



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WAKE COUNTY
Working to safeguard democracy through civic involvement

VOTER

August 2009

CELEBRATE WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Wednesday, August 26, 2009 commemorates the 89th anniversary of the 'Susan B. Anthony' Amendment to the Constitution which gave women the right to vote. The League of Women Voters of Wake County will celebrate the event on this date from 5:30 until 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 3313 Wade Avenue.

The special annual event is our opportunity to honor the elected women officials of Wake County. Many honorees welcome this opportunity to speak with us. The Celebration grows each year as the number of elected women officials increases. We are very proud to sponsor this event in commemoration of the suffragettes. Did you know that North Carolina did not ratify the 19th Amendment until 1971? North Carolina could have been the 36th state to ratify the Amendment, but instead allowed Tennessee to claim this honor. North Carolina assembly men even sent a delegation to Tennessee to influence their vote against the Amendment. Fortunately, Tennessee wisely cast an affirmative vote.

League members are encouraged to attend, to be a sponsor and to ask others to sponsor the event. Those who can provide food for this event should contact Pat Butler patbutler3@yahoo.com.

Amendment XIX (1920)

1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

VOTER SERVICES: Board of Education Candidate Forum

Mark your calendar for the September 16th Board of Education Candidate Forum at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church located at 2723 Clark Avenue, Raleigh (corner of Clark and Brooks Avenues). The Forum coincides with our fall general meeting. Our cosponsors are the Junior League of Raleigh, the YWCA of the Greater Triangle, the Wake County PTA Council and El Pueblo.

Candidates will have an opportunity to express issues central to their campaign in their opening and closing statements. In addition, candidates will be asked questions prepared by the sponsoring organizations and written questions from the audience. Leaguers can send written questions for the candidates to Pat Warner p.m.warner@earthklink.net or can submit questions at the Forum.

This is our opportunity to learn about the views that these candidates hold on issues that are important to the citizens of Wake County. We encourage Leaguers to be enthusiastic participants in this Forum and to invite your friends and relatives to attend with you.

Please contact Maryanne Olsen at (919) 465-1509 or mgocary@yahoo.com if you have questions about the forum or if you would like to help with this event.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to a new year of interesting discussions and programs with the League of Women Voters. I am looking forward to an exciting 2009-2010. The Environment and Education Committees will continue meeting. The Immigration Group will be offering some community discussions of immigration issues. Running & Winning will be offered again in the Spring 2010 supported with a grant from the Women's Club of Raleigh.

Here are some events that are coming up very soon. You might want to put them on your calendar:

The 89th anniversary of women's right to vote, Women's Equality Day (WED) will be Wednesday, August 26th (see page 1). Please contact Lisa Mowat lisamowat@nc.rr.com to volunteer to help.

The Primary Election will be October 6th. Come meet the candidates:

1. The Raleigh City Council Forum will be September 10th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at Temple Beth Or on 5315 Creedmoor Road. Refreshments will be from 6:30 to 7:00 pm. We are a co-sponsor with WakeUpWakeCounty. Please contact Lisa Mowat to volunteer.
2. The Board of Education Forum will be Wednesday September 16th (see page 1).

Our first Lunch with the League meeting at the YWCA on Hargett Street will be Friday September 25th from 12:00 to 1:15. Please join us for these very interesting and informative meetings.

On October 13th we will offer our first evening speakers meeting from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. We are still looking for a place in North Raleigh to have the meeting, and will keep you informed.

We hope that these events will be an exciting kickoff to the year and that future events that will interest you and motivate your participation.

Lisa Mowat

2009-2010 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFF BOARD MEMBERS

President	Lisa Mowat	Action Chair	Betty Ellerbee
1st Vice-President	Marie Moylan	Environment Chair	Jeri Gray
2nd Vice-President	Beth McAllister	Lobby Corps	Louise Romanow
Secretary	Ann Berry	Lunch with the	Marie Moylan
Co-Treasurers	Karen-Marie Allen	League	
	Betty Ellerbee	Reservations	Pat Butler
		Website	Trudi Kappel
Pat Butler	Mary Martorella		
Elizabeth Fensin	Maryanne Olsen		
Victoria Gerig	Joan Robertson		
Claudia Kadis	Joan Sullivan		
Janie Kirkeby			

LWV-W Calendar 2009-2010

Aug 26 Wed	5:30- 7:30 pm	Women's Equality Day	Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall 3313 Wade Avenue
Sept 10 Thurs	6:30- 8:30 pm	Raleigh City Council Forum	Temple Beth Or 5315 Creedmoor Road
Sept 16 Wed	7:00- 9 pm	Board of Education Forum	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 2723 Clark Avenue, Raleigh (corner of Clark and Brooks Avenues)
Sept 24 Thurs		Raleigh Hall of Fame	
Sept 25 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	University Club 4200 Hillsborough Street
Oct 6 Tues		Primary Elections	
Oct 13 Tues	7:30- 9 pm	Evening with the League	
Oct 23 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	Hargett Street YWCA 554 E. Hargett Street
Nov 3 Tues		Election of City Council and Board of Education members	
Dec 13 Sun	2-4 pm	Holiday Party	
Jan 22 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	Hargett Street YWCA
Feb 26 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	Hargett Street YWCA
Mar 26 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	University Club
Apr 23 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	Hargett Street YWCA
May 11	evening	Annual Meeting	

Board of Director meetings – 2nd Thursday, 7 pm at League Office (note: next meeting August 6th)

Committee Meeting (open to all members and guests)

Environment 4th Wednesday, 7 pm at League Office, starting in September
(note: next meeting August 28th at League Office)

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LET'S GET TO WORK

The Wake County LWV endorses a program called Let's Get to Work (LGTW) which is a team working under the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End Homelessness. The goal is to raise money for homeless families and those at risk of becoming homeless. The money is for childcare subsidies, bus passes and the legal assistance necessary for getting and keeping jobs. The County Childcare Subsidy program manages 75% of the money. Good Work manages 15% of the money for bus passes. Legal Aid manages 10% for legal services. I have served on the Advisory Board for several years and found this effort very rewarding. I'm looking for a League volunteer who can attend some meetings with me and then take my place as the League representative in January 2010. Please call Lisa Mowat at 782-8839 if you have questions or are interested in becoming involved. *Lisa Mowat*

BLISTS HILL SUFFRAGETTES

While touring the back roads in England this summer, we chanced upon a very small parade in a very small town which was celebrating Queen Victoria's birthday . The parade was so small that it had just one float, sponsored by the Blists Hill Suffragettes Association! This wonderfully enthusiastic group of women in period costumes were waving banners, shouting to the crowd, and handing out invitations to join their organization.

They were delighted to talk with me after the parade and invited me to their monthly meeting. The meetings are open to the public and apparently well attended. They proudly told me that they won the right to vote in 1918. They insisted on giving me a poster, stating **Convicts, Lunatics, and Women HAVE NO VOTE**, to bring back for display in the League office. Needless to say, this serendipitous moment turned out to be a highlight of our trip. Dick enjoyed this chance meeting as much as I did and took excellent photos to remember the event! *Joann Robertson*