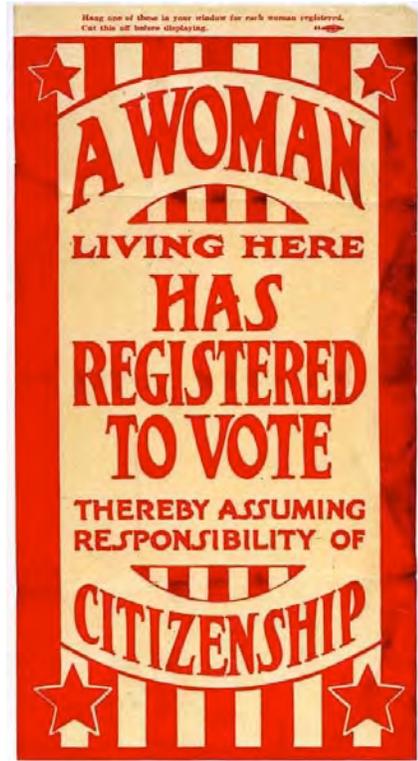


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Address Service Requested



League of Women Voters
P.O. Box 1072
Lawrence, KS 66044-1072



The VOTER

Bulletin of the LWV of Lawrence-Douglas County, KS

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

Co-Presidents:	David Burress & Cille King	president@lawrenceleague.com	
Membership:	Margaret Arnold	membership@lawrenceleague.com	
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State League:	www.lwvk.org	lwv.kansas@gmail.com	785-234-5152
National League	www.lwv.org		202-429-1965

League Calendar

Saturday, August 24th	1:30 - 3:30 pm	Celebration of the 93rd Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. <i>South Park Gazebo.</i> Please see page 3 for article.
Saturday, August 24th	7 - 9 pm	Land Use Committee Meeting. <i>Community Mercantile Meeting Room, 901 Iowa St.</i>
Monday, September 9th	9:00 pm	VOTER Submission Deadline. Please send submissions to lightwatcher@gmail.com
Thursday, September 12th	7 - 9 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. <i>Co-President David Burress' House, 912 Holiday Drive.</i> All League members are invited to attend.
Tuesday, September 17th	10:30 am	Naturalization Ceremony. <i>Dole Center, 2350 Petefish Drive, KU Campus.</i>
Thursday, September 19th	11:30 - 1 pm	Brown Bag Gathering. <i>County Courthouse Commission Room, 111 E. 11th St. Craig Weinaug and Michael Gaughan, "The State of the County."</i>
Saturday, October 12th	TBA	State League Day. <i>Tentative date, details to be announced later.</i>
Saturday, October 17th	11:30 - 1 pm	Brown Bag Gathering. <i>Watkins Community Museum, 1047 Mass St. Lawrence Memorial Hospital's implementation of the Affordable Care Act.</i>
Friday, November 22nd	TBA	Brown Bag Gathering. <i>Watkins Community Museum, 1047 Mass St. Marta Caminero-Santangelo, Oral histories of local Latinas.</i>

Co-President's Message

No vacation for the League this summer.

Our biggest news has to with, of all things, **voting rights.**

1. **Anniversary rally for women's suffrage**, 1:30 August 24, South Park. LWV-LDC is ringleader for a coalition to celebrate the 93rd anniversary of the ratification of 19th Amendment (which actually happened on the 26th). Margaret Arnold is chairing. See below for further details.



2. **Lawsuit.** LWV-LDC signed on as an organizational plaintiff for an ACLU voting rights lawsuit against Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach. On August 13 the ACLU served Kobach with a 90 day demand letter, which is a prelude to bringing a lawsuit against the unconscionable voter ID law Kobach lobbied through the legislature a year ago. That law has led to putting some 12,000 would-be voters into a suspense file until they can provide documented proof of citizenship. This situation looks to us like an obvious violation of the National Voting Rights Act (NVRA) as interpreted by a recent Supreme Court case. Perhaps most egregiously and contrary to the federal Motor Voter law, the Kansas Division of Vehicles does not routinely register voters at their request when they obtain drivers licenses—not even when they have citizenship documents.



3. **Voter pre-registration.** Meanwhile we have been doing what the current Kansas law allows toward registering new voters, led by Voter Services Chair Ruth Gibbs. (We call it pre-registering and re-registering.) As always we have received excellent cooperation from Douglas County Clark Jamie Shew. Most recently we tabled at the annual downtown Lawrence sidewalk sale. What we can do is:
- a. Register existing voters who have merely changed addresses.
 - b. Collect a signed form from new voters that will initiate registration. Mr. Shew will follow up with letters and phone calls seeking evidence of citizenship. Evidence can be submitted by Fax or mail, thereby avoiding a trip to the County Courthouse.

Theoretically, the LWV could make copies of the citizenship documents at the time we preregister, but that is impractical for many reasons (e.g. LWV liability for personal data, avoiding LWV possession of any electronic record, citizen's discomfort, the fact that most people don't carry such documents).

The League has been busy on other fronts as well.

Corporate accessory dwelling units. At the July planning commission (PC) meeting, city planning staff recommended that Accessory Dwelling Units (i.e., adding an apartment or duplex to a single family home) be permitted in RS 5 (single family zoned) districts, even if the "owner-occupant" was "not a natural person" (read: corporation). LUC sent a letter and Copresident Cille King spoke against including corporations. A representative of Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods also testified. The PC voted unanimously to reject the proposed language. The PC decision was later upheld unanimously by the City Commission. See below for a full report.

Open meetings report. Alan Cowles of the LWV open meetings committee has produced a great report on closed executive sessions of the Hospital Board. Insofar as no particular topic has been announced, these meetings appear to be illegal under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA). The City and County Commissions had engaged in similar practices, but seem to have backed off after questions were raised by Alan. This is an issue we need to follow up on.



Sidewalks. The LWV-LAN joint Community Sidewalk Taskforce has achieved two significant successes:

1. Laura Routh spoke at the July PC on behalf of the CST and asked them to reject the sidewalk variance being requested for a development off Kasold. The PC didn't reject the preliminary plat variance, but they did make the sidewalk variance conditional. When the property is

developed, they will be required to put sidewalks on both sides of the street. The PC rejected the option of allowing a sidewalk variance to exist in perpetuity on the site. Routh says we need to make challenging sidewalk variances a regular CST activity.

2. (Belated report): at the end of June we learned that sidewalks are listed in the draft budget as a possible area of study for the City Auditor. We will need to lobby City Hall to make sure it gets on the Auditor's work plan.

League personal data policy. LWV-LDC Board has adopted a revised new policy on member data privacy and distribution of the membership Roster. As always, personal information in the Roster is confidential and limited to use by members for LWV business. We will distribute a printed copy to members in April, and we plan to distribute updated electronic copies twice a year. Personal data other than names and leadership contact information will ordinarily not appear in the Voter.

Criqui resignation. The Board was sadly diminished by the resignation of Scott Criqui, which was necessitated by increased family and work responsibilities. Scott will continue as our Facebook and Twitter Master. The Board can appoint a replacement to fill out Scott's term of office. Please contact me at d-burress (at) ku.edu if you are interested in applying for the position. - David Burress

RALLY! CELEBRATE THE VOTE!

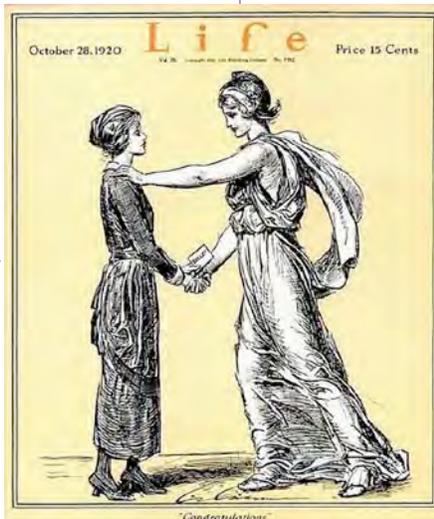
Please join other League members and friends to celebrate the 93rd anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted all U.S. women the right to vote. (Kansas women had voted since 1912.)

When: August 24, 2013. 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Where: South Park, at the Gazebo

Events:

- 1) Suffragette songs, led by Marlene Merrill and volunteers from the Lawrence Civic Choir. You will know the tunes and may have a good time finding the words that women sang to them.
- 2) Brief speeches by Marci Francisco, Leslie Soden, David Burress (for the men's contribution), and more if anyone is so moved.
- 3) Voices from the past: Quotations from Kansas suffragettes, excerpts from Elizabeth Cady Stanton's "Declaration of Sentiments" from



the pioneering Seneca Falls Convention. We will have mikes available and are lining up people with loud voices.

- 4) Light refreshments.

This event is a celebration, and at the same time we encourage remembering what the right to vote has meant and continues to mean. Everyone is welcome.

- Margaret Arnold

THE LEAGUE AT THE SIDEWALK SALE

The League had a table at the annual downtown sidewalk sale on 18 July. 14 people registered to vote and 5 signed up for LWV information. We were asked about recent Kansas changes in Kan-Care, judge selection, voter registration procedures, why Kansas isn't expanding Medicaid and about the LWV. Many people gave us a thumbs up for being present and others thanked us for our web site voter's guides.

Thanks to volunteers Ruth, Marci, Joe, Midge, Marlene, Jeanne, James, CJ, Bill, and Marilyn. We give a big thank you to Ed Forman at Mrs. Fields, (TCBY), for

allowing us to share the sidewalk in front of his business. - Cille King

LEAGUE MEMBERS SPEAK OUT

League members expressing opinions in the Lawrence Journal World this month include:

Wilma Rife, letter to the editor on Voting Record
<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2013/jul/23/letter-voting-record/>

Audrey Kamb-Studdard, letter to the editor Unsafe Spot
<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2013/jul/26/letter-unsafe-spot/> and

M. G. Roy, Downtown Nostalgia (read at
<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2013/aug/04/letter-downtown-nostalgia/>)



OBSERVER REPORTS

HOMELESS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMISSION (HIAC)

At the July meeting of HIAC Doug Wallace, Director of the Kansas State Homeless Coalition, reported on the statistics garnered from the homeless count taken the last ten days in January. This count is only a snapshot, and it is not representative of every homeless person. It is a voluntary survey not everyone chooses to participate.

There were 537 people reported statewide as staying in shelters, and 522 in transitional housing. 168 (14%) of the respondents described having a mental illness and 231 (20%) reported they had issues with sub-

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stance abuse. The fastest rising populations experiencing homelessness are families with children and veterans.

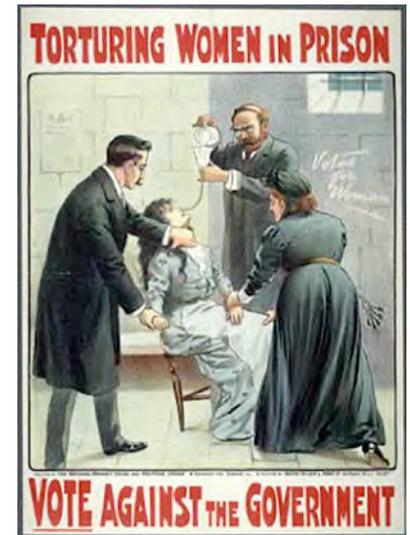
A new question was asked of participants this year, which was to describe some of the factors that led them to become homeless. By learning what has led people to become homeless, organizations can start teaching and helping people try to avoid that outcome. Across the board, almost in every county that participated, job loss, or lack of a job, and lack of affordable housing were the top two reasons that led people to become homeless. Employment is extremely important; the Lawrence Community shelter has worked on an employment program in the past to help individuals try to find jobs. Data on the state of Kansas Point in Time count can be found at <http://kshomeless.com>.

Jeremy Farmer, CEO of Just Food, reported on the state of hunger and poverty in Douglas County. He began his presentation with the fact that in 1980 there were 200 food banks in the United States; today there are over 40,000. Yet the number of hungry people, during this time span, has risen from 1 million to 50 million.

Just Food started providing cooking classes last summer out of a desire to improve the lives of people who came to it for help. The program is led by Chef Rick Martin, the former chef of Free State Brewery. He started coming in and teaching people how to cook good foods at a very inexpensive cost. As people were taught to make their own healthy mac and cheese, more people started taking the ingredients to make their own food and not the prepackaged food. Just Food has also reduced the intake of fast food in their cooking class graduates by 50%.

Farmer said Just Food has also planted 16 pallet gardens on the side of its building. They have a 40x50 plot where they take clients and show them how to grow their own food in an effort to get more fresh

Anniversary of the 19th Amendment



produce into the diets of its clients. They are looking at applying for a grant for a small hatchery pond to have fresh fish available, as well as applying for a grant for a greenhouse.

Farmer believes that there is enough food in this county to meet local needs.

LAWRENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

July 15, 2013, 4:30 p.m. - 5:55 p.m.
7th and New Hampshire

Board Members Present: Chris Burger, Joan Golden, Brady Flannery, Ursula Minor, Deborah Thompson and David Vance.

Absent: Gould/Evans Architects.

Library Staff: Brad Allen, Director; Kathleen Morgan, Library Foundation Director; Sherri Turner,

Assistant Director; Jenny Daily, marketing coordinator.
Friends of the Library: Gordon Fitch.

Guests: BA Green Construction; Elinor Tourtellot, League of Women Voters.

Library Director's Report

- Building and Renovation/Expansion: Brad Allen reported that the parking garage should be open by the middle of August. Work continues on the building renovation. The building is a shell, many of the main cuts in the concrete have been made and the piers for the expansion have been drilled and are being put into place.
- LPL at ALA in Chicago: Brad, Foundation Director Kathleen Morgan and four staff members drove to Chicago for the American Library Association's Annual Conference. They attended presentations and networked with publishers. Brad met with vendors to discuss the Radio-frequency technology project (RFID) which is an automatic material handling sorter.
- Budget Approved: On July 9, the City Commission adopted a budget that included a \$140,000 increase to the Library's 2013 budget. The extra money will help the library



be well prepared to open next year.

Library Foundation Director's Report

• Kathleen announced the application to the Ross and Marianna Beach Foundation to establish the Ross and Marianna Beach Speakers Series at the library. The request is for \$250K to establish a fund that would bring a high profile

author to the library each year.

- The fall fundraiser will be centered around the 2013 Banned Books Trading Card project. Prior to Banned Books Week, the library will host the Banned Book Trading Card Awards to announce the seven winning artists.

Friends of the Library Report

The Fall sale is December 26-29 at the fair ground and the Spring sale will be in April.

The foundation has formed a committee to train sorters. Better World Books are buying books that are culled and other books are sold on Amazon.

BA Green Construction

Dennis Odgers reported that the demolition of the library is nearly complete. The sky light opening is smaller than anticipated and to enlarge it would cost \$60,000. David Vance volunteered to meet with Gould/Evans to get their input. Then by July 20th the Board will vote by email to decide to enlarge the sky-light opening or not. The garage will be finished mid-August. Electric plug-ins will be installed later.





Future Board Retreat

The retreat will take place on September 16 during the regular meeting. A facilitator will be found to lead the Board in discussing strategic planning and documenting goals.

New Business

The library subcommittee on RFID selected TechLogic as the vendor for the book

sorter. The TechLogic sorter is the only option that allows multiple items to be returned at once which will give a more positive customer experience than returning items one at a time. Also, a single induction point creates a simpler machine with fewer moving parts contributing to few maintenance issues and down time. The Board approved to accept the proposal of TechLogic as the vendor.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JULY BOARD MEETING

7:10–9 pm, home of David Burress

Present: David Burress (Co-President), Cille King (Co-President and President Elect), Marjorie Cole (Treasurer), Caleb Morse (Secretary); Directors: Margaret Arnold, Caroljean Brune, James Dunn, Ruth Gibbs, Midge Grinstead, Marlene Merrill.

Absent: Marci Francisco (Vice President), Scott Criqui.

Guest: Marilyn Roy.

Consent agenda. The consent agenda (including portfolio descriptions for the Observer Corps and Outreach/Diversity chairs, minutes from the 13 June Board meeting, and reports from the Land Use Committee and Treasurer) was adopted by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's report. Marjorie reported total income for June of \$165 and expenses of \$88.71. Net inflow was \$76.29. Balances as of 30 June: Checking Account = \$3312.62 ; Money Market = \$2101.97; Stucky =

\$6373.63; Judiciary = \$593.58; Education Fund = \$1521.98.

Comments from visitors. Marilyn Roy sat at the League table with Bill Arnold at the Band Concert event on the previous night. She reported that they had been required to move the table from the prime site by some city worker. No one came by the table, although Marilyn and Bill had a fine time at the concert. While sitting at the table, Marilyn read the League History included among the materials there. Greatly impressed, she came to raise the issue of how to get the whole membership interested and involved in League activities. In the files, Bonnie Dunham included about 25 member surveys indicating member interests. Marilyn thinks it might be a good idea to assemble data into some kind of spreadsheet, send relevant info to committee chairs.

Policy on address changes in Voter. Motion: personal email addresses and phone numbers should never be listed in the voter, except (with permission) for organizational contacts. Should we have a policy of not putting any mailing or email address in the Voter? David proposed a policy that we never put contact info in the Voter, and that we ask before printing full names of new members. David (Marlene) moved to establish as policy that LWW L-DC will not publish identifying information for new members other than name; James clarifies that this does not address the publication of names; CJ says it should be opt-out for all info. The motion carried 7-2-1 (Margaret and CJ against; Marjorie abstaining). Should we ask new members if they want their name published in the Voter? CJ (Caleb) moved thusly. After some discussion, the motion carried 6-4 (Marlene against because it's redundant). David appoints an ad hoc committee of Cille, Marjorie, Caleb, David, and CJ to formulate a policy on data privacy. Update on LWWK issues. James reported to LWWK that Marci would lead our study on hydraulic fracturing; that we think there should be a LWWK



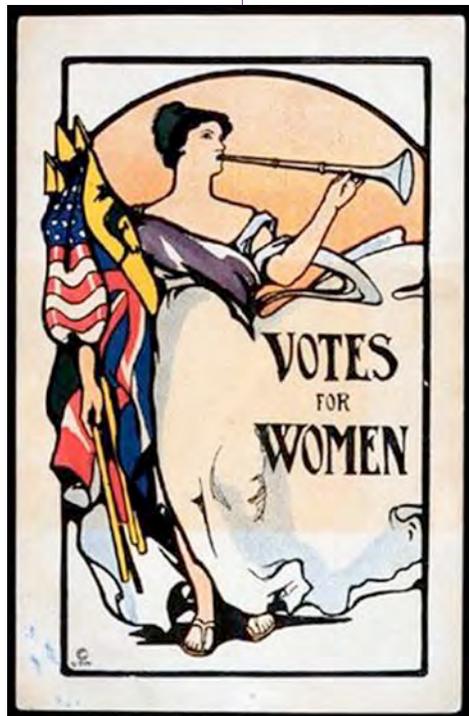


observer corps; and that we are working on assembling Kansas Legislature voting records. Margaret (CJ) moved that the co-presidents will write a letter thanking Furtado for initiating open records process regarding releasing names of judicial applicants and receiving spectacularly good state-wide coverage; approved by consensus.

Voter registration update. Cille wrote to LWWK President Dolores Furtado asking the status of voter registration. Furtado says yes, keep at it, but avoid coming into possession of personal identification. Ruth says she contacted Jamie Shew about this. He said keep doing what you are doing, and the Clerk's Office will contact applicants for proof of citizenship.

Observer Corps report. Midge reported that she had met with Patrick Wilbur. They had questions about credentialing. What's a credential? David opined that we credential as we will (issue a letter and badge, or some such). Midge asked what the process should be and suggested she contact committee chairs, and following up with a letter. Midge asked if we should target some boards. The consensus was that we should allow observers to choose their committee. CJ (Ruth) moved that only members can be League observers. David said it's a good way to recruit new members. Motion carried 8-1-1 (Midge against, Caleb abstaining).

- Caleb Morse



LAND USE COMMITTEE

JULY 20TH MEETING

The Land Use Committee (LUC) met on Saturday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Merc community meeting room. We discussed the current items on the Planning Commission (PC) Agenda and decided to write one letter to the PC.

Our main concern was Item No. 6, a text amendment (TA) to the Lawrence Land Development Code (LDC) that would have changed two provisions on Accessory Dwelling Units in Section 20-534 of the LDC. The text amendment proposed to include the RS5 District (5,000 square feet per lot for a one-family detached dwelling) in this section of the Code allowing Accessory Dwellings, which up to this time allowed only RS districts from the lowest density up to RS7, or 7,000 square feet per lot. This provision, among others, allows one additional dwelling in a single family house provided it does not add more than one person to the total permitted occupancy of four unrelated adults per dwelling, is less than 960 square feet in size, is compatible with its main dwelling and surroundings, and most importantly, either this or the main dwelling is owner-occupied. The key to the issue is the owner-occupancy. If one of the units is not occupied by the owner of the house,

then the "accessory dwelling" causes the house to become a duplex, is in violation of the Code, and must be corrected.

This request for the TA to include the RS5 District was originated by a couple in an older neighborhood and appeared on last month's PC Agenda. Old West Lawrence Neighborhood residents immediately objected and pointed out that there was no definition of "owner-occupancy," only that of "owner," which included, among other types, corporate ownership. Corporations are non-human entities. This fact confuses the issue of "owner-occupancy," and by some interpreta-



corner of Peterson Road and Kasold Drive. This was objected to by Laura Routh speaking for the Sidewalk Coalition. The PC added a condition to the variance that allowed it only until the new lots were developed, at which time the sidewalks would then have to be constructed. We thank Laura for her successful appeal.

REMEMBERING CAROL WORTH

Longtime League member Carol D. Worth, 83, passed away July 19, 2013, at Brandon Woods at Alvarar. While Carol served on many League committees over the years, her particular priority was to secure a Human Relations Commission and to support passage of a public accommodations ordinance for the City of Lawrence. Both of those goals were finally achieved, and Carol served on the Commission for years. She was appointed chair in 1977. Carol felt passionately that civil rights and economic opportunities should be accessible to all.

Services will be announced at a later date.

tions of the definition could result in company-owned duplexes in a single family neighborhood. The ultimate result could change the neighborhood from mostly owner-occupied to mostly rental housing because of the newly found incentive for landlord investment. In June, the PC deferred this issue to this July meeting.

The July Staff Report proposed to change Section 20-534. The original wording of this section reads, "Either the principal Dwelling Unit or the Accessory Dwelling Unit must be occupied by one or more of the persons who is/are the record Owner of the Premises." The proposed added wording would read: "If the Owner is not a natural person, then either the principal Dwelling Unit or the Accessory Dwelling Unit must be occupied by one or more principals of the Owner."

Our LUC July letter raised the issue of the uncertainty created by the phrase "not a natural person" and the term "principal" and pointed out the dangers of not having a definition of "owner-occupancy." We suggested that corporations should not benefit from the privilege of having accessory dwellings, and presented a possible definition of "owner-occupancy." Cille King was our spokesperson and presented the League LUC position. **OUTCOME:** the Planning Commission denied the text amendment after much discussion, but did not change the definitions to include "owner-occupancy."

A note of interest is that the same agenda also included a request for a variance to the sidewalk requirement in a replat of a large lot in the northeast

Charming Hats for the June 17 Demonstration. Special Display at DERRY & TOMS, KENSINGTON HIGH ST., LONDON, W.

During the next few days we shall be exhibiting in one of our windows hats and toques made in the colours of the various organisations in connection with the Woman Suffrage movement.

This should prove to be a unique opportunity for purchasing suitable millinery for the great Procession of June 17.



Very pretty Crested Hat of Ivory Lace, with wreath of Forget-me-nots and Garden Roses. 18 11

Must be seen to be appreciated.



Fashionable and becoming Hat, with Undulation of Black and White Striped Silk, Trimmed with Camellia and small Garden Roses. 25 9



Square Chip Hat, trimmed with Velvet, White Wax and Bees. 12 9

Very Effective and Becoming.

The prices range from 12 9, and the quality, style, and value are unsurpassed.

The Hats Illustrated could be made up in the Distinguishing Colours of any Organisation.

JOIN OR RE-JOIN THE LEAGUE!

Complete form, enclose check made out to LWV L/DC, and mail to LWV L/DC • PO Box 1072 • Lawrence KS 66044

(Please note: new or renewed memberships after September 30, 2012 are valid through March 31, 2014)

Our dues support the National and State Leagues as follows: \$31 National and \$18 State per member. Total: \$49/member

Our local League retains only \$6 from Individual membership dues and \$5.75 each for Household membership dues.

Date _____ New member _____ Renewing member _____
_____ Individual Membership (\$55) _____ Household Membership (\$85) _____ *Student Membership (\$20)

*University student enrolled full or part time in an accredited institution.

I'm interested in joining the League...please send me information on financial aid available for membership.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ to help sponsor a League membership.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for the League General Fund.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for the League Education Fund*

*This contribution is tax-deductible

_____ I am not a member, but would like to support the League with my contribution as indicated above.

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

As a League member, I would like to help support League activities by participating as follows:

General Membership Meetings:

- Set up and/or tear down
- Hospitality (provide coffee/tea/dessert)
- Taking notes/writing up report of meeting

Promotion of League to our Community

- Public speaking
- Attend community events as League representative

Membership

- Recruitment
- Mentor/follow-up with new members
- Provide a ride to a fellow member
- Phone members without internet access about special updates

Observer corps (attend/report on government meetings)

Help with research for League studies on issues

Serve on the Board of Directors

Voter Services

- Register voters
- Help with voter education

I have the following skills:

- Editing articles/reports
- Database management
- Proficient in Microsoft Word / Excel / Quickbooks
- Website/Social Media design/management

My interests include: _____