



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Lexington Voter April 2014

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

LWV Brunch Study a Success



Guest speaker Aleta Botts and LWV president Tammy Fagley after the March 22 Saturday brunch meeting.

Saturday, March 22, League members were treated to a spirited discussion of agricultural economics led by Aleta Botts, Executive Director of the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development. Ms. Botts agreed to share information that will help us understand the first topic in the LWV agricultural update consensus questions—the economic health of the agricultural sector.

Participating members quickly learned there are no easy answers and every question has many implications. Drawing on her 11 years of experience in Washington, DC working with agricultural policy, Ms. Botts quickly established definitions for farms according to size, income, and product. She led the group through the intricacies of loans, disaster assistance, crop insurance, and differentiated between the various agricultural commodities.

It became obvious that agriculture today is a balancing act between a way of life and a business and legislation must try to deal fairly with all players.

League members will be asked to reach consensus on four questions dealing with agricultural economics at the annual meeting on Saturday, April 19 at Faith Lutheran Church beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please plan to be a part of this action. **Call 859-494-3203 to make your reservation.**

New Voters Registered after Memorable Naturalization



Left to right: Karen Anderson and Nancy Chessar (LWV), Transylvania student Kate Rice, Roz Heise (LWV), Ashley Watson, and Malory Thelen (also Transylvania students)

League members, along with student volunteers, were proud to register new voters after an impressive ceremony in a packed Mitchell Fine Arts Center at Transylvania University on Friday, March 21. Two hundred applicants from 79 countries were recognized by District Court Judge Karen Caldwell and took the oath of citizenship. Afterwards, the team pictured above worked with representatives of the KY Secretary of State's office to register new citizens as voters.

The next naturalization ceremony is scheduled back at the usual site—U.S. District Court—for **Friday, April 18 at 11:00 a.m.** Members wishing to assist with voter registration should contact **Roz Heise** at heise@twc.com.



Faces from many countries



Music provided by Transylvania University a cappella choir

LWV ANNUAL MEETING

WHEN: 8:30 A.M. (Registration and breakfast)
Saturday, April 19, 2014

WHERE: Faith Lutheran Church
1000 Tates Creek Road

AGENDA:

- Budget
- Officers/Directors
- Bylaws Changes
- Consensus on Agricultural Policy Position

TO PREPARE:

- See **Budget** attached to email or enclosed with paper edition
- See **Slate of Officers and Directors** in next column
- See **Bylaws Changes** attached to email or enclosed with paper edition
- See **Study Consensus Questions** attached to email or enclosed with paper edition

PLEASE BRING THESE DOCUMENTS WITH YOU TO THE MEETING!

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: Call 859-494-3203 or email lexingtonlwv@gmail.com. Deadline is April 16.

If you haven't participated in a single event this year, make a special effort to join your friends and colleagues for this meeting. If you are a regular, you won't want to miss this occasion. Remember—The organization is only as strong as its member participation.



Hope to see you all at the Annual Meeting on April 19!

NEEDED! Volunteers to work the candidate forums....greeting, voter registration, collecting questions, moderating. Please call 859-494-3202 as soon as possible.

Last Call for Legislative Action

HB70—After 7 years, the Senate finally gave the former felons' **Voting Rights Bill** a hearing and a vote. However, the Committee Substitute that was voted on barely resembles Rep. Crenshaw's original bill. It specifies a five year wait period during which time any conviction, even a misdemeanor, would result in permanent loss of voting right. **Please call 1-800-372-7181 to leave a message for your Representative. Urge him/her to vote NOT TO CONCUR with the Senate changes.**

HB8—Dating Violence Bill—Although we supported this bill in its original form, two amendments were added by Rep. Fischer which have nothing to do with domestic violence. Therefore, we **cannot support** this bill.

Bills LWV supports:

HB3 and 28—having to do with legislative ethics law should have a hearing.

HB 72—public financing of judicial campaigns;
HB195—renewable energy; **SB77**—abolition of the death penalty—have not been posted for hearings.

HELP WANTED

Two important League jobs to be done requiring minimal and flexible time commitment.

- **Arrangements**—to book locations/speakers for meetings and events.
- **Webmaster**—to post documents and events on website. Present webmaster will train.

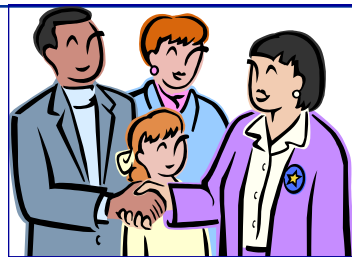
Call League at 859-494-3203!

Slate of Officers/Directors

President Tammy Fagley
Vice-President (PR) Cindy Heine
Treasurer Steve Senft

Directors: Richard Heine
Barbara Sterrett (Members)
Judy Johnson (Voter)
Webmaster—vacant
Arrangements—vacant

Vice President Karen Anderson and Secretary Lynn Flynne have two year terms which end next year.



Mark Your Calendar for the Candidate Forums on April 5th, 6th and 13th

Forums are co-sponsored by the Library and the LWV and will be held in the Farish Theater at the Lexington Central Library, 140 E. Main St. They will be videotaped and aired on the library's Channel 20.

Sat., April 5th

KY House of Representatives

- 9:30 a.m. District 76 Richard Marrs (R),
Lavinia Spirito (R)*
- 10:15 a.m. District 77 George Brown, Jr., (D),
Michael Haskins (D)

KY 6th Congressional District

- 11:45 a.m. Elisabeth Jensen (D)**, Geoff Young (D)

Fayette County Judge/Executive

- 12:30 p.m. William Housh (D, Alayne White (D)

Urban County Council At-Large

- 1:15 p.m. Shannon Buzzard, Bill Cegelka,
Kenner Dyer, Jon Larson, Jerry Moody,
Don Pratt, Jacob Slaughter
- 2:30 p.m. Ray Debolt, Steve Kay, Connie Kell,
Chris Logan, Richard Moloney,
Kevin Stinnett

* Denotes invited but not confirmed

** Denotes unavailable to participate.

Sun., April 6th

Urban County Council

- 1:30 p.m. District 2 Shevawn Akers, Byron Costner,
Michael Stuart
- 2:30 p.m. District 3 Rock Daniels, Chuck Ellinger II,
Jake Gibbs
- 3:30 p.m. District 4 Julian Beard, Susan Lamb, Barry
Saturday

Sun., April 13th

Urban County Council

- 2:15 p.m. District 6 Angela Evans, Darren
Hawkin, Thomas Hern
- 3:30 p.m. District 8 Amy Beasley, Fred Brown,
Le'Tonia Jones, Dave Vinson

Voter registration will be available at all of these forums.

NOTE: The LWV will also cosponsor a candidate forum with the Aylesford Place Neighborhood Association 7:00 p.m. on May 6 at Woodland Christian Church.

Legislative Session Update

On March 19 the U.S. District Court for Kansas issued a ruling in *Kobach v. U.S. Election Assistance Commission* that approves the documentary proof of citizenship requirement for voter registration by the states of Arizona and Kansas. Previously, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that such a requirement is preempted by the federal law but left room for further consideration of additional issues. The Leagues of Women Voters of the U.S., Arizona and Kansas submitted a merits brief to the court as defendant-interveners in this case.

USLWV President Elisabeth MacNamara said, "The decision is so broad it would allow a state to implement almost any restriction on voter registration. It is a harsh decision that will hurt voters for no real reason. The court made an incorrect legal decision and we are sure it will be overturned."

In Memory of...

Being a LWV member for 50 years qualifies a members for lifetime membership and we do not need to contact them for yearly dues, therefore, sometimes we are not aware of their passing. This is the case with longtime League member **Janet Gleeson**. We were recently notified by her son Scott that she had died in 2012. Janet and other 50 year members leave a legacy of action and leadership as an example for all of us.

The VOTER is now in electronic format. If you also receive a paper copy and want only the electronic copy, please contact Judy Johnson at judylex@twc.com. The paper copies will remain black and white due to printing costs.



Return Service Requested

*Lexington League of Women Voters
PO Box 22045
Lexington KY 40522*



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.

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|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---|
| Sat. | April 5 | 9:30 a.m. | Candidate Forum, Lexington Public Central Library, 140 E. Main |
| Sun. | April 6 | 1:30 p.m. | Candidate Forum, Lexington Public Central Library, 140 E. Main |
| Sun. | April 13 | 1:15 p.m. | Candidate Forum, Lexington Public Central Library, 140 E. Main |
| Fri. | April 18 | 11:00 a.m. | Voter Registration after Naturalization Ceremony, U.S. District Courthouse, 101 Barr Street |
| Sat. | April 19 | 8:30 a.m. | ANNUAL MEETING, Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek |
| Tue. | May 20 | 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. | PRIMARY ELECTION—REMEMBER TO VOTE |

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