



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Lexington Voter

May 2016

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

Lexington LWV Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 16, Conference Room C of the central branch of the Lexington Public Library was full of League members gathered at a breakfast meeting to take care of annual business and listen to guest speaker Steve Kay, Lexington vice mayor.

The League group elected the 2016-17 officers and board that included:

President—Tammy Fagley

1st Vice President—vacant

Treasurer—Steve Senft

(Currently serving are 2nd Vice President Donna Blue and Secretary Lynne Flynn)

Board of Directors: Cindy Heine, Richard Heine, Judy Johnson, Carol O'Reilly, Barbara Sterrett, Lauren Wallace

The 2017 nominating committee is Diana Clewett and Carolyn Holmes who welcome any member volunteers willing to join them.

The program for 2016-17 was discussed and accepted by the members. It will be centered on two objectives: 1.) to establish a bridge for the next generation to carry on the work of the League and 2.) to get out the vote in the upcoming election season.

Events in the planning stage (details to be announced late summer) include:

August—annual wine/cheese open house and membership event

September—structured discussions with representatives of the millennial and gen X age groups to identify issues important to them that are related to the LWV mission

October—candidate forums for 6th Congressional District, KY Supreme Court, Lexington Urban County Council and KY House of Representatives



Lexington LWV Vice President Cindy Heine (L) and President Tammy Fagley (R) listen as Lexington Vice Mayor Steve Kay fields questions from League members at the LWV Annual Meeting.

After the conclusion of the annual business agenda, Lexington Vice Mayor Steve Kay joined members to review highlights of the year in Lexington and to discuss the status of current issues and challenges.

The vice mayor reviewed the budget process, the next stage of Lexington's bike trails, the status of Centre Point and the accomplishments of the Office for Homelessness Prevention and the affordable housing trust fund. He commended the concerted effort which has cut chronic homeless numbers 50% and offers many options for housing, job training and treatment for community members formerly dependent on charity.

Then the vice mayor opened up the session for questions and answers that covered topics as varied as infill development and proposed cuts to state funding.

All agreed it was an enjoyable morning spent with friends old and new and a wonderful learning opportunity.

MAY 24 IS THE FOURTH ANNUAL "KENTUCKY GIVES DAY." FROM MIDNIGHT TO 11:59 P.M. YOU CAN GO TO kygives.org AND MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE TO THE LWV EDUCATION FUND TO SUPPORT OUR VOTER SERVICES WORK. PLEASE MARK THIS DATE!

If You Couldn't Attend the Forum, Here Is Your Chance to View It

A forum for Sixth Congressional Democratic Primary candidates, held Sunday, April 3 at the Lexington Public Library is now available for viewing on Cable Channel 20 on the following schedule through May 16.

- **Sixth Congressional District Candidate Forum**
- **Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.**
- **Cable Channel 20**

The forum may also be viewed at this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FO8-pKvGE68> which can be found at www.lexingtonlww.com or www.lexpublib.org. The forum was co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Lexington Education Fund, The Frankfort/Lexington (KY) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and the Lexington Public Library.

The League regrets that it could not host a forum for Republican candidates for the Sixth Congressional Primary, following national League of Women Voters guidelines and state League policy. Federal Communication Commission Rules preclude broadcasting a debate with only one candidate and Federal Elections Commission Rules suggest hosting a debate with only one candidate could be construed as a contribution to that candidate. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization. Candidate Roger Brill was available but Candidate Andy Barr was not. We see this as a lost opportunity for voters to learn more about the candidates prior to the election. Voters are encouraged to check candidate web sites, look for other media coverage and check the League's online Vote411 Voter Guide after May 5 to learn more about the candidates.

VOTE411 Brings New Information to Fayette County Voters

The Lexington League is sponsoring a Voter Guide using **VOTE411** this year for the first time. This online guide is hosted by the national LWV and provides information to citizens across the country. Voters can access it at: www.vote411.org.

With this voter guide, citizens can see the races on their ballot, compare candidates' positions side-by-side, and print out a "ballot" as a reminder to take with them to the polls on Election Day. This information site can be especially helpful for military and overseas voters.

Our local League is working to encourage more voters to register and vote in this year's elections. One of our target audiences is younger voters who get their news and information online. The **VOTE411** guide has several questions covering issues of importance to younger citizens.

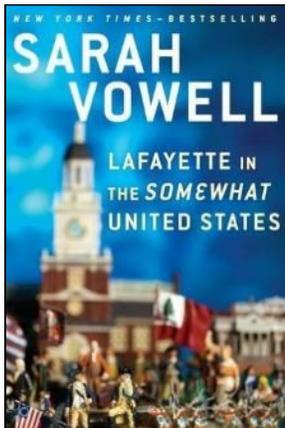
Candidates covered by **VOTE411** this spring of interest to Lexington/Fayette County voters are those in the Presidential Democratic primary; the Republican and Democratic U.S. Senate and Sixth Congressional District primaries.

New League member Lauren Wallace, a graduate student at UK, is handling the technical issues involved in using **VOTE411**. She is managing with ease what many of us would find impossible!!

Be sure to check it out - after May 5.



LWV Book Club to Meet at the UK Faculty Club on May 17



The Lexington LWV book club will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17, at the UK Faculty Club. Chris Siebert will lead the discussion of Sarah Vowell's *Lafayette in the Somewhat United States*, a highly readable account of the teenage General Lafayette's experience in Washington's army.

If you haven't participated in a League book discussion yet, this is your last chance before a summer break (June and July). Please contact Terry Naydan so that she can make a reservation for you. She can be reached by email at terrynaydan@aol.com or by phone at 859-971-7227.

The group will reconvene Tuesday, August 16, at Terry Naydan's house to discuss the book *Hamilton* by Ron Chernow.

WITH THIS ISSUE (BOTH ELECTRONIC AND PAPER) IS A COPY OF THE LWV 2016-17 MEMBERSHIP FORM. IF YOU HAVE NOT COMPLETED A FORM AND PAID DUES FOR THE YEAR JUST BEGINNING, PLEASE DO SO NOW.

STATE COUNCIL REPORT

The League of Women Voters of KY Council 2016 was held on April 8 and 9 in the historic town of Hopkinsville. The Lexington League was well represented with Nita Smith, Terry Naydan, Steven Senft and Donna Blue serving as delegates.

At the Council, held at the Hampton Inn, we elected directors and passed a budget. Tammy Fagley, Cindy Heine, Donna Blue, and Carol O'Reilly will be representing Lexington as directors for two year terms.

George Schumann, from Louisville, presented a very interesting workshop on the subject of *Money in Politics*. One of the guest luncheon speakers was the Christian County Superintendent of Schools, Mary Ann Gemmill, who talked about "hands on" education, where students prepared for real jobs when they graduate.

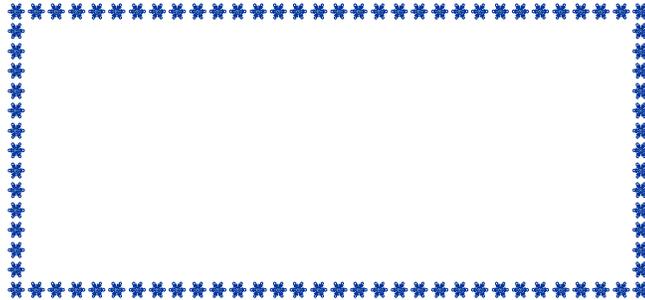
We really enjoyed hearing what other Leagues are working on—both their successful and not so successful projects. Sharing ideas is one of the benefits of a statewide meeting. We are looking forward to seeing many delegates from Lexington at Convention next year, which will be held in Louisville.

Terry Naydan and Nita Smith
Co-Presidents, LWV of Kentucky



REMEMBER—It is that time of year when the VOTER does what we all should do. It will be "on vacation" until the summer issue the end of July/first of August. In the meantime, watch for emails from the League and check the website.

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



Return Service Requested

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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.

- Fri. May 6 Lexington candidate information can be accessed on VOTE411.org.
- Tues. May 17 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY—Polls open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.**
- Tues. May 17 Lexington LWV Book Club meeting at UK Faculty Club. Call Terry at 859-971-7227 to RSVP.
- Tues. May 24 KY GIVES DAY—Please donate to LWV Education Fund at kygives.org.
Midnight to 11:59 p.m.**

NOW! REMEMBER TO COMPLETE YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2016-17.

Vol. 15-16- Issue 9 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.