



The VOTER

Bulletin of the League of Women Voters of Lawrence-Douglas County, KS
PO Box 1072 • Lawrence KS 66044-1072

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization encouraging the informed, active participation of citizens in government & influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

President:	Emily Riner	lawrenceleaguekspres @ gmail.com	
Voter Editor:	Ruth Lichtwardt	lightwatcher @ gmail.com	
Local League	www.lawrenceleague.com	www.facebook.com/lwvldc	www.twitter.com/lwvldc
National League	www.lww.org		202-429-1965
State League:	www.lwvk.org	lwv.kansas @ gmail.com	785-234-5152

League Calendar

Thursday, September 30th		Helen Fluker Award Nominations due. Link to form on page 2.
Friday, October 1st	11:00 - Noon	A Brave Girls Book Launch. See article and link to book review on page 3.
Saturday, October 2nd	Topeka 10:00 am Lawrence 1:00 pm	Women’s March for Reproductive Rights. <i>Topeka:</i> Every Plaza, 630 S. Kansas Ave., Topeka. March to the Capitol. <i>Lawrence:</i> Watson Park, 727 Kentucky St. March to South Park. Links for more info on pages 2 & 3.
Tuesday, October 12th		Last day to register to vote in the General Election.
Tuesday, October 12th	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	LWVL-DC Board Meeting. <i>via Zoom.</i> All interested League members invited to attend. Recurring Zoom link on page 3. Note time change!
Wednesday, October 13th		Advance Voting begins for General Election
Thursday, October 21st	Noon - 1:00 pm	Goals and Purpose of the Climate Plan for Lawrence/Douglas County. <i>Via Zoom.</i> Speaker Jasmin Moore. Article on page 3.
Friday, October 22nd	11:59 pm	Deadline for submissions to the People Powered Fair Maps Contest. See article on page 5.
Saturday, Oct. 23rd	11:30 am	Helen Fluker Award Ceremony Presentation. <i>via Zoom.</i> Zoom link on page 3, article on page 4.
Tuesday, October 26th		Last day to request a mail ballot.
Monday, November 1st	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Final session of Crystal Bennett’s Workshop “Our Liberation is Bound Together”. See DEI Report on page 6, link on page 3.
Tuesday, Nov. 2nd	7:00 am - 7:00 pm	General Election.

President's Message



Greetings all,
I hope that you and yours are staying healthy and well!

While volunteering at the State Fair with other League of Women Voters members from across the state, I was reminded yet again of the critical importance of our work. As folks streamed by us, we presented them with bookmarks featuring famous suffragettes and information on our centennial. They could look at a wonderful series of displays and could even take a picture with a suffragette (thank you, Jeanne Klein!). However, my favorite part was a trivia wheel where participants could spin the wheel and be asked a question about government, voting, LWV, etc. It was the absolute best part of the entire experience for me because I got to educate and engage with my fellow Kansans about issues that impact every aspect of our lives (things many of them knew little about!).

While we are saddened to not yet have a resolution to the voter suppression law that the Kansas Legislature passed last year, there is other essential work that we continue to do. Our fellow citizens need us to continue to engage, educate, and advocate. We are more than just voter registration (although I look forward to getting back to that!) and I am beyond proud to be in your company doing this work. We will not rest, and we will not stop.

If you are able, please sign up to join us as a volunteer over the coming months to continue empowering voters and defending democracy: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44a9a92babf49-league2>.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at emilyapriner@gmail.com or 605-261-0328 with any questions, comments, or needs. Wash your hands, wear your masks, tell those you love how much they mean to you, and stay well.

-Emily Riner
605-261-0328

Welcome, New Members!

Seven new members have joined us this month: **Lori Bryan, Diane Fourn, DaNae Estabine, Cindy Keim, Carlee Koehler, Jordan Ward, and Jivanjot Whar.** We're glad to have you join us. Please come to some of our events listed on the calendar. You are also most welcome at our board meeting to watch us in action.



Links for Calendar Items

Helen Fluker Award Nominations

Due September 30

[Nomination form](#)

LWVL-DC Board Meetings:

To join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86368994704?pwd=YVcz-MEYpYR2lWk04lTXc5bCtzbWNzQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 6899 4704

Passcode: 472392

NOTE: This Zoom link and passcode is the same for every Board Meeting

[Women's March for Reproductive Rights in Topeka,](#)

Saturday, Oct. 2, starting at 10 am at Everyy Plaza at

630 S Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS 66603 marching to the Capitol.

[Women's March for Reproductive Rights in Lawrence](#), Saturday, Oct. 2, starting at 1:00 pm in Watson Park, marching to South Park:

Jasmin Moore, Sustainability Director, on the Climate Action Plan for Lawrence and Douglas County, Thursday, Oct. 21, noon to 1 pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89006018396?pwd=WDg2aEZlQ0M3RzZRNlE9TkdXU4K2c0QT09>

Meeting ID: 890 0601 8396

Passcode: 428753

Also, [the Climate Action Plan for Lawrence and Douglas County web page](#).

Helen Fluker Award Presentation,

Tuesday, Oct 23, 2021, 11:30 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81705447577?pwd=dnc0RUUgVQmxXL3psQm9wKzZKRvJZUT09>

Meeting ID: 817 0544 7577

Passcode: 697423

Courageous Conversations,

5:30-7pm on Tuesdays Sept. 27, Oct. 5, and Oct. 12,

All three sessions have the same Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86183148313?pwd=eW5Gb2t4cE9FSUE2T2JRTGJlT3ovQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 8314 8313

Passcode: 519265

Final Crystal Bennett session: Our Liberation is Bound Together,

Monday, Nov. 1, 5:30-8:30.

Sign-up link: <https://bit.ly/LWVOurLiberation>

Other Interesting Links

[Archived Hot Topic videos](#) are now being posted on our website.

An **LWVK press release** was sent to Kansas newspapers on Aug. 30: League of Women Voters of Kansas Requests Kansas Legislature to Adopt Technical Rules and Redistricting Guidelines. Read it [here](#).

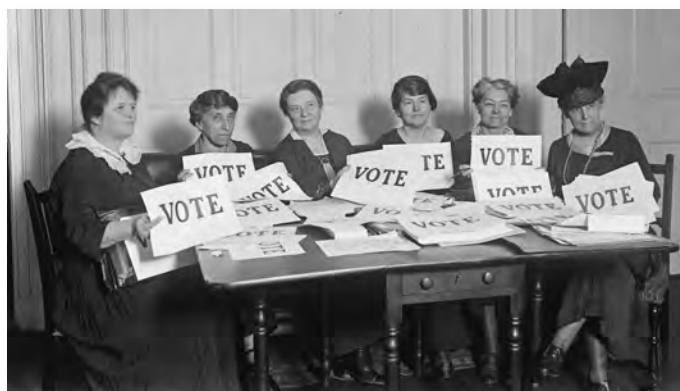
A Brave Girls Book Launch!

As we celebrate the 101st anniversary of the 19th amendment, some women were able to vote in local elections. Kansas recognized that right in 1887. Susanna Salter's name was placed on the ballot as a joke by some men for the mayoral election in Argonia, KS. A Vote For Susanna, The First Woman Mayor, written by Karen Greenwald, tells of Susanna's victory in her book for young readers. The National Women's History Museum is featuring the launch of her book as part of their "Brave Girls Initiative!" The event is free but requires registration at the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/hm8pm526>

This link contains a review of the book.

<https://tinyurl.com/2zw6h9z3>



Hot Topic! Report: Climate Action Plan

The Hot Topic Series is taking a break for September, but please join us on October 21st, via Zoom, 12 noon to 1 PM. Jasmin Moore, Sustainability Director, will share the goals and purpose of the Climate Action Plan for Lawrence and Douglas County. She consults with Lawrence and Douglas County Departments to provide perspective about the economic, environmental and human impact of policies, projects and programs. A survey about the plan is included in the [Climate Action web page](#).

Join the Zoom Meeting at the Calendar Items link above.

The Hot Topic Committee has completed the interviews for the 50 Year Members Video Project. Auto-

generated transcripts are being proofed and formatted and then a direction for the finished video will be decided upon. We have had some mighty, mighty members who have laid a wonderful groundwork for us to build on. Hearing the stories of their work on behalf of issues we are still working on today reminds us that persistence pays off and we must not be discouraged.

- Denise Pettengill



Fluker Award Committee Report

The deadline for [nominations](#) for the 2021 Helen Fluker Open and Accessible Government Award is September 30. At the September

LWVL-DC board meeting, Jim Fluker announced that a four person committee will then review the applications and select the winner.

Reluctantly, the board decided that once again the meeting would be a virtual Zoom meeting rather than the usual luncheon. When it is possible, the traditional luncheon will be held, with the 2020 and the 2021 recipients both invited, as well as all League members.

This year's presentation will be at 11:30 on Saturday, October 23 and will last less than an hour. The Zoom link is above in the "Links for Calendar Items." All League members are invited to attend.



Charlie Crabtree at the Kansas State Fair



Emily Riner & Jeanne Klein at the Kansas State Fair

Voter Services Report

The Voter Services Committee has not been idle during the last month! Here are some of the activities that happened:

League volunteers gathered to accept Proclamations on the LWVL-DC 50th Anniversary from City Commission and from the Douglas County Commission.

More League volunteers gathered to do tabling, distributing LWVL-DC information and answering questions, at the Student Volunteer Fair in the KU Student Union, at the Haskell Student Activities Fair, at the Lawrence Sidewalk Sale, at the Kansas State Fair, at Just Food, at Art in the Park, and more to come.

Participants included Emily Riner, Kristin Salmans, Charley Crabtree, Jeanne Klein, Catherine Magana, Sonja Czarnecki, Ma'Ko'Quah Jones, Cille King, Linda Watts, Tracy Matthews, Janice Friedman, Kathryn Lunte, and Martha Silks.

And there are more tabling opportunities to come! If you would like to volunteer, consult the Autumn Signup Sheet for opportunities. [Please sign up here](#) if you would like to help out!

- Charley Crabtree

People Powered Fair Maps Redistricting Criteria

The nine local Leagues that make up the League of Women Voters of Kansas have worked for two years to be ready for when the 2020 Census data would be released. [The House and Senate Redistricting Committees](#) were formed months ago and recently held a town hall in 14 Kansas communities to allow constituents to testify about the process that will be used. Our People Powered Fair Maps™ Work Group has identified key points which Legislators should adhere to when drawing district lines that will be in place for the next 10 years:

1. Continue to allow testimony to be submitted, provided to Legislators, and made available to the public by posting it online.
2. Drop the guideline that appears to facilitate 'incumbent protection': "Contests between incumbent members of the Legislature or the State Board of Education will be avoided whenever possible." Related to that, stop the practice of including members' 'home seat' information in the redistricting database.
3. End the practice of including party information in the redistricting database.
4. The technical committee rules should allow for individuals to submit [community of interest](#) maps which should be incorporated into the redistricting database as an overlay so map makers have easy access to them while drawing districts.

The People Powered Fair Maps™ Work Group meets every Thursday 6-7 p.m. Currently we are creating a Map-Drawing Contest so Kansans alone or on a team can try their hand at drawing districts for House, Senate and State Board of Education. For more information, contact [Teresa Briggs](#).

Note: Charley Crabtree is our local representative in this PPFM group.

Bonus link: Census Bureau Redistricting Data Resources: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCENSUS/bulletins/2f3b847>

LWVK Map Drawing Contest for Undergraduate College Students in Kansas

The League of Women Voters of Kansas has announced a map drawing contest for all undergraduate college and university students throughout Kansas.

Martha Pint, Co-President, said, "We're excited to announce the League's map drawing contest for undergraduate collegiate students. We hope to encourage students to be informed and actively engaged in the redistricting process."

"We're sweetening the map contest with a cash award of \$1,000 for each of our three categories," added Pint. "We're looking for the best Congressional, State House, and State Senate district maps."

"Students may enter individually or form a team. It's really up to the students," Pint said.

Deadline for map submissions is Friday, October 22, 2021 by 11:59 p.m. to contactus@lwvk.org with the subject line of "District Map Contest Entry". Winners will be announced Friday, November 19, 2021 at noon.

Students must use [Dave's Redistricting](#) to draw maps. Each map will be judged based on Dave's Redistricting analysis criteria for completeness, compactness and contiguity, as well as compliance with the state and federal population thresholds, and written justification for any deviation from the criteria.

In addition to the cash prize, winners will receive a free, one-year membership to the League and will be invited to present the winning maps at an upcoming League meeting.

"We hope our map drawing contest spurs more public involvement in redistricting," Pint said. "Our ultimate goal is that the Kansas Legislature draws fair maps so that voters choose their representatives instead of legislators choosing their voters."

DEI Self-Education

Here are a few take-aways from Crystal Bennett's Courageous Conversation sessions so far;

September 14, "Even 'Good' People Cause Harm": "Good" white people cause harm in multiple, socially acceptable covert ways. Reflect on your participation in the triangle graphic at, <https://uucsj.org/study-guide/legacies-of-systemic-injustice/white-supremacy/>. We have an obligation to influence our cultural spheres by dismantling white supremacy at every daily opportunity.

September 21, "Weaponization of White Tears": White people need to process their uncomfortable emotions without self-centered tears of privilege that uphold white supremacy. Work towards social justice as an invited co-conspirator or accomplice who stays focused on issues and actions. Take the racial equity sidekick pledge at, <https://shawnhumphrey.com/dos-and-donts-for-do-gooders/racial-equity-sidekick-pledge/>

You can still join for the following sessions: You are welcome to share with friends, family, and local organizations. If you joined for the first session, it's assumed you will attend all 5 sessions if possible.

Sign-up link: <https://bit.ly/LWVCourageousConversations>

September 28, "What Else Do 'They' Want?"
October 5, "Comfort is a Privilege"
October 12, "In Solidarity"

The concluding session is scheduled for Nov. 1. There are still some available spaces, "Our Liberation is Bound Together." Sign-up link: <https://bit.ly/LWVOurLiberation>

- Jeanne Klein



Monthly Green Challenge

Each month, we challenge members to take one action toward living a "green," sustainable life-style and fighting climate change. This month's challenge: Promote wind energy.

Most of us are forced to obtain our electricity from Evergy, a local monopoly. According to a company representative, consumer demand motivates them to expand their use of renewable resources. You can also get your energy from wind power by doing this:

- If you have an Evergy account, go to this link to sign up to receive all of your energy from wind power: <https://www.evergy.com/smart-energy/renewable-resources/subscription-programs/wind-enrollment>. (This link is not easy to find.)
- Type in your account number from a recent invoice, and continue signing up.
- The additional monthly cost to you is minimal, \$0.0025 per kWh, based on your average monthly usage. For example, if you average 396 kWh per month, your extra monthly cost is only 50¢.
- For a few extra cents or dollars a month, you will be supplying your energy needs without contributing to global warming and encouraging more demand for renewables.

Evergy suggests ways to conserve electrical energy:

- Switch to LED lighting, <https://www.evergy.com/ways-to-save/discounts/led-lighting>.
- Tune up your furnace and AC unit at least once a year, <https://www.evergy.com/ways-to-save/resources/ac-tune-up>.
- Other home tips, <https://www.evergy.com/ways-to-save/resources/energy-tips/interactive-home-tips>.
- Rate Plan options, <https://www.evergy.com/manage-account/rate-information/plan-options>.
- Click Smart Energy tab for more information.

- Jeanne Klein

Highlights of the Minutes LWVL-DC Board Meeting August 10, 2021

Present: Emily Riner (President), Kristin Salmans (Vice President), Brian Kuehl (Treasurer), Sharon Brown (Secretary), Tamara Cash, Marjorie Cole, Charley Crabtree, Sonja Czamecki, Kay Johnson, Cille King, Tracy Matthews, Denise Pettengill, Martha Silks, Emma Holsclaw.

Guests: Kay Emerson, Janice Friedman, Jeanne Klein, Jacquie Lightcap, Amber Sellers.

Emily welcomed Jacquie Lightcap, our LWVK Co-President. Jacquie gave a supportive message from the state board, announced that Kristin will be serving with the state observer corps, and said she is looking forward to providing resources for all local boards.

TREASURER: Brian reported income of \$1,769.95 in July (dues \$1,084.95, contributions \$100, MAW Scholarship Fund \$585) and expenses of \$1,618.15 (MAW Fund transfer \$585, VOTER printing \$52.46, flag stands \$90.69, state PMP \$890).



BALANCE SHEET 08/01/2021

MMA	\$29,558.03
CHECKING (07/01/2021)	\$11,311.68
NAT'L EDUC FUND	\$5,343.39
L-DC SCHOLARSHIP	\$3,729.32
MAW SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$2,719.37
CHECKING (07/31/2021)	\$12,580.40

Brian will be leaving the board now. Sharon reported for the Nominating Committee: Janice Friedman has been nominated to be Secretary and Sharon has been nominated to move to Treasurer. A motion to accept these changes passed.

Marjorie reported that we have five new members: Allan and Louise Hanson, Susan Bogart, Julie McDonald and Nancy Maier.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Kristin will contact our community partners on decisions about the September Candidates Picnic a virtual event.

50 YEAR MEMBER INTERVIEWS: Denise presented information about a possible contact who would record our 50-year member interviews and then edit this into a master. The cost would be \$2,280, to come from Ann Ozegovic's donation fund. A motion to do this carried.

STATE LEAGUE: Cille reported that 14 legislative redistricting meetings are being held in a five-day period. LWVK supports using an independent redistricting commission.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Emily announced that we need a People Powered Fair Maps (PPFM0 Champion who can attend meetings hosted by Teresa Briggs. Charley said he could do this. Anyone interested in the state study on juvenile justice should contact Ann Zimmerman at ann@annzimmerman.com or Gabrielle Thompson at gabrielle@thompsonbailey.net

Our 501(c)3 application is being reviewed.

- Sharon Brown, Secretary

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF LAWRENCE-DOUGLAS COUNTY

Make a Difference - Join/Support the League!

Return this form with a check made out to LWVL/DC, and mail to the address below.

Membership is open to any person who is sixteen years of age or older.

New or renewed memberships received now will expire March 31, 2022

Date _____ Renewing Member _____ New Member _____

I heard about the League via (Facebook, website, friend, other): _____

Membership Dues:*

Approximate Household Income	Individual Membership	Household Membership
Student**	FREE	FREE
Under \$25,000***	\$25	\$40
\$25,000 to \$50,000	\$40	\$60
Over \$50,000	\$60	\$90
Sustaining member	\$100	\$150
Life member (of 50 years)	\$0	

* Our membership assessment supports the National & State Leagues at \$50/member (\$32 National and \$20 State).

** Student members: 16 and older and enrolled in an accredited school.

***Under \$25,000 Pay what you can, we need your voice at the table!

_____ I am not a member but would like to support the League with my contribution as indicated below.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for League General Fund.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for League Education Fund.****

**** this contribution is tax-deductible. Write check to "LWV Education Fund."

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Address _____ (ZIP) _____

Phone _____ Email _____
(each member)

As a League member or supporter, I would like to help support League activities by participating in:

General Membership Meetings:

- _____ Set up and/or tear down
- _____ Hospitality (provide coffee/tea/dessert)
- _____ Taking notes/writing report of meeting

Membership

- _____ Recruitment
- _____ Mentor/follow-up with new members
- _____ Provide a ride to a member
- _____ Phone members without internet access

Voter Services

- _____ Register voters
- _____ Help with voter education

Contribute to the League by:

- _____ Researching for League studies on issues
- _____ Participating in fund-raising activities
- _____ Attending/reporting on government meetings
- _____ Representing the League at community events
- _____ Serving on the Board of Directors

I have the following skills:

- _____ Editing articles/reports
- _____ Database management
- _____ Microsoft Word / Excel / Quickbooks
- _____ Website/Social Media design/management

My interests include:

PO BOX 1072 • LAWRENCE KS 66044-1072

lawrenceksleaguepres@gmail.com • www.lawrenceleague.com

www.facebook.com/lwvldc • www.twitter.com/lwvldc

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