



# The League of Women Voters of Washington County, AR

www.lwvarwc.org

April-May, 2010 VOL. 57, ISSUE 3

## Calendar

**APR. 12, Mon., 6:30 pm, Board Meeting,** Joyce Hale's home, 285 W. Cleburn.

**APR. 21, Wed., 6:30 pm, Transportation.** Washington Regional Education Center at Pat Walker Center for Seniors, 12 E. Appleby Rd., Fayetteville. **See article inside.**

**APR. 22, Thurs., 7:00- 9:00 pm, LWVBC Health Reform Panel with Leflar and Garner.** Wal-Mart Room at Shewmaker Center on NWACC Campus. For more information call Carol Westby, 479-640-8336.

**APR. 23, Fri., Noon, Dist. 92 State Representative Candidate Forum,** Fayetteville City Hall

**APR. 24, Sat., 10:00 – 3:00 pm, LWVAR Council,** Little Rock

**APR. 26, Fri., 1:00 pm, Judgeship Candidate Forums,** Fayetteville City Hall

**MAY 3-17, Early Voting for Primary Election**

**MAY 10, Mon., 6:30 pm, Board Meeting,** Joyce Hale's home, 285 W. Cleburn.

**MAY 18, Tues., Primary Election**

 **MAY 20, Thurs., 6:00pm – LWVWC Annual Meeting/Potluck,** 1st United Presbyterian Church, 695 Calvin St., Fayetteville. **BRING A COPY OF THIS VOTER!!**

## From Joyce's Desk

I would like to stress the importance of our transportation program on Wednesday, April 21, and strongly urge that you make every effort to attend. The program committee has worked very hard to bring individuals with expertise together to help us better understand the options along with the financial realities that will shape NW Arkansas's transportation future. We all have opinions of what we would like to see, but unifying this into a plan will be the challenge and responsibility of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Mobility Authority. Your input has a chance to shape the direction.

To gain a sense of the many considerations making up our transportation future, please participate in the **Year 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Public Opinion Survey** developed by the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission. As League members we understand the importance of citizen participation. Here is your chance to **vote** on plans that will greatly influence what our region will become. You may participate on line by going to <http://www.nwarpc.org/> or download the form for mailing.

I look forward to seeing you April 21 to welcome our out-of-town speakers. Let's show them our appreciation for coming by coming to hear what they have to say.

## Establishing an Interested and Intelligent Electorate – Florence Cotnam Part 2



Leaders in the early women's suffrage movement realized that securing the vote was not enough. Women needed an opportunity to be schooled to establish "an interested and intelligent electorate", as Florence Cotnam declared in her speech to the first League of Women Voters Convention. Already, citizenship schools were preparing women to think independently of their fathers and husbands and Cotnam was active organizing them in several Arkansas counties. She was also a lecturer on the program of the citizenship school held by the University of Arkansas for a week in July, 1919. *The Centennial History of Arkansas* by Dallas T. Herndon, published in 1920, describes her activism and the impact she had on her audiences:

"In April, 1919, Mrs. Cotnam went to Indianapolis to speak to the newly enfranchised women. The Indianapolis Star said of this speech: "Mrs. Cotnam has the fervor and remarkable flow of language characteristic of the south and the audience listened with unfeigned pleasure. She is also clever and extremely ready, as she demonstrated when she turned the laughter that greeted her allusion...government ownership of railroads... into hearty applause.

In September, 1920, she held a series of citizenship schools in Alabama. During the early part of January, 1921, she went to Florida to lecture on citizenship under the auspices of the University of Florida. While in that state she visited twenty-three towns and delivered ninety-one lectures. The Palm Beach Post of January 14, 1921, had this to say: "Mrs. T. T. Cotnam, who spoke last evening at the Woman's Club in the first of a series of six addresses to be given in this city as a part of the University Extension course, completely swept her audience off their feet with her brilliancy of address and her conception of the political and legislative situation as it now exists in this country. The course is a part of the great Americanization movement that is sweeping the country and deals especially with 'American Citizenship.' Mrs. Cotnam will speak again next Thursday night, giving her second lecture. It will be well worth the while of all men and women who can possibly do so to hear her. One who heard her last evening said she is willing to wager that Mrs. Cotnam knows more about the laws of the country, congress and the men in congress than any man in the state of Florida.

Cotnam's comprehensive study of questions and problems of national importance, combined with her ability as a speaker, has made her one of the strongest forces in the country today in the molding of public thought and opinion along the lines of constructive citizenship and broad vision. Her works in behalf of equal suffrage, her schools of citizenship and her public lectures on vital themes have been a most potent force in inculcating high American ideals."

While Cotnam was a dynamic and high profiled representative and first president of the LWVAR, she may have been the cause for the state to loose its charter. Her partisan activity continued with high visibility. In October, 1920, she campaigned for the Democratic Party in Kentucky and Indiana and was a delegate-at-large to the San Francisco national Democratic Convention where she seconded the nomination of presidential candidate, A. Mitchell Palmer.

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORT

	2009-2010 BUDGETED	Income/Expenses 4-1-09 to 4-1-10	2010-2011 PROPOSED BUDGET
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Dues	3,700.00	4,300.00	4,100.00
Contributions - Members	1,000.00	1,129.16	700.00
Non-members	1,200.00	1,305.00	700.00
Grants			
Interest AG Edwards Reg./CD	200.00	8.00	220.00
Interest AG Edwards Sch./CD	30.00	1.07	50.00
Other Sources/Reserves	3,670.00	310.00	500.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>9,800.00</b>	<b>7,053.23</b>	<b>6,270.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>A. OPERATING COSTS:</b>			
Duplication	50.00	62.75	50.00
Supplies	100.00	134.24	100.00
Postage	75.00	207.40	200.00
Board, Committees, Meetings	200.00	195.19	200.00
Telephone	275.00		
<b>SUBTOTAL OPERATING COSTS</b>	<b>700.00</b>	<b>599.58</b>	<b>550.00</b>
<b>B. MEETINGS/TRAVEL:</b>			
State Convention/Council	150.00	100.00	150.00
National Convention	2,200.00	0.00	300.00
Annual Meeting	100.00	5.85	50.00
Other Meetings	50.00	48.52	100.00
<b>SUBTOTAL MEETINGS/TRAVEL</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>154.37</b>	<b>600.00</b>
<b>C. FINANCIAL SUPPORT (DUES):</b>			
State PMP	1,000.00	691.25	890.00
Pledge to LWVAR	400.00	100.00	
National PMP	3,000.00	1,749.35	2,570.00
<b>SUBTOTAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>4,400.00</b>	<b>2,540.60</b>	<b>3,460.00</b>
<b>D. VOTER</b>			
Postage	200.00	116.39	125.00
Printing	150.00	104.23	125.00
<b>SUBTOTAL VOTER</b>	<b>350.00</b>	<b>220.62</b>	<b>250.00</b>
<b>E. EDUCATIONAL:</b>			
Publications Purchased	100.00		
Publications Produced	100.00	525.40	250.00
Programs	500.00	648.53	800.00
Grants		35.00	
Voter Service	500.00	763.66	200.00
<b>SUBTOTAL EDUCATIONAL</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,972.59</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>
<b>F. POSITION SUPPORT:</b>	<b>150.00</b>		
<b>G. BOARD DISCRETIONARY FUND:</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>177.90</b>	<b>160.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>9,800.00</b>	<b>5,665.66</b>	<b>6,270.00</b>

**On the Move: Transportation Choices**

***Wed. April 21, Pat Walker Center for Seniors, 12 E Appleby Rd., Fayetteville.  
6:30-8:30 pm***

**In the face of NWA's recent growth, we have developed major transportation needs. Our public transit is very limited. Our highways are crowded with cars. What are our options? What is the cost, and who will pay? How are decisions being made? The League of Women Voters of Washington County has put together a panel of specialists to inform us about what resources are available to help solve our transportation problems in a balanced way.**

***Panel participants***

Gary DalPorto is the Planning & Program Development Team Leader for the Federal Highway Administration, Arkansas Division in Little Rock. Gary began his career with the Arkansas Division of FHWA in 1987 and has been involved with planning, research and MPO activities for over 30 years. He is a Professional Engineer with the State of Indiana and received a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois in 1974

Andrew Brewer is a Transportation Planning Engineer for the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department in Little Rock, Arkansas. He has spent five years working in the Planning & Research Division, obtaining his Professional Engineer license in 2009. He graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and obtained his Master of Science in Civil Engineering in 2005. Andrew Brewer was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and grew up in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Jeff Hawkins is the Executive Director of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission, which is located in Springdale. Jeff grew up in Indiana; is a graduate of Bethany Lutheran College, and has a degree in Urban Studies from Mankato State University in Minnesota. He's been with Regional Planning for about 9 years...he's a charter member of the American Planning Association, and is a past president of the Arkansas Chapter.

Keith Jones is Vice President/Regional Transit Manager for URS Corporation, an organization with worldwide engineering, construction and technical services including expertise in all forms of passenger rail and bus rapid transit, including high speed rail. Keith has over 35 years of experience in transportation planning and transit operations. He supervises transit projects in a seven-state region for URS. He has worked on the commuter rail planning and design teams for a 44 mile line serving Fort Worth, a 22 mile line in Denton County, Texas, and the downtown Dallas streetcar project. He is the former Executive Director of the Central Arkansas Transit Authority (CATA). He was instrumental in implementing Little Rock's River Rail Streetcar Project. He was also Director of Statewide Planning for the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department and Director of Transportation Planning for Metroplan, the MPO for the Little Rock area. In 2004, he was named Outstanding Transportation Manager by the Community Transportation Association of America.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT, 3-7-10**

## OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President                      Barbara Farley                      2012

Secretary                                      Nancy McCartney                      2012

## OFFICERS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE IN 2011

President Joyce Hale and Treasurer Susan Rausch

## BOARD MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED

J. P. Peters                      2012

Bettie Lu Lancaster                      2012

Molly Rawn                      2012

Laura Kellams                      2012

## BOARD MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED for one year terms

Mary Alice Serafini

Mary Bess Mulhollan

Genie Donovan

Libby Wheeler

## BOARD MEMBERS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE IN 2011

Judy Carey, Karen Rollet-Crocker, Sally Kelly, Marge Zinke

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2011:

Betty Solis, Chair

Lois Alward

Jeanine Neuse

**Proposed Programs of Study for 2010-2011.**

Barbara Farley, Program Chair.

Below are seven proposed local programs of study to be presented during 2010-2011. The League membership will be asked to vote on these during the LWVWC annual meeting this May. This is an opportunity for members to sign up to participate in the various programs I. Please look these over carefully, we only need five of the seven below.

1. **Challenges for Hispanic Women Arriving in NWARD:** With population and economic growth in NWARD over the past several decades there has been a parallel increase in ethnic diversity as newcomers to the area arrive from more and more destinations. What are the challenges and effectiveness of the local infrastructure to assist these new Arkansans as they make the transition. In particular, how effective are we at easing the transition for Hispanic women as they settle with their families in NWARD.

2. **NWARK Disabled and Public Transportation:** Further study of Regional Transportation systems with special emphasis on the problems disabled people encounter is the basis for this forum. Currently there are several alternative transportation services available for disabled people. However each has specific imitations. 1. The UA bus service will only pick up people who live within 3 blocks of major routes and 2. Faith in Action has only 122 trained volunteers to help homebound with their transportation needs. This possible League program will identify challenges and explore possible solutions with a goal toward enhancing regional long term planning.
3. **Riparian Zone Preservation:** A county wide examination of different approaches to the preservation of riparian zones within urban/rural settings. The focus of this possible forum will be given to existing/potential ordinances and best management practices. 700 groups are currently working on this statewide. The league study would include a survey of what these different groups are doing and how effective they are.
4. **First Responder Status:** A region-wide examination of natural disaster/public health emergency readiness; specifically, an assessment of the current and future trauma system and homeland security. In particular how the University and regional counties collaborate, coordinate and complement one another?
5. **Fall Candidate Forums:** There will be numerous competitive candidate races this Fall. Keeping abreast of these and informing our community will present a major challenge for the LWV but accomplishing this goal is an essential element of the LWV mission.
6. **Rising Child Poverty in Northwest Arkansas:** The children of NWA are falling into poverty at a rate faster than the ongoing increase in the regional population. This is surprising given our regional reputation as an economic powerhouse. The forum will raise awareness of this issue and the burdens/challenges child poverty poses for the regional education system, healthcare system, child welfare services and juvenile criminal justice system. The forum will include local statistics on child well-being with comparison to statewide information including draft recommendations from the Legislature's Poverty Task Force. It is possible one or two of the co-chairs of that task force could attend from Little Rock.
7. **Multi-jurisdictional Roundtable:** A county-wide round table discussion by various mayors and County Judge from across Washington County. With special emphasis on their anticipated budgetary (and other ) problems and their various approaches to solutions. This round table would present a unique opportunity for League member to become acquainted problems other local communities face.

Current membership list:

Jana Britton	Joyce Hale	Nancy Owens
Betty L. Davis	Lois Hayes	Dr. Janine Parry
Jane Davis	Margo Heinzelman	J. P. Peters
Izola P. Morgan	Courtney Henry	Anne Prichard
Linda Nicometo	Patricia Hensman	Joan Rahm
George Patterson	Rep. Jim House	Linda Ralston
Alice Webb	Liz Howick	Bill Ramsey
Bootsie Ackerman	Laura Hughes	Dr. Susan Rausch
Fran Alexander	Mary F. Hughes	Molly Rawn
Nancy G. Allen	Dave Hunter	Janet Richardson
Lois Alward	Harriet H. Jansma	Karen Rollet-Crocker
Mary Pat Anderson	Laura Kellams	Ann Ternes Rosso
Sara Bartlett	Sally Kelley	William Schreckhise
Leslie Belden	Mary Lynn Kennedy	Dr. James Scroggs
Wanda Belzung	Thomas Kennedy	Dr. Jane .Scroggs
Jo Bennett	John King	Berta Seitz
James (Dick) Bennett	Dr. Bettie Lu Lancaster	Phil Serafini
Cathy Boyd	Robert B. Leflar	Mary Alice Serafini
Hope Bradberry	Sarah May Leflar	Debra Sexton
Karla Bradley	Greg Leding	Dr. Lindsley Smith
Anita F. Bukey	Rep. Uvalde Lindsey	Betty Solis
Judith Carey	Sen. Sue Madison	Kristie Spielmaker
Robert Caulk	Dr. Carolyn B. Madison	Wanda B. Stephens
Sara Caulk	Mike Malone	Claire Sutton
Margaret Clark	Allyson Malone	Dr. Barbara Taylor
Bethel Cunningham	Louise Mann	Bobbie Nell Templeton
Mary Dillard	Nancy McCartney	Brenda Thiel
Lynn Donald Carver	Karen McSpadden	Janice Torbett
Eugenia Donovan	Justin Minkel	Mrs. Gene Tweraser
Nettie Everett	Karen Minkel	Virginia Ulick
Barbara Farley	Dr. Roger Montgomery	Martha Ward
Patricia Ferritor	Kerry Mueller	Elizabeth Wheeler
Mary Fitzpatrick	Mary Bess Mulhollan	Jacqueline Williams
Denise Garner	Jeanine Neuse	Diana Worthen
Hershey Garner	Steven M. Neuse	Marion E. Wyckoff
Colene Gaston	Misty Newcomb	Marge Zinke
James (Jay) Hale	Marion Orton	

**MAY 18 ELECTION**

The Washington County League is sponsoring three candidate forums before the May 18 election:

Place: City Council Room at the Fayetteville City Hall

Time: Friday, April 23, 12 noon: Arkansas House of Representatives District 92

Monday, April 26, 1:00 p.m.: Circuit Judge, Division 7

Monday, April 26, 2:30 p.m.: Circuit Judge Division 5

These Forums, which are open to the public, will be televised on the Government Channel during the early voting period.

Although the election on May 18 will be a primary to choose each party's candidates for the November general election, in several cases this election chooses the office holder. For example, for the Arkansas House of Representatives District 92, there are two Democratic candidates, Bill Ramsey and Greg Leding. Since there are no Republican candidates, whoever wins the Democratic primary will be the next Representative from District 92.

Also, there are two openings for Circuit Judge, a non-partisan position. The two candidates in Division 5 are Marsha Woodruff and Beth Storey Bryan. Whoever wins on May 18 will become judge. For the new Division 7, there are four candidates: Gary Carson, Charles Duell, Joanna Taylor and Steve Zega. If no candidate receives a majority, the two top candidates will have a run-off in the November general election.

Another non-partisan position to be decided on May 18 is an opening on the Arkansas Supreme Court. The candidates are Courtney Henry and John Fogelman.

Also on May 18 is a special Fayetteville City election to decide whether money from the Hotel, Motel, Restaurant tax can go to park maintenance. Information on this issue was published in the March/April Voter.

**EARLY VOTING BEGINS MAY 3.****LWVAR 2010 COUNCIL**

LWVAR members are invited to Council on April 24, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Cox Building of the Little Rock Library, 2nd floor. In lieu of a registration fee, this Council meeting will be an open meeting of the Board of Directors to address issues that concern us all. All members are encouraged to come with issues as well as potential actions to take. High priorities will be to

- 1) Activate a new website, using member input;
- 2) Address membership and how to establish and support more, smaller Arkansas Leagues;
- 3) Issues which need attention in the 2011 Legislative session.

The entire session will be member-generated, no outside speakers, no registration fees. Lunch will be in the cafe located in the Cox Building at each member's expense - menu items to come soon. All people who plan to attend on April 24 should RSVP to [ma@maspeaks.com](mailto:ma@maspeaks.com).



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY  
Post Office Box 4  
Fayetteville, AR 72702

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