



Tennessee Voter

League of Women Voters of Tennessee

P.O. Box 158369

Nashville TN 37215-8369

www.lwvtn.org -- LWVtenn@gmail.com

Spring 2013

Officers and Directors for 2011-13

Officers

President: Margie Parsley, Nashville

1st Vice President: Kathy Edwards, Oak Ridge

2nd Vice President: Jo Singer, Nashville

Secretary: Judy Poulson, Knoxville

Treasurer: Marian Ott, Nashville

Directors

Barbara Devaney, Nashville

Mary Headrick, Knoxville

Alan Karp, Johnson City

Laurel Karp, Johnson City

Nominating Committee

Nancy Stewart (Knoxville), Chair

Barbara Gay (Nashville)

Kelley Thomas (Memphis-Shelby County)

Off-Board Position

Lynn Williams, PR/Communications

Webmaster

Alan Karp

LWVTN Voter Editor/Field Service

Laurel Karp

LWVTN Education Fund Board of Trustees

The elected officers

Brief Calendar for 2013:

Apr. 1: Quarterly PMP due to LWVTN

May 3-4: State Board Meeting (Knoxville)

May 4-5: State Convention (Knoxville)

June 14-17: National Council (near Washington, D.C.)

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Legislative session has been moving fast this year. I hope many of you have been responding to our legislative reports and our action alerts. It is very important for our legislators to hear from you on these topics.

Our Spring Convention is set for Saturday and Sunday, **May 4th and 5th**. The Convention this year will be held in a beautifully furnished hotel in downtown Knoxville, the Hilton Knoxville (see Convention Letter below). The rate is fantastic for a hotel of this stature! The Knoxville League has been hard at work helping us plan an exciting weekend of workshops and entertainment. You may want to bring a friend and come early (or stay later) to take advantage of our convention, to explore the Knoxville area and the vibrant downtown that has undergone a real renaissance lately. Downtown is very walk-able and safe and we'll be minutes from Market Square and great shops and restaurants, minutes from theaters and museums, and 45 minutes from the Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

This issue of the *Voter* will share with you the basic information you will need to attend our Spring Convention. Read more below about our hands-on workshops, dinner on the waterfront and our great keynote speaker. We will send out a more detailed invitation and workshop schedule in early April. I'll see you all in Knoxville on May 4th and 5th.

Margie Parsley
LWVTN President

**League of Women Voters Spring Convention 2013: “Reaching Out, Making Change”
Saturday May 4 to Sunday May 5**

Hilton Knoxville, Downtown at 305 Church Ave.

Meeting times: Saturday 1:00 – 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:30 am – 12:00 noon

**Special Extras! Saturday Tour, Downtown Happy Hour, and Waterfront Dinner
Great Keynote Speaker!**

Affordable! Registration only \$30, Rooms only \$86

Get ready for a Spring Convention with a NEW LOOK, FUN ENERGY and POWERFUL IDEAS! We invite every League member to come to Knoxville to get recharged with great workshops, the company of amazing and interesting women and men, and a chance to get away from it all! We have thrown ourselves into giving you relevant information to help you grow your League and enhance your effectiveness, as well as show you a good time in Knoxville!

Along with taking care of business and making decisions about our State League’s future direction, this Convention will offer superb learning experiences. League members have asked for ways to grow their Leagues and attract a new cadre of members. We’ll share what works from Leagues around the country and in our state. Come get a taste of the Knoxville League’s adult civics curriculum called “Citizen Academy.” Through photos and a panel of actual graduates and instructors, you’ll learn how to bring “practical civics” to your community. Social Media and online advocacy is critical to our success, so we’re offering a fun, friendly, hands-on experience on laptop computers with Facebook and other online tools, guided by Margot Kline, our successful local advocate. No fear, help is here!

Can you be here Saturday morning? Wanda Sobieski, famed attorney and women’s suffrage historian, is offering a Suffrage Walking Tour for our members on Saturday morning. We promise stories you’ve never heard! And fun visitations! Please gather in the Hilton lobby at 9:30 am Saturday May 4th. The walking tour will take about an hour with plenty of time for lunch on Market Square before the meeting starts.

After Saturday’s meeting, join us for Happy Hour on Market Square and afterward, we’ll make our way to dinner at the famous Calhoun’s on the Waterfront with a fantastic keynote speaker, Robert Kennedy III. Robert is the founder and president of the ULTIMAX Group, a leader from the Oak Ridge community with extraordinarily diverse knowledge in subjects like climate change, alternative energy, robotics, international affairs, disease modeling, and space engineering. As a co-author of the Oak Ridge Climate Action Plan, he will speak to the exciting trends in local leadership on environmental protection and sustainability that are counteracting lagging leadership at the national level.

Sunday, we complete our business and our voting, and adjourn by noon, with plenty of time for a hike on one of our Urban Wilderness Trails, or a bike rental on the greenway downtown, or a paddleboat ride on the Tennessee River. Oh, and don’t forget the shopping at the Mast General Store or the downtown boutiques.

Spring Convention registration will be an unbeatable \$30 this year. Find the registration info on our website: www.lwvtn.org and look for the Spring Conference tab. A block of hotel rooms is reserved for us at a special rate of \$86.00 for a double room.

Please call the Hilton (1-865-251-2578 or 1-800-445-8667) to make your hotel room reservation. When making your reservation, mention the code “LWV” to ensure this rate. **Please make your room reservation before Wednesday, April 17** to obtain the guaranteed reduced conference rate of \$86. If you’d like to share a room, and need a roommate, contact Jo Singer at: GJoSinger@aol.com

Look for an invitation and detailed schedule of the League Spring Convention next week, with much more to come on local activities that weekend and links to local restaurants, music and active or outdoor pursuits. See [Visit Knoxville](#) to learn more, and make your plans now to be here May 4-5 — the most beautiful time of year in Knoxville! Go League!

Jamey Dobbs, President
League of Women Voters Knoxville-Knox County



Maple Tree in Spring

Governor Haslam Refused a 2014 TennCare Expansion

Governor Haslam called the joint session of the General Assembly on March 28 and refused the 2014 Medicaid (TennCare) expansion.

According to the Governor, in order to insure that low income workers making less than \$15,415 per year (that's in 2012 dollars) have "skin in the game," he refused to accept \$730.7 million from the federal government. Medicaid is a federal-state match program that has and will continue to be a 65% federal-35% state match for the historic program covering people already enrolled. The \$730.7 million for Tennessee has been on the table to supply 100% coverage for Medicaid expansion through TennCare for 144,500 low-income newly eligible enrollees in 2014. The 100% federal dollars have been offered to all states for the first three years (2014-2016) of the expanded Medicaid program with a gradual reduction to a 90% federal rate through 2020. It's a very good deal and eight states even adopted early after the 2010 passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

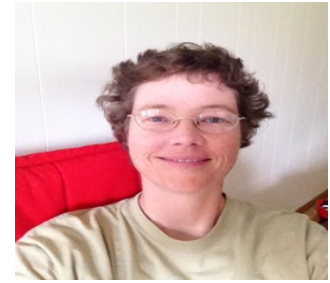
Using CBO estimates, a low earner at 100% to 133% of the federal poverty level (FPL) who puts "skin in the game" purchasing private "exchange" insurance in 2014, will pay 2% of premiums plus co-pays and deductibles (in excess of \$180 per year). The federal government will pay 98% of the premium (approximately \$8820 instead of under \$6000 for TennCare). TennCare, with a 93% positive approval rating from its enrollees, cost \$3183 per enrollee per year in FY2010 and will cost less than the \$6000 U.S. Medicaid average in 2014.

Tennesseans can expect three years of accelerated costs while those newly insured "catch up" in obtaining health care because it's not just the uninsured who are vulnerable in this battle over coverage. Governor Haslam has refused \$730.7 million for one of those three expensive years. Low-income families, local governments, hospitals, and clinics will be hurt.

Meanwhile, Mr. Haslam leaves a new kind of "donut hole" for Tennessee citizens. Childless adults (aged 19-64) who earn under 100% of poverty get no help. Folks under 100% FPL are not eligible for subsidies. Reach the Governor at 615-741-2001 and share your opinion about his refusal to expand Medicaid (TennCare) as well as his new "Tennessee Plan" (<https://news.tn.gov/node/10458>).

Submitted by eyewitness: Mary Headrick, MD

Spotlight on League Member CAT FABER



The League attracts people with diverse interests. Jefferson County has a member, Cat Faber, who is not only a good League leader, but is a talented musician and craftsman. She and her husband moved from the west coast to the small East Tennessee county seat and home of Carson Newman College in 2003. They had lived in Spokane, Washington, after spending a year in Portland, Oregon. While in college, Cat developed an interest and talent for songwriting and then combined it with her love of science fiction and fantasy while attending a sci-fi convention where musicians were writing songs inspired by their favorite artists. Cat began writing and performing her songs on the spot, and continues to do that now. She was invited to perform her songs at a Sci-fi convention in England in January 2013.

Before Cat moved to Tennessee, she was a member of the Group ECHO CHILDREN. In their 10 years together, they produced 4 CDs. She, also, has performed her music for her local league. She wrote a song for the event called Seneca Falls recalling the 1st women's rights meeting in Seneca Falls. You can find her music on her website: www.hwaet.org. If you would like to own one of her CDs, her latest The King's Lute can be bought at www.catfaber.bandcamp.com.

Cat is also an avid canoer. Several years ago she read a book that described the cedar-strip method of canoe building and it stayed at the back of her mind. After moving to Tennessee, a woman who became her friend and canoe buddy, offered Cat the use of her old barn workshop when Cat mentioned her wish to try to build a canoe using the cedar strip method. Today Cat has her own garage workshop where she makes canoes. She has even created her own canoe design using a computer software program.

She is a past member of the Jefferson County League Board of Directors, having served as Secretary, President and Membership Chair. For the past two years, she participated in the League of Women Voters Leadership Development Program, working with a state league coach to support growth and vitality within her league. In this, she led her league into streamlined governance, and helped to revive membership. She now serves as Webmaster for Jefferson County League of Women Voters.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TENNESSEE

Nominees for Board of Directors 2013-2015

Executive Committee

Co-Presidents:

**Margie Parsley
Jo Singer**

First Vice President:

Laurel Karp (Membership)

Second Vice President:

Judy Raines (411)

Treasurer:

Marian Ott

Secretary:

Judy Poulson

Directors

Michelle Brandenburg (Special Events)

Oak Ridge

Sue Bredensteiner (Voter)

Nashville

Barbara Gay (Action)

Nashville

Kathy Gilbert (Voter Asst.)

Member at Large

Amy Greene

Murfreesboro

Mary Headrick

Knoxville

Alan Karp (Web)

Johnson City

Nominating Committee

Kathy Edwards, Chair

Oak Ridge

Barbara Devaney

Nashville

Lorelei Gould

Hendersonville



PROPOSED 2013-2014 BUDGET

Category Description	FY 10-11	Actual FY 11-12	BUDGET FY 12-13	Projected 12-13	Proposed 13-14 Budget
INCOME	-				
A. MAL Dues	\$ 800	\$ 780	\$ 1,160	\$ 900	\$ 900
B.1.. Contributions	\$ 4,634	\$ 614	\$ 3,200	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500
B.2. Special Projects	\$ 56	\$ 39	\$ 100		
B.3 Lobbyist Fund	\$ 3,075	\$ 7,150	\$ 9,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 8,000
D.1. Fall Conference	\$ 505	\$ 540	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
D.2. Spring Convention-Council	\$ 250	\$ 605	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100
E. Ed Fund Transfers	\$ 314	\$ 715	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750
F. Interest	\$ 211	\$ 917	\$ 300	\$ 90	\$ 90
G. Local League PMP's	\$ 11,309	\$ 10,638	\$ 11,025	\$ 11,025	\$ 11,025
K. Transfers from Reserves	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,765	\$ 4,690	\$ 4,690	\$ 5,086
L. Inkind	\$ 205	\$ 770		\$ 700	\$ 700
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 24,358	\$ 27,533	\$ 32,825	\$ 29,955	\$ 31,351
EXPENSES	-				
A. Operating	-				
Capital Expenditures		\$ 193	\$ 50		
Corporate Report	\$ 90	\$ 22	\$ 25	\$ 23	\$ 23
General Supplies	\$ 38	\$ 284	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300
Insurance	\$ 759	\$ 758	\$ 850	\$ 850	\$ 850
Office Administrator	\$ 3,611	\$ 3,333	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Office copying	\$ 63	\$ 88	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100
Office rent	\$ 286	\$ 592	\$ 480	\$ 500	\$ 528
Postage	\$ 360	\$ 221	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ 450
Telephone	\$ 153	\$ 157	\$ 150	\$ 180	\$ 200
TOTAL A. Operating	\$ 5,361	\$ 5,649	\$ 5,905	\$ 5,903	\$ 5,951
B. Board & Administration	-				
B.1 Board meetings	\$ 401	\$ 1,507	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
B.10 Internet	\$ 15	\$ 513	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300
B.11 Legislative Day		\$ -	\$ 150		
B.2 Board tools	\$ 66	\$ 85	\$ 100	\$ 75	\$ 100
B.3 President's expense		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100
B.4 Dependent care		\$ -	\$ 25		
B.5.a Budget Committee		\$ -	\$ 10		
B.5.b Nominating committee		\$ -	\$ 10		
B.5.c PR committeeee		\$ -	\$ 500		
B.5.d Development committee	\$ 523	\$ -	\$ 250		
B.6.a Service to MALs	\$ 187	\$ -	\$ 200		\$ 200
B.6.b Service to LL	\$ 68	\$ -	\$ 50		\$ 50
B.7 Fall Conference	\$ 416	\$ 1,279	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,827	\$ 1,500
B.8 Conv-Council	\$ 263	\$ 307	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100
TOTAL B. Board & Administration	\$ 1,939	\$ 3,690	\$ 5,495	\$ 4,602	\$ 4,550

C. LWVUS co-conv delegates		\$ 677	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
D. PMP for MALs to LWVUS	\$ 386	\$ 413	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ 450
E. LWVTN Voter	\$ 1,132	\$ 1,976	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600
F. Educational Resources					
F.1 Pubs & AV		\$ -	\$ 25		
F.2 Voter Service		\$ -	\$ 50		
F.3 Workshops		\$ -	\$ 25		
F.4 Committee Exp		\$ -	\$ 25		
TOTAL F. Educational Resources		\$ -	\$ 125		
G. Position Support					
G.2 Action		\$ -	\$ 100		
G.3 Affiliations	\$ 355	\$ 515	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
G.4 Lobbying	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300
G.5 Committee exp		\$ -	\$ 50		
G.6 Lobbyist Contract	\$ 9,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
TOTAL G. Position Support	\$ 9,655	\$ 15,815	\$ 15,950	\$ 15,800	\$ 15,800
H. Misc	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 300		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 18,573	\$ 28,219	\$ 32,825	\$ 31,355	\$ 31,351
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 5,785	\$ (687)	\$ 0	\$ (1,400)	\$ -



RECOMMENDED BYLAW CHANGE

**Article VIII
Convention**

Section 4. *Representation.* The members of the League of Women Voters of the United States who reside in the state of Tennessee shall be entitled to voting representation in the Convention as follows: The members of each local League shall be entitled to the president (one per League) plus one (1) delegate ~~who shall be chosen by the members through the local League; the members of each local League having more than fifteen (15) members shall be entitled to~~ [per first fifteen (15) members, plus] one (1) additional delegate for each additional twenty-five (25) voting members or fraction thereof. Members shall belong~~ing~~ to said local League on January 31 of said year. Members of each MAL Unit shall be-entitled to one (1) delegate who shall be chosen by the members through the MAL Unit. Members at-large not affiliated with an MAL Unit shall be entitled to one (1) delegate. MALs wishing to attend Convention with delegate status shall notify the state board at registration time. The LWVUS online database of paid voting members shall determine the official membership count for this purpose.

Welcome to Karen Fairbend as our newest office staff member!

**THE FOLLOWING IS AGED, BUT LIKE WINE AND GOOD CHEESE,
STILL GOOD/STILL IMPORTANT!**

REMEMBER -- NEW WORDING

**“THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NEITHER SUPPORTS NOR
OPPOSES ANY CANDIDATE, PARTY OR POLITICAL APPOINTEE.”**

**IMPORTANT: The League studies issues in-depth and takes a position after
the study is completed. The League does not take a stand on candidates, parties,
or political appointees.**

**ANOTHER TIMELY REMINDER: You can find us on Facebook
at <https://www.facebook.com/TNLeagueOfWomenVoters?ref=hl> or
by searching for League of Women Voters of Tennessee. Please
“LIKE” us!**
