



The VOTER

Bulletin of the League of Women Voters of Lawrence-Douglas County, KS
PO Box 1072 • Lawrence KS 66044-1072

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: | Marlene Merrill & Ann Carlin Ozegovic | president @ lawrenceLeague.com | |
| Membership: | Margaret Arnold | membership @ lawrenceLeague.com | |
| Voter Editor: | Ruth Lichtwardt | votereditor @ lawrenceleague.com | |
| Local League | www.lawrenceleague.com | www.facebook.com/lwvldc | www.twitter.com/lwvldc |
| State League: | www.lwvk.org | lwv.kansas @ gmail.com | 785-234-5152 |
| National League | www.lwv.org | | 202-429-1965 |

League Calendar

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Thursday, August 3rd | 4:30 - 6:00 pm | Transportation Position Team Meeting. <i>Lawrence Public Library, Room C, 707 Vermont St.</i> |
| Tuesday, August 8th | 7 - 8:45 pm | LWV-DC Board Meeting. <i>Lawrence Public Library, Room C, 707 Vermont St.</i> All League members are invited to attend. |
| Thursday, August 10th | 8:30 - 9:30 am | Voter Education Coalition. <i>Lawrence Chamber Office, 718 New Hampshire.</i> |
| Thursday, August 17th | 11:30am - 1:00 pm | Hot Topic: Water. Speaker, Tom Sloan. <i>Watkins Community Museum, 1047 Massachusetts St.</i> Coffee & conversation at 11:30, program at noon. |
| Sunday, August 20th | 7:00 pm | Land Use Committee. <i>The Merc, 901 Iowa St.</i> |
| Wed., August 30th | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm | KU Volunteer Fair. <i>Kansas Memorial Union, 1301 Jayhawk Blvd., Level 4 Lobby</i> |
| Friday, Sept. 8th | 9:30 am - 4:00 pm | Democracy Tomorrow Conference: Increasing Citizen Participation in Kansas Elections. <i>Wichita.</i> Please see article on page 6. |
| Tuesday, Sept. 12th | 7 - 8:45 pm | LWV-DC Board Meeting. <i>Lawrence Public Library, Room C, 707 Vermont St.</i> All League members are invited to attend. |
| Friday, Sept. 15th | 8 am - Noon | Naturalization Ceremony. <i>Dole Center, 2350 Petefish Drive.</i> Volunteers needed, please contact wickma @ aol.com. |
| Thursday, Sept. 21st | Time TBA | Hot Topic: Voter Suppression. <i>Location TBA.</i> Coffee at 11:30, program at noon. |
| Saturday, Sept. 23rd | 9:30 - 11:30 am | Coffee and Conversation. <i>Z's Divine Espresso, 2351 W. 31st St.</i> All League members are invited to attend. |
| Sunday, Sept. 24th | 5:30 pm | Pot Luck for Candidates, City Commission & School Board. <i>Centennial Park East Shelter.</i> Please bring a dish to share & your own table service. Drinks provided. |
| Saturday, October 21st | | League Day in Leavenworth. Details TBA. |

Co-Presidents Message

We survived the GOP "skinny" repeal vote on healthcare. Now we have to keep up the pressure on our Senators to pass meaningful and fair healthcare legislation for all!

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Senator Pat Roberts | Washington DC: 202-224-4774 | Overland Park: 913-451-9343 | Topeka: 785-295-2745 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Senator Jerry Moran | Washington DC: 202-224-6521 | Manhattan: 785-539-8973 | Olathe: 913-393-0711 | Wichita: 316-631-1410 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|



As we get ready for the upcoming City elections, just a reminder if you are asked about voter registration. Members of the League of Women Voters of Kansas should use the Federal Voter Registration Form when registering new voters. Still in effect is Judge Robinson order that all voters registering at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or on the Federal Form may vote in Federal, State and Local elections on a "standard" ballot, by advance voting, by requesting a mail-in ballot, at the polls or any other means allowed. Their ballots will not be "provisional".

The Sidewalk Sale was a July Voter Registration event for our League. Although it was a very hot day, many thanks to all the volunteers who signed up or just showed up to help. We were able to answer questions and register several new voters.

I attended Douglas County Advocacy Council on Aging in July the main topic of conversation was the health legislation in Washington. Sheldon Weigrau, Director Health Reform Response Project shared that all the current options will leave us worse off. Rural health, the disabled and seniors would lose services. The best news was Senior Care services have been restored. We heard information last fall about the cuts. 2.8 million for Senior Care is in the state's 2018 budget.

- Marlene Merrill, Co-President

Registering Voters at the Sidewalk Sale

Helping register a new young voter, Adelaide Wendel, are Cille King and Marjorie Cole.



Braving the heat at the July Sidewalk Sale are, left to right, Karen Heintzen, Annette Rouleau, Deb Duncan, and Dan Dannenberg.

Welcome, New Members!

New League members this summer include Teri Canfield, Bob Eye, Rachel Donohue, Elise Gutierrez, Sally Kennett, Paula Monroe, Dave Ranney, and Ed Scheurich.

Welcome to the League!

Next Hot Topic: Kansas Water

Please come to learn, ask questions, and share what you already know at our next gathering. Our speaker, Representative Tom Sloan, has chaired the Legislative Water and Environment Committee during the past legislative session. He writes, "We spent the entire session discussing water funding needs and options." He will share some major topics and answer questions at our Hot Topic gathering on August 17.

Time: Thursday, August 17. 11:30-12:00: Informal gathering and refreshments. 12:00 Noon: Representative Sloan's presentation, then questions and answers.

Place: Watkins Community Historical Museum, 1047 Massachusetts. The side door is an accessible entrance.

If you already belong to an environmental group or have friends who do, please attend to share ideas and learn more. As usual, volunteers to contact others, provide rides, or bring light refreshments are welcome and are needed. Please direct questions to Margaret Arnold mjarnold@ku.edu



The Two Anglers, 1882

Save the Date

Voter Rights / Voter Suppression Panel and Networking

Thursday, Oct. 5 at 5:30. Location TBA

Panel members include **Professor Mark Johnson**, Kobach litigator and Professor of Voting Rights, **Jamie Shew**, Douglas County Clerk, and **Davis Hammet**, activist and founder of Loud Light (www.loudlight.org).

Co-sponsored by ACLU of KU, Lawrence People Power, Douglas County Young Democrats and Lawrence Indivisible. For more information, please contact League member Teresa Malarky at lot-malarky@yahoo.com.

Next Opportunity to Register Voters

Naturalization Ceremony at the Dole Center on September 15th, 8:00 am to noon. Please email wickma@aol.com to volunteer.

League Talking Points: Pence-Kobach/ So-Called 'Election Integrity' Commission

Discredit the Commission as a group that is laying the groundwork to roll back voting access:

- This Commission is laying the groundwork for potential voter suppression by the wrongful removal



Vetheuil in Summer, 1880

Iris Field at Giverny, 1887



of eligible voters, including Black, Hispanic, elderly, and student voters, from the rolls.

- This is part of a wider effort to suppress the vote, keep certain politicians in power, and undermine our elections by spreading falsehoods about our election system.
- Secretary Kobach has a long record of discriminatory and regressive actions on voting rights.
- Mr. Kobach has a history of unrepentant attempts to suppress voting has led to thousands of voters being wrongly removed from the rolls and barred from exercising their democratic right.
- Mr. Kobach has been brought to court — and lost — several times for suppressing the constitutional rights of citizens to vote in his home state of Kansas.
- Most recently, Mr. Kobach was fined by a federal magistrate judge for “patently misleading representations to the court.”
- Commission members' views on elections are well known and members have already been discredited as political ideologues with dangerous agendas.
- This Commission is not interested in facts, but rather false accusations in order to implement dangerous election policy
- This Commission intends to use its “findings” and recommendations to legitimize policies that are known to prevent eligible voters from having a voice in our elections.
- The cost to voters (literally and figuratively), is far greater than anything there is to gain from collecting this data.

Full sheet of talking points is at

http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/lwv_talking_points_on_election_commission.pdf

A Must Read

John Nichols in the July 10, 2017 issue of The Nation wrote an article entitled “ALEC is talking about chang-

ing the way Senators are elected and taking away your vote." A proposed resolution advocates for overturning the 17th Amendment so Republican-controlled state legislators could pick senators. Check it out at www.thenation.com/article/alec-wants-to-to-change-the-way-senators-are-elected-and-take-away-your-vote/

Report on Coffee and Conversation

The second Coffee and Conversation gathering was held on Saturday June 24th at Z's Divine Espresso on W. 31st St. from 9:30am - 11:30am. We had 18 people, if you count my sisters from out of town, attend and participate in conversation about League events. The most recent event discussed was the Naturalization Ceremony on June 21st, how efficiently it was run, and how rewarding it was to participate in this event.

Welcome to two new league members, Paula Monroe and Jenna Grath. City Commissioner Lisa Larsen stopped by to inquire about League information handouts to potential voters. Members old and new are encouraged to attend this casual gathering to get acquainted with other league members and learn how to get involved.

The next Coffee and Conversation will be held on Saturday, September 23rd at Z's Divine Espresso at 2351 W. 31st St. Come and be part of the conversation between 9:30am and 11:30am. - *Melissa Wick*

Video Report on the June Hot Topic

Paul Johnson wrap-up of the 2017 legislative session at the June Hot Topic.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uG2a-JEMBg04&feature=youtu.be>



White Poppy, 1883



Dahlias, 1883

Voter Education Coalition Candidate Forum Report

Yard signs have been out for weeks, hundreds of doors have been knocked on, speeches given, and many questions asked and answered. Now its time for the voters to do their job. On August 1st, hopefully Lawrence voters will turnout and exceed the last local primary percentage of 13%. We can do better than that.

Six of the eight candidates for City Commission will make it on the November 7 ballot. Two incumbents, Matthew Herbert and Lisa Larsen, are running for re-election. The third commissioner whose term expired, Mike Amyx, is retiring. Others on the ballot are Jennifer Ananda, Dustin Stumblingbear, Ken Easthouse, Bassem Chahine, Christian Lyche, and Mike Anderson.

On Sunday, July 16, all eight candidates participated in the Voter Education Coalition Forum at City Hall. Scott Criqui and Thea Perry, co-chairs of VEC, organized the fast-paced forum where candidates had only one minute to respond to the questions. Stefanie Bryant from Channel 6 was the moderator. The questions, which follow, were prepared by VEC and given to the candidates in advance.

1 - OPENING

Why are you running? What are your top three priorities?

2 - COMMUNITY

Do you believe the city is successfully addressing the concerns of marginalized communities within Lawrence? If so, in what ways? If not, what do you recommend?

3 - TAX INCENTIVES

Which tax incentives do you believe are working, and how can they be improved?

4 - POLICE

What are your thoughts on the recent efforts to increase police oversight, and should the Chief of Police continue to report to the City Manager?

5 - SIDEWALKS

Do you think that adjacent homeowners or the city should be responsible for sidewalk maintenance? If you believe that sidewalks are part of the city infrastructure and should be funded as such, how would you suggest doing this?

One question from the audience asked "What would they cut if they had to eliminate one city program or service?"

Find out the answers by viewing the forum on online at [youtube.com/lawrenceksvideo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lawrenceksvideo).

- Ann Carlin Ozegovic



Suzanne Reading & Blanche Painting by the Marsh at Giverny, 1887

Lawrence Pedestrian Coalition

The Coalition met on July 12. Gary Webber presided. There is an upcoming City Commission election. Gary submitted a list of questions to the candidates. This was discussed by them at a forum held on July 16.

A town meeting on non-motorized transportation has been scheduled for September 21. Liberty Hall has been reserved.

The next meeting of the Coalition will be on August 23 at 7:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A of the Lawrence Public Library.

- Alan Black

Highlights of the June Board Meeting June 13, 2017

Present: Marlene Merrill (Co-President), Marjorie Cole (Treasurer), Sharon Brown (Secretary), Margaret Arnold, Anne Fluker, Janice Friedman, Kim Gibson, Cille King, Thea Perry. **Absent:** Debra Duncan, Tamara Cash, marci francisco, Ann Carlin Ozegovic, Melissa Wick.

Treasurer's Report:

Income for March 2017, was \$3,002.00 (Dues \$ 1547.00, Contributions \$755.00, Annual Meeting Luncheon intake \$675)

Expenses were \$2,324.25 (Per Member Payments to state and national LWV \$1016, Meals and Hospitality \$750, State Annual Meeting registrations \$455, Voter Printing 45.80, Stucky forms printing \$32.45, Education Fund \$25)

Net Inflow/Outflow was \$677.75

In-kind contributions: 4 auto roundtrips to Topeka for LWVK Annual Meeting

Current balances as of April 30, 2017: Checking account \$11,068.27; money market account \$2,106.56; Stucky account \$2,633.41; Education Fund \$987.39.

Dashboard, 5/9/17 (Status Summary as of April 30, 2017)

| | Year to Date | Annual Budget |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| General Fund Income | \$ 3,002.00 | \$11,000 |
| General Fund Expense | \$ 2,324.25 | \$ 9,636 |
| General Fund Net Revenue | \$ 677.75 | \$ 1,634 |

Marjorie announced that 89 members have not paid dues for 2017-2018. The proposal to approve the UPS printing plan was discussed. The board decided to remain with ProPrint and use the UPS Store for large orders placed during their sales events.

Co-Presidents' Report:

Marlene announced the need for co-chairs of key committees and also for scheduling another new member orientation. It was suggested we recruit co-chairs at the quarterly coffees and also during announcements before Hot Topic meetings.

The Transportation Committee members are Teresa Malarky, Chair; Austin Turney, Tamara Cash, and Saunty Scott. This committee will create a time line and focus questions. A League meeting will be held in September or October to share information and reach

consensus before the November election.

Hot Topics:

Future topics were discussed. The upcoming plans include: August 17, water; September 21, transportation; October 19, education, specifically cafeteria equity, suggested by Thea; November 16, Kaw River Keepers.

New Business:

League and VEC will co-sponsor the "speed dating" candidate forum in late September. - Sharon Brown, Secretary



The Irises, c. 1918-25

*Democracy Tomorrow
Conference*

*Increasing Citizen Participation
in Kansas Elections*

Friday September 8
Conference in Wichita Sponsored by Kansas League,
ACLU, and NAACP
9:30 AM to 4 pm
Hughes Metropolitan Room 180 Wichita State
University 5015 E. 29th Street N.
<https://www.aclukansas.org/en>

From Chris Carson

In a Guest Commentary in the July 21st Kansas City
Star, LWV-US President Chris Carson writes:

"Our democracy works only when people stand up
and vote. For nearly a century, the League of Women
Voters has worked tirelessly to ensure that elections

in the country are free, fair and credible. Hearing this
Election Integrity Commission peddle false claims
about such important American rights is a direct
threat to our democratic process and it belittles the
real challenges too many American voters have faced
in recent years. This commission is the antithesis of
'integrity.' And we can't let them win."

You can read the entire commentary at [http://
www.kansascity.com/opinion/readers-opinion/guest-
commentary/article162505733.html](http://www.kansascity.com/opinion/readers-opinion/guest-commentary/article162505733.html)

*Answers to Last Month's
"Just for Fun:"
Identify the July Women's
History Anniversaries*

Cover: July 2, 1964: President Lyndon Johnson signs
the Civil Rights Act; Title VII prohibits sex discrimina-
tion in employment.

1 July 19-20, 1848: First Women's Rights Convention,
Seneca Falls NY, with approximately 300 in atten-
dance. A resolution for women's suffrage was signed
by 100 of the attendees.

2 July 20, 1942: First
class of Women's Auxil-
iary Army Corps
(WAAC) begins at Fort
Des Moines, IA .

3 July 7, 1981: Presi-
dent Reagan announces
he would nominate
Sandra Day O'Connor
as the first woman
Supreme Court Justice.

4 July 14, 1917: 16
women from the Na-
tional Women's Party
are arrested while pick-
eting the White House
demanding universal
women's suffrage.



Irises, c. 1918-25



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LAWRENCE / DOUGLAS COUNTY

Make a Difference – Join/Support the League!

Return this form with a check made out to LWV L/DC, and mail to LWV L/DC, PO Box 1072, Lawrence, KS 66044.

*(Membership is open to any man or woman who is sixteen years of age or older.
New or renewed memberships received now will expire March 31, 2018.)*

Date _____ Renewing member
_____ New Member. I heard about the League via (Facebook, Web Site, Friend, Other): _____

Suggested voluntary membership assessment:*

| Approximate Household Income | Individual membership | Household membership |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Student** | _____ \$17 | _____ \$29 |
| Under \$25,000 | _____ \$20 | _____ \$35 |
| \$25,000 to \$50,000 | _____ \$35 | _____ \$55 |
| Over \$50,000 | _____ \$55 | _____ \$85 |
| Sustaining member | _____ \$100 | _____ \$150 |
| Life member (of 50 years) | _____ \$0 | |

* Our membership assessment supports the National and State Leagues at \$50/member (\$32 National and \$18 State).
** High school or postsecondary student enrolled at least part time in an accredited institution.

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

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. Write check to "LWV Education Fund."

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____
Address _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>General Membership Meetings:</p> <p>___ Set up and/or tear down</p> <p>___ Hospitality (provide coffee/tea/dessert)</p> <p>___ Taking notes/writing up report of meeting</p> <p>Membership:</p> <p>___ Recruitment</p> <p>___ Mentor/follow-up with new members</p> <p>___ Provide a ride to a fellow member</p> <p>___ Phone members without internet access about special updates</p> <p>Voter Services:</p> <p>___ Register voters</p> <p>___ Help with voter education</p> | <p>Promotion of League to our Community:</p> <p>___ Public speaking</p> <p>___ Represent League at community events</p> <p>___ Observer corps (attend/report on government meetings)</p> <p>___ Help with research for League studies on issues</p> <p>___ Serve on the Board of Directors</p> <p>I have the following skills:</p> <p>___ Editing articles/reports</p> <p>___ Database management</p> <p>___ Microsoft Word / Excel / Quickbooks</p> <p>___ Website/Social Media design/management</p> <p>My interests include:</p> <p>_____</p> |
|---|--|

PO BOX 1072 • LAWRENCE KS 66044-1072

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August 2017

| | |
|---|---|
| Calendar | 1 |
| Co-President's Message | 1 |
| Photos of Voter Registration | 2 |
| Welcome New Members | 2 |
| Next Hot Topic: Kansas Water | 2 |
| Upcoming Voter Suppression Panel | 3 |
| Next Voter Registration | 3 |
| Talking Points: "Election Integrity" Commission ... | 3 |
| A Must Read | 3 |
| Report on Coffee & Conversation | 4 |
| Video Report on June Hot Topic | 4 |
| VEC Candidate Forum Report | 4 |
| Lawrence Pedestrian Coalition | 5 |
| Highlights of the Board Meeting | 5 |
| Democracy Tomorrow Conference | 6 |
| Commentary from Chris Carson | 6 |
| Answers to July's "Just for Fun" | 6 |



*Celebrating Summer with
Claude Monet*