

# THE VOTER

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



## December, 2014



You are invited to the Dewey's House  
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

Saturday, December 6th  
10:00 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.

641 N. Woodlawn, #69  
Wichita, KS

Bring a guest who may be interested in becoming a league member. We'll visit and have brunch and relax save a little time for yourselves during the busy and wonderful holiday time of year!

You will have opportunity to contribute to the Education Fund and to bring canned foods to go to Operation Holiday.

*Parking on the Murdock street side of the house and you can come in the north door.*

## **January Planning Meeting**

Saturday – January 17, 2014  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
925 N. Waco

Soup and Salad will be served by the Board.  
This will be in place of the January Unit Meeting.

- 1) Review the changes we recommended last year to LWV state positions.
- 2) Review our local positions if needed.
- 3) Agree on local and state priorities for Action in the coming year for our League.

Our League has been very effective in recent years with our advocacy and in fostering positive change in our community.

What would you like to accomplish in the future?

If you are excited about a certain area for study or action, come. We want your opinions.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

*The holidays are here!!! A week from Sunday, December 6 will be the Wichita League's Annual Christmas Brunch at the home of Sally Dewy. It is a fund raiser for the Educational fund in that we ask everyone to donate whatever they can afford-every dollar helps!! The time is 10-noon!! Remember there is NO UNIT MEETING in December—just the brunch. Plan to attend for fun and fellowship!!*

*The elections are over!! No matter your politics or opinions, life is certainly less hectic. Now the League must be ready to lobby and advocate. The Kansas Legislature convenes in January, 2015 and we will have our work cut out for us—both in Topeka and within the League.*

*Carole Neal has served as Co-President for the Wichita League for over three years. She was supposed to be "out of office" last June, but agreed to continue until elections were over in November. It is now December and time for someone else to step up. I will continue in my second year as Co-President, but need help until June of 2015. We are looking for someone serve for just 6 months—until June 2015. Further decisions can be made at that time. Interested in the position?? Call me—733-7420 or e-mail me-- [sailslieger@netscape.net](mailto:sailslieger@netscape.net).*

*What has the League been doing after elections? League was represented at the canvassing meeting and at the wrap up of the YES-Wichita group. The League will support Trust Women at the City Council meeting on December 2 when they ask for better protection from harassment at the Planned Parenthood clinic. The Wichita League is helping the State League obtain voting statistics from the all of Kansas counties. We are beginning our local study on where our tax monies are spent (need volunteers) and finishing up the state study on fracking. We had Hot Topics on KanCare at the library and are busy planning fund raising activities for 2015. Guess November was pretty busy, too!!!*

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*Hope everyone has Happy Holidays whether it is Christmas, Hanukah, or some other celebration.*

*Sharon Ailsieger, Co-President  
(Carole is the current VOTER editor, Fund Raiser Co-Chair and MLD Coach plus she helps with our Facebook and website—she needs a break—AND A BIG THANK YOU!!)*

## Treasurer's Report

Elaine Harvey – Treasurer  
[Elaine.Harvey@wichita.edu](mailto:Elaine.Harvey@wichita.edu)

Our League continues to grow this fall. We are at 73 members and of those 14 are new members for our July 2014-June 2015 dues year!!

We will distribute printed directories at the benefit Brunch for our LWV Wichita-Metro Education Fund on Dec. 6 at Sally Dewey's house. This is a great event to bring a friend to and visit around the table.

Remember that contributions to our LWV Wichita Metro Education and Scholarship Fund are tax-deductible as they are used for voter education and for a scholarship each year to a young woman planning a career in public service.

Our LWV Wichita Metro ([lwvwichita.org](http://lwvwichita.org)) dues also include our membership in LWV Kansas ([lwvk.org](http://lwvk.org)) and LWVUS ([lwv.org](http://lwv.org)). Our regular dues are not tax deductible. They are used for our operations and for our advocacy on the topics where we have done studies and have positions and we advocate on the basis of our positions at local, state and national levels.

To become an LWV Wichita-Metro member, mail your check for \$60 to me Elaine Harvey, Treasurer LWV Wichita-Metro, 4370 N. Eagle Lake Ct. Bel Aire, KS 67220. Please include an extra \$15 if you want your Voter sent to you in paper via regular mail. Household memberships are \$90 and student memberships are \$30.

**Education/Scholarship Fund**  
**Donations to the Education/Scholarship Fund**

**are tax deductible. Give Generously**

Our Education/Scholarship Fund annually grants a scholarship to a well deserving college student who shows a desire to further their education in social or governmental areas. In 2014 we gave a scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. In addition we pay ½ of our National Dues from this account and the cost of educating voters

## Membership

Ernestine Krehbiel – Chair

It's exciting for us to have new ideas, and new people who know we need to keep up the work of democracy even though the 2014 election is past. (We have the city and school board election coming in the spring and the new legislature will be presenting us with new issues for us to study and follow.) Be sure to introduce yourself to any with faces you don't recognize (or remember) so we can all be better acquainted.

We hope our new members as well as our old members will be at our general planning meeting on Jan 17 (see article elsewhere in this VOTER); we continue to have our LWV-WM monthly general meeting at Piccadilly restaurant on the 2nd Tuesday in Feb, March and April. We welcome all our newest League members.

After the New Year we will be organizing four committees for any member to be a part of if the particular topic is something you are interested in following. We hope these will be a place for **new members to mingle with other members** and all become better informed on a particular topic. The committee can then alert the rest of the League when an issue needs attention. These committees may meet as the need arises, mainly share info by email, or meet regularly as the committee members choose.

One of these new committees will follow the **education funding** issues that are coming in the 2015 legislature. The organization of huge corporate funders and legislators called ALEC

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(American Legislative Exchange Council) has already written model bills to take more of our tax payer money away from public schools for private (even for-profit) schools and vouchers. Our committee will try to keep up with attacks on public school funding especially during legislature session. Megan Wright-Hagen and Barb Fuller are the conveners of this committee.

Another committee will be focused on **voting issues**. Even with the SAFE Act, the current voter ID and proof of citizenship voting law, in effect, I'm sure members know there are a number of alterations that may be able to get passed through the legislature to improve citizens' access to the vote. Mr Kris Kobach, the re-elected Secretary of State, is intending to push the legislature to pass a law moving the prosecution of voter fraud to the Secretary of State's office. Currently, the county prosecutors are in charge (under the state Attorney General) or federal prosecutors. Another topic that has already been submitted in a bill proposes to move municipal and school board elections from April to the fall and perhaps make them partisan unlike now. If the topic of improved voting interests you contact Ernestine Krehbiel and Marilyn Chapman Hansen who will be the conveners of this committee.

The current LWV-WM two year local study committee on the **local government budgeting process** is already in place and will continue to bring information to the whole League. Anyone can join them. This certainly is going to be a timely issue since the city one-cent sales tax ballot issue lost so there will have to be decisions made as to how to fund water for the future, repairs of infrastructure, etc. **Elaine Harvey and Carole Neal are the contacts for this.**

**Funding medical care** in Kansas can be a fourth committee, watch-dogging KanCare and the impact of the lack of Kansas expansion of Medicaid or participation in the Affordable Care Act's state-run market exchanges. There seems to be interest in this topic for on-going League attention, so Allison Lemons will be the convener.

If any of these topics are of interest to you, contact the convener or the co-presidents or Ernestine Krehbiel (ekrehbiel@cox.net).

## Fund Raising

**Sally Dewey and Carole Neal – Co-Chairs**

Exciting plans for the upcoming year, the board approved our plans for the following events.

1. In December Sally will be hosting our annual **Christmas Open-house**.
2. February is the league's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday and it is Black History month. We will be celebrating both with a **2<sup>nd</sup> ARISE concert**. Sally Dewey and Sharon Cranford are chair persons.
3. A new event for this year will be a **Lunch with Past and Present Legendary characters**. Joyce Cavarozzi and Diana Cubbage will be in charge of this event.
4. Last but by no means the least we will be creating a **Calendar** that will highlight local dignitaries and their thoughts on the league as well as highlighting our accomplishments. Carole Neal and Connie Dean will be ramrodding this project.

As with any of our projects and events volunteers are the success of any endeavor. If you are interested contact Sally Dewey (652-8788) or Carole Neal (259-7575).

## Studies:

### Local Study

**Carole Neal and Elaine Harvey – Co-Chairs**

**Budget and tax policies within the city and county.** The scope of the study will be to determine the responsibilities of each entity and how the budgets are funded. Who pays for what? Where does the money come from? Please contact Carole or Elaine if you would like to be involved in the study. We need 4-6 individuals.

### Hot Topics

**Paul Babich and Megan Wright-Hagen –**

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## Co-Chairs

### Winter/Spring 2015

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday: 11:30 am -1:00 pm

Central Branch of the Wichita Public Library  
223 S. Main

Bring a brown bag lunch, drinks furnished.

### January 27, 2015

#### - Election Analysis of November 2014 elections

What happened in the November elections and what are the benefits and repercussions? Dr. Russel Fox from Friends University Political Science Department will present.

### February 24, 2015

#### - Decriminalizing Marijuana

There is an effort to get a measure added to the Spring elections to ask the public about decriminalizing marijuana. What are the pro's and con's of decriminalizing marijuana?. Come and find out both sides of the issue in this forum. The Marijuana Reform Initiative (MRI ICT) and Sheriff Easter will present.

### March 24, 2015

#### - Election Issues for the April election

Let's meet the candidates for the Mayor of Wichita that are on the April ballot.

## MLD Program

(Membership/Leadership/Development)

**Our league participates in the National MLD program. It has come to our attention that a lot of our members are not aware of what this program is or how it works. To give you some information on the program we have included the following overview.**

1. What is the MLD program? The Membership and Leadership Development Program, sponsored by LWVUS, provides training to national and state coaches and local teams as well as resources to increase membership and

to identify and develop new League leaders.

2. What are the key components of the program?
  - Trained teams of 3 or more local Leaguers to communicate best strategies to the board for implementation
  - Support from a state coach, a national coach, and the national staff with resources
  - Use of the event planning checklist for all League events
  - Implementation of the best practices
3. What are the major best practices promoted by the program?
  - Always "ask" people to join at all League events
  - Create a welcoming environment at all League events
  - Follow up new members and attendees by asking them to come to events
  - Find out the interests of new members while orienting them to the League, tap into these interests to encourage participation
  - Increase visibility of the League throughout the year (even in the summer!) working with various media outlets, including the use of social media, enhanced website, direct contact with news personnel, etc.
  - Reach out to other organizations to partner with you
  - Develop an annual calendar of events that will attract a wider audience and develop programs and activities that connect with the community
  - Ask potential leaders to take

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- on small tasks and promote leadership development
  - Tell our personal stories of what the League has meant to us, the League impact on individuals, through personal testimonies and written profiles
  - And have fun! Social activities build relationships and involvement
4. What if our League is already doing a lot of this? How will the program help?
- Monthly coaching calls provide support, shares successes, and provides new resources
  - Training for your team members promotes leadership skills and commitment
  - New leadership in your League will need to be oriented to the program
  - Continuing the program institutionalizes the best practices, leading to organizational change and growth
5. How long does it take for the program to result in change—new members and leaders?
- The program is not a “quick fix” but requires ongoing effort and commitment from the local board. The program doesn’t “end” but becomes the League “way.”
  - Do not expect one or two people to implement the program. Get the entire board involved. Success requires total commitment!
  - The MLD team takes time to work together, build a rela-

tionship with the state coach, and learn how to implement the program through working with the board

## Other Goings On

**The State league has provided the following information for questions on legislation:**

**KS toll free legislative hotline:  
1-800-432-3924**

Kansas residents can ask questions about legislation, legislative procedure, state government. Calls are answered by experienced reference/research librarians at the State Library of Kansas and kept confidential. Lines are open weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. In addition to calling the hotline, residents can text questions to 785-256-0733 (standard text message rates may apply), instant message at [www.kslib.info/ask-a-librarian](http://www.kslib.info/ask-a-librarian), or visit the State Library. The State Library is located in the north wing, on the third floor of the Kansas Capitol Building.

### CITY COUNCIL - CITY OF WICHITA

Two items on the following agenda are of special interest to the league #9 and #10. Increase in Water and Sewer Rates and Multi-Modal Transportation.

City Council Meeting City Council Chambers  
09:00 a.m. December 2, 2014 455 North Main

#### I. PUBLIC AGENDA

##### NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Public Hearing and Issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds, Bombardier Learjet. (District IV)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Close the public hearing and place on first reading the Bond Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of documents for the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds for Learjet, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$9,520,054.36 and authorize the necessary signatures.**

2. Public Hearing and Issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds, Cessna Aircraft Company. (Districts III and IV)



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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Close the public hearing and place on first reading the Bond Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of documents for the issuance of Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds in an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000,000, release and convey the 2004 bond-financed property, and authorize the necessary signatures.

3. Public Hearing and Issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds, High Touch/One Twenty South Main, LLC. (District I)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Close the public hearing and place on first reading the Bond Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of documents for the issuance of Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,572,300 and authorize the necessary signatures.

4. Approval of Economic Development Incentive Agreement, Apex Engineering International, LLC. (District VI)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the Forgivable Loan Agreement with Apex Engineering International, LLC, place the Home Rule Ordinance approving the agreement on first reading, approve the necessary budget adjustments and authorize the necessary signatures.

5. Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for Consideration of a Project Plan, Tax Increment Financing for the Mosley Avenue Project. (District VI)  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adopt the resolution setting a public hearing on January 6, 2015, for consideration of the Mosley Avenue Project Plan and authorize the necessary signatures.

6. Improvements to the Intersection of 37th Street North and Hillside. (District I)  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the design concept.

7. Improvements to Douglas, from Washington to Oliver. (District I)  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the design concept, supplemental agreement, and revised budget, adopt the resolution, and authorize the necessary signatures.

8. Water Line Improvements for North Westfield. (District V)  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the project and petition, adopt the resolutions, and authorize the necessary signatures.

9. Water and Sewer Rate Increases.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the Water Rate and Sewer Rate Ordinances and place on first reading.

10. Wichita Multi-Modal Accommodation Policy and Street Design Guidelines.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adopt the resolution endorsing the City of Wichita Multi-Modal Accommodation Policy and the Street Design Guidelines; Wichita's Policy Manual for MultiModal Transportation.

11. Adoption of the 2012 International Mechanical Code.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Place on first reading the ordinance amending Article 5 of the Unified Building and Trade Code with the adoption of the 2012 Edition of the International Mechanical Code and authorize the necessary signatures.

12. Adoption of the 2014 National Electrical Code.  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve first reading of the ordinance amending Article 4 of the Unified Building and Trade Code (UBTC) with the adoption of the 2014 Edition of the National Electrical Code and authorize the necessary signatures.

13. Adoption of the 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code.  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Place on first reading the ordinance amending Article 3 of the Unified Building and Trade Code (UBTC) with the adoption of the 2012 Edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code and authorize the necessary signatures.

14. Operating Partnership Agreement with Museum of World Treasures, Inc.  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the Operating Partnership and Lease Agreements with the Museum of World Treasures, Inc.

15. 2015 Performance Contracts for Cultural Funding Operational Grants.  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve 22 Performance Contracts for Cultural Funding Operational grants for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015.

16. 2015 State Legislative Agenda.  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the 2015 Legislative Agenda.

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## LWW Wichita-Metro Board Members

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Marilyn Hansen - Secretary  
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Ernestine Krehbiel – Membership Chair/MLD  
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Betty Ladwig – Voter Service Chair  
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Carole Neal – Co-President/MLD/Newsletter  
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Megan Wright-Hagan – Hot Topics/Publicity/MLD  
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## 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)

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Contacts:

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

Areas of Interest:

Voter Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Studies: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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