



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

# The Lexington Voter Summer 2017

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

## Let's Talk about League Membership



### LWV Membership Event Set for Sat., Aug. 12

The popular wine tasting event held by the Lexington League each August to celebrate continuing members, welcome new members and invite nonmembers to join will be held at **Grimes Mill Winery** on **Aug. 12** from **3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** Participants will have the opportunity to take an owner-guided tour of the winery, sample several products with light appetizers and talk about the League's plans for the year. Members are encouraged to bring friends who are not yet members. The cost for members is \$10; for guests there is no charge.

The winery at 6707 Grimes Mill Rd is easy to locate. Follow Richmond Rd southbound to Old Richmond Rd. (Hwy 25) opposite Jacobson Park. Turn right and drive .7 mile, passing under I-75. The second road after the underpass is Grimes Mill Rd. (the first is S. Cleveland Rd.) The winery is on the corner of Hwy 25 and Grimes Mill Rd.

Make plans now to participate!

**RSVP BY WED., AUG. 9TH.** Call the LWV phone 859-494-3203 or email [lexingtonlwv@gmail.com](mailto:lexingtonlwv@gmail.com).

### 2017-18 Dues Reminder...

Because the League year does not begin on January 1, there always seems to be confusion on the part of some members as to which year they are paying dues for. Our membership year runs from July 1 through June 30 so we try to collect dues by the end of June for the next membership year. We are not always successful. If you delayed paying your 2016-2017 dues until after January 1, it may feel as if you have already paid your **2017-2018** dues.

Dues are **\$60.00** for an individual membership, **\$90.00** for a household membership and **\$30.00** for a student membership. Reminders will be sent to people who, according to my records, have not paid their 2017-2018 dues. If you think that the reminder is an error, please contact me by email at [bsterrett@twc.com](mailto:bsterrett@twc.com) or by phone at 859-312-4935.

*Barbara Sterrett*

Membership Chair

## League Members Attend Women's Suffrage Presentation

On Sun., July 27 at the 'Tates Creek Public Library, UK professor Dr. Randolph Hollingsworth presented a timely history of women's suffrage in Kentucky. Looking to 2020 and the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment to the U.S. constitution, Dr. Hollingsworth is preparing to engage groups of citizens in discussion about these women and the roles they played. She is seeking funding through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant and the Lexington League, as well as the state League are providing letters of support for her request.



*Both Dr. Randolph Hollingsworth and LWV member Ruth Straus understand the lessons of the women's suffrage movement.*

The large conference room at the library was full for this presentation which is a good indication of growing interest in the issues that faced Kentucky leaders of the women's suffrage movement.

## Naturalization Ceremony Returns to Federal Courthouse

After a two year wait for the completion of renovation of the Federal Courthouse, a naturalization ceremony was again held in that building on Friday, July 21. Forty-two new citizens were sworn in. The League of Women Voters was represented by Nita Smith, who spoke on our behalf, Jennifer Jackson and Nancy Chesser.

League members had the opportunity to practice their technology skills, assisting two new citizens to register online using the laptops provided to us by the Secretary of State's office. Two other potential voters registered using the paper forms from the County Clerk's office. Many individuals picked up mail-in applications and information on how to register online.

The next naturalization ceremony is scheduled for Friday, November 17. Any member who would like to help staff the LWV table should contact Nancy Chesser at [nechesser@twc.com](mailto:nechesser@twc.com).

### *Report on June 22-25 National Council Meeting*

We were privileged to represent Kentucky at the LWV Council, June 22 – 25, 2017 in Leesburg, VA with representatives from 43 other states. There we provided feedback and guidance to LWV US board and staff as they rethink the League's ***Mission for Impact, Engagement and Sustainability***.

We focused on Five Transformational Objectives, created by a smaller group of League leaders from across the country earlier this year including:

1. Retaining and Expanding Engagement of New Individuals with a focus on diversification and renewed interest in the LWV.
2. Increasing External Perception of the League by exploring shared data and fund raising opportunities local-state-national. The League is piloting plans to engage more people by having everyone join at national level with funds flowing down to state and local chapters, eliminating time-consuming duplication of administrative tasks.
3. Discussing Ways to Increase Outreach and Impact and Sharing among state and local Leagues (a new website design is underway).
4. Adjusting Local League Guidelines for quicker onboarding of new Leagues and shifting some responsibility to state Leagues. The national board adopted a new definition of local leagues making it easier to create a League. Still required: nonpartisan policy, speaking with one voice, using League guidelines for candidate debates/forums.
5. Evaluating the Proposed Framework for National and State Opportunities to test new approaches. (Conducting pilots to try new ways to collect dues, create new Leagues and more.)

Council was a stimulating experience and we are enthusiastic about new approaches and strategies discussed through the council work and through networking with League Leaders across the country.

*Cindy and Richard Heine*



## LWV Studies Annenberg Stan- dards for Charter Schools

At the July 27 Lexington LWV board meeting, member Carol O'Reilly presented the KYLWV Education Committee proposal to adopt the Annenberg Institute's standards and policy recommendations for effective oversight of charter schools contained in the document "*Public Accountability for Charter Schools.*" The Lexington LWV board voted to support implementation of the Annenberg recommendations.

In summary, the seven standards are:

1. Traditional districts and charter schools should work together to ensure a coordinated approach that serves all children.
2. School governance should be representative and transparent.
3. Charter schools should ensure equal access to interested students and prohibit practices that discourage enrollment or disproportionately push enrolled students out of the school.
4. Charter school discipline policy should be fair and transparent.
5. All students deserve equitable and adequate school facilities. Districts and charter schools should work together to ensure that facilities arrangements do not disadvantage students in either sector.
6. Online charter schools should be better regulated for quality, transparency, and the protection of student data.
7. Monitoring and oversight of charter schools are critical to protect the public interest.

Under each standard are fully described policy recommendations. The LWV will monitor the slowly unfolding process of incorporating charter schools within Kentucky. (Charter schools were approved by the state legislature in the last session.) Because the League has positions defending public education, members are encouraged to read the Annenberg report and follow the issues related to charter schools.

The complete document can be found at :  
[www.annenberginstitute.org/sites/default/files/CharterAccountabilityStds.pdf](http://www.annenberginstitute.org/sites/default/files/CharterAccountabilityStds.pdf).

## Christian Muslim Dialogue Aug. 26 to Focus on Separation of Church and State

**Saturday, Aug. 26**, the Christian Muslim Dialogue will present a panel discussion about the separation and overlap of religion and politics followed by opportunity for questions and answers.

Panelists will include **Siddique Malik**, journalist for the Courier-Journal and president of the Louisville chapter of Americans United and **Doug Culp**, secretary for pastoral life and the bishop's delegate for administration for the Catholic Diocese of Lexington.

The location is Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden.

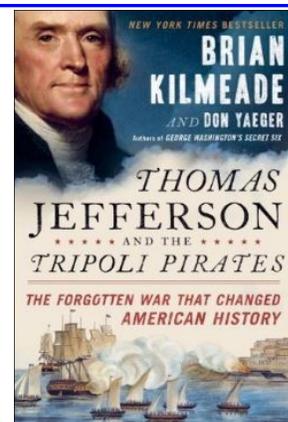
The time is **10:00a.m. to 12:00** noon for the discussion followed by a potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share. Everyone is welcome to stay, meet new friends and share a meal.

**Sept. 23**—**Deborah Alexander** will tell about her experiences as a woman working in a Muslim country.

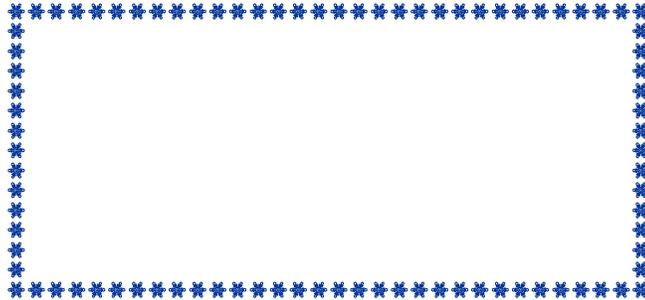
## LWV Book Club to Discuss Jefferson and the Pirates

The Lexington League book club will meet to discuss the bestseller "*Thomas Jefferson and Tripoli Pirates*" on **Tuesday, September 19**. According to the *Washington Post*, the authors Brian Kilmeade (of *Fox and Friends*) and ghost-writer Don Yaeger, "let historical idealism bend their narrative" of the Barbary Wars which, however, did prove our Navy's strength and enabled us to beat Britain a decade later in the War of 1812.

Book club members will gather at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd, at **1:30 p.m.** New members are always welcome. If anyone has questions or needs directions, please contact Terry at [terrynaydan@aol.com](mailto:terrynaydan@aol.com).



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



Return Service Requested

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## Calendar

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

Phone: 859-494-3203      Email: [lexingtonlwv@gmail.com](mailto: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.

- Sat.      Aug. 12 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.      LWV Membership Event at Grimes Mill Winery, 6707 Grimes Mill Rd.  
**DEADLINE TO RSVP: Wed., Aug. 9**
  
- Thurs.   Aug. 24 at 6:30 p.m.              LWV Board Meeting at Faith House (Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek Rd.)
  
- Sat.      Aug. 26 from 10:00 a.m. to noon      Christian Muslim Dialogue at Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden, followed by potluck lunch.
  
- Tues.    Sept. 19 at 1:30 p.m.                      LWV Book Club at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd.

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