Read and Bring This Workbook to Annual Meeting

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
GREATER OMAHA
ANNUAL MEETING WORKBOOK

Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS GREATER OMAHA
ANNUAL MEETING
9:00 - 1:00 PM
Field Club of Omaha
3615 Woolworth Avenue

See reservation sheet on last page.
Reservations due by April 3.

- Check in at 8:30 a.m.
- Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER OMAHA
ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, April 14, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

8:30 Registration and coffee
9:00 Call to Order
   Introductions
   Annual Meeting Appointments:
      Minutes Approval Committee
      Parliamentarian
      Tellers/Pages
      Timers

Rules of Procedure
1. *Rules of procedure will be in accord with the Bylaws of the LWVGO & Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.*
2. Motions and amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary. Motion forms are on each table.
3. Please raise your hand to be recognized before speaking and state your name.
4. No member may speak twice on any motion until all have had a chance to speak.
5. Debate is limited to two minutes for each speaker. The timer will remind you.

Minutes of April 15, 2017 Annual Meeting
Board Recommendation: Proposed Bylaws Amendment
Treasurer’s Report
Reports of Officers and Directors (see workbook for reports)
Report of the MLD Committee
Adoption of 2018/2019 Local Program
Nominating Committee Report
Election of Officers
Installation of Officers, Directors, and Nomination Committee
Awards
New Business
Directions to the Board
Announcements
Adjournment
Keynote Speaker – Dr. Jodi Benenson
HANDLING A MOTION

I. BRINGING A MOTION BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY

1. A member makes the motion ("I move that ...")

2. Another member seconds the motion.

3. The chair states the question "It is moved and seconded that (or "to") ..."

II. CONSIDERING THE MOTION

1. Members debate the motion (unless undebatable)
   Preference in recognition:
   Member who made the motion
   Member who has not spoken first time
   If possible, alternate for and against

2. Chair puts question to a vote
   "The question is on the adoption of ..."

   (Voice vote)

   "Those in favor of the motion, say aye." "Those opposed, say no."

   (Rising vote–if a 2/3 vote is required)

   "Those in favor of the motion will rise [or raise your hand]. Be seated."
   "Those opposed will rise [or raise your hand]. Be seated."

3. Chair announces result of vote

   "The ayes have it and the motion is adopted." (or) "The noes have it and the motion is lost."

   "The affirmative has it and the motion is adopted." (or) "The negative has it and the motion is lost."

By Jim Slaughter, Certified Professional & Professional Registered Parliamentarian and amended to pertain to LWVGO and LWVNE by Caroline Sedlacek.
Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Elaine Johnson at 9:05 am. President Johnson introduced the new League Office Administrator Susan James who provided the attendance report. In reference to Article VII Section 4 of the Bylaws (one tenth of the voting members shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the LWVGO), President Johnson announced a quorum with the registration of 40 members present.

Introduction of Past Year Board Members: President Johnson introduced the officers and directors who served on the League’s board this past year.

- Vice President: Ann Chalson
- Secretary: Kim Culp
- Treasurer: Anne Starr
- Past President: Gail Formanack
- Public Policy Director: Peggy Adair
- Voters’ Guide: Kathy Dewell
- Voter Rights Director: Maryanne Rouse
- Membership/Recruit & Retain Directors: Linda Duckworth and Lynne Anderson
- Membership/Data Director: Mia Crawford-Gray
- Communications Directors: Geri Simon and Carolyn Duff
- Finance/Development Director: Mary Jo Barbush-Weiss
- Community Relations Director: Margie Dumas-Hill
- Office Administration Directors: Marlene Mahoney and Carolyn Ireland

Directors who wished to recognize their committee chairs were allowed to do so. Past presidents in the room were acknowledged.

Annual Meeting Appointments: President Johnson appointed Bev Traub and Lynne Anderson to the Minutes Approval Committee, Marlene Mahoney to serve as Parliamentarian, and Jan Herzog, Katie Wadas-Thalken, and Linda Katalenich to assist with meeting procedure.

Secretary, Kim Culp, read the Rules of Procedure.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of last year’s Annual Meeting held on April 23, 2016, were printed in the Annual Meeting Workbook on pages 4-6. They were filed as printed and approved by the Minutes Approval Committee, Geri Simon and Ann Chalson.

Recommendations of the Board: The first item of business was the proposed amendment to the bylaws. The amendment was recommended by the Board of Directors requiring no second.
Secretary Kim Culp presented the proposed bylaw amendment: the following is a wording change for Article II “Purpose and Policy” section of our Bylaws. This wording was dictated by the IRS as a condition of our 501(c)(3) status.

Article II, Purpose and Policy, Sec. 3. Tax Status. “The LWVGO is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.”

A motion was made to add the recommended IRS wording to Article II, Section 3, of the Bylaws. With no discussion, members voted unanimously, and the motion was adopted.

Treasurer’s Report: The report for the fiscal year September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017 is found on pages 7-8 in the workbook. An additional handout for the Educational Fund – see attached – was handed out. Treasurer Anne Starr reviewed the reports and responded to questions and comments. Since the LWVGO’s tax status is now 501(c)(3), dues are tax deductible. She also pointed out that the $21,000.00 Weitz Foundation grant is a fixed grant amount for the office administration salary. The treasurer’s report, as printed, was filed for audit.

Adoption of the Local Program: The Local Program is found on pages 9-11 of the workbook. Joanna Lindberg submitted an update – see attached – to the Juvenile Justice Position. The majority was in the affirmative (by a show of hands greater than two-thirds), and the proposed updates to the Local Program for the Juvenile Justice Position was adopted.

President Elect’s Statement:

Nominating Committee Report: The report is found on page 12 of the workbook. Secretary Kim Culp read the portions of the bylaws pertaining to nominations. Annette Conser, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers for 2017-2018. Nominations from the floor were open. A move was made by Geri Simon (seconded by Helen Atwater) that nominations from the floor be closed. The motion was adopted.

Elections: The secretary read the Bylaws provisions pertaining to elections. The slate of Officers and Directors presented by the Nominating Committee were unanimously elected by voice vote.

Installation of Officers: Past President Polly Goecke, assisted by Bev Traub, installed the officers, directors, and nominating committee members.

Awards: President Johnson called upon last year’s Make a Difference Award recipient Carolyn Thiele to present this year’s award to Joanna Lindberg for her outstanding leadership and tireless efforts to educate and engage voters, especially young voters, ex-felons, and new citizens.

President Johnson recognized the retiring members of the 2016-17 Board of Directors for their outstanding contributions and presented each a gift.
President Elect’s Statement:

I want to thank Elaine for her service as president this last year. We have made great strides under her direction. I also want to thank the membership for electing me. It is a great honor.

This will be a year of growth and change, many of which have already started. We are going online more and more and are in the development stages of a new website. We will be spending more time in collaboration with other nonprofits to expand our reach to continue our mission of voter services. Part of our efforts will include updating our Bylaws, Policy and Programs. Thank you.

Membership Discussion:

- We have new office space that is more private.
- Linda Duckworth of the Membership Recruitment & Retention Committee would like to renew interest and participation in the Observer Corps. More volunteers are needed to observe meetings and report back, and get contact information for various boards/members. Examples include NRD, OPPD, MUD, State Legislature, and the City Council.
- Carolyn Thiele spoke about the Nebraska Civic Engagement Table, forming canvassing teams, engaging millennials, and the access we have to interns. She also spoke about the success of the postcards.
- It was suggested that the directory, although it is now available electronically (and soon to be online), also be available in a printed format so we represent ourselves as professionals.
- Alex Garrison, our new web-master, spoke of the new website, as well as the social media outlets we are utilizing: Facebook (including sponsored ads), Twitter, and Instagram.

Directions to the Board:

1. Study the impact of the printed Voters Guide before making any changes. Do a marketing survey, perhaps get a grant and survey other Leagues. Maybe just print enough for libraries and the Election Office.
2. Fundraise. Check with Helen Atwater for previous schedule for sending out fundraising letters.
3. Investigate liability insurance for the board.
4. Be more involved with city and school issues. Action Alerts were suggested.
   1. Investigate membership dues increase.
   2. Increase the use of online communications without ignoring our non-digital members.
   3. Don’t be so frugal that we neglect members.
5. Build a relationship with North Omaha radio stations.
7. Work with the Chamber of Commerce.
8. Explore a grant from Google. We’ve received one in the past.
9. Take pictures of events in which we participate and share them.
9. Select a Finance and Development Committee to plan fund raising.

Announcements:

- OTOC (Omaha Together One Community) has a meeting on May 1st.
- Omaha Gives – May 24th
- Transition meeting for outgoing and new board members – tentatively May 11th
- An additional introduction was given to Susan James explaining that her job with the LWVGO was part-time, and that she also works for the Omaha Symphony. Susan also has a son, and has experience writing grants. Welcome Susan!
- Members only have to be 16 years old to join.
- Betsy Davidson was introduced and recognized as a 67-year member! Her advice was to emphasize non-partisanship and encourage voting.

Adjournment:
With no further business or announcements, the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am when we broke for lunch. After lunch, Incoming President Anne Chalson then introduced speakers Dr. Jody Neathery-Castro (Political Science department chair at UNO) and Dr. Paul Williams (Religion department chair at UNO) - - - they gave a talk about the new minor field of study they are offering for Human Rights Studies, the Goldstein Lecture Series on Human Rights currently ongoing at UNO, as well as the photography exhibit.

Molly Scott, Secretary
Elaine Johnson, President

The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting held on April 15, 2017, are approved.

Bev Traub Lynne Anderson
___/_____/2017 _____/_____/2017
# LWV GO BUDGET/ACTUALS

**FISCAL YEAR SEPT 1, 2017 TO AUG 31, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>ACTUALS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>MOBILIZE OMAHA</td>
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<td>$35,588.08</td>
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Great Western Checking Account
### Symmetry Investment Account

- **Balance as of 9/01/17**: $20,625.48
- **Balance as of 1/31/18**: $39,332.67
- **6/30/2016**: $20,702.51, 2017
- **12/31/2017**: $21,568.11, 4.00%

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### FISCAL YEAR SEPT 1, 2017 TO AUG 31, 2018

#### EXPENSES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Actuals</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>NATIONAL PMP</td>
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<td>OTHER BOARD EXP</td>
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<td>SPEAKERS' BUREAU</td>
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<td>$3,218.09</td>
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### OPERATING EXPENSE

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### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
#### EDUCATIONAL FUND OF GREATER OMAHA

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**28-Feb-18**

Balance on hand as of September 1, 2017  
$10,703.25

Receipts:

General Contributions:

Members  
$ 521.26

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<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Line 1</th>
<th>Line 2</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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Non-Members $ -
Running and Winning $ -
In-kind Member $ -

Legacy Fund
Members $ -

Grants
Lozier Foundation $ -
Omaha Community Foundation $ -
LWV-US $ -
O Venture $ -

Bank Interest $ -

Total Receipts: $ 521.26

Disbursements:
Office Rent and Expense
Running and Winning $ -
Voter Participation $ (200.00)

Total Disbursements: $ (200.00)

Balance on Hand as of 2/28/2018 $ 11,024.51

Anne Starr
Treasurer
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREATER OMAHA
LOCAL PROGRAM 2017-2018

GOVERNMENT

CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT:
In years when the City Charter Review Commission meets, the League will monitor and evaluate the recommendations of the commission. When the recommendations come before the City Council, the League may take a position on individual amendments and present the League’s position on the individual amendments before the City Council. (1956, amended 1964, 1965, 1967, 1994).

CITY GOVERNMENT:
• Representation:

• Elections:

• NEW STUDY: City/County Merger. Information to be available to membership within two years. (adopted 2003, 2004)

CITY FINANCING:
A primary goal of city government should be the efficient and most effective use of tax revenues. Those city services which directly promote the general health, welfare, and safety of the community should be financed by general taxation.

Omaha should maintain a tax structure wherein its revenues come from a balanced mix of property tax, sales tax, and user fees. User fees should be clearly stated and should not discriminate against any one segment of the city's population. (1982, amended 1990, 1991, 1993).

URBAN PLANNING:
The League supports the use of growth management techniques and tools for limiting urban sprawl. These techniques encourage mixed land uses ensuring a range of housing options and creating walkable neighborhoods which promote distinctive attractive communities. Development should foster neighborhoods with a strong sense of place and include reinvesting and existing communities. The participation of citizens and stakeholders should be encouraged in development decisions that are fair, equitable, and cost effective.
The League encourages a more efficient use of resources which will preserve critical natural resources and encourage preservation of open spaces, farmland, and wetlands. Developments should include storm water management to preserve unpolluted water sources improving the quality of existing water bodies and streams.

The League supports the development of standards and regulations that ensure growth will occur in an equitable and sustainable manner. (2005)

COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

PUBLIC UTILITIES:
- **Advertising:**

- **Electric Rates:**
  The League supports a rate structure that is based on equitable allocation of costs and encourages energy conservation. OPPD should charge a higher proportion of the actual cost of extending distribution lines to new customers. Customers should be given an explanation of any change in rates. (1977, amended 1983, 1992, 1998).

NATURAL RESOURCES

HAZARDOUS WASTES:

GREATER OMAHA PARKS AND OPEN SPACES:
The League supports parks and open spaces because they add to the quality of life of the citizens and enhance the preservation of wildlife.

We encourage green space linkage between parks and the development of a variety of kinds of parks, i.e., linear, active recreation areas, low impact retreats, and mini-parks.

The budget for parks and recreation should be adequate to provide for quality maintenance, for conservation of park resources, and for acquisition of major parkland in the most cost-effective manner. (1986, amended 1990, 1992).

NEW STUDY: Urban Growth Policy in Metropolitan Omaha
Review and discuss issues of urban sprawl, smart growth, sustainable communities, and new urbanism; to identify key smart growth elements; to review the city's Master Plan and other area planning documents. (2003, 2004)

HUMAN RESOURCES/SOCIAL POLICY

CHILD CARE:
Every child is entitled to humane care in a safe and healthy environment which promotes personal, emotional, and intellectual growth.

Uniform minimum standards for child care should be established and enforced by federal, state, and local governments.

Government agencies that set standards for child care centers should provide parents and caregivers with clear and concise information which fully explains the standards.

Inspections of child care homes and child care centers should be efficient and effective, unannounced, at least biannual, and constructive in nature. (1979, 1999).

POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS:
A good police department should incorporate police-community relations in its day-to-day operations. To better serve the total community the police department should have:

1. A strong public relations program.
2. Programs designed to develop total community cooperation and awareness of the police department.
3. Ongoing training in human relations skills, conflict management, as well as racial-cultural and gender sensitivity for all police officers.
4. A training process that includes qualified civilians as trainers.
5. Appropriate funding for a strong continuing education program.

JUVENILE JUSTICE-LWV POSITION (2017)

The League supports a juvenile justice system that provides for realistic, beneficial and humane treatment of the juvenile offender, as well as protection of the community. It advocates the use of community-based alternatives to incarceration, and programming that is education based, family centered and rehabilitative. To achieve these goals, the League advocates a high governmental priority in funding for youth issues. (1994, 1999, 2016)

Specifically, the League supports:
• Establishment of a county-wide intake and assessment system for all youth at risk. There should be a 24-hour information and crisis line that networks with all juvenile services and provides referral for family services

• Identification, separation and control of the small group of serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders who are responsible for the majority of serious criminal offenses

• Pre-trial diversion based on risk and needs into alternative programs

• Utilization of a broad range of public and private alternatives to detention.

• Utilization of local family community-based evaluations with family preservation and intervention services to include the whole family unit.

• Promote initiatives to prevent youth from being filed on in both the child welfare and juvenile justice system; to coordinate youth services and reduce duplication of services

• Development of proactive delinquency prevention strategies to avoid youth entering the juvenile justice system

• Incorporate restorative justice principles that emphasize repairing the harm caused by criminal behavior through cooperative processes that include victims, offenders and others working towards a positive outcome for all

• Incorporation of comprehensive planning designed for youths individualized needs in the secure and non-secure facilities which should include ensuring youth physical and emotional well-being, advancing life skills and education goals to benefit youth’s reentry into the community

• Support ongoing staff training and professional development in best practices
LWVGO NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 7, 2018

Many thanks to an all-star committee of Bev Traub, Marlene Mahoney, Alex Garrison, Rebecca Armstrong Langle, and Linda Duckworth! I thank them for the great work we did.

We are proud to present the following slate:

Officers and Executive Committee:
President: ------------ Ann Chalson 402-392-0318 aschalson@cox.net
Vice President: ------------ Rebecca Armstrong Langle 402-210-7442 rebeccaarmstrong7@gmail.com
Immediate Past President ---- Elaine Johnson 402-630-5199 c elaineomaha@gmail.com
Secretary: -------------- Molly Scott 402-689-3692 molly-mkscott@gmail.com
Treasurer: -------------- Lynne Anderson 402-305-3292 lsanders6626@cox.net

Directors:
Public Policy: ------------ Peggy Adair 402-630-3325 c impa@centurylink.net & Darci Garcia 801-636-6476 darci_m_garcia@yahoo.com
Voter Rights: ------------ Maryanne Rouse 402-301-3417 c mbr614@cox.net
Finance/Development: ------ Mary Ann Griffin 402-250-4873 grifma@msn.com
Communications: ------------- Kim Armstrong 402-250-0456 kimberlyarmstrong@gmail.com
Community Relations: -------- Palistene Gray-Moore 402-709-5179 pgraymoore@cox.net
Membership: ------------- Alex Garrison, alexcgarrison@gmail.com MaryLee Moulton, 520-990-5944 c 5moultons@gmail.com & Krystal Fox 402-507-1823 kleefox@gmail.com

Nominating committee for 2018-19:
Annette Conser, Chair
Joanna Lindberg
Linda Duckworth

Submitted by Annette Conser, Chair
EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT:  ANN CHALSON

This was a year of growth, stress and tragedy. Last summer we lost our dear friend and newly elected Vice President, Kim Culp. Several League members attended a Memorial Service to celebrate her life at the Dowd Chapel on the Boys Town campus with many of her friends and family. Joanna Lindberg and Carolyn Thiele spoke on Kim’s work for juvenile justice and their experiences working with her. The League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha created the Kim Culp Forum on Juvenile Justice to honor her. The first forum planned in conjunction with Partnership for Kids was held on March 22, 2018 And was a great success.

With the capacity grant we received at the close of 2016 we hired an office administrator for twenty hours a week to create a new, colorful version of our monthly bulletin among many other duties. One of those is sending out almost daily Action Alerts from the state and national leagues asking members to contact their congressmen, senators and state representatives. Our co-treasurer, Lynne Anderson, has taken over the payroll duties which saves the League money.

In addition to the Weitz Foundation grant we also received donations from Valmont Industries, Lozier and Omaha Gives, as well as generous donations from our members and the League of Women Voters of Nebraska Education Fund. We have added a board position to oversee fundraising for the coming year.

I worked this year with Omaha Together One Community (OTOC) on their effort to raise awareness of the problems with the Payday Lending regulations in Nebraska and the need to change the laws currently affecting the system.

Linda Duckworth, working with UNO Service Learning and Rita Shaughnessy’s AP Speech class, once again presented our biannual Running and Winning project to introduce high school girls to women elected officials and the possibility of running for office in the future.

Our public access television program Go Vote Omaha continues to create exciting programming and offering thoughtful discussions of current policies affecting all those in Omaha.

Alex Garrison developed and created a new website for the League with timely content and the ability to more effectively use the PayPal for members to pay for League events. Included on the website is a link to all YouTube programming created by the League.

During the Omaha municipal elections, last spring we once again used vote411.org and tested a new format for the Voters Guide. Kathy Dewell is currently contacting candidates for this year’s guide. Laura Torres has offered to translate the guide into Spanish and we are currently exploring our options for distributing Spanish guide. Working with the Omaha Press Club and WOWT Channel Six, we presented a mayoral debate last spring and have a Democratic Congressional Primary debate scheduled for April 19, 2018.
Voter Services and the GOTV Committee continue to schedule voter registration events, coordinate voter registrar training, naturalization registrations and new voter education programs. Last fall we once again participated in National Voter Registration Day at all area Libraries and select schools. They continue to access mini grants offered by various groups to cover many of their costs. They have regular meetings with the Douglas County Election Commission and build meaningful coalitions.

This year we were featured in Omaha Women Today magazine and will received recognition from the Douglas County Historical Society.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your president for the last year and to be selected to serve another term.

**VICE PRESIDENT: REBECCA ARMSTRONG LANGLE**

I took over as the Vice President for LWVGO after the extremely sad death of Kim Culp. Kim contributed so much to the League over the years, and she will be greatly missed.

During my short tenure, I attended various meeting and forums and represented the League on panel discussions. Additionally, I continue to work with Vote411, the League’s online Voter’s Guide, at the state level. I am excited to continue as the Omaha League Vice President. I hope to increase the League’s presence in Omaha, especially in younger populations.

**TREASURER: ANNE STARR**

Currently, the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha has $39,332.67 in the Go Account and $11,024.51 in the Ed Fund Account for a total of $50,357.18. There is still six months left in fiscal year 2018 and while this looks great the LWVGO has several obligations which when deducted leave just over $2,000 for all other expenses.

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PUBLIC POLICY: PEGGY ADAIR & DARCI GARCIA

LEGISLATIVE DAY
Legislative Day was held on Tuesday, February 20 at the State Capitol in Lincoln. The Luncheon speaker was Senator Burke Harr.

PRIORITY BILLS
LWVNE priority bills have been selected:
LB68; LB76; LB295; LB305; LB870; LB944; LB973; LB974; LB975; LB1065; LB1132
One-line explanations of the priority bills and links to the bills online can be found at the LWVGO website.

VOTER SERVICES: MARYANNE ROUSE

While I’m sure that each year in the Land of Voters Service is unique, this one appears to have been even more so than 2016 which was highlighted by lots of activity surrounding a Presidential election.

In the early part of 2017, we served our normal events: monthly Naturalization Ceremonies and outreach and registrations for the Omaha City elections. This included high school and community registrations as well as distribution of a poster about why it was important to vote in the City election. We also used our registrant list from 2016 to send postcards and text reminders about the April primary and May general elections.

Millard Public Schools invited us to conduct voter registration for their seniors in October so they could vote on the Millard School Board initiative in November.

In August, the Voters Services Director fell, broke her leg, which created a gap that was filled ably by other members, particularly Ann Chalson, Carolyn Thiele, Joanna Lindberg, and other members of the GOTV Team. (Ann even made a trip to the hospital for a hand-off of information about upcoming events.)

Nevertheless, in 2017, LWVGO:

- Logged 851 volunteer hours by 195 volunteers.
- Registered 468 folks at 70 sites, including 132 seniors in high school, 162 community sites, 174 newly naturalized citizens.
- Distributed 520 Citizen Guides to Voting and displayed voter information in 125 City buses.
- Sent 534 reminders to vote by postcard and 614 by text.
- We hosted 20 TV shows on issues and three candidate forums.
- We distributed 3,500. Voters Guides, our non-partisan print piece that offers a great deal of information from office candidates in their own words.

Finally, we provided voter education for:

- 12 American Government classes in OPS schools.
- 38 partner agencies.
• Three community college presentations. Lots of gratitude is due those who volunteered so that we were able to serve so many in the community. Thank you to all!

As we begin 2018, we are gearing up for a variety of community events and will be working closely with other community based nonpartisan organizations to reach out to register new voters and engage those who have been registered, but have either not voted or voted sporadically in the midterm elections.

We are so appreciative of the time and resources our members provide to all of our Voter Services and GOTV projects. Looking forward to another year of making a difference and making democracy work.

Maryanne Rouse

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT, RETENTION: LINDA DUCKWORTH & ALEX GARRISON

By the numbers:
• 217 active members as of 3/13/18
• 64 new members in 2017; 21 new members in 2018 so far (compared to 27 new members in all of 2016)
• 73 memberships lapsed in renewal process
• 70 members have joined or renewed through online form since launch in September
• Began contacting new members with offer to meet or call within 72 hours of joining
• In process of launching a membership committee dedicated to young professionals and students

Web:
• Launched an entirely new website at omahalwv.org
• Gives us more flexibility and control over our web presence, plus better security
• New features include:
  ▪ Ability to accept payment for memberships, events or goods
  ▪ More storage space and features for lower cost
  ▪ Users can subscribe to updates
  ▪ Authors can easily contribute (content doesn’t have to be uploaded by one person)
  ▪ Averaging about 60 hits per day; getting a good amount of “contact us” activity
  ▪ Request a website feature, blog post or tutorial by emailing web@omahalwv.org

Launched business email through G Suite:
• Members can have powerful email and online work tools for free
• Email has @omahalwv.org domain and all the features of Gmail
• Request a LWVGO email address by emailing web@omahalwv.org

COMMUNICATIONS:

Website – Webmaster Alex Garrison completely revised and updated our website and Calendar at: omahalwv.org. Linda Katalenich also contributed to updating our site.
Social Media-Geri Simon and Ann Chalson have Administrator status to post to both Facebook and Twitter. Daily --often multiple-- posts made. Editor status on Facebook for Alex Garrison, Joanna Lindberg, Carolyn Thiele and Office Administrator Susan James. Our Facebook page has 887 followers. Twitter has 200 followers. This year we added an Instagram account to increase our social media presence.

Bulletin-prepared monthly by Office Administrator Susan James. Distributed primarily via e-mail and with a link on our website, with some hard copies mailed to non-tech members.

Yearbook-will be published after the Annual Meeting.

Go Vote, Omaha!- our League's weekly KPAO television show airs Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. on local cable access Cox Channel 22 or CenturyLink Channel 89. We record Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. Once shows air they are archived on our YouTube channel. Links to all programs can be found via the League website. This interview format program featured 18 shows covering a wide variety of public policy issues. We also did three candidate forums and two issue forms in 2017—all recorded and available on our YouTube channel. Co-producers and crew for the show are: Kathy Bass, Linda Katalenich and Geri Simon. Camera and audio crew for shows include: Blake Rave, Stephanie Howard, Marvin Taylor and Cody Van Dorin (KPAO staff member.) Hosting duties shared by Geri Simon, Tia Spears and Kathy Bass. Additional help with shows and especially forums from: Ann Chalson (our intrepid timekeeper) and Maryanne Rouse.

We plan televised forums for the March 22 Kim Culp Juvenile Justice Forum and the 2018 primary and general elections. A debate with Democratic candidates for the 2nd Congressional District seat will be April 19th co-sponsored with the Omaha Press Club and WOWT. Thanks to Gary Kerr for making this arrangement to have WOWT moderate, record and air the debate, and then share the video with League.

Public Relations- Besides posting regularly social media, flyers and news releases were prepared for September's National Voter Registration Day (September) and in March for the first annual Kim Culp Memorial Juvenile Justice Forum.

-----Geri Simon, Communications Director

LWVGO BOOK/GREAT DECISIONS GROUP: BEV TRAUB

From May through December the group met once a month to discuss books that we had chosen to read which included: The Federalist Papers by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow, and the first part of Grant by Ron Chernow.

Beginning in January the group met once a week for eight consecutive weeks to discuss topics in the Great Decisions Briefing Book 2018 Edition produced by the Foreign Policy Association of New York. The topics included: Waning of Pax Americana, Russia's foreign Policy, China's geopolitics, Media and foreign policy, Turkey: partner in crisis, U.S. global engagement& the military, South Africa's fragile democracy, and global Health Issues.
DINE & DISCUSS

Our monthly Dine and Discuss presentations have continued this year with lively conversation and greater understanding of a range of issues. People who want to know more about League have found it to be a good way to meet members and to learn more about being part of the solution to problems.

Below is a brief list of topics covered during the past twelve months:
April: LGBTQ 101 with Joni Stacy
May: Countdown to Unicameral Wrap-Up with Senator Tony Vargas
June: How Permaculture Will Save our Planet with Gus Von Roenn
July: Public Education in Nebraska. What's at Stake? with Lisa Fricke, John Witzel and Matthew Blomstedt
August: Future of Nebraska Elections with Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale and Douglas County Election Commissioner Brian Kruse
September: How Can You Get Ahead if You Can't Break Even? with Julie Kalkowski
October: Getting Redistricting Right with John Else, Senators Burke Harr and John McColister
November: The ABC's of Water Quality with Janece Mollhoff and Chelsea Johnson
January: Public Policy Issues - Our Focus in 2018, led by LWV-US board meeting Deborah Turner
February: Civic Engagement with Jo Giles and Angie Remington

-------Linda Duckworth and Alex Garrison
BYLAWS OF
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREATER OMAHA, INC.

BYLAWS OF
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREATER OMAHA, INC.

ARTICLE I
Name

Sec. 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVGO, or as the League. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVUS, and of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as LWVNE.

ARTICLE II
Purpose and Policy

Sec. 1. Purposes. The purposes of the LWVGO are to promote voter registration, voter education, and general civic responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

Sec. 2. Political Policy. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III
Membership

Sec. 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Sec. 2. Types of Membership.

a. Voting Members. Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS;
   (1) individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League;
   (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large;
   (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.

b. Associate Members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

ARTICLE IV
Officers

Sec. 1. Election, Qualifications, and Term. The officers of the LWVGO shall be a president, immediate past president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. They shall be voting members of the LWVGO and, except for the immediate past president, shall be elected during the annual meeting. The officers shall hold office until 30 days after the next annual meeting. No officer shall serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office.

Sec. 2. The President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the organization and the board, or designate another person to do so; shall be ex officio a member of all committees except the nominating committee; may sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes in the absence of the treasurer; shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office; and shall perform such other duties as the board may direct.

Sec. 3. The Vice President. The vice president shall chair an annual meeting committee. The annual meeting committee shall plan and organize the next annual meeting. The vice presidents shall perform such other duties as the president and
board shall direct. If the president is unable to be present at a board or membership meeting, the order of officers to preside shall be: vice president, immediate past president, secretary, treasurer.

Sec. 4. The Secretary. The secretary shall keep minutes of the meetings of the membership and of the board. The secretary shall sign with the president all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the board, and shall perform such other duties as the president and the board shall direct.

Sec. 5. The Treasurer. The treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due, shall maintain deposits in a financial institution designated by the board, shall disburse the same only upon order of the board, and shall present statements to the board at its regular meetings and an annual report at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE V
Board of Directors

Sec. 1. Selection, Qualifications, and Term. The board of directors shall consist of the officers of the LWVGO, up to nine directors which shall be elected during the annual meeting, and up to three at-large directors appointed by the president with the approval of the elected members of the board. All directors shall be voting members of the LWVGO. They shall serve until 30 days after the close of the next annual meeting.

In the event that an elected office or directorship cannot be filled by one member, the office or directorship may be filled by two members. The two members filling the position shall be considered as one voting member of the board.

Sec. 2. Powers and Duties. The board shall manage and supervise the business affairs and activities of the LWVGO, subject to the directions to the board received during the annual meeting. It shall select delegates to the national convention. It shall accept responsibility for such other matters as the national or state board may delegate to it. It shall have the power to create such special committees as it deems necessary, and it shall perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws.

It shall elect active LWVGO members for two-year terms on the Board of Trustees of the League of Women Voters Educational Fund of Greater Omaha, elect successor trustees, ratify the vote to remove any trustee by the Educational Fund Board, receive the annual report of the finances and activities of the Educational Fund and other reports as the LWVGO Board may direct, and rule upon any proposed amendments to the Educational Fund Declaration of Trust.

Sec. 3. Executive Committee. The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the LWVGO (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) and one director who shall be appointed by the officers to serve on the executive committee. A majority of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum. It may transact routine business between board meetings and act in emergencies. All business transacted or any action taken by the executive committee shall be submitted to the board for ratification at its next meeting.

Sec. 4. Meetings. At least six regular meetings of the board shall be held annually. The president may call special meetings, and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the board.

Sec. 5. Quorum. Six members, two of whom shall be officers, shall constitute a quorum for the board of directors.

Sec. 6. Filling of Vacancies. In the event the president is unable to complete the term of office, the vice president shall assume the office of president and shall serve the remainder of that term. If the vice president is unable to serve as president, the board shall elect one of its members to serve as president. All other board vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the board.
Sec. 7. Voting. The board of directors shall be authorized to vote by mail, defined as surface mail, email or fax, when it is deemed necessary or by phone in an emergency. Emails shall use a reply back verification for documentation that all members received the email. If a quorum shall vote by the deadline established by the president on a question sent to all members of the board, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if cast at a meeting of the board. The vote shall be made a part of the minutes at the next meeting of the board.

ARTICLE VI
Committees

Sec. 1. Committee Formation. The board may create committees as needed.

Sec. 2. Committee Functions. Committees shall perform duties as assigned by the board of directors and as stated in the policy sheet.

Sec. 3. Composition. A committee shall consist of one or more persons. The committee chair shall be appointed by the president in consultation with the appropriate director. Members of the committee shall be appointed by the committee chair and/or appropriate director.

ARTICLE VII
Meetings

Sec. 1. Membership Meetings. There shall be at least three meetings of the membership each year. The time and place shall be determined by the board. The board may call a special general membership meeting, and shall call such a meeting upon the written request of one-eighth of the voting members.

Sec. 2. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting shall be held between April 15 and May 14, the exact date to be determined by the board. The annual meeting shall adopt a local program for the coming year; elect officers, directors, and the chair and two members of the nominating committee; discuss financial planning; and transact such other business as may properly come before it. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Sec. 3. Notice of Meetings. Written notice of a membership meeting or annual meeting shall be sent to the members at least fifteen (15) days in advance.

Sec. 4. Quorum. One-tenth of the voting members shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the LWVGO.

ARTICLE VIII
Nominations and Elections

Sec. 1. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of at least five members. The chair and two members, who shall not be members of the board, shall be elected during the annual meeting. At the first meeting of the board of directors following the annual meeting, the board shall appoint the membership directors to the committee. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the board. Suggestions for nominations for officers and directors may be sent to the committee by any voting member.

Sec. 2. Report of Nominating Committee. The report of the nominating committee shall contain its nominations for officers, up to nine directors, plus the chair and two members of the next nominating committee. It shall be sent to the members at least fifteen (15) days before the annual meeting. The report of the nominating committee shall be presented to the annual meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor immediately thereafter. No name shall be placed in nomination without the consent of the nominee.
**Sec. 3. Elections.** Election shall be by ballot, except when there is only one nominee for each office, election may be by voice vote. A majority vote shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

**ARTICLE IX**

**Principles and Program**

**Sec. 1. Principles.** Principles are concepts of government adopted by the national convention to which the League subscribes. Most Principles have been an integral part of the national program since 1974 and are the authorization for the adoption of national, state, and local program.

**Sec. 2. Program.** The program of the LWVGO shall consist of action to implement the Principles. Local governmental issues may be chosen at the annual meeting for further study as follows:

Voting members residing within the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned may make recommendations on issues at least two months before the annual meeting. This is usually done during program planning, but may be submitted directly to the board at any time.

The board shall consider these recommendations before formulating and submitting a written copy of a proposed program to the members at least fifteen (15) days before the annual meeting, or the public policy director may consider all recommendations and present a program to the board for approval before submitting it to the members. The annual meeting shall adopt a program by a majority vote of the members in attendance.

**Sec. 3. Changes in Program.** Changes in the program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that: (1) information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks before a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and (2) attendance at said meeting shall constitute a quorum. Final action may be taken with a majority vote by the LWVGO membership.

In the case of an emergency, as determined by the board of directors, changes in the program may be made provided that the proposed changes have been sent to all members along with voting response directions. Members shall have a minimum of two weeks to research the proposal and respond in the fashion(s) requested. The public policy director shall present the results to the board for final action. A majority vote of all LWVGO members is needed to amend the program.

**Sec. 4. Program Action.** Members may act in the name of the LWVGO only when authorized to do so by the board or executive committee. They may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the LWVGO, LWVNE, and the LWVUS. Violation of this bylaw, or any unauthorized use of the LWVGO membership list, may constitute sufficient reason for expulsion from membership in the LWVGO, upon vote of the board.

**ARTICLE X**

**Financial Administration**

**Sec. 1. Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year of the LWVGO shall be from September 1 to August 31 of each year.

**Sec. 2. Dues.** Annual dues, in an amount to be determined by three-fifths of the members at each annual meeting, shall be payable the first day of September. Any member who fails to pay dues within three months after they become payable may be dropped from the membership rolls.

**Sec. 3. Budget Committee.** The proposed budget shall be prepared by a committee that shall be appointed by the incoming president with the approval of the incoming board of directors. The treasurer shall be an ex officio member of the budget committee but shall not be eligible to serve as chair. The committee shall include the finance and development director and a representative of the Education Fund of the LWVGO.
**Sec. 4. Budget.** The proposed budget for the ensuing fiscal year shall be submitted to the board of directors by July 31. The board of directors shall finalize and adopt the budget by August 15, and shall notify the membership of the adopted budget. The budget shall include per member payments to the LWVUS and to the LWVNE, as determined at the national convention and state annual meeting.

**Sec. 5. Financial Review.** The books of the treasurer shall be thoroughly reviewed at the end of every fiscal year and at any other time before a new treasurer takes office. The reviewer shall be a League member, or a person recommended by a League member, who is appointed by the president, approved by the executive committee, and not on the board of directors. Each financial review report shall be submitted to the board of directors and shall be filed as a permanent record in the League office.

**Sec. 6. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution.** In the event of the dissolution of the LWVGO, all assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt public purposes to the LWVNE Education Fund, a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3). Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction in Douglas County, Nebraska, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as the Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**Parliamentary Authority**  
The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

**ARTICLE XII**  
**Indemnification**  
Every member of the board may be indemnified by the organization against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred or imposed upon such members of the board in connection with any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding to which the board member may become involved by reason of being or having been a member of the organization, or any settlement thereof, unless adjudged therein to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duties. In the event of a settlement, the indemnification herein shall apply only when the organization’s board approved such settlement and reimbursement as being in the best interest of the organization. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to and not exclusive of all other rights to which the member of the board is entitled.

**ARTICLE XIII**  
**Amendments**  
These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members attending the annual meeting, provided that the proposed amendments were submitted to the members in writing at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting.

AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OMAHA, INC.

ARTICLE I: NAME
The name of the corporation is: League of Women Voters of Omaha, Inc.

ARTICLE II: DURATION OF CORPORATE EXISTENCE
The Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE
The purpose of this corporation is to promote voter registration, voter education and general civic responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATIONAL ADDRESS AND REGISTERED AGENT
The address and registered office of the corporation is 115 South 49th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68132. The initial registered agent is Anne Star.

ARTICLE V: INCORPORATORS
The name and address of the incorporator is:
Gail Formanack, President, 16597 Hascall Street, Omaha, NE 68130

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERS
The corporation shall have members.

ARTICLE VII: TAX EXEMPTION
No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, nor be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, nor otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, nor intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code).

ARTICLE VIII: DISSOLUTION
Upon dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction in Douglas County, Nebraska, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations as said court shall determine, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.
In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names of this ___ day of ________, 2016.

____________________________________

____________________________________

____________________________________
League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha
Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 14, 2018
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Field Club of Omaha
3615 Woolworth Ave

Our Annual Meeting of the membership.
Check-in at 8:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 9:00 a.m.
A light breakfast and buffet luncheon with vegetarian options will be served.
Cost: $30
Reservations: Required. Deadline is: Tuesday, April 3rd.
To make reservations: Reserve and pay at this link:
https://www.omahalwv.org/2018-annual-meeting/
Or, e-mail: omahalwv@gmail.com and mail a check to:
LWVGO, 115 S 49th Ave, Omaha, NE 68132

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Jodi Benenson, Assistant Professor, School of Public Administration, UNO, will talk about
the inaugural "Women and Public Policy Week" held this past March.
The week brought together the voices and expertise of UNO faculty, staff, students, community partners--including the League - and policymakers to discuss issues related to
women and public policy across the city, state, nation and world.
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS GREATER OMAHA
ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, April 14, 2018
9:00 - 1:00PM
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Omaha, NE