

THE VOTER

League of Women Voters Wichita-Metro, P. O. Box 2411, Wichita, KS 67202
Lvwwichita.org E-mail lvwwichitametro@att.net Phone number 316-259-7575



May, 2015

CALENDAR OF LWV DATES –2015

Board Meeting

To Be Announced
May Board Meeting

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 5th
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Piccadilly Grill

7728 E Central Ave,
Wichita, KS 67206

\$25.00

Reservations:

Ellen Estes
(316) 218-1163

Hot Topics

On summer break

95th LWV Celebration

***River Festival Parade Friday, May 29,
2015, 6:00 pm with the League of
Women Voter's***

Contact by May 8th to participate

19th Amendment Parade Coordinator
Mary Knecht
knechtmary@hotmail.com
942-8068



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Sharon Ailsieger & Carole Neal

April was a busy—and very successful month for the Wichita League. **Thank you to Sally Dewey, Carole Neal and Joyce Cavarozzi** for a wonderful evening on April 14 at Tallgrass Country Club. It was well attended and money was made. A job well-done!! Six of our members attended the **LWVK State Convention in Lawrence** on Saturday, April 25—**Sharon Ailsieger, Carole Neal, Megan Wright-Hagan, Marge Zakour-Vaughan, Myrna Hudson and Ernestine Krehbiel**. It was a very good convention and our very own **CAROLE NEAL** is now the **State League Co-President**. We also received a Certificate of Recognition for being **Number One League in membership growth in the state!!** Keep asking your friends!! **Our final Hot Topics, for the year was on April 28th and will begin again in September!!** And another exciting happening in April—Wichita League is in the semi-finals to receive a grant from the John & James Knight Foundation. **Note: Only 46 were chosen out of 1,046 applications!!** Way to go Ernie!! If we get the grant, we will be working with Warren Theaters to present videos on voting & civics. **Now for May!!!** The Unit Meeting in May will be the **Annual Meeting on May 5th, 6:00 pm at Piccadilly's**. **PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!!** It is an important meeting. We vote on the by-law changes, proposed budget, and officers for the upcoming year. We also present League award to the Citizen(s) of the Year and our scholarship recipient. This is the last official unit meeting until September. On that note, just because there are no unit meetings doesn't mean that nothing will be happening. The **League Calendar will,**

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hopefully, be ready for sale by July 1, 2015. Looking for volunteers to be in the River Festival Parade as a Suffragette on May 29th. August will see a big, special 95th League Birthday Celebration.
Sharon Ailslieger Co-President

Register new citizens at Naturalization Ceremonies to vote.

Century II – June 12th, 2015

Treasurer Report
Elaine Harvey

The League has grown in membership since last year and that is great and especially so since we are celebrating 95 years of women's suffrage! We have 87 members as of April 27th. We can do more with more members and more funds and more good ideas to carry out the mission of LWV Wichita-Metro. We try to keep our dues at the right level. Our \$60 annual dues pay for our local league's work, \$10 per member, as well as LWVKS, \$18 per member, and LWVUS, \$32 per member. We do charge an additional \$15 for receiving our monthly LWV Wichita-Metro Voter newsletter in paper format through the mail. Remember dues for second members in families and student dues are 1/2 of a "full membership". Our dues year is from July 1 to June 30 each year. It would be great if you could pay your 2015-2016 dues at our May 5th Annual meeting.

Mail Checks to:

LWV Wichita-Metro
Elaine Harvey
4370 N. Eagle Lake Ct
Bel Aire, KS 67220

**95th Anniversary Celebration –
19th Amendment**

The League is joining forces with other groups to celebrate the Leagues Anniversary Those included are Wichita Public Library, NOW, Wichita Professional Communicators, Female Clergy, Hispanic Women, AAUW, Alpha Kappa Alpha, LWV Wichita Metro and others.

One of the combined events will be participation in the River Festival Parade. Following are the guidelines for participation in the River Festival Parade Friday, May 29, 2015, 6:00 pm with the League of Women Voter's 19th Amendment Celebration entry—Women VOTE

1. Parade rule: All marchers must wear a River Festival button. The price for adult buttons is now \$10.00.

Advance sale of buttons at the old price of \$5 for adults will be available in person at the Intrust Bank Arena box office or at the Wichita Festivals, Inc. office at 444 E. William from April 17 through May 7.

Child buttons remain at \$3.00. The Wichita Festivals webpage does not list the ages for a child button.

2. Parade rule: All marchers must be in costume. For our purpose costume is defined as:

- a. all white attire with hat in vintage clothing----1920's---- or white contemporary clothes
- b. white top and black skirt or slacks--- contemporary or any period
- c. comfortable walking shoes
- d. If you have an American flag of any size, bring it to wave. A limited number of American flags will be available on loan.

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3. Make this a family affair: grandmothers, mothers, daughters, granddaughters, great granddaughter in baby strollers. Or, come with your best gal pals. This will be a fun and memorable event. Honor those courageous suffragists who paved the way 95++ years ago.

4. Males will be invited to march in the section "Men for Women Suffrage" if they are in costume---white shirts and/or with dark vests (to look vintage), dark slacks, hats too to denote vintage, profession or hobby.

5. We are trying to arrange for 3 or 4 vintage to contemporary autos. If you are or know of a senior woman who would like to participate in the parade but cannot march so would need **to ride in one of the autos, notify Parade Coordinator to reserve a space.**

6. Please notify the Parade Coordinator by Friday, May 8, 5:00 pm how many from your family, club or affiliated group will march in the parade. We want as many folks as possible to make a good impression and a strong statement.

19th Amendment Parade Coordinator
Mary Knecht
knechtmary@hotmail.com
Home: 942-8068

League Going On

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Our government, local, state and national is made up of three branches—executive, legislative and judicial. The three branches serve as checks and balances for each other. This part of democracy was established by our state constitution. If this system fails, democracy fails and the United States will go down in flames!! It seems that the Kansas

legislators and the executive branch need a lesson in civics—this was the system conceived over 225 years ago by the founders of our country. A bill advancing in the Kansas legislature provides more funding for the State Courts, **ON THE CONDITION** that the courts do not rule favorably for the plaintiff in a recent lawsuit and find a law adopted last year unconstitutional!! The League of Women Voters-Wichita/Metro compares this to bribery (or blackmail?) and finds it offensive that our ELECTED officials would even consider this type of legislation. The League supports a fair, impartial and independent judiciary—apparently the Legislature and the Executive branch of Kansas do not!! The legislation would add, as grounds for impeachment, any attempt to usurp the authority of the legislature—as judged by the legislature! This would mean **that justices who negatively evaluate laws passed by the Kansas Legislature and signed by the Governor could be removed from office!! EXCUSE ME!?!?** This does not sound like the America we know, but rather some other countries that will remain nameless. Such legislation must be stopped!! People of Kansas, do you understand what is happening??!! The League of Women Voters-Wichita/Metro urges citizens to contact their legislators and tell them to VOTE NO!!

Sharon Ailslieger & Carole Neal, Co-Presidents

LWV-Wichita/Metro

Press Release from LWV KS

New Leaders of Kansas League Critical of State's Tax Policy

TOPEKA, Kansas - April 29, 2015 -

Last weekend the League of Women Voters of Kansas elected co-presidents to lead the 750+

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member organization. The new leaders are Marge Arhens of Topeka and Carole Neal of Wichita. In its 95th year as an advocacy and education organization, the League advocates only for positions which have undergone a two year member-led study.

Citing a tax position based on League's 2013 tax study, the new co-Presidents call for a balanced and fair three-pronged system of state taxation which returns the use of the income tax to the 2012 level.

"The methods of taxation the legislature has chosen are against all standards of social justice, and threaten the common good of Kansas citizens. When we fail to concern ourselves with basic human needs, and favor the rich over the poor, we fail as a state and as human beings," said Ms. Arhens.

Ms. Neal added, "The League abhors the public policy choices the legislature has made which cause harm to poorer Kansas citizens and give financial gain to the upper 1% income group of our state. We disdain the lack of concern for those who struggle for enough to eat, for childcare, a safe residence, for education which could help them rise out of poverty and for medical care."

The League of Women Voters of Kansas is a non-partisan, grassroots, volunteer and political organization with nine local Leagues across the state. The League encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. <http://www.lwvk.org/>

Contact:

Co-Presidents Marge Arhens, 785-232-1947, mrcpasw@gmail.com or Carole Neal, 316-259-7575, cadeneal@all.net

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LWV Wichita-Metro Board Members

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Sally Dewey – Fund Raising/Education Fund
641 North Woodlawn #69
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Ernestine Krehbiel – Membership Chair/MLD
883 Fabrique St
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Betty Ladwig – Voter Service Chair
406 North Jaax Court
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Carole Neal – Co-President/MLD/Newsletter
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Megan Wright-Hagan – Hot Topics/Publicity/MLD
825 N Sagebrush Ct
Wichita, KS 67230
(316) 733-6270
meganwh825@cox.net

Off Board:

Nominating Committee – Diana Cubbage
Webmaster – Kay Johnson
Unit Chair – Ellen Estes

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate. **Join Us!!!!**

Name (Please Print) _____

Names of additional member in household _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Business Phone _____ Email Address _____

Annual Dues \$ 60.00
Add'l Household Membership \$ 30.00
Student Membership \$ 30.00
Hardcopy monthly newsletter \$ 15.00
(Newsletter is emailed monthly with no charge)

Areas of Interest:
Voter Education: _____
Studies: _____
Board Position: _____
Other: _____

Donation _____

Contacts:

Carole Neal Co-President
Sharon Ailslieger Co-President
Ernestine Krehbiel Membership Chair

Phone 259-7575 Email: cadeneal@att.net
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