



THE

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VOTER

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Berea & Madison County

January means meeting month for members

Local officials look forward to seeing LWV members at their first meetings of the year, and 2006 is no exception.

We urge you to look at the meeting schedule on page 4 and try to attend at least one meeting. Our goal is to get several members to each session. This year we have added meetings of the planning commissions in Berea, Richmond and Madison County to go along with our theme: 2025 What's YOUR Vision?

Please let Elizabeth Crowe <elizabeth@cwv.org> know if you can help so we know what will be covered. We also need volunteers to write brief reports on the meetings for the Voter.

Visionary women pack punch, Berea students report in study

The league's Holiday Party celebrated more than the season as 25 "visionary women of Berea" were honored during the festivities at the home of Annriette and Bill Stolte in Berea on Dec. 11.

Berea College students and their subjects mingled with members and admirers including Berea Mayor Steve Connelly and enjoyed a variety of holiday appetizers and warm cider.

The league and the college's Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service is sponsoring the students' efforts to research the lives of 25 women who have made



LaKeishua Arthur, Hannah McCreery and Paige Cordial said research into the lives of Berea's women of vision revealed how a person's internal drive can change the community and the world.

contributions to Berea.

Three of the four students in the women's studies class summarized their work during a presentation at the party. Hannah McCreery discovered that is-

ues some of the women she interviewed encountered such as equality in pay scales still remain issues of concern for women today. The students and

See Visionary Page 6



State LWWV president Katy Mercer outlined league's state agenda Dec. 11 in Berea.

State president greets local league

Three issues dominate state league's agenda, President Katy Mercer, told local league members and guests during the holiday party Dec. 11.

State league has been asked to help set guidelines for judicial elections, since recent court decisions have opened up the conduct of elections to include more opinion and debate. Mercer was appointed to the Judicial Campaign Con-

duct Committee by Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice Joseph Lambert.

State league is also asking local chapters on whether it should lobby for voting rights for convicted felons. The Fletcher administration has been accused by some groups of delaying and prolonging the process by which felons who have served their time get their right to vote

See State President Page 4

Director's Corner

Investing in LWV enriches all

It's that time of year when we are all pondering what to give or do for our friends and loved ones. I have made a special addition to my gift list this year: the League of Women Voters of Berea & Madison County. I invite you to join me.

Why does the League deserve our support?

For starters, because it is run entirely by a group of committed volunteers. The sacrifices made

by our League volunteers are numerous! But I think most would agree; volunteering for the league is a rewarding experience. The work of the league not only transforms our community, it enriches those who become a part of its historical effort to promote informed and active participation of citizens in government.

I joined the league shortly after graduating from college and feel as if I have grown up with league. The women (and men) who comprise the league have taught me invaluable lessons about how government works (and how it doesn't) and a host of other issues. Margaret Durham, my adopted "league mom," taught me more about personal/professional development than anyone I have worked with before or since.

I have held several professional positions, but none have so thoroughly prepared me to work with diverse groups of people on diverse sets of issues as the league. The league continues to be a great resource to our county by offering hands-on training in these areas:



Jeanne Hibberd

- How government works
- How to be an effective advocate for things you care about
- How to research and develop consensus on issues
- How to develop public policy
- How to design newsletters and Web sites
- How to register and educate voters
- How to raise money
- How to network with others
- How to get media attention
- How to create a database
- How to manage a budget
- How to speak in public and to moderate public forums

I am thankful for all the ways the league has enriched my life, and I haven't even begun to list what it has done for Berea & Madison County. As you make your list this holiday season, I hope you will join me in giving a gift to our local League of Women Voters. Whether you give \$500, \$100, \$50, \$25, or volunteer your time, you won't find a better return on your investment!

Make your check payable to: Berea & Madison County LWV and mail to: PO Box 254, Berea, KY 40403.

Although the LWV is non-partisan, because it lobbies on issues, your gift is not tax deductible. Tax-deductible gifts can be made to the League of Women Voters of Kentucky Education Fund—listing the Berea & Madison County LWV as the designated recipient. Such gifts are only used for educational purposes.

Jeanne Hibberd is development director for Hindman Settlement School in Hindman, Ky. Jeanne lives in Berea with her husband, Bruce Callahan, and stepson, Jay.

LWV_EVENTS

January Meetings
Members will attend the first meeting of 2006 of our city, county and school bodies. **Schedule on Page 4.** Please volunteer for at least one meeting.

February
A trip to the General Assembly and a meet-the-candidates reverse press conference are in the works. **Feb. 14 is National League birthday!**

March
Voter registration drives and a possible poll worker training workshop are in the works.

April 7-8 State Council
State LWV to hold its meeting at Boone Tavern hosted by our League.

April Annual Meeting

VOTER DEADLINES

Jan. 16 for Feb. Voter
Feb. 14 for March Voter
March 14 for April Voter
April. 20 for May Voter

The Voter is a monthly publication of the League of Women Voters of Berea and Madison County. To report ideas or corrections, contact Voter Editor Libby Fraas <libby.fraas@eku.edu> or call 859 624-1292.

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Mail information to
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P.O. Box 254, Berea, KY 40403.

Copies of the Voter are on the Web at
<http://lwvbmc.iclub.org>

"The work of the league transforms our community..."

WELCOME our newest member

Yvonne Riding moved recently from Las Vegas and is new to both Madison County and Kentucky. She is the new community outreach manager of the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office. She has more than 20 years' experience in communications and public affairs.



office of repository development, managed the speakers' bureau and international exhibit program, developed a range of technical papers and presentations, wrote speeches, and participated in a statewide educational outreach program.

She has a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in education from the University of Washington.

She oversees local public outreach for the Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PMACWA) and will lead efforts to share information about the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant and support

Yvonne and her husband live in northern Madison County. She hopes to persuade her children and grandchildren who live in California to consider moving closer to Kentucky. Her address is 368 Avawam Drive, Richmond, KY. 40475. phone: 859 624-9900. E-mail: ridingy@bellsouth.com

In Nevada, Riding worked with the Department of Energy's Yucca Mountain Project, where she supported the deputy director of-

MEMBER UPDATE

Sally Smathers Davis read about our land use forums in last month's Voter and says she is impressed with what we are doing. Sally was a long-time league member here in Madison County, where she also became involved as the county's solid waste manager.

She is now on both the conservation and the planning board in Thornton, N.H. She notes that New Hampshire is changing in its southern part in similar ways as Madison County with increased residential development. "But up here where I am, we have the advantage of seeing what has happened and what continues to happen and are trying to make better planning decisions."

Sally notes that a nearby town "has just spent \$10,000 for a student intern from Brown University to do a data collection on everything from protecting scenic roads and special views and vistas to the protection of endangered plants and animals and the preservation of historic buildings." You can reach Sally at <rsdavis@coopresources.net>.

Please send news of note about yourself or other league members or their families for Member Update to <lfraas@adelphia.net>.

League of Women Voters-Berea and Madison County

*P.O. Box 254
Berea, KY 40403*

NAME(S) _____
ADDRESS _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
P.O. BOX 254
BEREA, KY 40403**

FOR OUR RECORDS, PLEASE CHECK BELOW.

- PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION
- BUSINESS CONTRIBUTION
- MEMBERSHIP DUES
(\$40 INDIVIDUAL/\$60 HOUSEHOLD
\$5 STUDENT)
- PLEASE SEND ME MORE INFO
ABOUT THE LEAGUE.

Note: although the LWV is non-profit and non-partisan, because we take positions and lobby on issues, your gift is not tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

JANUARY MEETING DATES

Check your calendar and try to attend one or more of these local government meetings. Ask a friend, co-worker or neighbor to join you. Let league president Elizabeth Crowe know that you can attend. She is keeping a checklist. At the meeting, league members introduce themselves to the officials and make a statement about what the league's mission is. We also would like to print a brief report about each meeting in the February Voter so please select a volunteer to write up the report and e-mail to Voter editor Libby Fraas <lfracas@adelphia.net>.

Government	Date	Time	Place	I can go!
Berea School Board	Jan. 2	5:30 p.m.	Central Office Bd. of Educ. Bldg. Berea	
Berea City Council	Jan. 3	6:30 p.m.	Berea Police & Municipal Bldg.	
Madison Co. Fiscal Court	Jan. 10	9:30 a.m.	Berea Police & Municipal Bldg.	
Richmond City Commission	Jan. 10	6:30 p.m.	Richmond City Hall	
Berea Planning Commission	Jan. 10	6:30 p.m.	Berea Police & Municipal Bldg	
Madison Co. School Board	Jan. 12	6 p.m.	Board Office Keeneland Dr. Richmond	
Madison Co. Planning Commission	Jan. 17	6 p.m.	Madison Co. Courthouse	

CANDIDATE WATCH 2006

To keep an eye on who is running in next year's election, bookmark the Secretary of State's Web site <http://www.kentuckyregistrar.net/>

Since our last listing in November's Voter, these candidates have filed for the May primary. The filing deadline is Jan. 31.

For **District 1 Magistrate** two Democratic candidates have filed:

Larry Todd, 401 Mt. Vernon Road, Berea.

Larry Combs, 1825 Hwy 1016, Berea, for re-election.

For **District 4 Magistrate**, William H. Tudor, 1171 Old Town Branch, has filed for re-election.

For **36th legislative district**, Lonnie Napier, 302 Danville St., Lancaster, has filed for re-election.

Mercer is youngest president to lead state league

Continued from Page One

time get their right to vote restored so they can vote in elections. State League is considering joining those groups in lobbying the legislature to hurry the process.

A third item on the state's agenda is a civic literacy project to encourage participation in our democratic institutions.

Mercer at 25 is the youngest president to serve the state league. In November she was recognized as Young Careerist by the Business and Professional Women/River City, an award to recognize the community involvement of working women in the Louisville area.

She works as a project manager for Humana's Acute Clinical Interventions department and plan projects for Humana's nursing intervention programs.

Mercer responded via e-mail to some questions about her background and interest in the league.

1. How long have you been involved in LWV and why?

Since becoming an intern at the Louisville League in 2003. The commitment to civic education and good government was extremely apparent at every meeting. That was quite refreshing.

2. Where were you born and educated?

I was born in Hattiesburg, Miss., but we moved to Louisville when I was six months old. I am a graduate of the Youth Performing Arts High School in Louisville, where I majored in voice. I attended Centre College and received a bachelor's in government and then went on to receive my master's in political science from the University of Louisville.

3. What about your personal life (as if you have time)?

My boyfriend and I are about to celebrate our one-year anniversary. I just recently bought my first house, which takes up most of my free time.

Resolve to Recycle

Have you thought about what New Year's resolutions you'll make this year? The time isn't far off, and I'd like to make a suggestion—resolve to begin or increase **RECYCLING!**

When we recycle “garbage,” instead of sending it to the landfill we save the environment in so many ways, from decreasing the need for virgin materials to reducing toxic manufacturing byproducts to extending the life expectancy of landfills.

Berea and Richmond residents have it easy with curb side pickup. Just ask for a recycling bin and then **USE** it. Check the relevant Web sites for details: <<http://www.richmond.ky.us/Departments/Recycling/>> for Richmond and <http://lwvbmcc.org/Recycle_home.htm> for Berea.

County residents have to work a little harder. You have to take your recyclables to the Richmond/Madison County Recycling Center located off Boggs Lane South at 550 Recycle Drive. The Richmond Web site has details.



Many items can be tossed into your recycling bin: aluminum cans, glass jars of all colors, #1 and #2 plastics, tin cans, and newspapers if wrapped so as to stay dry. Junk mail, magazines and certain other items are accepted at the Recycling Center but not in our curb-side pickup.

White paper holds a very special position in the recycling business. I'm told it is the “champagne” of recycling products, that it can bring in enough revenue to almost pay the costs of collecting everything else.

In Berea the league established a collection facility called the White Paper Depot—so that folks wouldn't have to travel to Richmond to recycle this very special commodity.

The White Paper Depot is located on Glades Road at Berea Fire Station #2. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. White paper is the kind of paper used in offices for letters, memos, copies, and so on. It can have colored printing on it, but the paper must be white.

Lots of household “junk mail” includes white paper. If you open those envelopes you might be surprised at how much white paper can accumulate in a month.

You might even look forward to receiving “junk mail” if you tell yourself you're doing a good thing for the environment by recycling the contents. Well, maybe not. But still, it might make for a really worthwhile New Year's resolution.

— Joan Peoples



Workshop draws eager participants

The How to be a Candidate Workshop Nov. 12 at the Madison County Public Library in Richmond was a tremendous success, attracting 30 participants and clearing almost \$300 for league voter education activities.

The event was sponsored by our league and the ECU Center for Kentucky History and Politics. Speakers included state Rep. Susan Westrom of Lexington, who is speaking in the photo, and campaign veteran Dale Emmons of Richmond.

The board is considering similar workshops in future years, perhaps of longer duration.

Photo courtesy of Adam Baker

Visionary women honored at Holiday Party

Continued from Page One

their professor, Peggy Rivage-Seul, hope to publish their work in print or on the Web.

Dorothy Tredennick, one of the women interviewed for the project, said she was very impressed with the student who interviewed her. "We had a great time together, and I am sure other people had the same experience," she said.

Tredennick's story included her support of civil rights during the 1950s and her participation in efforts to desegregate restaurants in the community.

Other women in the project include Matilda Fee, Elizabeth Embree Rodgers, Julia Britton Hooks and Mary Britton, Eleanor Marsh Frost, Elgetha Brand Bell, Florence Holmes Ridgeway, Anna Ernberg, Helen Dingman, Emily Ann Smith, Dr. Louise Gilman Hutchins; Julia Allen, Jessie Reasor Zander, Martha Wylie Pride, Betty Wray, Liz Menefee, Ruth Oakes Butwell, Jane Baucom Stephen-



Register reporter Joice Biazoto interviewed local league president Elizabeth Crowe during the party.



Maureen Flannery and Berea College Professor Kathy Bullock, one of the Visionary Women, attended the Dec. 11 event in Berea.



Martha Pride, a long-time member of LWV, was among the women honored.

son, Jackie Burnside, Barbara Ann Wade, Kathy Bullock, Bell Hooks, and Susanna Lien.

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Dorothy Tredennick and student Paige Cordial discuss Visionary Women of Berea project at league's holiday party Dec. 11.