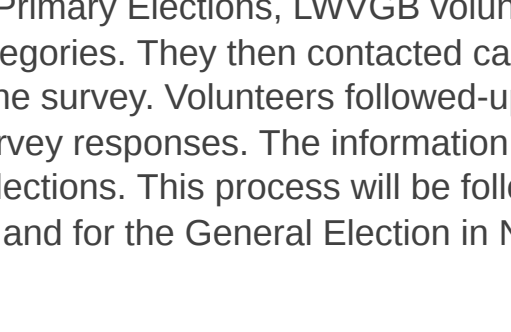


LWVGB Members, please come to the 2022 Business Meeting and help set the course for our League for the coming year! It will be held on May 12 at 6:30 PM at the Homewood Public Library, [1721 Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209](#). This is a hybrid meeting - you can join in-person or online via Zoom. (Whether you plan to attend in person or virtually, please register at <https://bit.ly/3O1JT1Y>. (Yes, that is a Zoom registration page, but there we're also noting those who plan to attend in person.)

All LWVGB members are welcome and encouraged to attend. We are a grassroots organization and your voice determines the 2022-2023 budget, board members, issue positions, and issues for emphasis. To read more about this meeting, [click here](#). There you'll find links to the business to be considered. Whether you choose to come in person or via Zoom, we look forward to seeing you May 12 at 6:30 PM!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

LWVGB and VOTE411 for 2022 Elections!



LWVGB will provide candidate information in contested Jefferson and Shelby county races ahead of:
1) Alabama Primary Elections on May 24, 2022 and
2) Mountain Brook and Bessemer Municipal Elections on August 23, 2022.

This information will be made available to the public on the League's non-partisan election resource VOTE411.org For the Alabama Primary Elections, LWVGB volunteers developed candidate questions for each of the race categories. They then contacted candidates and sent them instructions on how to complete the survey. Volunteers followed-up with candidates as needed to encourage submission of their survey responses. The information will be published, for the public to access, three weeks before the elections. This process will be followed again leading up to the municipal elections on August 23 and for the General Election in November. **Your volunteer help is welcomed at any time!**

VOTE411.org, a one-stop non-partisan voter resource, was launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund in 2006. It is a "one-stop" non-partisan and unbiased resource that is simple to use and easily accessible to voters across the country. Voters can enter their address and receive customized information on elections, candidate information, polling places, ballot measures, absentee ballots, candidate debates, and ID requirements.

After we "go live" on Monday, May 2, go to <https://www.vote411.org> to get information about Alabama state-wide primary elections and Greater Birmingham area primary elections. Learn about the races, the candidates and their issue positions, and the one constitutional amendment question. **Be prepared to cast an informed ballot on May 24!**

Anyone wishing to help with this project can email Judy Jones at jfflowgoer@aol.com.

ALABAMA ELECTION NOTES: THE 2022 ELECTION CALENDAR

2022 is a **General Election** year which means there will be many voter and candidate related dates on the calendar throughout the year. Of primary importance to Alabama voters are registration deadlines and when absentee voting starts and ends.

These dates are shown in the table below for each of the elections:

IMPORTANT ALABAMA VOTER DATES			
Election>>	Primary May 24	Runoff Jun 21	General Nov 8
Can Request Absentee Ballot	March 30	June 7	Sept 14
Voter Registration Deadline	May 9	June 6	Oct 24
Can Apply for Absentee by Mail	May 17	June 14	Nov 1
Can Apply for Absentee in Person	May 19	June 16	Nov 3
Deadline for Hand-Delivery of Absentee Ballots	May 23	June 20	Nov 7
Deadline for Absentee Ballots Received by Mail	Noon May 24	Noon June 21	Noon Nov 8
Deadline for Voters to Provide info for Provisional Ballots Cast	5 pm May 27	5 pm June 24	5 pm Nov 14

Alabama's Primary Election will be **May 24, 2022**. The Primary Run-off, if needed, will be **June 21, 2022**.

The **General Election** will be **November 8, 2022**.

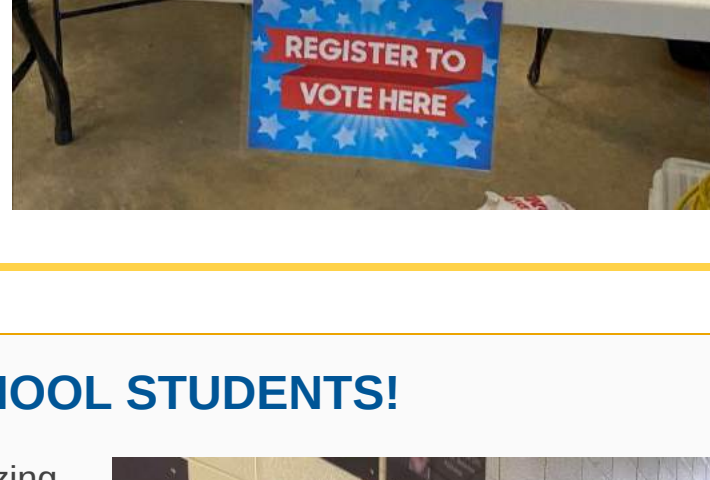
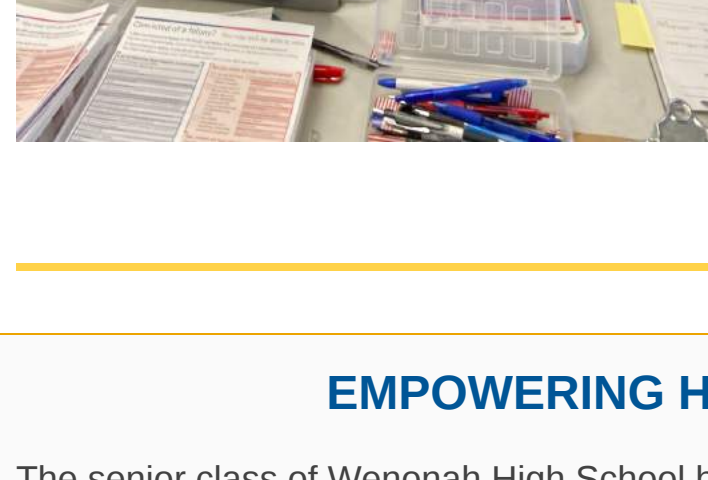
Click [here](#) and [here](#) for source information.

LWVGB BACK IN ACTION AT THE BPP

After a hiatus during the Omicron surge, LWVGB volunteers are now back at the Bureau of Pardons and Paroles Field Office in Birmingham. We are providing education regarding voter registration and voter rights restoration to clients of the office. Many Alabamians are confused about the law, believing that a felony conviction results in the loss of voting rights. While there are some convictions which impact voting rights, the majority do not.

It is so gratifying to spend time at the Field Office and to have the opportunity to explain the law and to register voters. Many people we speak with are thrilled to learn they never lost the right to vote. For those with disqualifying convictions, we are able to educate about the path to voting rights restoration.

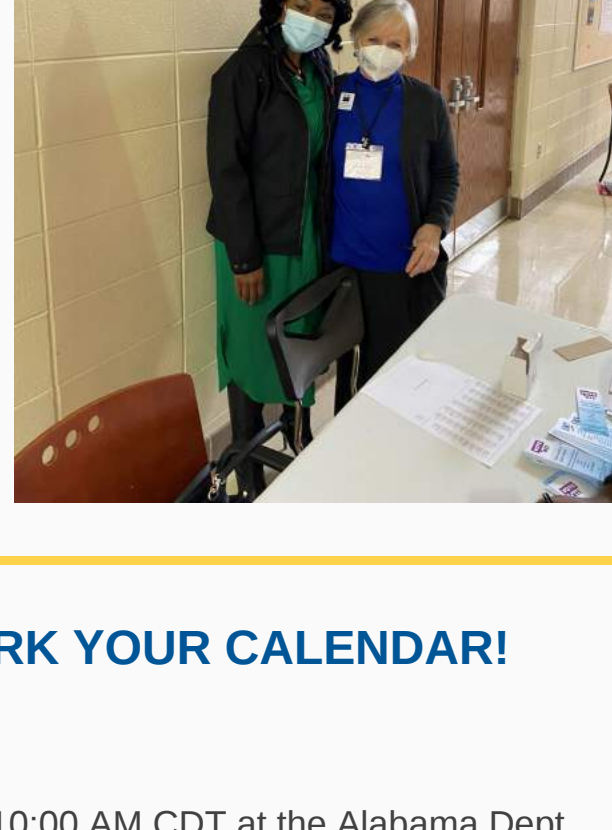
Thanks to LWVGB members Connie Arnwine, Toni Barnett, Becky Laurent, Dori Miles, Julie Reese, and Nancy Sales for volunteering time to this effort. If you have an interest in becoming involved, please contact Dana Ellis at dellis@lwvbg.org



EMPOWERING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

The senior class of Wenonah High School had the amazing opportunity to hear from Judge Jameria Moore (LWVGB Board member) and DA Danny Carr on Friday, 2/18. Both had very informative and inspiring presentations.

The students were also educated on how to register to vote. Several students took the opportunity to register on that day. Judge Moore and DA Carr encouraged the students to exercise their rights and to make sure their voices are heard.



LWVAL COUNCIL 2022 IS JUNE 4 - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Calling all members of the League in Alabama!

Make plans to attend LWVAL Council on June 4 beginning at 10:00 AM CDT at the Alabama Dept. of Archives and History. *Attend virtually or in person.*

If you are a member of the League in Alabama, you are welcome to attend whether you are a delegate or not. In addition to council business, there will be a panel discussion in which everyone should be interested: **"The Alabama Constitution's Racist Roots and the 2022 Ballot Amendment"**.

Here's the lineup for the LWVAL Council panel:

Moderator:

Stephanie Butler; LWVGB member

Panelists:

Scotty Kirkland; Historian and Archivist at the Alabama Department of Archives and History

Othni Lathram; Director Alabama Legislative Services Agency

Sherri Lewis; Faith in Action Alabama

4th Panelist TBA

More information about LWVAL Council is coming soon!

DON'T FORGET: PAY LEAGUE DUES!

If you were a member of the LWVGB before July 1, 2020, and have not yet renewed, you can do so now! If you aren't sure if your dues are up to date, contact Leslie O'Neil at lonell@bellsouth.net or (205) 968-9863.

[Click here to renew today!](#)

Your membership and support are vital to our LWVGB services and programs! A big thanks to all who have already renewed!

REMEMBER: dues assistance is available!

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW](#)

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[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

