

The Voter

League of Women Voters of the Jackson Area

League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

September 2014

P.O. Box 68214, Jackson, Ms 39286-8214

http://www.lwv-ms.org/Jackson_League

General Membership Meeting

Saturday, September 20, 2014

Speaker: Patsy Broomfield, Better Schools/Better Jobs

Municipal Art Gallery

The meeting will be called to order at 10:00 AM

(Additional information inside)

NOTICE: LWVJA had a board member to resign recently. Interested in serving? Contact Marcia Weaver ASAP ppinn@yahoo.com.



Need VOLUNTEERS for voter registration at **WELLSFEST** on Saturday, Sep 27 from 9:30-4:00pm at Jamie Fowler Boyll Park on Lakeland Drive near Cool Papa Bell Street. Special need to assemble tent at 9:00 am event day. Available for 2 hour shift? Call Marcia Weaver at 601-372-8851 or Kay Brodbeck at either khbrodbeck@aol.com or call her at 601-924-7815.



LWV of the Jackson Area

P.O. Box 68214
Jackson, MS 39286-8214

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS – JACKSON AREA

FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, September 20, 2014

JACKSON MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY
839 North State Street, Jackson
(Parking is in the back. Enter from Congress St.)
Phone 601-960-1582

Agenda

9:15 Members arrive with finger food

9:30 Registration and Refreshments

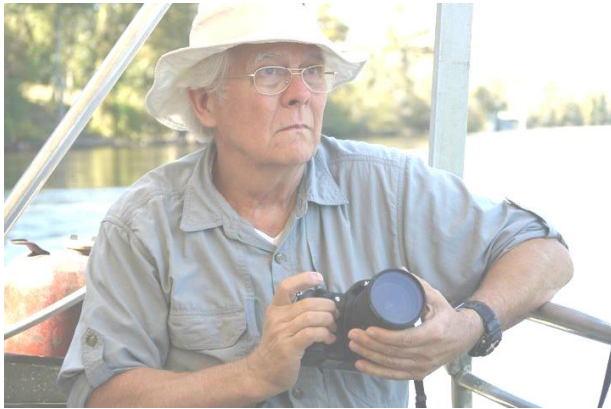
10:00 Meeting Called to Order. Presider: Fran Leber

- LWVJA welcome by president Marcia Weaver
- LWVUS Council experience – LWVMS president Gene Everitt
- Why I Joined League - Dick Johnson and Megan Tidwell

10:30 Speaker – Patsy Broomfield, Communications, Better Schools/Better Jobs, Director
Followed by collection of petitions.

11:15 Adjournment

Member Spotlight



Avery Rollins

- Tell me a bit about yourself (full name, age, address, where you are from, family)

Avery Rollins, 74, Madison, MS, from McComb, MS, originally. My wife of 47 years, Jackie Rollins (also a League member) and I have three children; Chris (Nairobi, Kenya) Geoffrey (Asheville, NC) and Amanda Maxwell (Asheville, NC).

- How long have you lived in Jackson and what have been your activities in Jackson (jobs, other organization memberships, etc.)?

I have lived in Madison since 1986, prior to that Greenville, MS. I retired as Supervisory Special Agent of the FBI, I was assigned all over the US including Monterey, CA, NY City and Washington DC. I currently serve on the Board of MS Museum of Natural Science Foundation, MS Historical Society and Dialogue Institute. I have also volunteered with several state and national conservation/environmental groups working to protect our national resources. I also served several years on the Environmental Stewardship Committee for the MS Episcopal Diocese. I still maintain our family farm on the Bogue Chitto River in Summit, MS where we grow trees.

- When did you join the League of Women Voters of the Jackson Area, and what drew you to the organization?

Jackie had been a member of the League for several years and appreciated the work being done by the League. I joined about eight years ago.

- What were some key political issues in Mississippi and nationally at the time you first joined the League?

Open meetings and various ecological issues throughout the state.

- Describe your involvement in the League over the years (offices held, committee work, etc.).

I served as secretary of the League. I have assisted in fact finding on the Two Lakes Project, later renamed the "LeFleur Lakes" project, and environmental threats therefrom. I also helped to promote best management practices and protection of all rivers including efforts to designate scenic rivers.

- Why has the League remained important to you?

The League is constant in seeking truth and fairness in politics, and it works to that end. Its focus is in giving equal voice to all sides on political issues, in insuring constitutional protections are in place for all voters.

- Has League membership given you an opportunity to make an impact on your community?

It has given me the opportunity to inform and educate both League membership and the public in general in environmental threats in the Jackson area through information sharing and formal presentations.

- Do you have a League memory you could share?

On behalf of the League, I attended the "Charette" sponsored by the Jackson Levy Board in which Andres Duany, an internationally recognized architect, analyzed the LeFleur Lakes plan and found it flawed in concept. I later made presentations to the League and some environmental groups regarding the LeFleur Lakes project.

- What are current political issues that particularly pique your interest?

Some of the major ones are pay inequity, the Affordable Care Act, health care in general, religion in politics, and voter education.

- What do you see as the strengths of the League of Women Voters?

The commitment of its membership to fairness and equal justice in politics. What keeps the League relevant? Identifying and addressing new issues and challenges to fairness in our political system in a non-partisan way.

- How might the League reach out to new, younger, more diverse members?

Recruitment for the League has to be on a personal basis. We need to identify and actively recruit our friends and acquaintances who have our same commitment to fairness and justice on all government, including national, state, and local. In MS we need to concentrate on recruiting more African Americans and other minorities.

President's message:

Recently I found my 1984 League yearbook when dues were just \$25 and the first program action was to change to the mayor-council form of government in Jackson. The League strongly supported this change that gave me the opportunity to be elected to serve on the first seated elected city council with women & African Americans and only two white men. It reminded me how important League is to local, state & national policy. Although we are not big in numbers we are big in helping develop policy. You will read more in this Voter about our membership meeting. Tell your friends to come join us and help us continue to change policy for the good of our local, state and national community.

Marcia Weaver



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| 10/25/14 | General Meeting - Topic: Medicine |
| 11/22/14 | General Meeting - Topic TBD |
| 1/24/15 | General Meeting - Legislative Issues (State Legislative Day 2/12/15) |
| 3/21/15 | General Meeting - National Study |
| 4/18/15 | General Meeting – Annual Meeting |



Who are the members?

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages. Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Why should I join?

Through participation in League projects, you will:

- contribute valuable service to the community
- gain knowledge and experience through the study and discussion of timely and important topics
- discover new interests, develop new skills and learn about crucial issues in your community
- make professional contacts and develop lasting friendships as you meet others in League who share your interests

How much time does it take?

It's up to you! Many members choose to support the League only with their annual dues. Your membership alone gives us the political influence needed to build a voice for citizens and a force for change. We cover a broad spectrum of issues and concerns; you may choose to become involved in one or more of them by actively participating in a group study, or listening to a panel of experts at a meeting or just reading about them in one of our publications.

How do I join?

It's easy! Just [fill out the form](#). Contact us at http://www.lwv-ms.org/Jackson_League.html or at 601-372-8851. We'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.

LWVJA Board of Directors 2014-2015

PRESIDENT

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(Vacant)

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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MISSISSIPPI, INC.**

Serving the people of the state of Mississippi.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multipurpose organization of women and men that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose candidates or political parties. We do provide a forum where all candidates to an office can state their own positions.

www.lwv-ms.org