

The Voter

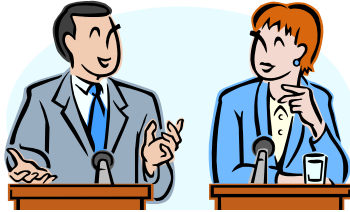
League of Women Voters of the Jackson Area

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

April 2013

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

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



BREAKING NEWS...

Three debates are set for mayoral candidates in Clinton, Madison and Jackson. The League is working with The Clarion Ledger and WAPT on the debates. Barbara Powell may be calling to ask you to help.

- Monday, April 15, 2013, Quisenberry Library, Clinton, 7:00 pm
- Monday, April 22, 2013, Madison Library, Madison, 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, April 30, 2013, Mississippi College School of Law, Jackson, 7:00 pm

You are cordially invited to

League of Women Voters of the Jackson Area

2013 Annual Meeting Brunch

Sat, April 20, 2013

Jackson Municipal Art Gallery - 839 N State Street

Time: Set up 9:30 AM – Event 10:00-Noon

Guest Speakers: *Penick & Jamie Bardwell, Women's Fund of Mississippi*

Business: *President's words, election of officers and budget approval*

Silent Auction: *Items donated by members. Coordinated by Keri Friedley*

Brunch: *Bring morning finger foods*

Bring items or contact Keri Friedley to drop off items early

From the president's desk:

The LWVJA will be very active in April, May and June. First, municipal elections primaries are here. Led by VP Barbara Powell, we have partnered with The Clarion Ledger and WAPT to host three debates and publish information for the paper. Barbara's committee of Jo Ann Hall, Fran Leber and me has worked on the plans. See more in the Voter on the Jackson forum. We need your help to make it all happen. Two other debates are in the works for Clinton and Madison. Fran will operate Voter Hotline calls on Election Day, and run off if needed so stand ready. June 4 is the Municipal General Election for most cities. The Voter Hotline will again operate and the C-L questionnaire will run for area city candidates. A story "Historic City of Byram Municipal Elections" was in the *Byram Banner* I penned for their start up city elections. In planning the election activities we talked to LWVUS VP Janis McMillen for advice on a matter. We were reminded, if in doubt look at Leagues best practices, a great source.

Second, the Annual Meeting is to be held at the Jackson Municipal Art Gallery Saturday, April 20, 2013. Carol Penick, E.D. and Jamie Bardwell, Director of Programs of the Women's Fund of Mississippi are the speakers for the final meeting of the League year. Set up starts at 9:30 AM. Hope to see you there.

From Elisabeth MacNamara, President LWVUS, "The League's work to protect air and water quality means a lot to citizens in our communities, and Earth Day offers a chance to highlight that great work." Step out on April 22 and make a difference.

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NOTE: The League, WAPT and The Clarion-Ledger are soliciting questions in advance of the forums from Jackson area voters for the mayoral candidates. Submit questions to WAPT on Facebook or its Feedback 16 Line at 601-355-1616, to The Clarion-Ledger via clarionledger.com, or tweet to #DebateJXN. Efforts will be made to ask as many questions as possible while allowing for meaningful dialogue among the candidates.

For more information, contact League President Marcia Weaver at 601-372-8851 or Barbara Powell at 601-362-8577.

LWVJA ELECTION HOTLINE: 601-355-7495



**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.

Legislative Update - Fran Leber, LWVMS Program Director

League of Women Voters of the Jackson Area who responded to our CALL TO ACTION by making a call to the Lt. Governor, Speaker and or Governor's office or attended the rally sponsored by the Mississippi Health Care Access coalition, which LWVMS is a member, helped to make the following legislative action possible.

The Medicaid HB1653 conference report funding bill for FY 14 was defeated at 6 PM Easter Sunday evening, March 31st. The House succeeded in blocking passage of the Medicaid Appropriation with a vote of 57 - 49 (62 votes required for passage). Six Representatives who would have voted to pass the bill couldn't vote because they had conflicts of interest. This is a positive tactic to delay the Appropriation until the issue of Medicaid expansion has been decided. A motion to reconsider was entered. The Senate passed the conference report Easter Sunday, March 31st. Because of the above actions, there is a very good likelihood of a special session since the session ended Thursday, April 4th without funding Medicaid or even agreeing to keep the program alive once the new fiscal year begins July 1.

National Items

The League of Women Voters remains dedicated to protecting **voters' rights** by increasing awareness of threats posed by two U.S. Supreme Court cases heard earlier this year. One of those cases challenges the National Voter Registration Act, or "Motor Voter." The national website offers an opportunity for League members and others to register their concerns about threats to NVRA through an online pledge to protect the legislation. Visit http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=7554. Sign the pledge today and urge family and friends to become aware of challenges to this most basic of citizen rights.

LWV President Elisabeth MacNamara urges us to call our Senators today to tell them that "the **gun-control** issue is too important to ignore any longer and that common sense solutions to gun violence will save lives." MacNamara notes that solutions include "closing the gun show loophole, increasing penalties for straw purchases of guns, banning assault weapons, placing limits on high capacity ammunition magazines, and funding research to report on gun violence in America."

Visit lwv.org for up-to-date information on the national issues that impact you and your family!

2013 Calendar

Put this on your refrigerator door, in your cell phone, or in your online calendar

April 20	LWVJA Annual Meeting
May 7	Primary elections, municipal offices (Runoff, March 21 st)
June 4	General election, municipal offices

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-JACKSON
Proposed Budget for 2012-2013

Anticipated Income

Dues	\$2500.00
Donations	200.00
Projects, Miscellaneous	150.00
TOTAL	\$2850.00

Anticipated Expenses

P.O. Box	\$ 90.00
Voter Service Fee	200.00
Newsletter	20.00
President	20.00
Treasurer	15.00
Program	100.00
Action	50.00
Membership	50.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Annual Meeting	50.00
Delegate Travel	500.00
PMP for LWV-US, Individual members	1240.00
PMP for LWV-US, Joint members	294.50
PMP for LWV-MS, Individual members	400.00
PMP for LWV-MS, Joint members	95.00
TOTAL	\$3174.50