



# The League of Women Voters Washington County

March 2009, VOL. 56, ISSUE 2

## Calendar

March 9, Monday, 6:30 pm – Board Meeting, Joyce Hale’s home, 285 W. Cleburn

March 18, Wednesday, 6:30 pm – Monthly Member Meeting, “Local Program Selection,”

Karen Rollet-Crocker’s home, 951 N Pembroke Rd, Fayetteville, 72701

March 23, Monday, 6:00 pm - Women’s History Banquet, Clarion Inn

March 24, Tuesday, 10:00 am, Finance Drive Genie Donovan’s home, 1923 E. Joyce Blvd. Cottage 114. For more information, 521-3296.

April 13, Monday, 6:30 pm - Board Meeting, Joyce Hale’s home, 285 W. Cleburn

April 15, Wednesday, 11:30 am - Monthly Member Meeting, “Local Markets,”  
Fayetteville Public Library

**April 25-26, Saturday and Sunday, STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION, Fayetteville**

League website <http://www.lwvarwc.org/>

## From Libby’s Desk

Mary Alice Serafini, Joyce Hale, Wanda Stephens and I attended League Lobby Day at the Capitol on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Along with other ERA supporters from around the state, we lobbied members of the Senate and House State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committees, where the bill will be introduced and, hopefully, voted out for consideration of the full House and Senate. We had lunch with our representatives, Uvalde Lindsey and Lindsley Smith, and also with Representative John Edwards of Pulaski County, a strong ERA supporter. Representative Lindsey spoke on the Conservation Easement Bill which targets riparian areas and is being introduced to committee this week as well. Joyce Hale will testify on behalf of this bill she has worked so hard on for many months. By the time you read this, we will know if the bills made it out of their respective committees.

Convention is coming! Please put the dates of April 25-26 on your calendar and plan to attend. The program should be excellent. Judy Carey and Betty Solis are looking for volunteers to help make this a worthwhile event. And it will be fun with good food and drink.

**11th Annual Women's History Dinner**

The 11th annual Women's History Dinner will be held Monday, March 23rd, 6:00 p.m. at the Clarion Inn. Those women being honored for their distinguished leadership in Washington County are Patsy Brewer, Edith Hawkins, Bettie Lu Lancaster, Gail Segers, and Libby Wheeler. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from Mary Bess Mulhollan, 442-7333 or e-mail [marybess@cox.net](mailto:marybess@cox.net). She will have tickets at the March LWV meeting. Congratulations to these women.

**Convention Help Needed!**

Can you keep someone in your home for one or two nights? Do you have colored or white tablecloths for lunch or dinner? Call Genie Donovan, 521-3296.

How about card tables and folding chairs for the dinner? Call Judy Carey, 443-7033.

Can you help with set-up and clean-up for lunch on Saturday at the Fayetteville Public Library? Call Betty Solis, 442-5164.

How about helping with set-up and clean-up for dinner on Saturday, 5 pm, at Sandy Edward's home? Call Judy Carey, 443-7033

Wine, cheese and crackers for before dinner are needed. Call Betty Solis, 442-5164.

On Sunday morning we need people to come and set up at 7 am before the Presidents' meeting, and to stay to clean up after the 8:30 breakfast. Call Judy Carey, 443-7033.

For the Sunday breakfast we need fruit, fruit juice, muffins, coffeecake or other breakfast items. Call either Betty Solis, 442-5164 or Judy Carey 443-7033. You can bring these items with you if you are attending. If not, we will make arrangements to get your food to the breakfast.

**Louise Russert-Kraemer**

The sad news is that Louise Russert-Kraemer died February 13, 2009. She was in Cleveland with her daughter, Lisa, when she had a stroke and never recovered. Louise was serving as president of the League of Women Voters of Washington County until Mid-December, when she resigned because of ill health.

Louise was a dynamic person with a strong personality who never stopped questioning and learning. She was a compassionate person who cared deeply for her students, her friends and for many "good causes," particularly those protecting the environment. Her impact on both the University of Arkansas and on Fayetteville was great.

Louise's devotion to her family, and theirs to her, was reflected by the fact that 18 of her children, grandchildren and their spouses were present at her memorial service. She is greatly missed.

### Programs and Policies

The League will consider changes to its *Program for Action* on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. This annual event will be hosted by Karen Rollet-Crocker and is a chance for League members to discuss our policy stands in light of the information gleaned during the year's programs or changing circumstances. Everyone should take some time to review the current *Program for Action*, which is available on the League website [www.lwvarwc.org](http://www.lwvarwc.org), and come prepared with suggested changes. A transportation study group recommended the following additions during a December meeting after reading the University of Arkansas Community Design Center's study on light rail in Northwest Arkansas, the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan and an article describing the newly formed Regional Mobility Authority. Changes to the section on Public Transportation are in bold.

- I. Public Transportation  
(1988, 2006)

The LWVC supports coordinated public transportation service **such as light rail** in Washington County with the following provisions:

1. Continuous participation by business industry, labor and civic, governmental, and other institutions in the planning, development and operation of coordinated public transportation;
2. Cooperation among government and private entities for the purpose of regional solutions;
3. Use of **adequate** public and private funds to subsidize public transportation;
4. All planned phases of public transportation should weight the social and environmental as well as economic considerations.
5. **The Regional Mobility Authority should dedicate a portion of their funding to alternative transportation options.**

**Members will have the opportunity to discuss this proposal as well as any other suggestions before reaching a consensus on what should be presented for formal approval at the Annual Meeting in May. Come share policy talk, wine and light refreshments with your fellow League members.**

DIRECTIONS TO KAREN ROLLET-CROCKER'S HOME  
MEMBER MEETING, MARCH 18, 7:00 P.M.

From: N Mission Blvd & E Rockwood Trl, Fayetteville, AR 72701 US  
To: 951 N Pembroke Rd, Fayetteville, AR 72701-2522 US

A) N Mission Blvd & E Rockwood Trl, Fayetteville, AR 72701 US

- 
1. Start out going EAST on E ROCKWOOD TRL toward N FALLIN AVE. (go 0.7 miles)
  2. Turn LEFT onto N PEMBROKE RD. (go 0.2 miles)
  3. End at 951 N Pembroke Rd Fayetteville, AR 72701-2522
- 

B) 951 N Pembroke Rd, Fayetteville, AR 72701-2522 US

>> TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME: 2 minutes | DISTANCE: 0.85 miles

**Call to Convention 2009**

All members of the League of Women Voters of Arkansas and interested non-members are invited to the 29<sup>th</sup> State Convention to be held in Fayetteville on April 25 and 26. You will not want to miss this convention which will celebrate another group of LWV Hall of Fame honorees, focus on the impact of public policy or the lack of public policy on our health and the environment, advocacy and the how to's of leadership in the League.

Knowledge Leads to Impacts on Policy  
29<sup>th</sup> LWVAR State Convention  
Saturday, April 25, 9:15 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.  
Sunday, April 26, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Please register by completing the following and mail to LWVAR Treasurer, Joyce Hale, 285 W. Cleburn, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Local League or MAL Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration:**

MEMBERS

All programs plus meals	\$50 _____
Saturday program, lunch only	\$25 _____
Saturday program, dinner only	\$30 _____

NON-MEMBERS

All programs plus meals	\$55 x _____ = _____
Saturday program, lunch only	\$25 x _____ = _____
Saturday program, dinner only	\$30 x _____ = _____

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to LWVAR.  
Questions? Call Libby Wheeler, Local Chair, 479 521-1158

Reservation deadline: March 30, 2009

Hotel and other options: LWVWC members would enjoy hosting members from other parts of the state and help reduce the costs of attending convention. For members who prefer to stay in a hotel, call the Cosmopolitan Hotel, located just off the Fayetteville Square, at 479 442-5555 for reservations. Be sure to identify yourself as a LWVAR Convention participant to get the rate of \$89 plus tax per night and reserve your room by March 20.

If you prefer to stay with a League member, please indicate here \_\_\_\_\_ and you will be contacted by your host by April 11.

**Preliminary** Schedule for the League of Women Voters of Arkansas' 29<sup>th</sup> Convention  
April 24-29, 2009  
Fayetteville, AR

### ***Knowledge Leads to Impacts on Policy***

**Friday Afternoon, April 24<sup>th</sup>**, 1-5:00 – State Board Meeting

#### **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

In honor of Earth Day, two program sessions are being planned with emphasis on the environment, which should be of interest to Leaguers all over the state. Morning and afternoon events will be at the Fayetteville Public Library.

8:30 – 9:10 – Visit to Fayetteville's Farmers Market on the Square (optional)

9:15 – Registration at the Fayetteville Public Library

9:45 – Opening Session and Greetings from Fayetteville's Mayor

10:15 - **Program/Workshop I** – Watershed Protection (U of A Agricultural Engineer, Dr. Marty Matlock, is being contacted as speaker. He's good!)

11:30 – Tour of the Library with emphasis on its green and sustainable features

Noon – Catered Luncheon at the Library **Hall of Fame** Recognition

12:45 **Major S Hall of Fame** Recognition

1:30 – Break

2:00 **Speaker session**, which will be open to the public. Nationally known chemist, Dr. Theo Colborn will address the impact of chemicals that we are adding to the environment on humans, especially contaminants in the womb. Dr. Colborn will provide a DVD and consultation by conference call.

3:15 Break

3:30 Business Meeting

4:45 – Free time

6:00 – Wine and Cheese Party at the Fay Jones home of Sandy Edwards

7:00 – Catered Dinner at the Edwards' home. Social and Caucusing evening.

**Sunday, April 26th**

Morning events will be at the U of A Extension Service building.

7:30 – Presidents' Meeting (for local League presidents)

8:30 – Breakfast with Carolie Mullen, our National League Liaison

9:15 – **Two workshops:** Choose one

1. Understanding the League of Women Voters (for new officers and new members) – Led by Carolie
2. Advocacy – (LWVWC members Mary Dillard, author of Winning Campaigns has been invited to lead this session)

10:30 – Business Meeting

11:30 – Local League direction to the Board of Directors

11:45 – Adjournment

12:00 – Trip to the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks for those interested. ( \$5 admission charge)

**Guide to Elected Officials 2009-2011**

Look for your new Guide to Elected Officials for 2009-2011, which will be mailed with your finance drive letter in March.

Sarah King, Kelly Roark and Bettie Lu Lancaster are updating this handy reference, which will be distributed at public libraries throughout Washington County and the County Clerk's office. Let us know of other places where it should be made available to the public. Many public officials tell us they keep it on their desks and refer to it often.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

Post Office Box 4  
Fayetteville, AR 72702

Voice Mail: 479-575-1841

Nonprofit Organization

U. S. Postage Paid  
Fayetteville, AR  
Permit #461