



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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Voter Editor:	Ruth Lichtwardt	lightwatcher @ gmail.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

Sunday, December 9th	7:00 - 9:00 pm	League Holiday Party. 1028 Summerfield. Bring a friend!
Tuesday, December 11th	7:00 - 8:45 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. All League members are invited to attend.
Tuesday, January 8th	7:00 - 8:45 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. All League members are invited to attend.
Thursday, January 10th	4:00 - 6:30 pm	LWV Kansas Policy Review Meeting. Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St.
Thursday, January 17th	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Hot Topic: The Kansas Elections: What's at Stake for Children in 2019. Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St. Speaker, Annie McKay of Kansas Action for Children. Gather 11:30am, program begins at noon.
Sunday, January 27	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Afternoon with the Legislators. First Presbyterian Church, 2415 Clinton Parkway.
Tuesday, February 5th	7:00 - 8:45 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. All League members are invited to attend.
Thursday, February 21	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Hot Topic: KanCare - Presenter, Holly Venn. Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St. Gather 11:30am, program begins at noon.

Co-President's Message

Hello and Happy Holidays to everyone! We hope that you had a good Thanksgiving. There is much to be thankful for as we wrap up 2018! We cannot express how thankful we are to all of our wonderful volunteers. The impact you have made is truly immeasurable! We know that we have registered over 1000 voters this calendar year, which is amazing!! The ripple effect is far wider though - the educational information you have shared, the connections you have made, and the energy and enthusiasm you have imparted to get our citizens engaged in democracy! So here is a very big **THANK YOU!**





We will be celebrating with a holiday party Sunday, Dec 9, 7-9pm at the home of Lori Hutfles, 1028 Summerfield Way. Please plan to join us and bring a friend! You can also bring an appetizer and beverage if you would like. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Turnout for the November midterm elections was the biggest ever in Douglas County! It took a lot of work to make that happen! We continue to be busy as we look to the new year and new legislative session. We will be meeting January 10 to review Kansas League policies. We value input from you as members, so please join us if you can.

We are planning an afternoon with our State Legislators on January 27, 2019 from 1:00 - 3:00pm. Please plan to join us then. It will be your opportunity to hear from them about the priorities they see for the new year as well as your chance to let them know what is important to you!

Here's to an outstanding 2018 and an even better 2019 to come! We hope to see you soon!

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

Since the October Voter we have added thirteen new members! They are **Martha Banning, Lauren Baruth-Stromberg, Sara Bell, Sara Casalino, Carsten Holm, Karen Ford Manza, Tracy Matthews, Andrea Norris, Lesa Roberts, Pam Staab, Kelly Wall, Anne Wallen, and Laurie Ward.** Welcome one and all!

Holiday Party!

Please join us for the annual Lawrence League of Women Voters Holiday Party!

Please bring a friend! Also, please consider offering a ride to a new member. We would love to get to know each other better and celebrate the energy and good work we do as a League!

What: Lawrence League Holiday Party
Where: 1028 Summerfield Way (Lori Hutfles' House)
When: Sunday Dec 9, 7pm-9pm
What to bring: Your favorite appetizer and a beverage if you would like
What else to bring: A FRIEND!! Let's make 2019 the best year ever!



Questions/RSVP: Lori at 785-550-6453 or Kristin at 334-538-4410

We look forward to seeing you soon!

February Hot Topic: KanCare

February 21, noon, Watkins Museum

The Outreach Vista for the Olathe KanCare Ombudsman office will be our speaker on Feb. 21. Holly Venn will present information on Medicaid eligibility and services. She will take written questions after her remarks. We will gather at 11:30 am, and the program will begin at noon, finishing by 1 p.m. The meeting place is the lower level of the Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St, 10th Street entrance. -- Marlene Merrill

Voter Services Report for October

We had another busy month until the registration cut off on October 16th. We had a total of 167 new registrations, 9 new online registrations, 7 advance ballots and 32 address changes. We held 16 events, one was a rainout at the Lawrence Farmer's Market and another did not produce anything but goodwill.



Tablers this month were Kristin Salmans, Marlaine Stoor, Karen Frick, Carolyn Young, Jamie Benvenuti,, Tamara Cash, Randi Hacker, Jody Anderson, Martha Silks, Cammy Healey, Margaret Arnold, Gayle Machett, Lois Orth-Lopes, Robin Gingerich, Karena Peterson, Callie Peterson, Lauren Barth-Stromberg, Naima Pruitt, Arline Slote-Davis, Charley Crabtree, Mina Daily, Kelly Jones, Melissa Wick, Sonja Czarnecki.

We had two successful naturalization ceremonies, one at the Dole Center on Sept 28, with 49 new registrations, and one at Lied Center on October 25 yielding 185 applications. The Dole Center Naturalization event was coordinated by Marlene Merrill, assisting her with registration were Charley Crabtree, Lois Orth-Lopes, Sonja Czarnecki, Marlaine Stoor, Robin Gingerich, Cammy Healy, Christian Sellier, Carolyn Young and Janice Friedman. We had new citizen voter registration applications from the following Kansas counties: Dickinson -1, Douglas – 7, Geary -9, Johnson – 4, Leavenworth – 1, Lyon - 2, Nemaha -1, Riley - 11, Shawnee – 12 with one out of state registration from Florida.

We are never quite sure of our staffing needs at one of these events, so we appreciate those who show up when called even if the event can be conducted with fewer volunteers. The Lied Center events are much larger – The October 25th event, coordinated by Melissa Wick, welcomed 347 new citizens from 65 countries. The following league members volunteered: Marjorie Cole, Lynne Bodle, Tamara Cash, Charley Crabtree, Judy Dutton, Karen Frick, Janice Friedman, Jane Imber, Cille King, Gayle Matchett, Pam McKean, Marlene Merrill, Lois Orth-Lopes, Annette Rouleau, Dianne Schwartz, Rita Spradlin, Marlaine Stoor, Austin Turney, Carolyn Young, Anne Wallen.



Lois Orth-Lopes again coordinated the voter registration form handout in the audience prior to the ceremony. An insight for next time, after the coordinator gives the LWV welcome and presentation just before the ceremony, is to have a number of volunteers stationed with forms as there was a large call

for registration forms just after the coordinator spoke. We had applications from 11 Kansas counties: Johnson – 108, Leavenworth – 2, Wyandotte – 42, Lyon -2, Douglas – 10, Shawnee – 7, Atchison – 1, Riley – 5, Geary – 3, Osage – 1, Dickinson – 1 plus 3 out of state registrations, Texas, Missouri and New York. I will let everyone know when the next Naturalization events are scheduled.

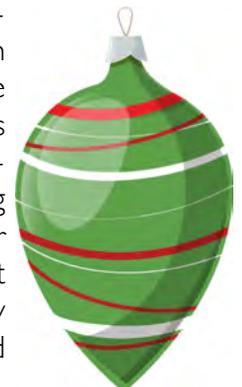


Altogether, a very vibrant registration “season” and looking forward to continuing our relationships with existing public institutions and private multi- residential units as well as any place, public or private who wish to have the LWV-LDC hold a voter registration event.
- Melissa A Wick

Early Voting Promotion at the Library

Thank you so much to everyone involved in the early voting promoting we did at the library during the last full week of early in-person voting in Douglas County. For those who are unaware, from Saturday October 27th to Saturday Nov 3rd (except for Sunday October 28th) League members spent six days (over 30 hours) tabling in the lobby at the Lawrence Public Library where we gave out 100+ advance voting schedules, answered questions from dozens of prospective voters, and had many wonderful and spontaneous conversations about democracy with library patrons who stopped by.

Although the original plan was primarily to provide free rides from the library to courthouse to vote early, due to lack of need (which is a good problem to have) we realized that promoting early voting was where we should focus our efforts. I'm excited to report that we did have a rider on the last day of our tabling, and it also happened





to be that voter's birthday! In addition, we had many people stop by our table just to say "thank you" for the work the League is doing, and that if it wasn't for us they wouldn't have known about early in-person voting. It was a very rewarding experience for me, as I hope it was for everyone else who participated.

One of the most memorable and heartwarming experiences for me personally is when I was unexpectedly unable to coordinate volunteers on Nov 1st due to my son being home sick, and I thought we might have to cancel our hours at the library for that day. Our awesome volunteers still showed up to keep the table going.

A special thanks to Kristin Soper, event coordinator at the Lawrence Public Library for allowing us to have a table in a prime spot in the lobby for the whole week.

Thank you to all the volunteers and everyone who helped make the library event such a big success:

Randi Hacker, Lynne Bodle, Teri Chambers, Natalya Lowther, Diane Vigna, Kelly Jones, Kristin Salmans, Janice Friedman, Margaret Rose, Pam Houston, Allison Kirkpatrick, Beth Chambers, Melissa Wick, Anne Wallen, Carolyn Young, Charley Crabtree, Martha Silks, Glenn Adams, Ronda Hassig, Robin Gingerich, Marlaine Stoor, Kristin Soper and Cille King.

-Jamie Benvenuti

Dole Institute Election Conferences

Three statewide elections and their implications were discussed Nov 28 at the Dole Institute's 2018 Kansas Elections Conference.

Panelists included campaign managers for Governor-elect Laura Kelly, U.S. Representative-elect Steve

Watkins, Paul Davis, U.S. Representative-elect Sharice Davids, Kevin Yoder and the former manager for Kris Kobach. Commentators also included John Hanna of the Associated Press, Caroline Sweeney of KCTV5, Hunter Woodall of the Kansas City Star, and Patrick Miller of the KU political science faculty.

Some take-aways on the campaigns:

On the governor's race, Kobach's national political activity may have undercut his appeal to moderate and independent voters, while Kelly's focus on education in addition to vocal support from her Republican supporters were winning strengths.

In the 25 counties of the 2nd congressional district, Watkins's appeal to traditional Republicans and party leaders helped him in a close win over the strong campaign of Paul Davis.

In the 3rd congressional district, voters appreciated Davids's history of being raised by a single mom, educational journey from Johnson County Community College to Cornell Law School, service to Native American communities, her excellent use of television, and her focus on education. Yoder's national connections didn't work well for the incumbent. His loss mirrored President Trump's approval ratings: 43 percent approved Trump, Yoder's tally against Davids was 44 percent.

Coming in December, the Dole Institute's National Post-Election Conference will delve into the key election strategies. A panel of journalists, pollsters, campaign strategists and political consultants will dissect the midterms and what the results could mean for 2020. The National Conference will be a two-day event, the afternoon of Dec. 5 and the morning of Dec. 6. Read more: doleinstitute.org/event/2018-national-post-election-conference.

The nationally recognized programs are free and open to the public. The location is the Dole Institute, 2350 Petefish Drive, on the West Campus of KU.

-- Marlene Merrill



Observer Report: Water Advocacy Team

Meetings of the Water Advocacy Team (WAT) in September and October focused on the politics and policies of the Kansas Corporation Commission. WAT includes legislators and county officials as well as individuals interested in water conservation.



Concerns voiced at recent meetings included the KCC's complicated procedures for public comments and testimony on pending drilling permits. It was said that comment periods have been arbitrarily shortened and at times many permits have been passed as a group.

To connect with this group, visit [facebook.com/WEareKansaswater](https://www.facebook.com/WEareKansaswater). Another source is twitter.com/friendsofthekaw

-- Marlene Merrill

Highlights of the September Board Meeting September 11, 2018

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

Absent: Jamie Benvenuti, Debra Duncan, Lori Hutfles

Guest: Amy Rutherford



TREASURER: Melissa presented the treasurer's report. We had income of \$1,543.00 in August (dues \$795.00, contributions \$235.00, garage sale \$513.00) and expenses of \$1,530.50 (PayPal \$16.32, VOTER \$19.63, garage sale ad \$24.95, national conference reimbursement

\$245.60, national PMP \$1,224.00).

DASHBOARD 09/11/2018
BALANCE SHEET 08/13/2018

STUCKY MMA ACCOUNT	\$0.00
MMA	\$2,743.72
NATIONAL EDUCATION FUND	\$1,502.39
CHECKING (08/31/2018)	\$16,43.17
CHECKING (09/11/2018)	\$16,300.72
outstanding check	\$409.60
deposits	\$297.15

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

Marjorie announced that sixteen new members joined League in the last month and she will send a new roster to board members.



CO-PRESIDENTS: Kristin announced that Amy Rutherford and Dee Steinle will be working with the KU student branch of League. Kristin shared a NPR report on reasons why youth do not vote: not informed, don't think it matters, have less access to polls.

Kristin and Marlene met with Jamie to discuss voting issues such as low turnout, particularly in the area near the fairgrounds. Board members suggested sending post card reminders and offering rides to the polls. Cille, Anne and Kristin will follow up on these ideas.

Fundraising update: \$513 earned at the garage sale and we may hold another in the spring. A request was made for Kim to add information to the website regarding Facebook birthday fundraising.

NEW BUSINESS: Tamara asked that the board develop guidelines for handling attendees at League events who use time to give their agenda rather than follow the planned program.

Kristin introduced our guest,





Amy Rutherford, who presented information about The Skimm's non-partisan "No Excuses" campaign which has a 2018 goal of getting 100,000 people to register and commit to vote.

- Submitted by Sharon Brown

Highlights of the October Board Meeting October 9, 2018

Present: Kristin Salmans (Co-President), Anne Fluker (Co-President), Melissa Wick (Treasurer), Sharon Brown (Secretary), Jamie Benvenuti, Tamara Cash, Marjorie Cole, Debra Duncan, Janice Friedman, Lori Hutfles, Cille King, Marlene Merrill
Absent: Margaret Arnold, Kim Gibson
Guests: Lauren Baruth-Stromberg, Teri Finneman, Amy Rutherford

TREASURER: Melissa presented the treasurer's report. We had income of \$582.00 in September (dues \$580.00, contributions \$2.00) and expenses of \$758.33 (PO Box and website \$82.00, Pay-Pal \$11.05, candidate potluck \$168.96, VOTER \$32.72, postage \$54.00, national conference reimbursement \$409.60)

BALANCE SHEET 10/09/2018

STUCKY MMA ACCOUNT	\$0.00
MMA	\$10,744.06
NATIONAL EDUCATION FUND	\$2,002.39
CHECKING (09/30/2018)	\$7,737.04
CHECKING (10/09/2018)	\$7,737.04



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

Marjorie reported that we have four new members and one returning member.

Kristin introduced Teri Finneman, journalist and historian from KU.

Teri spoke about plans being made for our local League 2019 Centennial Celebration. These include: a kick-off on 09/24/2019 at the Dole Institute, brown bag talks at Lawrence Public Library, film festival at Liberty Hall, a panel presentation about women in elected office by Political Science faculty, student projects at Watkins Museum, a history panel, and interaction on social media.



Tamara presented suggestions for handling audience participation at Hot Topic events: hold questions until the end unless the speaker prefers to interact with the audience during the presentation; set time limits and use a timekeeper; the moderator needs to stay in charge; use microphones so all attendees are able to hear everything. A group of board members will work on refining suggestions and preparing the final guidelines. Jamie volunteered to research mics and sound systems so the board can discuss purchasing these items for use at future events.

VICE PRESIDENT: Marlene reported that 12 members participated in the ACLU Get out the Vote activity. Four hundred cards were sent to registered voters who did not participate in the last election.

STATE PRESIDENT: Cille reported that only 27 members attended State League Day on October 6. She wonders what we need to do to encourage better attendance in the future. One possibility might be moving the meeting to late August. The next State Convention will be held in Manhattan on the last Saturday in April, 2019.

- Submitted by Sharon Brown, Secretary





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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www.facebook.com/lwvldc • www.twitter.com/lwvldc

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