



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Lexington Voter September 2017

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

LWV Plans Candidate Training

On **Sat., Oct. 21**, the Lexington LWV will sponsor a training workshop for individuals considering running for public office. The event will begin at **9:00 a.m.** and wrap up at **3:00 p.m.** at **Imani Baptist Church, 1555 Georgetown Rd.** in Lexington. This **LWV Candidate Training Workshop** will include segments on the importance of public service, the “nuts and bolts” of running for office, crafting a campaign and media strategy and a panel discussion of elected officials about their own experiences running for office.



Our elected representatives are our voice in government and the League understands the importance of helping to ensure that they are qualified, well-prepared and committed individuals. Many young people consider public service but are intimidated by the cost of campaigns and difficulties associated with actually holding an office. Our goal is to bring potential candidates together with elected officials and campaign representatives who can share their personal experiences and the knowledge gained from those experiences.

The program’s experts include, Vice Mayor Steve Kay, Fayette County Clerk Don Blevins, Christian Motley of *Strive Together* and Jared Smith of *President Smith Strategies*, as well as League member Dr. Terry Naydan who is a member of the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance. There will also be a panel discussion of elected officials. This list has not yet been finalized but will include representation from both major political parties in the state.

League members are asked to share information about this event with any family member or acquaintance who has expressed interest in public service. The registration form can be downloaded from lwvlexington.com closes **Oct. 18**. The cost of participation is **\$30** and includes lunch. If you have questions, call the League number **859-494-3203**.

Voter Education and Registration Has Never Been More Important



On **Saturday, Sept. 16**, **Barbara Sterrett, Shayla Johnson and Mary Hughes** staffed our LWV booth at the Festival Latino de Lexington. They registered voters and provided information about registering (and checking existing registrations) online. A number of people stopped to chat and League materials, including the blue sheets, were popular handouts.

It is increasingly important for League members to be out engaging the public at community events, reminding citizens how important it is to have factual information about issues and to understand the responsibility of fully informed voting. This work depends on volunteers willing to offer an hour or two of their time to staff the League booth. There will be another opportunity to help with voter engagement from **11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sat., Oct. 28**, at a Partners for Youth resource fair in the Gainesway neighborhood. Never done this before? Don’t worry. You can sign up for the time you wish to serve and you will be scheduled with an experienced member. Please help! Contact **Jennifer Jackson** at xanthine88@gmail.com. for information. You will not regret it!

LWV Available to Train Other Groups to Register Voters

The LWV of Lexington has already been asked to provide voter registration training to two groups this fall. On **Sat., Sept. 23**, Richard and **Cindy Heine** conducted a training for three first year University of Kentucky medical students who hope to offer voter registration in the clinics where they will see patients. They will share our information with their fellow students. This training request came from **Aisha Walton** who has now become a student member of the League. Welcome, Aisha!

In addition, the Democratic Women of Jessamine County requested information and a training set for **Mon., Oct. 23**. League Voter Service Chair Cindy Heine said, “We cannot assist members of political parties in registering voters because of our nonpartisan status, but we can provide helpful information about the process, training and tips from our experience to any group.” Please let Cindy know if you are aware of other groups that would be interested in our assistance. Her email is cynthia.heine@gmail.com.



Our democracy needs the League of Women Voters . . . and the League needs YOU.



The LWV 2017-18 Essay Contest information will be in the high schools of Fayette County Mon., Oct. 16. Deadline for submitting completed essays is Friday, Dec. 8, 2017. Prizes will be awarded in January, 2018. **PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT YOU KNOW.**

Oct. 19 Event—“Money in Politics: Our Republic in Crisis”

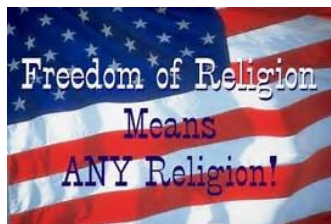
A discussion of corporate influence on our American democracy will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Thurs., Oct. 19**, at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History in Frankfort. Speakers will represent both the political left and right and include Krystal Ball, co-host of MSNBC show “The Cycle”; Adam Edelen, former Kentucky state auditor and cofounder of the *New Kentucky Project*; Dr. Donald Gross, professor emeritus of the University of Kentucky (political science); and John Pudner, executive director of *Take Back Our Republic*, a conservative group seeking to reduce the influence of big donors. The discussion will be moderated by Laura Cullen Glasscock, editor of the *Kentucky Gazette* and assistant professor at Kentucky State University.



The event is sponsored by the groups *Together Frankfort* and the *New Kentucky Project*. *Together Frankfort* is a non-partisan volunteer group of Kentuckians “who seek to exercise and protect the principles embodied in our nation’s Constitution by being engaged and responsible participants in democracy.” The *New Kentucky Project*, another citizen group, “seeks to move Kentucky forward and modernize our state through a variety of different policy initiatives believing that where intelligent, well-meaning people disagree, consensus can be built through discussion and education.”

The program is free and the public is encouraged to attend. The History Center is located at 100 W. Broadway in Frankfort. Free parking is available in a lot directly across from the Center at the corner of Broadway and Ann Street. Entrance to the parking area is from Ann St.

The First Amendment: History, Stories, and Lessons Learned

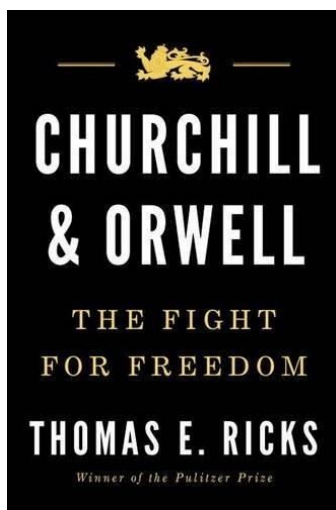


The Christian Muslim Dialogue has invited Jeremy Rogers, a First Amendment attorney from Louisville, to speak at the next meeting **Sat., Oct. 21 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.**

In his practice Mr. Rogers has represented news media, churches and other religious groups as well as other organizations.

The meeting will be held at Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Dr. and will be followed by a pot luck meal at noon. All are welcome to participate. Please bring a dish to share if you plan to stay for meal and fellowship.

LWV Book Club to Take up Churchill and Orwell



At its next meeting on **Tues., Oct. 17**, the LWV book club will discuss *Churchill and Orwell: the Fight for Freedom* written by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Thomas E. Ricks.

The two subjects of the book never met but shared a strong belief in freethinking. Coming from two different backgrounds and political affiliations—Churchill a strong conservative and Orwell a committed leftist—they were both driven to “see things as they are.” Both had no difficulty speaking truth to power. Coming by different routes, both saw the key question of their century to be “how to preserve the liberty of the individual during an age in which the state was becoming powerfully intrusive into private life.” This book has received much critical praise.

The meeting begins at **1:30 p.m.** at Terry Naydan’s house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. New members are always welcome. For information and directions, email Terry at terrinnaydan@aol.com.

Redistricting and Gerrymandering in Kentucky



The evening’s panel from left: Susan Perkins Weston, Rep. James Kay (D), Sen. Albert Robinson (R), and LWV moderator Cindy Heine.

A panel of experts, invited by the League, discussed issues related to redistricting on **Tues., Oct 3**, in the Lexington Public Library’s Farish Theater. The session was thought-provoking. A short video from the Washington Post Wonkblog concisely defined the subject and Susan Perkins Weston presented an overview of the LWV findings on the subject. Then Cindy Heine posed questions for the three panelists to discuss. Questions from members of the audience were also addressed.

Rep. Kay identified what might have been a consensus that positive changes will depend upon our ability to limit the influence of money in the political process.



General membership discussion event to explore the cost of college education.

Sat., Nov. 4, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Location: Bluegrass Community and Technical College at 500 Newtown Pike in Lexington.

More information to come but, please, MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

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

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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.

- Mon. Oct. 16 LWV Essay Contest opens. Materials in the schools.
- Tues. Oct. 17 1:30 p.m. LWV Book Club meets to discuss *Churchill and Orwell: the Fight for Freedom* at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd.
- Wed. Oct. 18 REGISTRATION FOR CANDIDATE TRAINING CLOSES
- Thurs. Oct. 19 6:30 p.m. "Money in Politics: Our Republic in Crisis" discussion at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History, 100 W. Broadway in Frankfort, KY. Sponsored by *Together Frankfort* and the *New Kentucky Project*.
- Sat. Oct. 21 9:00 a.m.-3 p.m. Candidate Training sponsored by the LWV at Imani Baptist Church, 1555 Georgetown St.
- Sat. Oct. 21 10:00 a.m-noon CMD discussion of 1st Amendment rights at Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rose mont Garden Dr.
- Thurs. Oct. 26 6:00 p.m. LWV Board meeting at Faith House (Faith Lutheran Church), 1000 Tates Creek Rd.

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