



# 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

Thursday, January 10th	4:00 - 6:30 pm	<b>LWV Kansas Policy Review Meeting.</b> <i>Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St.</i>
Thursday, January 17th	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	<b>Hot Topic: After the Election: Children's Issues in Kansas.</b> <i>Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St.</i> Presenter: Annie McKay of Kansas Action for Children. Gather 11:30am, program begins at noon.
Tuesday January 22nd	5:00 - 7:00 pm	<b>Drinks and Democracy.</b> <i>Johnny's Tavern, 401 N. 2nd Street.</i> Informal get-together - socialize and talk on the topics of the day!
Sunday, January 27	1:00 - 3:00 pm	<b>Afternoon with the Legislators.</b> <i>First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Room, 2415 Clinton Parkway.</i>
Tuesday, February 5th	7:00 - 8:45 pm	<b>LWVL-DC Board Meeting.</b> <i>Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St.</i> All League members are invited to attend.
Thursday, February 21	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	<b>Hot Topic: Medicaid in Kansas.</b> <i>Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St.</i> Presenter: Holly Venn. Gather 11:30am, program begins at noon.

## Co-President's Message

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a good holiday season and time with those you love.

A quick review of our remarkable 2018:

We worked with the Voter Education Coalition and the ACLU on forums and held a potluck candidate forum in October which drew 18 candidates and 100 participants.

We registered new voters at events in our community including:- Naturalization ceremonies, high schools all over Douglas County, the Farmer's Market, nursing homes, sidewalk sales, the Lawrence Public Library, public events in city parks, Haskell, KU, and at almost any spot that welcomed us. It was exciting as so many members of our community reached out to us for help and collaboration, particularly at KU. We provided countless citizens information about where and when to vote, including updating registrations. We registered approximately 1,100 new voters! Voter turnout statewide was at a historic high for a midterm election and we definitely helped with that!



Everyone ready to jump into 2019 with both feet? Ready or not, here we go!

Please join us for our annual Afternoon with the Legislators on Jan 27, 2019 from 1-3pm at First Presbyterian Church. They will present their priorities for the upcoming legislative session and you will have opportunity to ask questions and give input.

Our priorities for 2019 will be to continue voter education and registration and advocate for changes to our state election system in legislative redistricting and same day registration.

We are also reviewing policies! If that is your thing, please reach out- we can use your help! If you have ever wanted to get involved, 2019 will have plenty of opportunities for you! Please let us know your thoughts and ideas. We want to hear from you!

Please join us for Drinks & Democracy on Tuesday, January 22, 5-7pm at Johnny's Tavern North for an informal get together. See you then!

- Kristin Salmans & Anne Fluker, Co-Presidents  
kristinbrightstar@gmail.com  
anne.fluker@gmail.com

*You are cordially invited to our annual  
Afternoon with our State Legislators*

**Sunday, January 27, 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Room, 2415 Clinton Parkway**

**Questions with legislators starting at 1:30 pm  
Light refreshments will be served  
Guests are welcome!**

**For questions or more info, 334-538-4410 or kristinbrightstar@gmail.com  
We look forward to seeing you there!**

**WELCOME! To Our  
Newest Members!**

This month we have five new or returning members: **Jody Anderson, Jill Fincher, Barbara Johnston, Susan Tabor, and Samantha (Sami) Tabor.** Please make them feel welcome as you meet them at upcoming events!

# Hot Topics Coming Up

The meeting place in January and February will be the lower level of the Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St, 10th Street entrance. We gather at 11:30 am for refreshments, and the programs begin at noon, finishing by 1 p.m. Please plan to attend and invite a friend or neighbor to join you.

January 17

## After the Election: What's at Stake for Children in Kansas

Our speaker will be Annie McKay, president and CEO of Kansas Action for Children [kac.org], which works to shape "policy that puts children first."

Of the new Kansas administration, League members may ask: Will kids have high quality opportunities to learn and grow? Will they have safe and nurturing places and spaces? Will rules be put in place that target immigrants? Will barriers be kept in places that prevent families accessing anti-poverty programs? What are the barriers facing children of color?

KAC works to be an independent voice for children, shaping health, education, economic policy to improve lives of children and families. Our speaker, Annie McKay, is a respected statewide resource on Kansas budget and tax policy as well as family and children's issues.



February 21  
KanCare / Medicaid

Holly Venn, Outreach Vista for the Olathe KanCare Ombudsman office, will present information on Medicaid eligibility and services. She will take written questions after her remarks.

— Marlene Merrill

# Award from the Sertoma Club of Lawrence



Melissa Wick, our Voter Services Chair and Treasurer, was presented the Service to Mankind Award by League member Betty Bunce and Sertoma Treasurer Rob Gillespie. We were thrilled as they surprised her at the holiday party in December! In accepting the award, Melissa recognized the efforts of all the volunteers who contributed their time, energy and expertise during the 81 voter registration events since April of 2018.

As part of this award, the Sertoma Club of Lawrence awarded \$500 to the League in honor of Melissa. She immediately started planning how to use this money to more effectively reach out to voters in our community! The League of Women Voters Lawrence/Douglas County is so proud to have had over 1100 registrations, 81 events, and 350 volunteer hours over the last eight months.

We thank Melissa and all of our priceless volunteers who work tirelessly in Making Democracy Work!

## League Holiday Tree

During the month of December, our League had a Christmas Tree on display for the festival of trees at Windsor House. There were thirteen trees from various organizations across Lawrence. Members of the community were invited to attend. It was a great opportunity for the League to gain visibility!



We had a great time putting together a "suffragist" themed tree and look forward to doing one this year for the Festival of Trees. We will be looking for members

with creativity and ideas to create ornaments and decorations - let us know if you would like to help!  
[kristinbrightstar@gmail.com](mailto:kristinbrightstar@gmail.com) -Kristin Salmans  
(Editor's Note: Photos of several of the ornaments are featured in this issue.)

## Voter Services Report

### December 2018

Post election voter registration has been pretty quiet. The totals reported to the Kansas State LWV for activating from April 1<sup>st</sup> through November is as follows:

Number of Events	81
Number of New Registrations	1,152
Number of Registration Changes	350
Number of Tabling Hours	300
Number of Volunteers	374

The recent exciting news is the receipt of a \$500 grant from National for youth registration drives this spring. We will reach out again to area high schools, both public and private, colleges, the college and career center and any organization that will be sponsoring youth activities.

We do not yet have a schedule for naturalization ceremonies to be held in Lawrence. The administrators of the naturalization ceremonies will soon be contacted to firm up some dates and venues.

As these youth registration opportunities and naturalization events are scheduled, I will be asking for volunteers. If you are not currently on my list of voter registration volunteers and would like to be included, please contact me via email [wickma@aol.com](mailto:wickma@aol.com), or via cell phone 785-550-6160.

We will be gearing up and promoting local elections that will take place this November. In addition to schools and naturalization ceremonies, we hope to continue our tabling at the Lawrence Farmer's Market on Saturdays, seek out tabling opportunities as local community events and look for new venues for voter registration events.

Happy New Year! - Melissa A. Wick

## Congress Starts 2019 Session

It's time to get to work.

Our representatives have a lot on their plates. They're starting in the middle of a shutdown over Trump's border wall, which means it's now up to them to stand firm against his anti-immigrant agenda. And from voting to criminal justice, we've got a long way to go to ensure our democracy works fairly for everyone.

But we're ready for this moment. Last November, we voted like our rights depend on it. We researched our candidates, showed up at the polls, and pushed every single voter across the country to do the same. With our votes, we made loud and clear: We, the people, want a Congress that will defend our civil rights and liberties.

Post on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to make sure your member of Congress knows: Write each Congressperson a letter.

They're accountable to us. They can either stand up for the values we believe in or face the voters when the time comes for reelection.

We had some big wins, but we're just getting started. We need to remind our members of Congress that their job isn't getting elected – their job is to represent us.

Let's start 2019 strong. Make sure your members of Congress know that you'll be watching their every move – from their first day on the job all the way through the next election.

- Copied from an ACLU article



## And on that note, here is contact Information for our Legislators in Washington

Representative from the Third District: Sharice Davids:  
1541 Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington DC  
20515  
(202) 225-2865 <http://davids.house.gov>

Representative from the Second District: Steve  
Watkins, 1205 Longworth House Office Bldg, Wash-  
ington DC 20515  
(202) 225-6601 <http://watkins.house.gov>

US Senator Jerry Moran: 354 Russell Senate Office  
Bldg, Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-4774 <http://moran.senate.gov>

US Senator Pat Roberts: 109 Hart Senate Office Bldg,  
Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-4774 <http://roberts.senate.gov>

## Highlights of the November LWVL-DC Board Meeting November 13, 2018

**Present:** Kristin Salmans, Jamie Benvenuti, Tamara  
Cash, Marjorie Cole, Debra Duncan, Janice Friedman,  
Lori Huffles, Cille King, Marlene Merrill  
**Absent:** Margaret Arnold, Sharon Brown (Secretary),  
Anne Fluker, Kim Gibson, Melissa Wick

**TREASURER:** Melissa reported (through notes) that  
she had established a Scholarship Fund which included  
the remainder of the Stuckey Fund and contributions  
received this year to give a true balance available and  
earmarked for the Scholarship Fund. She also ex-  
plained some other details of the treasurer's report.

The balance sheet showed

Checking Account Balance of \$6,173.55 (as of  
11/2/18),  
Money Market Account Balance of \$10,745.56 (as of  
11/2/18)

Education Fund balance of  
\$2,002.39 (as of Sep. 18,  
2018).

A detailed accounting of  
YTD income and expenses  
was attached. Debra moved  
and Tamara seconded that  
the treasurer's report be  
accepted and filed for audit.

Marjorie reported thirteen  
new members: Martha  
Banning, Lauren Baruth-Stromberg, Sara Bell, Sara  
Casalino, Carstem Holm, Karen Ford Manza, Tracy  
Matthews, Andrea Norris, Lesa Roberts, Pam Staab,  
Kelly Wall, Anne Wallen, and Laurie Ward.

Kristin brought up planning for the Afternoon with the  
Legislators in January. We discussed possible locations  
and dates and decided Sunday, January 27, would be a  
good date. Lori volunteered to find a location. Kristin  
and Marlene will contact the legislators. Postcard invi-  
tations will be sent to the League membership.

**VOTER SERVICES:** Jamie reported on the results of  
the Early Voting Promotion at the library. Thirty hours  
of volunteer service went into providing information  
to over 200 voters. Only one voter needed a ride to  
go vote, but many needed information. Jamie was  
complimented for her excellent organization of this  
project.

### HOT TOPIC IDEAS:

Tamara suggested we con-  
sider collaboration with  
the Lecompton Historical  
Museum when planning  
activities for the 100<sup>th</sup>  
LWV celebration. They  
have a setting that will  
hold up to 200 people and  
do a skit with historical re-  
enactors. This could hap-  
pen in the spring, perhaps  
as part of our Annual  
Meeting. Dates for the An-  
nual Meeting were dis-  
cussed and April 13, a Sat-  
urday, is a possibility.

- Marjorie Cole,  
Substitute Secretary



# In Memoriam: Ann Carlin Ozegovic

Ann Carlin Ozegovic passed away December 18. She was a fervent advocate for voting rights and a dedicated League of Women Voters member, personally responsible for recruiting quite a few members, including me. She served the LWV-L/D in many ways over the past several years, including as co-president May 2017–May 2018. One of her many favorite T-shirts read: “Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport.”

She was a sports fan, a reader, a writer, a runner, an activist, archivist, artist; a singer; a library volunteer, news junky, collector of book marks and bumper stickers, a gentle instigator, a gifted organizer, an entertaining friend. Right up to almost the very last.

For many more details about her amazing life, please read the obituary: <https://rumsey-yost.com/2018/12/ann-carlin-ozegovic/>

The memorial service for Ann and her husband, Jack Ozegovic, will be at 11 a.m. February 2 at Salemsborg Lutheran Church, 3831 W. Salemsborg Road, Smolan KS, with a reception following at the C&W Ranch nearby, where Ann grew up. (Jack died on December 15. They were married in Michigan nearly 49 years ago.)

Also according to Ann’s wishes, there will be a party to celebrate their lives the afternoon of February 3 in Lawrence. — Norma Pierce

I initially found Ann somewhat intimidating, but quickly realized deeply kind (if no less acerbic, and no more willing to tolerate foolishness). Her guidance was very welcome to this rookie co-president, and her absence will be keenly felt. — Anne Fluker

Ann was always a staunch advocate for social justice issues. She was often a face in the crowd at advocacy marches and other demonstrations. Her humor, energy and sense of human rights will be dearly missed. — Tamara Cash

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As co-president, Ann had a keen sense of humor and could adapt when plans had to change. She used her journalism skills expertly and for every project -- annual meeting program, newsletter, or email correspondence. She made everyone around her more professional.

— Marlene Merrill

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It was a privilege to have known her — and how I wish I had known her longer! — Marjorie Cole

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In all her activities and friendships, there was a remarkable range from deep seriousness to twinkly-eyed delight!

I was with Ann and Jack all fall — along with dozens of very close, caring friends. They had surrounded themselves with kind, interesting people in their years here. Ann was a very active person. She read constantly, traveled (to Europe, China), was very involved in her brother John Carlin’s successful gubernatorial campaign decades ago and had been archiving that material up until August, was a journalist by training, a wonderful artist and photographer, an enthusiastic member of her Poetry Group, a devoted member of the Lawrence Civic Choir for decades, a sports enthusiast (basketball, football, women’s basketball and football), an athlete (biking, weight-lifting, running), gardener, a dedicated supporter of the arts, extremely engaged politically, incredibly generous with her time and energy (as any of her friends and acquaintances will acknowledge). She and Jack saw friends regularly for informal coffee, comfortable dinners together, reunions with old friends from many places, soirees of music and conversation at their home, concerts. Jack’s room in the hospital was filled with friends, as was Ann’s hospice room across town. They died within days of each other and are celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary somewhere deep in the Universe as they seek their special planet.

It’s been an honor and joy to know Ann and Jack, two of the kindest people I will ever know. — Carolyn Young



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:\*

Table with 3 columns: Approximate Household Income, Individual membership, Household membership. Rows include Student\*\*, Under \$25,000, \$25,000 to \$50,000, Over \$50,000, Sustaining member, Life member (of 50 years).

\* 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:

- General Membership Meetings: Set up and/or tear down, Hospitality, Taking notes...
Membership: Recruitment, Mentor/follow-up...
Voter Services: Register voters, Help with voter education
Promotion of League to our Community: Public speaking, Represent League...
I have the following skills: Editing articles/reports, Database management...
My interests include: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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