



The Lexington Voter April 2016

LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

LWV ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR APRIL 16th

The Lexington League of Women Voters will welcome Lexington Vice Mayor Steve Kay as guest speaker at the annual meeting, Saturday, April 16.

The vice mayor also chairs the Design Excellence Task Force, co-chairs the Infill and Redevelopment Steering Committee, and participates in the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Corridors Commission and UK President’s Sustainability Advisory Committee. Within the urban county government he serves on the Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee, the Budget, Finance and Economic Development Committee and Planning and Public Safety Committee. All of his various responsibilities prepare him to be an eloquent speaker to share progress toward meeting the



Lexington Vice Mayor Steve Kay

city’s significant challenges.

The LWV meeting will be held in Conference Room C of the Lexington Public Library Central Branch, 140 E. Main Street, from 9 a.m. to noon on April 16. Reservation cost is \$10 which includes breakfast.

Following the conversation with Steve Kay, members will receive the nominating committee’s recommendations and elect officers (slate below); approve the 2016-17 budget (attached); and approve the League’s program proposals for 2016 (on p. 2).

Please let **Donna Blue** know by **April 12** if you plan to attend the meeting on April 16.. Email her at donnnablue@twc.com or call the League number **859-494-3203**.

Proposed Slate of Lexington LWV Officers and Board for 2016-17

President (1 yr term) **Tammy Fagley**
1st Vice President (2-yr term) **Vacant**
Treasurer (2-yr term) **Steve Senft**

Officers currently serving 2-year terms:
2nd Vice President **Donna Blue**
Secretary **Lynne Flynn**

Nominated to serve as Directors (up to 8 directors elected to 1-yr terms):
Cindy Heine **Carol O’Reilly**
Richard Heine **Barbara Sterrett**
Judy Johnson **Lauren Wallace**

The Nominating Committee welcomes additional nominations or volunteers. Please call the League at 859-494-3203.

Report of Nominating Committee: Cindy Heine (chair), Joy Arnold, Carolyn Holmes, Carol O’Reilly

LWV PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR 2016-2017

The Lexington LWV planning meeting was held on Saturday, March 5 at 1:00 p.m. at Tates Creek Christian Church. Present were: **Donna Blue, Tammy Fagley, Lynne Flynn, Cindy Heine, Richard Heine, Judy Johnson, Carol O'Reilly, Steve Senft, Barbara Sterrett.**

The group first agreed upon two objectives for the coming year:

- Establish a bridge for the next generation to carry on the work of the League in supporting fair and democratic processes.
- Get out the vote!

In line with the objectives, the following events were proposed for **Fall** of 2016:

August	Annual wine and cheese open house/membership event
September	Discussions with identified representatives of younger demographics—Generation X and Millennials—about important issues related to the mission of the League.
October 1-2	Candidate forums (U.S. Senate, U.S. Sixth Congressional District, Kentucky Supreme Court, Urban County Council, State House of Representatives, School Board) at the Central Library.

Much work is yet to be done to develop a full calendar of events and member input is needed. Come to the annual meeting and voice your ideas!

Status of Legislation

The general assembly is winding up business with much attention focused on multiple versions of a state budget. March 28 and 29 are Concurrency Days followed by a ten day veto recess. Legislators will return to business on April 11 and Sine Die adjournment follows on April 12. However, the General Assembly has the flexibility to shuffle its final working days through April 15 and legislators are hopeful work on more legislation will be completed before the final working day.

SO THERE IS STILL TIME TO CONTACT LEGISLATORS:

- Thank legislators for passing HB 59 (victim protection) and SB 63 (unprocessed rape kits), both of which the LWV supported.
- **Support:**
 - HB 290 (no excuse absentee voting)
 - HB 438 (transparency in use of fund by Area Development Districts)
- **Oppose:**
 - SB 180 (would allow businesses to refuse to provide services on religious grounds)

Call the LRC toll-free number 800-372-7181 to leave a message for your legislators.

Primary Candidate Forum

Sunday, April 3

2:00 to 2:30 p.m

Farish Theatre

Lexington Public Library

140 E. Main Street

U. S. House of Representatives

6th Congressional District

Democratic Candidates*

*All candidates were invited. Following FCC and LWV guidelines, a forum requires more than one candidate. The Congressional Republican forum does not meet this standard.

Questions may be submitted at the forum or by email at lexingtonlww@gmail.com. Check lexpublib.org for later viewing.

The forum is cosponsored by the LWV of Lexington Education Fund, the Frankfort/Lexington (KY) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, and Lexington Public Library.

Recent League Activities Provide Lessons in Citizenship

Right: LWV members Carolyn Holmes and Nancy Chesser register new voters after naturalization ceremony on March 11th.

Below: Chief Judge Karen K. Caldwell presides over the naturalization ceremony.



Ellie Sutter, Cindy Heine, and Carolyn Holmes, who assisted Nancy Chesser with the League table at the March 11 naturalization ceremony, agreed that the experience was awe inspiring.

Below: KY Representative Susan Westrom entertained and enlightened members at Democracy Brunch on Mar. 12.

Below: Pictured at the gathering are Rose Garden, Donna Blue, Steve and Susan Senft with their granddaughter Holly Cason, Chris Sieber and Barbara Sterrett.



One hundred fifty-one individuals became new citizens, 55 registered immediately to vote and many more sought voting information.

The next morning League members, ready with numerous questions about proposed legislation, were treated to a lively discussion with Representative Susan Westrom (D) at the Democracy Brunch. (Republican legislators were invited to participate but none were able to.)

Rep. Westrom addressed budget concerns as well as the status of several bills of interest to the League, including educational standards, campaign finance changes and restoration of felons' voting rights. She provided a fascinating explanation of legislation (HB 438) she is co-sponsoring that provides for full transparency in the use of federal funds by Area Development Districts, which has been quite a contentious issue. Members quickly discovered they had a lot to learn about these agencies, how they operate and various challenges some of them present regarding oversight and accountability.

Rep. Westrom has our thanks for taking time from her demanding schedule to meet with us.



Lexington League Flower Sale! Doesn't everyone need flowers in the spring? How about buying yours and supporting the LWV at the same time? Forms have been sent to all members electronically and with paper copies of the VOTER. If you don't have an order form call the League number 859-494-3203 and one will be sent.

Please pass the form along to friends and family. Deadline for orders is April 20. **Make out check to LWV of Lexington and send with completed order to a board member or the League address. Please put your name and phone number on the order form when you turn it in. You will be able to pick up your flowers on May 14.**

"Dark Money" Is Next Book for LWV Club

The League book club will meet Tuesday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. Discussion will center on the book *Dark Money* by Jane Mayer, which details the story of the Koch brothers' smear campaign targeting her after the release of her article about them in August of 2010.

Members are always welcome to join any discussion. If you plan to attend this meeting, please let Terry know at terrinnaydan@aol.com.

Of Special Interest to LWV Members

Sunday, April 23, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon—Christian Muslim Dialogue: "Middle Eastern Conflicts." Featured speaker will be Dr. Richard Cahill, Director of International Education, Berea College. This meeting will be held at Masjid (Mosque) Bilal, 1545 Russell Cave Road. The discussion will be followed by a potluck meal at noon.

The VOTER editor is Judy Johnson. If you have a question or concern about the newsletter please contact her at judydex@twc.com.



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 Email: lexingtonlwv@gmail.com

Facebook: League of Women Voters of Lexington, KY

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

- Sun. April 3 from 2:00 to 2:30 p.m. U.S. House of Representatives, 6th Congressional District
Democratic Candidates Forum in Farish Theatre, Lexington
Public Library, 140 E. Main St.
- Fri. April 15 LAST DAY OF 2016 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
- Sat. April 16 from 9 a.m. to noon LWV Annual Meeting in Conference Room C, Lexington
Public Library, 140 E. Main St.
- Sun. April 20 DEADLINE FOR FLOWER ORDERS. PICK UP MAY 14.**

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