



# The Lexington Voter December 2011

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

The LWV of Kentucky and  
The LWV of Lexington

Invite you to a

**Holiday Tea and Silent Auction**

featuring

**Al Smith**

Saturday, December 3

5 until 7 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

1000 Tates Creek Road

Lexington, KY

Suggested donation: \$25/per person or  
\$40 per couple; \$10/student

Proceeds will benefit the LWV of KY.

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Mr. Smith is a journalist, author and former host of KET's "Comment on Kentucky." His new book, *Wordsmith: My Life in Journalism* will be available for purchase (\$37.05) at the event.

Members are asked to bring items for the auction—baked goods, gift baskets, homemade goods are popular.

**Make reservation by Dec.1: 859-494-3203 or kentuckylwv@gmail.com**

## Celebrating Members

This season of gratitude and good will seems like a good time to recognize our members who have devoted decades of their lives to the League. Maintaining an enduring commitment fosters continuity of leadership and focus on important issues. These are the individuals who have given the LWV of Lexington a strong foundation:

### 50 Year Members

- Edna Elias
- Amanda Elliott
- Charlotte Finucane
- Janet Gleeson
- Carolyn Holmes
- Jay Ogden
- Ruth Straus
- Eloise Terry (transfer from Louisville)

At the same time we want to welcome new members who bring fresh ideas and energy to the League. Members who have joined us include the following:

### New Members

- Joy Arnold (new in 2010)
- Lynne Flynn (new in 2010)
- Kathy Stein (new in 2010)
- Alayne White (rejoined in 2010)
- Karen Anderson (new in 2011)
- Lesley Maner (new in 2011)
- Mary Pattengill (new in 2011)

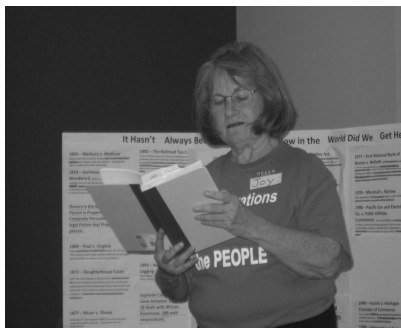
Thanks to all of the above! (If we have omitted anyone from this list, please email editor at [judylex@insightbb.com](mailto:judylex@insightbb.com) to correct the error.)

## Invitation from League Member

Former LWVUS President Mary G. Wilson in a statement in U.S. House testimony February 3, 2010, expressed the League's concern about the effects of the Supreme Court decision *Citizens United v. FEC*. She said, "The League of Women Voters believes that the Court's majority decision was fundamentally wrong and a tragic mistake." Since that time—through the elections of 2010 and 2011—dramatically increased influence of large corporate donations has proven that concern to be valid.

One member of the Lexington League has made it her mission to study the ruling and its effects. She is committed to putting her energy into working to counteract the Court's interpretation that corporations should be considered individual "persons" when it comes to guaranteed rights. **Joy Arnold**, League member and retired lawyer, invites all members to join in a grassroots movement to attain a Constitutional amendment that would curtail the alarming results of the *Citizens United* decision. Please read—and consider acting upon—the idea outlined in the following article.

## Move to Amend



*On Saturday, November 12, members of various organizations including the LWV, met at the Central Library to discuss Move to Amend. LWV member Joy Arnold, seen here leading the group, provides this information about the initiative:*

**Move to Amend** is a national organization building coalitions with other progressive groups to do the grass roots work necessary to bring about a Constitutional amendment that would give government back to the citizens. On Saturday, November 12, a group of those citizens convened at the Lexington Central Library to form an affiliate to the national group for Central Kentucky (CKMTA).

**Move to Amend** has led the call for a Constitutional amendment to not only overturn the heinous Supreme Court decision of *Citizens United v. FEC*, but to put corporations in their proper place as subservient to The People.

*(Cont'd next column)*

Passing an amendment will be a tough job, so the language must be commensurate with the effort needed to win. **The amendment must be strong and clear enough to end corporate rule - there's no room here for half solutions or ambiguity.**

**Move to Amend's** proposed amendment will clearly establish that **money is not speech, corporations are not people**, and allows for **no loopholes**.

The Central Kentucky affiliate will be seeking partnerships with other organizations in this area, collecting petition signatures, educating groups about the need for such an amendment and producing events to draw attention to this need. In its beginning the local **Move to Amend** affiliate is supporting the efforts of **Occupy Lexington**, seeing a Constitutional amendment of this nature foundational to the needs addressed by the Occupation.

The first event being planned by CKMTA will be an "Occupation of the Courts" on January 20, 2012, the two year anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision. Across the country Federal Court Houses will be "occupied".

To become involved in this movement, contact **Joy Arnold**, Woodford County, [joytotheworld1@windstream.net](mailto:joytotheworld1@windstream.net); Zoe Langley, Fayette County, [zll@peak.org](mailto:zll@peak.org); or the president of KASEKY, Franklin/Anderson Counties, at [KASEKY@yahoo.com](mailto:KASEKY@yahoo.com).

To sign the petition for the most comprehensive of the amendments being proposed and to learn about the national organization, go to:

<http://MoveToAmend.org/motion-to-amend>.

**Happy Holidays**

**Remember there is NO January issue of the VOTER. The next issue will be published the first of February 2012.**

## Next Naturalization Events

The next naturalization ceremonies are scheduled for Friday, December 9 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the U. S. District Court, 101 Barr Street, in downtown Lexington.

If you have not participated in LWV voter registration at one of these events, please consider helping at this time. The actual ceremony is memorable and you will be amazed at the variety of nationalities represented by the citizenship applicants. Parking is available in the structure across Barr Street behind the Robert F. Stephens Circuit Courthouse which fronts the plaza on N. Limestone.

Anyone interested in assisting with this League activity should contact **Betty Higgins** by email at [e.higgins@insightbb.com](mailto:e.higgins@insightbb.com) or by phone at 278-1898.

## Candidate School Workshop A Success

The Candidate School, sponsored by the Lexington LWV, Berea/Madison County LWV and the Kentucky Institute of Public Affairs at Eastern Kentucky University on Saturday November 12 was a great success.

The workshop featured a panel of experienced legislators and other elected officials, past and present, who shared the lessons they had learned.

The event attracted 17 participants interested in learning how to go about running for office. Half of those in attendance were Republicans and half were Democrats. They ranged in age from 17 years old to retired citizens. All pronounced the workshop an interesting and very helpful learning opportunity.

## “Civil Liberties Issues before the Supreme Court”

**Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Temple Adath Israel  
124 N. Ashland Ave.**

**Presented by  
American Constitution Society and  
American Civil Liberties Union**

**Featuring  
UK Law Professors Paul Salamanca, Allison  
Connelly, Roberta M. Harding,  
and Nicole Huberfield**

## Effort to Get out the Vote

A “Get Out the Vote” Caller Bank was arranged for Sunday, November 6 and Monday, November 7. The program was hosted at Transylvania University, as a partnership between the Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement, the League of Women Voters of Lexington, and the Kentuckians for the Commonwealth.

Two hundred and five calls were made between noon and 4 p.m. on Sunday, however, the program was cancelled on Monday due to a bomb threat on the Transylvania campus.

## LWV President Protests New Voting Laws

National President Elisabeth MacNamara appeared at a November 14 forum convened by the U.S. House Judiciary Committee to express League concern over new laws beginning passed in states which will limit access to voting for countless citizens. She specifically cited:

- the eight states (AL, KS, MS, RI, SC, TN, TX, WI) that have passed new restrictive photo ID laws;
- the three states (AL, KS, TX) that have passed laws requiring proof of citizenship as a prerequisite to voting;
- the two states (FL and TX) that have made it more difficult for groups like the League of Women Voters to register new voters;
- the five states (FL, GA, OH, TN, and WV) that have passed legislation that eliminates or shortens the period of early voting;
- the additional new suppression laws intended to be passed before the 2012 elections in MI, OH, MN, VA, and PA.

The LWV opposes these laws because they will disenfranchise millions of voters, they will cost millions of dollars to implement, and there is no evidence of a need for such draconian measures.

ers of Lexington.  
 October, November, December, Winter, March, April, and May) by the League of Women Voters of Lexington.  
 [Vol. 11-12 Issue 5] The Lexington Voter is published nine times a year (Summer, September, October, November, December, Winter, March, April, and May) by the League of Women Voters of Lexington.  
 1000 Tates Creek Road  
 Board Meeting at Faith Lutheran Church,  
 Sat. Jan. 7 10 a.m.  
 Court, 101 Barr Street  
 Naturalization Ceremony at the U.S. District  
 Fri. Dec. 9 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.  
 Temple Adath Israel, 124 N. Ashland Ave.  
 "Civil Liberties Issues before the Supreme Court" at  
 Wed. Dec. 7 7 p.m.

**Sat. Dec. 3 5-7:00 p.m. Holiday Tea and Silent Auction (at Faith Lutheran Church)**

NOTE: Board meetings are open to all MEMBERS; programs are open to the public

Phone: 859-494-3203

LWV of Lexington Website: [www.lwvlexington.com](http://www.lwvlexington.com)

**Calendar**



*Lexington League of Women Voters*  
*PO Box 22045*  
*Lexington KY 40522*

Return Service Requested

