



Membership Application
League of Women Voters Wichita-Metro
P. O. Box 2411
Wichita, KS 67201

Name: _____

Names of additional member in household

Address _____

City _____ **State** ____ **Zip** _____

Home Phone _____

Cell P hone _____

Business Phone _____

Email Address _____

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

Areas of Interest:
Voter Service:
Board Member:
Studies:
Other: _____

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS – WICHITA METRO
OUR MISSION AND ROLES

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.

The League of Women Voters has two separate and distinct roles.

- **Voters Service/Citizen Education:** we present unbiased nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process, and issues.
- **Action/Advocacy:** we are also nonpartisan, but, after study, we use our positions to advocate for or against particular policies in the public interest.

We believe in:

- respect for individuals
- the value of diversity
- the empowerment of the grassroots, both within the League and in communities

We will:

- act with trust, integrity and professionalism
- operate in an open and effective manner to meet the needs of those we serve, both members and the public
- take the initiative in seeking diversity in membership
- acknowledge our heritage as we seek our path to the future

WHAT WE ARE

The League of Women Voters is a volunteer organization that does a professional job. The League tackles important public issues and is a respected, trusted asset in cities and towns across the country. League leaders empower others to define and accomplish goals—for themselves, for the organization, for their communities and for the nation. Through these goals, the organization fulfills its mission and grows.

Throughout its history, the League of Women Voters has been a dynamic, changing organization, adapting procedures to meet current and future needs. League leaders make their communities stronger, healthier, and more vibrant..

While there are fundamental similarities among Leagues everywhere, each League has its own special characteristics. The size, distribution and demographics of membership; time and money resources; and community/state issues all affect the structure and operations of a League.



Wichita-Metro

***Established in 1920 and still growing
and going strong in 2011-2012.***

Contacts:

LWV-Wichita Metro - lwvwichita.org

LWV-National – lwv.org

LWV-Kansas – lwvks.org

**Sharon Ailslieger – Co-President
Phone (316) 773-7420
e-mail: sailslieger@netscape.net**

**Carole Neal – Co-President
Phone 259-7575
e-mail: cadeneal@att.net**

**D. Kay Johnson - Membership Chair
Phone 721-2158
e-mail: kayj1116@gmail.com**

What We Do

Candidate Debates and Forums

In carrying out our mission of encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government, the League of Women Voters continues to be key sponsors of candidate debates and forums.

Working with other groups and organizations:

Coalitions are created to bring about collective action at the national, state or local level. Leagues have worked in coalitions on a broad range of issues for years; often serving in the role of chief “convener” or coalition spokesperson.

Coalition efforts can help maximize the League’s effectiveness on many issues, especially redistricting, by:

- Empowering organizations to pool resources and brainpower to foster more strategic and effective action
- Enabling better communication and collaboration between like-minded organizations
- Increasing diversity by bringing together new or alternative voices
- Bringing about a greater impact than organizations could make on their own

Action

Action is whatever the League does to influence government officials to implement the League's program goals. It is writing letters, making phone calls, visiting public officials, testifying at hearings, mobilizing public support.

Studies

The League’s program consists of those governmental issues that the League has chosen for concerted study and action at the national, state or local level.

Once studies have been adopted committees are formed to study the issue, present the study to the membership and the members reach an agreement on the issue. These issues reflect community concerns and range from local park facilities to election reform, from childcare to nuclear waste disposal, from air pollution to international trade, from mental health to energy policy.

Once a League board has finalized a position on an issue, it is announced to members and can be shared with the public. It becomes part of the League’s position statements, and the board can begin taking action on it immediately. Like all statements of position, it must be readopted each year by League members at the annual meeting (or biennial convention) in order to remain on the program of issues for possible action.

National positions can serve as the basis for action at the state and local levels, as well as nationally. Most state and local Leagues will also have a publication that shares state and local positions on the issues.