

Lobby Day is a day when the Legislature is in session and nonprofit organizations from all over the state send advocates to talk to their local legislators about issues and bills of importance to them.

Last year, Anne Mosakowski and I went from LWVCDC. We hope to have more this year. Every appointment was different. In a couple of instances, we could only meet with staff, but that is paying off too.

The Lobby Corps is envisioned to be about 10 or 12 people taking four training sessions and then organizing their League's participation in Lobby Day. I am doing that for LWVCDC and will bring back information to our membership.

Peggy Wilson will be organizing our meet and greets again this year. That's where we meet local legislators in their district offices, a much more relaxed setting where we have the legislators' full attention.

If you want to be involved but don't want to make the two-hour trip to Harrisburg for Lobby Day, you can sign up for a meet and greet. We like to have at least one participant who is a constituent of the legislator we are meeting, but you can come even if you're not. We will be sending out emails to recruit members for that once the dates are set.

I now have a committee or at least a group of interested people because of the signup sheet at the annual gathering. Now we can do postcard writing and other actions as issues come to a head in Harrisburg or even in Washington D.C. I will be better about involving those who signed up and organizing things like that.

I will soon be asking for volunteers to each research a local legislator in preparation for Lobby Day and the Meet and greets. It is easy to do and takes about an hour on your home computer.

The idea is to have background information on each legislator, to learn what legislation they champion and what their interests are so we can make a connection with them when we go to see them either in their district offices or Harrisburg.