

August 2016



THE VOTER

The League of Women Voters Kansas City/Jackson/Clay/Platte Counties

www.lwvkc.org – email. lwvkjcp@yahoo.com 816-464-1800

Our League will not have its “regular” monthly meeting this August.

Instead, we encourage all of our members to Participate in Women’s Equality Week events (August 21-27), particularly the two events (see below) that our League has been instrumental in planning and which we are a co-sponsor!!!!

Sunday August 21

Kick-off Reception- Blue Room at American Jazz Museum

5:30 – 7:00 reception 6:00 entertainment

Monday, August 22

Women’s Equality and Race: “Bridging the Gap to Sisterhood”

Bruce Watkins Center, 3700 Blue Parkway, KCMO 64130

Reception: 6:00 p.m. Program: 6:30 – 8:00

Sponsors: LWVKC,J,C,P; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Mu Omega Chapter; Women of the NAACP Kansas City,, El Centro, Inc.

Wednesday, August 24

Voter Suppression: Kansas and Missouri at the Epicenter

Asbury United Methodist Church, 5400 W. 75th Street, Prairie

Village, KS 66208 Reception: 6:00 p.m. Program: 6:30 – 8:00

Moderator: Mary Sanchez, Journalist and columnist

Speakers: Micah Kubic, ACLU Kansas, Judy Morgan,

THE FULL SCHEDULE IS ATTACHED. THE AUGUST 22 AND 24 EVENTS ARE BEING SPONSORED BY OUR LEAGUE

Co-President's message (Linda Smith and Donna Hoch)

VOTER SUPPRESSION IN MISSOURI – THEY JUST DON'T GIVE UP!!!!

In the July Voter, we communicated with you about the continuing effort by Missouri legislators to suppress voting by making it harder to vote. The November general election Missouri ballot will include a proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution that, if passed, would require that voters, subject to exceptions, verify their identity, citizenship, and residence by presenting identification that may include valid government-issued photo identification.

A companion piece of legislation HB1631 (which has been vetoed by the Governor) would limit forms of ID acceptable at the polls only to non-expired Missouri or Federal ID's with photos and expiration dates – typically a current Missouri driver's or non-driver's license photo ID. The legislation, if the Governor's veto is overridden, further provides that those who do not have a valid photo ID could vote upon presenting another form of ID and signing a statement under penalty of perjury. Those who do not sign could cast a provisional ballot that would not count unless the voter returned to the election authority with a proper photo ID.

This mess is the culmination of a decade-long effort to, theoretically, eliminate fraud in the election process. Since no fraud has been found in many years, this is a pretty draconian and expensive solution to a problem that does not really exist in Missouri. This proposal is confusing and unfair, particularly to women, the elderly and others.

Linda has a case in her family. Jack's deceased wife's mother, who lives in Parkville, and who will turn 90 this year had heard about the effort to require a currently valid voter government issued voter ID. Caroline felt that she should get an ID. Sooo, she went to the drivers' license office on NW 64th street to obtain a non-driver's photo ID. They would not issue one to her because her drivers' license expired six years ago – she no longer drives. Because her license had expired so long ago, she was told that she would need to present her birth certificate and marriage certificate to obtain a new currently-valid state-issued photo ID. The birth certificate has been found. The search is now on for the marriage certificate. This is notwithstanding the fact that she has voted all of her adult life. Fortunately, Caroline can vote this November, but she and many others would likely have a problem if the proposed Constitutional Amendment 6 passes.

**YES – WE ARE ENGAGED AND PARTNERING WITH OTHERS TO FIGHT THIS
ASSAULT ON THE RIGHT TO VOTE**

PLEASE VOLUNTEER NOW! LWV volunteers are needed to help with efforts to defeat the latest attempt to impose a photo ID requirement on Missouri voters. LWV volunteers and others will staff phone banks organized by the Coalition for Voter Protection. Missouri LWV and its local chapters are members of the Coalition. The Coalition's objective is to contact about 300,000 Missouri voters by phone and door to door canvassing. Volunteers will inform voters about how Missouri Constitutional

Amendment 6 would be costly, burdensome to all voters, and be unfair to demographic groups who are known to historically not have ID's. Amendment 6 will be on the general election ballot on November 8.

Thanks to LWV volunteers Jan Cohen, Evelyn Maddox, Donna Hoch, Judy Sherry, Caroline Arnold, MJ McCall, Sue Scholl, Linda Smith, Pauli Kendrick, and Dorothy Culp who spent 18.5 hours talking with 290 voters on Primary Day. Their objective was to alert voters about Missouri Constitutional Amendment 6 requiring Photo ID which will be on the November 8 ballot.

CONTACT EVELYN MADDOX TO VOLUNTEER IN ANY CAPACITY TO DEFEAT THIS ONEROUS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: 913.634.3976 - EMADDOX64111@GMAIL.COM

**VOTER REGISTRATION – URGENT OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

The League's voter registration group, headed by Sue Scholl and the area election boards, can use some help. There are individual and collective opportunities. Each election board operates a little differently, so the information that follows varies from location to location.

League voter registration assistance:

The League will be registering voters at a variety of sites around the area.

In Kansas City, The KC Election Board (KCEB) requires voter registration training, which begin August 16 and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at Union Station. If you can attend one of the training sessions: contact: Clair Wyatt, 816 842-4820, who will prepare packets for those taking the training. Once trained, please contact Sue Scholl (816 444-2623) and let her know that you are a trained registrar. This is interesting and one of the most rewarding aspects of being a League member. Voter registration for the Nov. 8 election will continue until October 12, the last day to register for the election.

Election Day Assistance:

Kansas City: The Kansas City Election Board (KCEB) is recruiting poll workers. Individual workers earn \$180 and up for a long day – from 5 a.m. to at least 7 p.m., usually longer, depending on how smoothly the election runs and how long it takes to tally the ballots.

This year, there is a fund-raising opportunity for our League through the KCEB's "Adopt a Poll" program. This program allows local non-profits, a 501(C)(3) organization to provide volunteers who serve as poll workers for the Nov. 8 election. KCEB will donate to the providing organization \$180 to \$215 per volunteer provided. There is significant opportunity because the KCEB needs to add some 300-600 election workers for this election. Each volunteer will fill out an application with some personal information, along with the information of the non-profit organization for which they are volunteering.

Volunteers are placed into the database as a poll worker and assigned to a polling location. On Election Day, the volunteers will sign in and out on the payroll sheet just as other poll workers. After the election, all payroll sheets will be processed and each poll worker will be accounted for. The payroll sheets will be cross checked with the providing organization's volunteer list to determine which volunteers showed up to serve. Once this process has been completed, donation checks from the KCEB will be made out to the organization and processed.

Clay County Poll Workers: To assist with polls in Clay County, Democrats may call Donna Stanley, 816 407-9516 and Republican Terrie Craddock-Uhlmann, 816 415-1718. For more information and to download an election official application, visit: www.claycoelections.com

Jackson County Election Board: There are a variety of positions to fill with pay scale starting at \$110 plus \$35 for training. For more information and to download a worker form, please visit: www.jcebmo.org and click on the poll worker link on the left side of the screen, or call 816 325-4600.

Platte County: We did not find a request for assistance for Platte County – www.plattemovotes.org.

Thanks to Cheryl Barnes for pulling together the foregoing information.

LWVKS HISPANIC OUTREACH (Delores Blaser)

LWV Hispanic outreach continues with a focus on voter registration information. Media contacts with Kansas City bilingual newspapers resulted in two articles on voter registration. LWV participated in two KKFI90.1FM Spanish radio audience programs; one in Spanish and one in English. A third Spanish radio program on KYYS 1250AM was broadcast. Public Service Announcements in Spanish are in the development stage. LWV appreciates the assistance of translators and interpreters with this outreach.

CELEBRATE THE VOTE FESTIVAL IN ST. LOUIS – SEPTEMBER 3

Join other LWVKS,J,C,P members and others in St. Louis on September 3 for the Celebrate the Vote Festival. The core event is from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the St. Louis Public Library. There will be girl bands, art, food, speakers, voter registration and more.

We are working to arrange at least one van and several car pools to get us to this historic event. Let Donna Hoch know if you are interested:

(email: thehochs@hotmail.com). Our registration cost is \$10 per person and our transportation cost for those going via the van will be approximately \$25 per person. Each person going must register individually—go to:

http://lwwstl.org/ctv_festival.html We plan to go and return on the same day.

Background: One Hundred Years ago in 1916, over 3000 suffragists met in Saint Louis during the Democratic convention which would re-nominate Woodrow Wilson for President. They demanded a plank in the party platform in support of women's suffrage. Wearing white dresses and golden sashes that read "Votes For Women," they lined the street where the delegates would walk from their hotel to the convention center. This was called by some the "walkless, talkless parade" and by others "The Golden Lane." They accomplished their objective and got the plank in the platform. Six years later women got the right to vote.

The sponsors of this event are the LWV of S. Louis, Missouri History Museum, St. Louis Public Library, Rebecca Now and Then, the AAUW and Webster University.

Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Our transition to 501(C)(3)

501(c)(3) status: Donna and Anita continue to do a fabulous job in the effort to change the tax status of our League from 501(c)(4) to 501(c)(3). All the required paperwork was submitted in May. That said, the IRS has requested some additional information on our grass-roots lobbying activities. Donna has submitted that response. We hope that this answers the questions that the government has and that our new status will be approved soon. When that happens, any payments, including membership that individuals make to our League will be tax deductible for those who itemize charitable donations on their income tax returns. That said, even if you pay your membership dues now, when (and if) our 501(C)(3) status is approved your 2016-2017 membership payment would be tax deductible.

Membership Dues are Due:

It is time, for most of our members to pay their annual membership dues. The amounts are:

Individual	-	\$60
Couple	-	90
Student	-	30

Mail your check payable to: LWVJC,P to our League Treasurer Caroline Arnold at 1912A NW Cherry Street, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 64081.

Feel free to add an additional amount as a gift to our League. Of the \$60 regular membership payment, only \$8 remains with our League. The rest goes to LWVUS and LWVMO to support work at those levels.

OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Co-Presidents: Donna Hoch	816 322-8071	the hochs@hotmail.com
Linda Vogel Smith	816-741-6110	lindaavogel@me.com
Vice President: Charles Steele	816 836-4031	anitrasteele@yahoo.com
Secretary: Anitra Steele	816-836-4031	anitrasteele@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Caroline Arnold	816 333-6059	cmarnold@att.net

Pat Goodwin, Voter Guide
Evelyn Maddox, Voter protection
Cheryl Barnes, Communications (off Board)
Dixie Brown and Pauli Kendrick, Membership co-chairs
Peg Prendergast, Special Projects
Caroline Arnold, Nominating Committee Chair
Peg Prendergast and Linda Smith, Newsletter
Sue Scholl, Voter Registration
Charles and Anitra Steele, Candidate and Issue Forums
Pauline Testerman, studies
Carolyn Weeks, Member Development (off Board)
Jane McClain, Women's Equality Week (off Board)

You will be pleased to notice our website continues to be updated.

Check it out at: <http://www.lwvkc.org>

**WE DID OUR BEST TO ATTACH THE FULL WEW SCHEDULE
IT JUST DID NOT COOPERATE – WE WILL DO A SEPARATE
TRANSMITTAL SO THAT YOU GET THE FULL FLYER**

WOMEN'S EQUALITY WEEK: AUGUST 21-24

Pushing Boundaries Marching Forward

Celebrate the 96th Anniversary of Gaining the Right to Vote

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

**The Status of Women at Work
Harassment, Equal Pay,
and LGBT Protections**

6:00 pm Reception

6:30 pm Presentation

Kansas City Public Library, 14 W. 10th St.,
Kansas City, MO 64106

Andrea G. Baran: Regional Attorney of the EEOC's
St. Louis District, discusses the status of women
in the American workplace, addressing both their
progress and areas for continued improvement.
RSVP: 816-701-3407 or www.kclibrary.org

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

**Greater KC Women's Political Caucus
Equality Week Family Picnic**

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Loose Park Large Shelter, 5200 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Kansas City, MO 64112

Please join us as we celebrate the anniversary of
women gaining the right to vote. We'll have picnic
fare, cool beverages, games for kids, and fun for all
RSVP: info@gkcwpc.org



SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

**Women's Equality Week
Launch Reception**

5:30-7:00 pm Networking, music, drinks
and appetizers

6:00 pm Preview of the week of events
American Jazz Museum, The Blue Room,
1616 E 18th St., Kansas City, MO 64108

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

**Women's Right to Know
Our Votes and Our Purses**

5:30-7:00 pm

Johnson County Resource Library, 9875 87th St.,
Overland Park, KS 66212

**Women's Equality and Race
Bridging the Gap to Sisterhood**

6:00-6:30 pm Reception

6:30-8:00 pm Program

Bruce Watkins Center, 3700 Blue Pkwy.,
Kansas City, MO 64130

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

**Women's Vote for Empowerment,
Work and Justice**

11:00-2:00 pm Dialogue with Students

12:00-1:30 pm Panel of Women Leaders

Johnson County Community College,
Commons Bldg., 12345 College Blvd.,
Overland Park, KS 66210

Powerful Solutions

When Women Lead

6:00 pm Reception

6:30-8:00 pm Program

National Archives, 400 W Pershing Rd.,
Kansas City, MO 64108

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

What's Percolating in Kansas?

10:30 am-12:00 noon

Leawood Pioneer Library, 4700 Town Center Dr.,
Leawood, KS 66211

Voter Suppression

Kansas & Missouri at the Epicenter

6:00-6:30 pm Reception

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Interactive Discussion
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What women bring to
the decision-making
a coalition of strong v
leadership style.

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