



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.

THE VOTER : MAY 2019 LEAGUE CALANDAR:

CONTACTS

President:

Kristin Salmans

Lawrenceleaguekspres@gmail.com

Voter Editor:

Ruth Lichtwardt

Lightwatcher@gmail.com

Interim Editor
(this edition):

Becky Plate
Beckyplate.rn@gmail.com

Local League

lawrenceleague.com
facebook.com/lwvldc
twitter.com/lwvldc

State League:

lwvk.org
lwv.kansas@gmail.com
785-234-5152

National League

lwv.org
202-429-1965

Friday, May 24th 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	<i>Drinks & Democracy: Johnny's Tavern, 401 N 2nd St, Lawrence, KS</i>
Saturday, May 25th 7:00 am - 11:45 am	<i>Farmer's Market Voter Registration: Call Sonja Czarnecki, 785-409-9664, to volunteer to set up or break down</i>
Saturday, June 1st 7:00 am - 11:45 am	<i>Farmer's Market Voter Registration: Text Lois Orth-Lopes 785-764-7137 or call 785-842-7137 to volunteer to set up or break down</i>
Saturday, June 8th 7:00 am - 11:45 am	<i>Farmer's Market Voter Registration: A volunteer coordinator is still needed. Call Melissa Wick, 785-550-6160</i>
Saturday, June 8th 10:30 am - 12:30 pm	<i>Celebration of Life for Carol Klinknett. Smith Center at Brandon Woods, 4730 Brandon Woods Terrace, Lawrence</i>
Tuesday, June 11th 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<i>Board Meeting: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St, Lawrence, KS. Board meetings are open to all members.</i>
Saturday, June 15th 7:00 am - 11:45 am	<i>Farmer's Market Voter Registration: Call Sonja Czarnecki, 785-409-9664, to volunteer to set up or break down</i>
Saturday, June 15th 10:00 am - 1:30 pm	<i>How To Festival Voter Registration, Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. Call Melissa Wick, 785-550-6160, to volunteer</i>
Monday, June 17th 6:30 pm	<i>Celebration of Kansas Ratification of the 19th Amendment, Topeka and Shawnee Ct Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka</i>
Thursday, June 20th 11:30 am - 1:30 pm	<i>Jacquie Lightcap Hot Topic: Watkins Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS</i>
Saturday, June 22nd 7:00 am - 11:45 am	<i>Farmer's Market Voter Registration: Text Lois Orth-Lopes 785-764-7137 or call 785-842-7137 to volunteer to set up or break down</i>
Saturday, June 22nd Time TBD	<i>NAACP Juneteenth Celebration Voter Registration</i>
Friday, June 28th 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	<i>Drinks & Democracy: Johnny's Tavern, 401 N 2nd St, Lawrence, KS</i>

Her Flag to visit Topeka for June Anniversary

Kansas will celebrate its status as the fourth state to ratify the 19th Amendment on the 100th anniversary of that action, June 17, 2019! Marilyn Artus, who is visiting all of the 36 states who ratified the 19th with the HerFlag project, will be at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library at 6:30 p.m. to add a stripe designed by Kansas artist Jennifer Hudson. All 36 states will have a stripe on the flag as a commemoration of the Centennial. The event will include local poets, musicians, and historians. All are welcome to attend! Following the event at

the library, you are also welcome to a reception at Zimmerman & Zimmerman Law Office, 909 SE Quincy. -Cille King





2019 Committees

1. Voter Services/ Education Co-Chairs
2. Fundraising
3. Membership (Marjorie Cole)
4. Voter Editor (Ruth Lichtwart is taking time off until Sept)
5. Webmaster (Kim Gibson)
6. Social Media (Cille King)
7. Publicity
8. Centennial Celebrations
9. Scholarship
10. Helen Fluker Award
11. History (Debra Duncan)
12. Hot Topics (Marlene Merrell)
13. Observer Corps
14. Transportation
15. Nominations (Jan Roth & Marilyn Hall)



President's Report

Hello to all-

Here we are in a new season of endings and beginnings! End of a school year, graduations, spring, and all the hope that results from anticipation of the adventures ahead! As I begin my second year as President, I am again filled with respect and awe for this organization of strong, capable women (and men!) The things our volunteer League accomplishes never ceases to amaze me! We have much to look forward to this year! We are working on our Centennial celebration preparations- if you would like to help decorate a Christmas tree for the festival this year, text or email me! We would love to get started with some beautiful suffragist ornaments!

Our kickoff with the State League will be Aug. 24 in Wichita. Did you know that Wichita was the first League in the country? We will be partnering with KU on a number of events including a kickoff Sept 24 at the Dole Center. Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for more details, but mark your calendar!

We need your help to make our League effective and efficient. On the left are listed the Committees for the upcoming year. If something sparks your interest, please let us know! Email or text me! We want you to be involved! The names listed with them are the members who are currently taking a lead on these committees, but they need you!

Happy Spring everyone! Let's make it great!

-Kristin Salmans

President, League of Women Voters Lawrence/Douglas County
kristinbrightstar@gmail.com, lawrenceksleaguepres@gmail.com

League Scholarship 2019

League Women Voters Lawrence Douglas County is pleased to present its annual scholarship of \$1000 to Alexis Moulton, a Lawrence High School graduate. Alexis is a National Merit Finalist and was active in debate and forensics, LINK crew at LHS, and crosscountry

track. He views the role of government as a method for creating positive change and pursues ways it can become more equitable and efficient. Alexis sees himself as working in a non-governmental advocacy group. Alexis will teach English overseas this summer and will enroll in

Arizona State University.

Special thanks to the committee who read the applications and evaluated them against the criteria to select our winner: Carladyne Conners, Margaret Arnold, Marlene Merrill.

-Marlene Merrill

Join us!

Welcome New League Members

Please make them feel welcome at upcoming meetings.

We hope you all check our League Calendar on the front page of the Voter for information about where and when we meet. Any League member may attend board meetings, held monthly, if you are interested in becoming more involved.

-Marjorie Cole



^ New Local Board Members and Officers were installed at the 2019 annual meeting on April 13th.

Eight new (or renewing after long absences) members are Margie and George Coggins, Keta Ewing, Joe Flannery (Weavers), Jeanne Klein, Anita Markley, Lorraine McClain and Tierra Teske.

Annual Meeting 2019

The Annual Meeting of the Lawrence, Douglas County chapter of

the League of Women Voters was convened on Saturday, April 13, 2019 in Lecompton, Kansas. The Social Ac-

tion Committee of the Lecompton United Methodist Church played host to 28 League members for the morning meeting, followed by a delicious old-fashioned fried chicken lunch.

In keeping with the League's 2019-2020 celebration of its centennial inception, League members were further treated to an historic play at the Territorial Museum in Lecompton. The theme of historical political events was revisited with a lively reenactment of a civil war era political debate in Lecompton, recalling its heyday as the former legislative territorial

capital and the place "where slavery began to die".

Audience participation was encouraged by the Lecompton Reenactors, whose raucous debate was peppered by audience laughs and jeers. Included in the historic characterizations were the fiery words of early women suffragists, Clarina Nichols and Sara Robinson.

Those in attendance at the Annual Meeting's events reported being entertained by a look back at political history, as well as being reminded of the continuing importance of our League's voter education, advocacy and activism.

-Tamara Cash



73rd Biennial Convention Highlights



99 Years and Counting

The League of Women Voters of Kansas
and the 19th Amendment

About 60 League members and speakers gathered at the Bluemont Hotel in Manhattan on Saturday, April 27, for the 73rd Biennial Convention. Lawrence League members attending: Tamara Cash, Marjorie Cole, Debra Duncan, Janice Friedman, Sally Kelsey, Cille King, Marlene Merrill, and Denise Pettengill.

Highlights:

- ☑ We had some educational and informative speakers. Links will be available online to read a summary of each presentation:
 - ☑ Melissa Rooker with the Kansas Children's Cabinet & Trust Fund
 - ☑ Julie Hussey with the LWVUS Board
 - ☑ Pat Michaelis with the Shawnee County Historical Society
 - ☑ The Convention also approved bylaws changes about at-large membership renewal and language to adopt in the bylaws when LWVK converts to a 501(c)(3).
 - ☑ A position statement update on Meeting Basic Human Needs was also approved. All of our position statements are located here: <http://lwvk.org/issues-and-advocacy/position-statements>
 - ☑ A proposed one-year study on Researching Court fees in Kansas Counties was approved, in addition to a one-year study update on Medical Indigence.
- Cille King

"We need to address these needs in a wrap-around way to help the whole family," Rooker said, "by helping parents connect with services."

Celebration of Life for Carol Klinknett



LWV-LDC members are invited to a celebration of Carol's Life on Saturday, June 8th, 2019 at the Smith Center at Brandon Woods, 4730 Brandon Woods Terrace, in Lawrence, from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

I met Carol when I first joined the League of Women Voters in December of 2013. I worked with her on many voter registration events and in securing donations for the Candidate Meet & Greet Potluck. She also introduced me to the NAACP, as she served as the LWV liaison to the NAACP to focus on joint voter registration considerations. Our most recent interaction was at Brandon Woods when she changed her address so she could vote in the 2018 election while she encouraged other Brandon Woods residents to also update their addresses. Carol was an advocate of human rights and environmental causes. Not only was she an active member of the League of Women Voters and the NAACP, but she walked her talk in every aspect of her life. She was an avid recycler, supported locally-owned businesses and worked tirelessly on her vision of sustainability and a more just society. A full obituary, published February 1, 2019, can be found at the Lawrence Journal World website.

-Melissa Wick

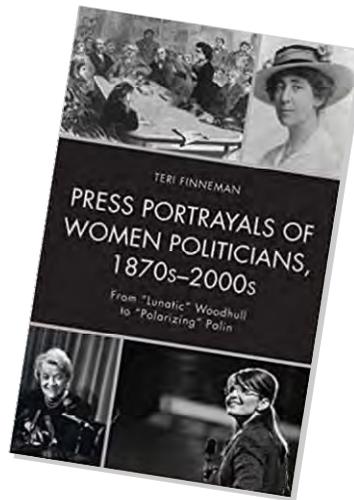
May 2019 Hot Topic:

Teri Finneman, professor in KU's School of Journalism, presented a fascinating program based on her book; "Press Portrayals of Women Politicians 1870's to 2000".

From the lens of her earlier career as a political reporter, and later as a journalism instructor, she started researching the history of how women candidates are covered in the media. She started the program with a startling montage of political reportage of women candidates from television news sources- from Fox News to MSNBC- that elicited strong reactions from the audience members. The video was created by the Women's Media Center. <https://www.womensmediacenter.com/> Sexism sells-But we're not Buying it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uk0IY5CuGI>

Starting with Victoria Woodhull's run for President in 1872 as a candidate for the Equal Rights Party to Sarah Palin's Republican candidacy for vice presidency in 2000, the portrayal of the women candidates has not appeared to change dramatically in 120 years.

Although early journalism was quite partisan, around 1910 the shift for journalism to a more objective but still very male dominated profession occurred. Standards of decorum in journalism kept FDR's disability and JFK's affairs undiscussed, but the double bind of female candidates not being strong



enough to hold office or being seen as too masculine continued. Cue 2008, the economic down turn and the rise of the internet and alternate media resulted in a radical restructuring of how citizens got their political information. But with this change in the landscape of journalism the disservice to citizens by gendered political coverage still continues. The hope of history progressing to a better equality for all is challenged by the coverage that contains a gender bias towards female candidates. We can do our part to call out gender bias in media when we see it. In a closing comment Dr. Finneman says she challenges young political writers to review what they have written about a female candidate, insert a male candidate's name and to ask themselves if it holds up as credible coverage in tone and content with the male candidate's name inserted?

-Denise Pettengill

Voter Services Report for April & Early May events

We have conducted five voter registration drives this spring through May 18th. Now let's do the numbers: we have registered 28 new voters, changed addresses for 28 existing voters, helped with 3 party affiliation changes, received dues from a renewing LWV-LDC member, and enrolled one new LWV-LDC member.

All this work was accomplished by the following individuals: Lois Orth-Lopes and Sonja Czarnecki: the two coordinators of these events, and the assisting LDC members: Marlaine Stoor, Charley Crabtree, Pam McKean, Robin Gingerich, Arline Slote Davis, Linda Dean, Annette Rouleau and two Bishop Seabury School students, Sophia Chindamo and Morgan Crozco.

Events scheduled through June are on Saturdays at the Lawrence Farmer's Market, the How-To Festival at the Lawrence Public Library, the Juneteenth Festival, and plans are being made for the Busker Event over Memorial Day Weekend.

Stay tuned for the calls to volunteer to table. You will be receiving emails from Melissa Wick, Lois Orth-Lopes or Sonja Czarnecki for help on these events.

This year brings local elections for city commissioners and local school boards throughout Douglas County. Imagine how empowering it must be to an eligible 18-year-old high school student to affect the management of their schools!

-Melissa A. Wick

Highlights of LWV-L/DC Board Meeting — April 9, 2019

Present: Melissa Wick (Treasurer), Sharon Brown (Secretary), Jamie Benvenuti, Tamara Cash, Marjorie Cole, Debra Duncan, Janice Friedman, Cille King. Absent: Margaret Arnold, Kim Gibson, Marlene Merrill, Thea Perry, Kristin Salmans. Guests: Lily Colacino, Kathleen Harned, Trevor Huth, Tracy Matthews, Denise Pettengill, Becky Plate.

In the absence of the president and vice president, Melissa presided and called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. All attendees introduced themselves to the group.

Sharon gave an update of the proposed slate from the Nominating Committee that will be presented at the Annual Meeting in May.

TREASURER: Melissa reported income of \$1,085.35 in March (dues \$415.35, Fluker luncheon \$670) and expenses of \$487.19 (PO box rent/website \$400, supplies 34.85, VOTER \$52.34). **BALANCE SHEET 04/09/2019 MMA** \$10,754.90 **CHECKING (03/31/2019)** \$8,452.22 **NAT'L EDUC FUND** \$1,428.39 **L/DC SCHOLARSHIP FUND** \$371.80 **CHECKING (04/09/2019)** \$8,052.22

PRESIDENT: Kristin submitted the following items: KU students will be interviewing lifetime (50 years+) members for the social media project. To smooth lines of communication Kristin is requesting board members to please submit website updates directly to her and she will forward them to Kim for posting. Just for the next few months Ruth Lichtwardt has asked that the VOTER deadline be moved to the Friday following the board meeting. (Board members who will submit VOTER articles are Janice (Fluker Luncheon), Cille (State Convention), Tamara and Janice (Annual Meeting). Sharon volunteered to contact Thea regarding a report about League Day in Topeka.

VOTER SERVICE: Melissa announced upcoming registration events to be held at Lawrence High School, Earth Day celebration and Art in the Park. League will partner with the NAACP at a Lawrence Public Library Festival on June 15. There will be equipment available to take photos to be used for posters. **OLD BUSINESS:** Cille has emailed Heather at the County Clerk's office regarding the next local election (city commission and school board). Debra is continuing to work on plans for a trip to Seneca Falls in 2020.

Submitted by Sharon Brown, Secretary



A Gentle Reminder... dues are due

Have you renewed your League membership by paying your dues? The League year runs from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. Students do not owe dues this year, but the rest of us should renew annually on April 1. Dues are optional for our fifty-year members. Dues pay for your membership in the state League, LWV-K, and the national League, LWV-US, as well as in our local League, LWV-LDC. For each member (except students and fifty-year members) we make "per member payments" (PMPs) to LWV-K (\$18) and LWV-US (\$32) annually. The funds we use for our local activities (educational meetings, website costs, newsletter, voter registration materials, voter forums, and a scholarship for a high school graduate) come from what is left after paying PMPs from dues, fund raising activities, grants and contributions.

Over half our members have not paid dues yet for this calendar year! If you are not sure if you owe, please email your name to nobledog@aol.com and find out. If you are a new member who paid dues after October 1, 2018, just relax—you will be an active member until March 31 of 2020. You may mail dues with the form in this Voter or you may pay online at LawrenceLeague.com using PayPal.



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, 2020.)*

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:

General Membership Meetings:

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

Membership:

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

Voter Services:

- Register voters
- Help with voter education

Promotion of League to our Community:

- Public speaking
- Represent League at community events
- Observer corps (attend/report on government meetings)
- Help with research for League studies on issues
- Serve on the Board of Directors

I have the following skills:

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

My interests include:

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

The VOTER May 2019

Contents

1 Calendar of Upcoming Events

1 Her Flag

1 Contacts

2 President's Report

2 League Scholarship

3 Welcome New Members

3 Annual Meeting

4 73rd Biennial Convention Highlights

4 Celebration of Life

5 May Hot Topic!

5 Voter Services Report

6 Board Meeting Highlights

6 Dues Reminder

7 Membership Form

League of Women Voter
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