



The Lexington Voter

November 2011

The League of Women Voters of Lexington



TUESDAY, NOV. 8

GENERAL ELECTIONS

- Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Know your voting location (Call 859-255-VOTE or go online to fayettecountyclerk.com to check your registration information and voting location and to see a sample ballot.)
- Decide whom you are voting for (Kentuckians for the Commonwealth posted survey responses from all candidates at KentuckyElection.org.)
- Take a friend to the polls.

Candidates for Office

GOVERNOR and LT. GOVERNOR

David L. Williams/Richie Farmer (R)

Stephen L. Beshear/Jerry E. Abramson (D)

SECRETARY OF STATE

Bill Johnson (R)

Alison Lundergan Grimes (D)

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Todd P'Pool (R)

Jack Conway (D)

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

John T. Kemper III (R)

Adam H. Edelen (D)

STATE TREASURER

K.C. Crosbie (R)

L. J. "Todd" Hollenbach (D)

Kenneth C. Moellman (LIB)

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

James R. Comer (R)

Robert "Bob" Farmer (D)

Gubernatorial Debate at EKU

On October 11 the League of Women Voters of Kentucky joined with the Kentucky Broadcasters Association to present a debate between gubernatorial candidates State Senator David Williams and the current governor, Steve Beshear. The venue was the newly opened Center for the Arts at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond.

The TV affiliates of FOX 41 WDRB and 146 radio stations across Kentucky had either a live feed or delayed broadcast of the event.

Special seating was provided for the 40 League members who attended representing locals across the state. Our president Tammy Fagley was in attendance as were former state co-presidents from Lexington Terry Naydan and Nita Smith.

Over 75% of the questions posed to the candidates were sent in by League members.

Berea/Madison County President Cecile Schubert reported that the technical staff did a wonderful job using our logo and a voice over explaining the purpose of the League. She summed up the evening with this comment, "All in all, it was a top-notch affair!"



December 3 Date Set for Holiday Tea and Auction

A tea and silent auction on Saturday, December 3, will mark the beginning of the holiday season for the League of Women Voters. It is scheduled for 5-7p.m. in the Northex of Faith Lutheran Church. This is an opportunity to support both the local and state units while enjoying good food, friends and lively entertainment.

Al Smith, the former host of KET's "Comment on Kentucky" is the featured guest.

Bring any item you would like to donate to the auction with you on December 3 or, if you would like to make arrangements to have it picked up, contact Judy Johnson at **859-806-1309**.

Suggested donation is \$25 per person, \$40 per couple. Reservations can be made by calling the LWV phone number 859-494-3203.

Mark your calendar and make your reservation. Come and bring a friend!

2011 LWV Essay Contest Update

The deadline has passed and the entries are being collected and readied for reading. From this point, the timeline is:

- November—reading, scoring, and decisions made by essay committee
- Early December—awards presented to students and teachers in their schools
- January—press notices out with details about winners

The prompt brought in many thoughtful essays. Students appear to have definite ideas about the rights and responsibilities of "fully engaged" citizenship and what that might mean in their own lives. We congratulate all who chose to answer our challenge!

Get Out the Vote Efforts

It has been predicted, based on recent surveys, that **less than 25%** of registered voters in Kentucky will actually turn out to vote on Tuesday, November 8. So much for elections reflecting the wishes of the majority.

- In order to encourage a stronger turn out, Transylvania students and LWV members will be operating a phone bank at Transy on Sunday, November 6, from noon to 6 p.m. and Monday, November 7, from 4 to 6 p.m. They will be calling registered voters to remind them to vote on Tuesday. Members interested in helping with these calls should contact Karen Anderson at kanderson@transy.edu.
- The Kentuckians for the Commonwealth will have a similar calling operation from their office on Thursday, November 3, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Call 859-276-0563 for more information if you are interested.

If at all possible...

- help with either or both of these initiatives,
- remind your family and friends to vote,
- **and be sure to vote yourself.**

Progress of the National LWV Education Study Process

After the October 29 board meeting, interested League members began a discussion of the study materials related to examining the role of the federal government in public education that have been provided by the national LWV. The scope of the study is “the history, funding and equity issues which are addressed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the common core standards/assessments which are required for many federal grant programs but are national, not federal.”

The study materials can be accessed on our local LWV website and paper copies are available in the library of Faith Lutheran Church between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Any members who would like to read the print copies should call the church secretary at 266-7621 if they have questions about time or location.

The next step will be for our League to finish general discussion and form consensus on the questions provided us. A meeting to accomplish this task is planned for 12 noon on Saturday, November 19, at Faith Lutheran House.

The questions to be considered for consensus are printed on the insert in this issue of the Voter. Please read and plan to participate in the consensus forming process.

After the meeting on November 19, a report will be prepared and presented to the local board for approval before it is submitted to the national study committee.

LWV Public Advocacy for Voter Protection Project Expands

Concerns about new regulations in several states have led to increased efforts by the LWV in five areas:

1. Opposition to ID and documentary proof of citizenship
2. Improvement of statewide voter database systems
3. Opposing undue restrictions on voter registration
4. Improving polling place management
5. Improving poll worker training

Watch for more details in future issues of the Voter.

Candidate School Workshop To Be Offered November 12

“Learn What It Takes to Run for Public Office” is the title of a Nov. 12 workshop planned for anyone considering public service. It will be held from 9:30-3:00 p.m. in the library of Glenn Marshall Elementary School, 1442 Robert R. Martin Bypass, Richmond, KY.

The event will feature Harry Moberly, retired state legislator; Dr. Terry Naydan, member of the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance; Kenny Barger, Madison County Clerk; State Senator Jared Carpenter, District 34; State Representative Rita Smart, District 81; Jason Morgan, Richmond City Commissioner; and others.

Cost is \$10 for lunch. Those interested can register by contacting: Berea/Madison County President Cecile Schubert at **859-623-5832** or **859-338-4448** or cecilel@roadrunner.com.

Sponsors of the event are LWV of Berea/Madison County and Lexington and the Kentucky Institute for Public Governance at Eastern Kentucky University.

Please look for possible future candidates who might be interested in this opportunity.

National League Opposes Keystone XL Pipeline Project

National LWV President Elisabeth MacNamara has written President Obama on behalf of the League’s 150,000 members and supporters expressing the League’s strong opposition to the Keystone XL Pipeline.

In her letter she cites three clear reasons for the League’s position:

1. granting a permit for the pipeline would be inconsistent with meaningful action on climate change;
2. the proposed pipeline route over the Ogallala Aquifer poses an unacceptable risk to this critically important water source;
3. reducing demand is the best way to improve this country’s energy security.

With this public statement the League joins many other groups concerned about our environment.



Return Service Requested

Lexington League of Women Voters
PO Box 22045
Lexington KY 40522



Calendar

LWV of Lexington Website: www.lwvlexington.com

Phone: 859-494-3203

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

Tuesday	Nov. 8	6.00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	VOTE!!
Saturday	Nov. 12	9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Candidate School at Glenn Marshall Elem. School in Richmond
Saturday	Nov. 19	10 a.m.	LWV Board Meeting at Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek Rd.
		12 noon	Consensus on national study topic of federal role in education.
Saturday	Dec. 3	5 to 7 p.m.	LWV Holiday Tea and Auction in Northex of Faith Lutheran Church

[Vol. 11-12 Issue 4] 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.