



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.

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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

Tuesday, Sept. 11th	7:00 - 8:45 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. <i>Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St.</i> All League members are invited to attend.
Thursday, Sept. 13th	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Civic Engagement Program & Postcard Writing. <i>Lawrence Public Library, Room A, 707 Vermont St.</i> See details on page 2.
Saturday, Sept. 15th	10:00 am - 11:30 am	Get Out the Vote Postcard Writing Event. <i>Z's Divine Espresso East, 1800 E 23rd St.</i> In partnership with ACLU - all materials provided
Thursday, Sept. 20th	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Hot Topic: Domestic Violence. <i>Watkins Museum, 1047 Massachusetts St.</i> Renee Morgan from Willow will provide information on issues of domestic violence in our community.
Sunday, Sept. 23rd	5:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Legislative Candidates Potluck and "Speed Dating" Discussion. <i>Centennial Park East Shelter.</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 25th	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Drinks & Democracy / Party to the Polls. <i>Oread Hotel, 1200 Oread Avenue, Drive.</i> Topic will be "Getting Out the Vote." See article on page 2.
Thursday, Oct. 18th	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Save the Date for a Hot Topic.
Thursday, Oct. 25th	8:00 am - Noon	Voter Registration for Naturalization Ceremony. <i>Lied Center, 1600 Steward Drive.</i>
Thursday, Nov. 15	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Tentative Hot Topic: KanCare Outreach

Co-Presidents Message

Hello to all and Happy Fall! September is upon us and school events and autumn activities are in full swing. We are so encouraged and inspired by the energy of this group! The Hot Topic for August was a great success and Drinks and Democracy was quite productive. September will prove to be even better! In addition to those events, we have around 30 voter registration events in the works for this month alone!!



One of the most exciting things we are bringing to these events is an innovative way to engage voters. We have a partnership with one of our new members, Amy Rutherford, a PhD student in Communications at KU. She is a captain with The Skimm's non-partisan "No Excuses" campaign. The Skimm is a news outlet (www.theskimm.com) which set a goal in 2016 of getting 100,000 people to register to vote. They met that goal only to realize that we

also need them to commit to get to the polls! So, their goal in 2018 is to get 100,000 people to register AND to commit to VOTE. We are working with her on events such as one she has planned at The Oread on Sept 25, National Voter Registration Day. We are working quickly on developing a branch of LVW LDC on the KU Campus. The interest from students is exciting! With our free student membership and faculty engagement, we are hoping to grow an active group.

If you have a smart phone, try using the QR codes on page 8. To use the QR codes, point your phone's camera at the code and the first one takes you to ksvotes.org People can register, change their address and request a ballot by mail here. Then, and very importantly, aim your camera at the second code. This takes you to The Skimm's No Excuses site where you will "pinky promise" to VOTE. People will receive reminders to vote as well. The third code will take you to the LVW vote4ll.org site where one can learn about the candidates.

It's a wonderful system and I am convinced it will help us connect to younger voters! It will also help us educate voters and get people to exercise their right to vote once they are registered. Please try it out and share widely! Email or text it to all your friends, relatives and neighbors! Be sure to give us feedback as well!

We will be out in force to achieve as much voter engagement as possible prior to the Oct 16 registration deadline! If you haven't yet participated in a voter registration event, now is your chance! And if you know of a venue that would be great for us to reach people, please let us know!

Thank you for all each of you do!! We are honored to work alongside you in #MakingDemocracyWork !!

- Kristin Salmans & Anne Fluker, Co-Presidents
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Welcome, New Members!

Since the August Voter, we have **twenty-one new members**, including some rejoining after a period of inactivity and best of all, five new student members. Please welcome **Jody Anderson, Amy Brouger, Cynthia Cartney, Sabrina Eicher, Karen Frick, Hilary Bowerman Griggs, Ronda Hassig, Marilyn Imel, Claudia Kessig, Susan Knudsen, Phyllis Lafferty, Daniel Lassman, Estelle Lu, Amanda Lutz, Ashley Morris, Edie Patterson, Elizabeth Reiter, Kimber Richter, Amy Rutherford, DeAnn Steinle, and Sarah Thimmesch!** Many of you are already participating in voter registration and we appreciate all of you!



Get Out the Vote - One Postcard at a Time September 13th, 15th, 25th

Along with voter registration, the message at national convention was to promote civic engagement. How fortunate that we have an opportunity to partner with the ACLU on a postcard writing campaign. We will have several opportunities scheduled to write postcards – September 13 6:30 PM at the Library; September 15 at 10 AM in Z Divine Espresso and September 25 at 5 PM at Oread Hotel

We know that personal message is the most effective way to help people know that their vote is important. Personal messages make a huge difference and increase voter turnout rates. This is an easy event - all materials are provided. We need to write a line or two sharing why you're voting like your rights depend on it this year and why the recipient of the postcard should too. WE need to make it personal. I will have sample sentences if they are needed.

The beauty of this project is that we do not have to address the card or provide postage. The ACLU which is providing the postcards will address and send the cards to people who did not vote in 2016 but could have. We will sign our first name only and list our state. We have 500 postcards to write – League folks are up to this challenge. We need to complete our writing project by October 1 so ACLU can get the cards mailed to prospective voters by the election. Our League can be proud we are making a difference in Getting Out the Vote. *- Marlene Merrill*

Drinks and Democracy & Party to the Polls! September 25th (see above)

This month our “Drinks and Democracy” get-together will meet with Amy Rutherford’s “Getting Out the Vote” Skimm Campaign at the Oread Hotel on Tuesday, September 25th, National Voter Registration Day, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Join us to register voters, engage in conversation, and enjoy a drink with KU students. Please let us know that you are coming by rsvp-ing to email kristinbrightstar@gmail.com or text 334-538-4410.

- Kristin Salmans



September Hot Topic: Domestic Violence September 20th

Renee Morgan, representing the Willow Domestic Violence Center in Lawrence, will be the featured

speaker at the September 20 Hot Topic. League members and guests will gather at 11:30 at the



Watkins Museum meeting room with the program beginning at 12 noon. Morgan will help us understand that domestic violence is a problem that affects primarily women and children, including women of color, immigrant women and both female and male LGBTQ. Questions from the audience will follow Morgan’s presentation. This is an excellent time to learn more about this critical issue in our community.

- Marlene Merrill

Voter Services Report for August

During August LWV-LDC conducted 9 voter registration events. We conducted these events at a variety of venues – Lawrence Farmer’s Market, Lawrence Public Library, KU Volunteer Fair, Windsor Senior Living, Kansas State Fiddling & Picking contest and tonight, August 31 – we are at Lawrence Beer Company helping celebrate their 1 year anniversary with a voter registration drive. A presentation was made at a Moms Demand Action meeting to further the League’s commitment to sensible gun laws. Cille King & Melissa Wick road tripped to Iowa, Kansas to discuss setting up Voter Registration events in Allen County communities. Co-President Kristin Salmans and Melissa Wick, Voter Services Chair, met with Amy Schumacher Rutherford, a KU PHD student and instructor; we were introduced to the QR code that takes you to KSVotes.org to register, change or confirm your voter registration and formed a coalition to register

on campus. Throughout our events we have noticed a new, vibrant and committed attitude with the next generations, Gen X and Millennial, to become engaged citizens, believing that expressing your voice with your vote leads to a more representative democracy. We are charged.

None of these events could have happened without the commitment and efforts of the following LWW-Lawrence Douglas County members:

Lois Orth- Lopes, Sonja Czarnecki, Teresa Malarky, Ann Ozegovic, Beth Chambers, Cammy Healy, Janice Friedman, Carolyn Young, Susan Knudsen, Sue Himes, Jamie Benvenuti, Marjorie Cole, Annette Rouleau, Pam McKean, Kelly Jones, Teri Chambers, Christian Sellier, Margaret Arnold, Kristin Salmans, and students from Bishop Seabury Academy – Lyle Griggs, Hilary Griggs, Edie Patterson

The results of these events: 28 NEW VOTERS, 16 address changes, 1 name change, 13 advance ballot applications, 7 party affiliation changes, and 6+ new members. The entire membership applauds your participation.

Check our list of upcoming events below and find where you may be able to assist.

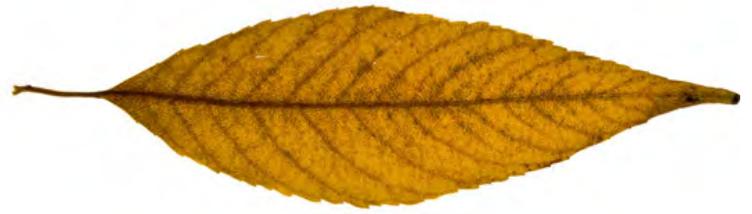
- Melissa Wick, Voter Services Chair



Upcoming Voter Registration Events

Sept 8: Lawrence Farmer's Mkt 7:30am – Noon – Lois Orth-Lopes – coordinator

Sept 12: Vermont Towers – 1pm – 3pm – Melissa Wick – coordinator



Sept 13: Lawrence Public Library 6:30-8:30 – Civic Engagement Seminar

Sept 15: Lawrence Farmer's Mkt 7:30 – Noon

Sept 20: Brandon Woods 2:00pm – 3:30pm – Melissa Wick – coordinator

Sept 21: LHS – All Day - Melissa Wick Coordinator

Sept 22: Lawrence Farmer's Market 7:30am – Noon

Sept 25: Bishop Seabury – Melissa Wick, Anne Ozegovic, Sonja Czarnecki

Sept 25: KU Union 2-4 - Carol Williamson - coordinator

Sept 25: The Oread – The Skimm, National Voter Registration Day

Sept 26: Eudora High School – Melissa Wick – coordinator

Sept 27: KU TEA 3-5 – Carol Williamson - coordinator

Sept 28: Dole Center – 8am – Noon – Naturalization ceremony, Marlene Merrill – coordinator

Sept 29: Lawrence Farmer's Market – 7:30am- Noon

Oct 6: Lawrence Farmer's Market – 7:30am – Noon

Oct 9: Raintree Montessori 3-5:30pm – Melissa Wick, Tamara Cash

Oct 9: Eudora Candidate Forum- evening – Becky Plate, Melissa Wick

Oct 10: Raintree Montessori – 7:30 – 9:30am – Melissa Wick, Tamara Cash

Oct 13: Lawrence Farmer's Market 7:30 – Noon

Oct 13: Lawrence Public Library 1:00pm – 5pm

Oct 14: Lawrence Public Library 1pm – 4pm

Oct 16: Lawrence Public Library 1pm – 4pm

Oct 25: Lied Center 8 am – Noon Naturalization Ceremony – Melissa Wick coordinator

Pot Luck Picnic & Candidate Forum

Centennial Park East Shelter September 23, Sunday at 5:30PM

Do you have questions about what each political candidate stands for or what they think about issues like justice reform, schools, voting rights, right to privacy? Come to the League's Potluck Picnic and Candidate forum on September 23, 5:30 PM at Centennial Park East Shelter! Short presentations will be made by each candidate and then the candidates will rotate among the tables to answer your questions in a "speed dating" format. Our League has invited candidates for all the state offices, the legislature, and for local offices.

League with generous support from Beemer's is providing BBQ. We will have water and lemonade to drink. Please bring a dish (e.g. salad, dessert...) to share and your own table service. A highlight of the evening will be music provided by Steve Mason and members of the Alfred Packer Band. Please thank him for his support of the Lawrence League.

So, mark your calendar – Sunday September 23 at 5:30 pm. Join us at Centennial Park East Shelter. Parking is available beside the shelter and also across the street behind the Merc. We hope to see you there!
- Marlene Merrill



Report on August Hot Topic: Immigration

Takeaways from our August "Hot Topic!" include dramatic images of suffering, triumph and challenge for LWV/DC members wanting to do helpful things for a special population of newcomers.

Lydia Diebolt, director of Centro Hispano of Lawrence for the past 10 years, told of finding a family living in a tiny section of a basement with curtains in-



stead of walls, one of many in the same place, where there was no room for children to move, much less get fresh air or exercise.

She told of a young woman who came to the United States and Lawrence some years ago with little more than hope and determination and now is fluent in English and employed as a licensed practical nurse.

Diebolt mentioned a pressing need among non-profit service organizations for bilingual volunteers. She illustrated the complexity of this problem with stories of two immigrant families from remote areas of the Mexican state of Guerrero, where the native language is Tlapaneco in one case and Mixteco in the other. Neither family could speak Spanish. With difficulty, Centro Hispano was able to find translators who could take the newcomers' questions and information into Spanish, from which English translations finally could be done.

Well, why don't they learn English? That's a question Diebolt says she sometimes hears. Time to attend classes is a problem for many, who must work multiple jobs to earn enough to survive. Another huge challenge is transportation, when one lacks documentation to obtain a driver's license.

The picture is grim, but Diebolt's presentation was punctuated with up-beat stories. "You have to concentrate on the successes," she explained.

With two full-time staff and one part-time, Centro Hispano served 80 families in 2017. It is entirely grant funded, she said, with major contributions coming from St. John the Evangelist Catholic Parish, Success by 6 Coalition of Douglas County, grants and private donations. There is never a charge for services. The office is located at 204 W. 13th St. Diebolt is a licensed spe-

cialized clinical social worker, who also teaches in the University of Kansas's Social Welfare department.

- Norma Pierce



Report on Coffee & Conversation

The quarterly Coffee and Conversation gathering was held at Z's Divine Espresso at 2351 W. 31st Street from 9:00am to 11:30am on Saturday July 21st. It was decided at this meeting that we need to redo some of our LWV literature as it is outdated referencing proof of citizenship requirements and just dated. We also discussed the need for voter education. It was decided that we would continue at the Lawrence Farmer's Market on Saturdays after registration is closed in order to provide candidate information, website where issues and candidate positions are reported and early voting information. Attending this event were: Beth Chambers, Teresa Malarky, Melissa Wick, Bonnie Dunham, Cille King, Kim Gibson, John Gibson, Janice Friedman, Susan Calvet. - *Melissa Wick*

Highlights of the July Board Meeting July 10, 2018

Present: Anne Fluker (Co-President), Melissa Wick (Treasurer), Sharon Brown (Secretary), Jamie Benvenuti, Tamara Cash, Marjorie Cole, Kim Gibson, Janice Friedman, Cille King, Marlene Merrill

Absent: Margaret Arnold, Debra Duncan, Lori Hutflers, Kristin Salmans

Guests: Margaret Campbell, Ashley Myers, John Gibson

Anne introduced Ashley Myers and Margaret Campbell, representatives from the DG County Planning and Development Services. They presented information about the countywide bikeway plan update. After public input from surveys the group hopes to get their plan approved in spring of 2019. Ashley and Margaret also discussed Transportation 2040, a long range plan for consolidation of all transportation systems.

TREASURER: Melissa presented the treasurer's report. We had income of \$520 for June (dues \$415, contributions \$105) and expenses of \$132.68 (website \$15.17, miscellaneous \$8.34, summer potluck \$45, VOTER \$64.17).

DASHBOARD 7/12/2018

BALANCE SHEET 7/12/2018

STUCKY MMA ACCOUNT \$1,634.87

MMA \$2,108.26

CHECKING (06-30-18) \$14,655.74

CHECKING \$15,563.84

No outstanding checks.

Janice moved and Tamara seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted and filed for audit. Motion carried.

Marjorie announced that we have six new members: Robin Gingerich, Aspen Junge, Brian Salmans, Margaret Rose, Diane Schwartz and Mary Donnally.



CO-PRESIDENTS: Anne opened discussion for approval of a proposal regarding our social media strat-

egy. It was decided we will have no live tweets. We will also ask all members who are in charge of events to submit timely information for posting on Facebook (to Cille and Anne) and the website (to Kim).

A suggestion was received that we rename our monthly Beer and Babble gatherings. Anne moved and Melissa seconded that we call these meetings Drinks and Democracy. Motion carried.

We are encouraging more candidates to respond to vote411 questions.

League is registered for the KU Volunteer Fair. Melissa and Theresa Malarky will be the coordinators.

VICE PRESIDENT: Marlene reported on the National Convention themes of "Making Democracy Work" and "Making Culture More Inclusive". The national program will continue to emphasize voter registration and participation.

STATE PRESIDENT: Cille announced the following: League will be helping recruit poll watchers for the November election. State Board will not be collecting PMP for students. Sharon Ailsberger, new Inter-League Coordinator, will be contacting League presidents, and Kansas Leadership Grant applications are being accepted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Citizens may check on their voter registration at this website: ksvotes.org

Please send any suggestions or ideas to the president's email.

Tamara reported that the Watkins Museum may partner with League to prepare for the 100th Celebration and money would be available for this collaboration.

- Sharon Brown, Secretary

Update on Hydraulic Fracturing in Kansas

Recent research (Duke Univ) shows that the amount of water used per well injected into hydraulic fracturing wells has increased by up to 770 percent between 2011 and 2016. If this rapid intensification continues, fracking's water foot print might grow by up to 50-fold in the next ten years. This raises concerns espe-

cially in areas that are arid or semi-arid or areas where groundwater supplies are stressed or limited.

A well's wastewater is comprised of brines extracted with the gas and oil from deep underground. Since the wastewater is typically salty and may contain toxic elements, it is imperative to dispose of it safely. Injecting this wastewater back into the ground has been linked to small to medium sized earthquakes. Recently 3 or 4 earthquakes have occurred in the Dodge City area. I also recommend that the wastewater injection wells planned for Douglas County (near Eudora) continue to be watched.

Kansas Corporation Commission

Residents in the Flint Hills and in Baldwin have questions about the KCC's failure to properly permit hundreds of injection wells. The KCC has issued more than 2000 well permits. Several citizens questioned the risk these wells pose to water supplies and our drinking water. Answers have not been forthcoming. Another issue with the KCC has been inadequate public notice. The KCC is supposed to allow 60 days for public comment but has only allowed 15 days. Bob Eye has asked the KCC to have permits granted as a result of defective published notice be revoked and have those permit holders to reapply under proper notice.

The Kansas League revised the position on Water conservation and on Fracturing about three years ago. Check out the position on our web site. Let our legislators know your comments about inadequate public notice, water safety, and other concerns.

- Marlene Merrill



In *Kansas*, we vote.

Join your community - be a voter in the midterm election on Nov. 6, 2018!

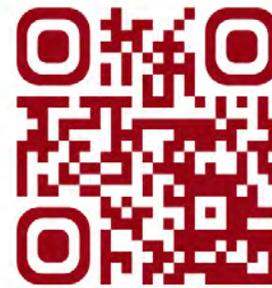
1. REGISTER

Are you registered in KS? Check here!



2. PLEDGE

Will you show up? Pinky promise here!



It'll ask who referred you; put this:
First Name: Kansas
Last Name: Votes

3. PREPARE

Know it all - read your sample ballot here!



Focus your phone's camera on each QR code and click the browser link that pops up!





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, 2019.)*

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**	_____ FREE	_____ FREE
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> |
|---|--|

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