



VOTER

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Johnson County

How To Reach Us

PO. Box 13491
Overland Park, KS 66282
LWV telephone: 913-901-9107
Website: www.LWVjoco.org

Co-Presidents

Candy Birch
candylwv@yahoo.com
Gwynne Lee
gwynnelee@yahoo.com

Editor

Ann Norbury
LWVnorbury@aol.com

December 2009

Volume 60
Number 5

Since 1920, the League of Women Voters has been a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

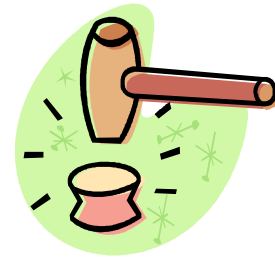
In honor of those who serve our community through elective office,
the League of Women Voters of Johnson County
cordially invites you to the

2009 Holiday Celebration
Saturday, December 5, 2009
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Johnson County Central Resource Library
9875 West 87th Street

Please bring sweet or savory holiday treats to share with members and guests.

Join other League members for conversation and refreshments. All area candidates for state and local office have been invited as our special guests!



Co-Presidents' Message

A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW LWV JoCo MEMBERS! We are so excited that 13 new members have joined our League. We look forward to working with them and utilizing the skills and talents they bring to the League.

As the board reviewed the October treasurer's report this month, we saw that, while we had budgeted for 115 individual members and 30 household members, to date, we have a total of 136 members, down from last year.

It is not the money that is the concern; it's the membership. There can be many reasons why some may decide not to join, but we should still continue to work to bring new and/or potential members to our meetings and other events. Our non-partisan, issue-based grassroots organization has a history of open general meetings that anyone can attend. This transparency helps us to fulfill our mission: to **make democracy work for all citizens**.

The League of Women Voters makes a difference in the lives of citizens because of the energy and passion of thousands of members committed to our principles. Please continue to **invite guests** to our meetings which are always interesting, informative, and provocative. Help us grow the League with young members as well. Bring your daughters and sons, nieces and nephews, granddaughters and grandsons. Invite your neighbors. Remind everyone that our Speakers Bureau is available to come speak on a variety of topics. It's a win-win-win proposition...LWV Jo Co potentially gains new members...Our guests come away with new and valuable information on significant issues...Our democracy is strengthened by our actions. We need **all** of us to be informed citizens.

In addition, we need concerned citizens to carry on the ambitious projects we have taken on....hosting interns from South America, advocating for LWV issues at various governmental bodies, advancing a fair and diverse judiciary in Kansas. If you are one of those members who joined because someone simply invited you to come to an event, then perhaps you can **pay it forward** and invite that person who hasn't found a home where he/she can act on important issues.

On another important note: Citizen participation is critical in the **health care reform** issue. LWVUS favored the recently passed House of Representatives health care reform bill that provides a public option. Now the focus will be on the Senate. No matter where you stand on this issue, your senators should hear your voice in the coming month. **You** are the grassroots of democracy -- show your strength by letting your congressmen know your ideas, wishes, and concerns.

Candy Birch and Gwynne Lee

Planning 2010 Programs

The next general meeting on January 9 will be devoted to program planning. We will discuss possible issues for the national League to tackle in a two-year program of study. Recent studies have included immigration 2006-2008 and National Popular Vote Compact 2008-2010.

The Kansas League studied Mental Health Care 2005-2007 and Use of Water in the Production of Energy 2007-2009. LWVK has determined not to formalize a state study 2009-2011, but to continue to advocate aggressively for positions they already have.

LWV JoCo will determine at the January meeting if it wants to pursue a local study on a significant issue related to government, the environment, social issues, or international relations. We are currently winding up our local study on poverty, chaired by Pat Lanser. You will recall that we extended this study for a second year due to the sheer scope of the issue.

Please be thinking about what issues our membership would enjoy studying. One of the dilemmas we also face each year with local program planning is finding a study chair; if you have an idea for a study, talk to other members who might give you feedback and support at the meeting and please be ready with the name of someone willing to chair it.

The discussion is always enlightening. We look forward to your suggestions.

Candy Birch and Gwynne Lee

Poverty Study Update

While poverty in Johnson County is a topic with many tentacles, the LWVJoCo Poverty Study Committee under chair Pat Lanser decided to limit study to three topics: Transportation, Housing and Employment. This article is the first of several. It is expected that the study will be completed by April, 2010.

Johnson County's Poverty: Facts and Sources

Federal guidelines

The federal "weighted, average" poverty thresholds for 2008 are:

- One person = \$10,991/year
- Family of 3 = \$17,163/year
- Family of 4 = \$22,025/year
- Family of 8 = \$37,220/year

For more information, see the U.S. Census Bureau at www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/threshld/thresh08.html

Johnson County at a glance

√Per the U.S. Census Bureau, 9/4/09 Quick Facts, <http://quickfacts.census.gov>, the county has:

- 534,093 population in 2008
- 214,729 housing units in 2007
- \$71,961 median household income in 2007
-

√United Community Services of Johnson County at www.ucsjoco.org shows that:

- In 2008, 23,174 or 4.3 percent of our residents had income below the federal poverty level. Johnson County Public Health on 11/7/09 reported that the same year, 74,458 people or 14.3 percent were at 200 percent of FPL.
- 50 percent of our poor are ages 0-24;
- Poverty rate for African Americans is 17 percent; 14 percent for Latinos
-

√The 10/14/09 *Sun Newspaper* stated that:

- The "number of people living in poverty...increased 5.3 percent between 2007 and 2008."
- During 2007-08 school year, over 14,000 students (1 in 6) were enrolled in the School Lunch Program (source: United Community Services)
- More students get free and reduced-price lunches. In 2009, a family of four with annual income of \$40,793 qualifies for reduced price lunches; it's \$28,655 for free lunches.

Shawnee Mission	Blue Valley	Olathe
2006-07: 19 percent	2006-07: 4 percent	2006-07: 16.7 percent
2009-10: 30 percent	2009-10: 6 percent	2009-10: 22.9 percent

Unemployment in Kansas and Locally

	Kansas	Kansas	KCK MSA*	KCK MSA*
September 2008	69,527	4.6 percent	23,888	5.4 percent
September 2009	104,913	6.9 percent	33,858	7.4 percent

*Metropolitan Statistical Area: Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami and Wyandotte counties
Source: www.docstoc.com/docs/13475131/Kansas-Unemployment-Sept-2009

Other sources:

Catholic Charities of NE Kansas at www.CatholicCharitiesKS.org.

Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network serving the homeless at www.jocoihn.org

Johnson County Housing Coalition at www.jocohousingcoalition.com

KansasWorks at www.kansasworks.com has statewide job postings

Johnson County selected strategic plans:

- *Transit 5-year strategic plan* at www.thejo.com
- *Housing/community development plan, 2010-2014* at http://budget.jocogov.org/Community%20Development/report_05.htm

The Sun Newspaper regularly covers aspects of poverty and homelessness.

Submitted by Ellen Miller

Board Briefs November 7, 2009 meeting

Contact Gwynne Lee or Candy Birch, Co-Presidents, for more information on any specific topic.

- Board accepted the recommendation of Treasurer Betty Wycoff to transfer \$2,000 from a CD coming due in December to the checking account. Wycoff reported that the audit has been completed.
- Board approved spending authority up to \$200 for the Dec. 5th holiday party expenses.
- Cost for 4,000 new bookmarks was \$500. LWVK may pay part of the cost. Members may request bookmarks for distribution from Harriett Duff, 913-338-0976, or Sandy Ackerman, 913-491-3278.
- Board voted to spend \$120 for 24 mugs to be sold as fund raisers @ \$8 each.
- Board expressed appreciation to Ellen Miller for the Advocacy Project Proposal and voted to accept draft #2.
- Board approved a pre-payment of \$110 to cover expense of printing the VOTER.
- Board determined that the newsletter should list names only of new members. The co-presidents will send new member contact information to the membership via e-mail.
- Board voted to submit three additional LWVUS Fair and Diverse Judiciary Grant proposals, formalizing the possibility of programming on "Let's Talk Issues," League at the Library, and Candidate Forums.

Polly Swafford

League Shirts Make Great Gifts

Do you have a "political junkie" on your gift list? Wouldn't she love a VOTING IS GOOD FOR THE CONSTITUTION shirt? Remember that 2010 brings another election cycle, and our shirts never go "out of style." All T-shirts are 100 percent cotton and are available in short sleeve or long sleeve in red or white. Sweatshirts are available in red or grey. Prices range from \$10 for a short sleeve white shirt to \$18 for a sweatshirt. We have limited supplies of certain sizes and colors. Please contact me (hfduff@gmail.com) to place your order.

Harriet Duff

Naturalization Ceremonies

Naturalization Ceremonies are held at the Federal Courthouse in KCK at 5th and State. They begin at 1:30 p.m. and last about 45 minutes. Then we register the new citizens to vote. If anyone is interested in attending this very moving ceremony and helping with voter registration, please contact Ann Arnott (913-495-9539 or annarnott@everestkc.net). Mark your calendar with the dates of these Naturalization Ceremonies.

- November 20 Magistrate Judge James P. O'Hara
- December 18 Judge Robert D. Berger

Ann Arnott

International Relations

#1. The Johnson County League has been selected to participate in *Connecting Future Legislators with Civil Society, with funding from the Bureau of Educational Affairs of the U.S. Department of State*. We will receive two "fellows" from Colombia, South America for three weeks in April. While here, the fellows will intern in county, city, and/or state offices and participate in League activities. This will be a great opportunity to increase the visibility of League and to increase our understanding of this South American country. If you are interested in helping with this project or providing transportation for our visitors, please contact Nan Wilson (262-3104).

#2. The League will host a 2010 Great Decisions discussion group from February through May. The eight sessions are tentatively planned for Monday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Central Resource Library. Discussion books are available from the International Relations Council in Kansas City. If interested, contact Nan Wilson at 913-262-3104.

Great Decisions Topics for 2010

- Special Envoys
- Preventing Genocide
- Global Crime
- Russia and its Neighbors
- US-China Security Relations
- Persian Gulf
- Global Financial Crisis
- Peacekeeping

Membership

We welcome 13 new members to our LWV this year.

Edna Baginsky
Dee Bell
Marilyn Bynum
Debra Cole
Nancy Gatz

Anne Malin
Lougene Marsh
Linda Meisinger
Johnella Newton
Connie Richards

Tori Rodriguez
Judy Wood
Patricia Yingst

We look forward to getting to know you and are happy that you are interested in our League and the opportunities it offers to become better informed citizens.

We encourage members to invite friends to our meetings to learn what the League does and to listen to special presentations of current interest. To join LWV, look for a membership form in previous issues of the VOTER and on our website (www.lwvjoco.org).

Kari Sime and Rita Einspahr

Tell Kansas What You Want in "Trash Plan"

The Department of Health & Environment wants your opinions on what should be in the new Solid Waste Management Plan. This plan is due out in 2010 and will guide waste disposal through 2015. Bill Bider, director of the Bureau of Waste Management, says his department has plenty of ideas but not enough money to carry them all out. So he wants our ideas.

KDHE has prepared a survey listing 24 waste programs and wants the public to indicate which they prefer. Residents can fill out the survey online or download a copy to submit at www.kdheks.gov/waste. A paper copy of the survey may be obtained by sending an e-mail to: bwm_web@kdheks.gov or calling 785-296-1600. Completed surveys will be accepted through Nov. 20. KDHE will prepare a draft plan and schedule public meetings in February. The final plan is expected to be ready in the spring. (Wichita Eagle, October 15, 2009)

Making Democracy Work Award

The League of Women Voters invites you to nominate an outstanding community leader for our annual Making Democracy Work Award. The League celebrates leaders who have envisioned a way to improve our community and who have mobilized others to work collaboratively to affect positive change. The Making Democracy Work Award will honor one such individual who has, in the League tradition, helped make our local governments strong, vibrant, fair and responsive to the needs of all members of our community.

Nominations are open to any individual who has been a vital part of the work force and who has contributed to our community in a meaningful way. Nominees may be nominated by a friend or colleague or the nominees can apply themselves. Please print the nomination form on the following page.

The winner will be presented at our Johnson County League of Women Voters' Annual Meeting on May 1, 2010. Please note that the winner must be available to receive the award on May 1. We believe that there is no greater tribute that we can make than to honor a leader who continues to demonstrate commitment, leadership and a passion for civic improvement.

Ann Sanders



Making Democracy Work

2010 Nomination Form

Nominator (Please print) _____

Signature _____

Phone number () _____ Email _____

Date _____

~~~~~

Nominee (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

~~~~~

In a sentence, explain why you are nominating this person. _____

What is your relationship to the nominee? _____

Please attach an essay of not more than 250 words telling how he or she fits the following criteria for this award:

- *Has served the public sector or the community for at least five years.*
- *Has exhibited honesty and integrity.*
- *Has made a difference in the community.*
- *Has kept promises made to others or the community.*
- *Has proven she/he is a highly principled individual.*
- *Has demonstrated leadership in effecting positive change.*
- *Will be available to attend the award ceremony on May 1, 2010.*

Please return form by February 1, 2010 to: The Voter, P.O. Box 13491, Overland Park, KS 66282

Speaker's Bureau

The League of Women Voters of Johnson County, with decades of study, and involvement in many different issues affecting Johnson County, has gained knowledge and experience it believes would benefit all concerned citizens. In order to share this information with other citizens, the League formed a Speaker's Bureau to provide speakers on a range of topics.

Currently, the League of Women Voters of Johnson County has speakers available to discuss the following:

- **PREVENTING WATER POLLUTION - Protecting our quality of life in Johnson County**
(Funded by a Johnson County Stormwater Management Program Water Quality Initiative Grant)
- **THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE - History and Purpose**
- **OUTSOURCING/OFF-SHORING A League perspective**
- **THE LEAGUE - What we are and what we do**
- **CHANGING VOTER REQUIREMENTS**
- **THE HISTORY OF VOTING IN THE UNITED STATES**

All programs are available without charge. Any honoraria will support our Speaker's Bureau.

Most recently, Sandy Ackerson presented a program on the Electoral College to 30 members of the Tomahawk DAR. Contact Sandy (cwsandy@sbcglobal.net) for information or to book a program.

OBSERVER CORP REPORTS

Learn about your community and help League prepare for action

There's still time! It's not too late! Join the Observer Corps now and become "the one who knows what's happening" in a part of our local government. Democracy depends on having an enlightened group of citizens, and the Observer Corps helps each of us meet this goal. Here is a quick preview of some open slots:

- Overland Park City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. first three Mondays each month
- Shawnee City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Mondays
- Board of County Commissioners meets 9:30 a.m. every Thursday

For more information, contact Nancy Jefferis (nancyfj@everestkc.net or 631-4441).

Johnson County WaterOne Board – November 10 meeting (www.waterone.org)

- Public hearing on \$88 million budget. The proposed FY2010 budget holds the rate increase to 4.9 percent (FY2009 was 4.8 percent) despite a predicted \$5 million revenue reduction due to the county's economic slowdown. The new rate will add \$1.65 to the monthly \$35.39 water bill for a typical customer using 8,000 gallons of water/month. That monthly water bill is in the mid-range of other metro area water suppliers. There were no comments from the public. The board will vote on the proposed budget and water rates at its December meeting.
- Personnel policy manual revisions. Outside counsel has reviewed the existing 1999 manual. Proposed changes include using a weekly 40-hour basis for pay, which should reduce overtime hours and costs. New employees must pass 180 days of probation for sick and personal leave accruals to apply. The revisions will cover employees only, not retirees or applicants.
- Cooperation protects water intake near Holliday Drive and I-435. WaterOne, Johnson County Wastewater and the Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment have created a two-phase solution to protect WaterOne's intake on the Kansas River just east of I-435. The goal is to redirect wastewater overflows caused by heavy rains in the large Mill Creek watershed, which includes Olathe. A mile-long, 96-inch tunnel will be dug parallel to the Kansas River and under I-435. The tunnel will deposit treated wastewater downstream from WaterOne's intake. Tunnel design, financing and construction will take about 4 years and cost \$53 million. In the meantime, a temporary channel will direct treated effluent into the river.

Submitted by Ellen Miller

Johnson County Library Board October 21 meeting

Jim Berger, Board Chair, expressed his satisfaction with the way our libraries are having a positive effect on the community rather than just being viewed as a “place to check out books.”

- Friends of the Library: Vickie Trott provided an update on their work.
- County Librarian Donna Lauffer expressed appreciation to all who contributed to the successful opening of the Leawood Pioneer Neighborhood Library and stressed her satisfaction with the new 6 BY 6 program. She announced a work session for the Board on November 5 on the new master facilities plan and invited others who wished to participate.
- Technology Overview: Monique Sendze presented a very thorough report, but I did not have access to a copy and so had difficulty absorbing all of its content. Among the comments and interchange with Board members were the desire to help with any issues that are pressing and their impression that the use of the computers is “unbelievable.” There was some exchange of information about how the service program for computers was working and the fact that the laptop computer checkout program has begun.
- Small Balance Program: Discussion about the Board’s intent to enter into a contract with Unique Management Services for the Small Balance Program. The Board was concerned with the letters that the service would send out to patrons who owed fines, and they made a number of suggestions as to how those letters might be improved. The recommendation that the Board contract with Unique Management Services was approved.
- Jim Berger requested that the Board review administration regulations before the next meeting. Charley Vogt suggested that the Master Facilities Plan be reviewed to include a grouping of the goals against a timeline. He said this would be helpful as they present funding requests to the County Commission. The Board then went into Executive Session before adjourning.

Submitted by Connie DeSieghardt

Shawnee Mission School Board October 26 meeting

- District Highlight: Ken Beach, principal at Christa McAuliffe Elementary School, along with three faculty and staff members, explained new classroom technology that helps teachers know if students understand the presented material and to help students at risk of falling behind.
- Open Forum: A SM North faculty member thanked the Board for their support for Drama Department’s production of “RENT.”
- Discussion of the H1N1 immunization schedule with dates and times reported.
- The Board went into special session to study and discuss the Shawnee Mission School District Legislative Platform for 2010. Listed priorities: Special Education funding formulas needs to be changed, local funding flexibility must be increased and state funding reductions that jeopardize student achievement and school performance progress should not be made. This will be a work in progress.

Submitted by Virginia Johnson

Recent U.S. Senate Votes

[Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010](#) - Vote **Agreed to** (80-17, 3 Not Voting) The Senate approved this \$33.5 billion bill funding the Department of Energy, Army Corps of Engineers and related agencies and programs for FY 2010, sending it to the President.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **YES**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **YES**

[Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010](#) - Vote **Agreed to** (79-19, 2 Not Voting) The Senate passed the conference report of this \$42.8 billion bill funding the Department of Homeland Security, sending it to the President.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **YES**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **YES**

[Medicare Physician Fairness Act of 2009](#) - Vote **Rejected** (47-53) The Senate failed to garner the necessary votes to begin debate on this bill that would repeal the Medicare physician payment formula that results in annual cuts that Congress reverses every year.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **NO**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **NO**

[National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010](#) - Vote **Agreed to** (68-29, 3 Not Voting)
The Senate gave final approval to this bill authorizing defense spending, which also contains a provision that extends the definition of federal hate crimes to include crimes in which victims are targeted because of their sexual orientation and gender identity.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **NO**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **NO**

[Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010](#) - Vote **Agreed to** (72-28)
The Senate gave final approval to this \$32.3 billion bill funding the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency and related agencies for the 2010 fiscal year. The bill also includes a continuing resolution funding government operations through December 18, 2010 as 7 of the 12 annual spending bills remain to be completed.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **YES**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **YES**

[Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009](#) - Vote **Passed** (98-0, 2 Not Voting) The Senate passed this bill that would extend unemployment benefits in states with a jobless rate over 8.5% and tax credits for some homebuyers and businesses. The bill was sent back to the House for final approval.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **YES**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **YES**

[Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010](#) - Vote **Passed** (71-28, 1 Not Voting)
The Senate completed its work on this \$64.9 billion legislation funding the Justice Department, Commerce Department, National Science Foundation and related agencies and programs. The House and Senate will now go to conference to work out differences between their versions of the bill.
Sen. Sam Brownback voted **YES**.....**Sen. Pat Roberts** voted **NO**

Recent U.S. House Votes

[Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010](#) - Vote **Passed** (307-114, 11 Not Voting) The House approved the conference report of this \$42.8 billion bill funding the Department of Homeland Security.
Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program Expansion Act](#) - Vote **Passed** (241-173, 18 Not Voting) The House passed this bill that is intended to help address California's cycles of drought and reduce dependence on water from the troubled Bay-Delta ecosystem.
Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Solar Technology Roadmap Act](#) - Vote **Passed** (310-106, 16 Not Voting) The House passed this bill that intends to guide research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies.
Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010](#) - Vote **Passed** (385-11, 36 Not Voting) The House approved this bill that authorizes \$10 billion for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2010.
Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010](#) - Vote **Passed** (247-178, 7 Not Voting) The House passed this \$32.3 billion bill funding the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency and related agencies for the 2010 fiscal year. The bill also includes a continuing resolution funding government operations through December 18, 2010 as 7 of the 12 annual spending bills remain to be completed.

Rep. Dennis Moore voted **NO**

[Small Business Financing and Investment Act of 2009](#) - Vote **Passed** (389-32, 11 Not Voting) This House bill would reauthorize several Small Business Administration loan programs.

Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Expedited CARD Reform for Consumers Act of 2009](#) - Vote **Passed** (331-92, 9 Not Voting)

The House passed this bill that would move the date credit card companies would have to comply with new credit card regulations from February 22, 2010 to December 1, 2009. The Senate has a similar bill, though it is unclear whether it will take action on either bill.

Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009](#) - Vote **Passed** (403-12, 18 Not Voting) The House gave final approval to this bill extending unemployment benefits and tax credits for some homebuyers and businesses, sending it to the President. The President signed it.

Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2009](#) - Vote **Passed** (230-193, 11 Not Voting) The House passed this bill intended to bolster security at chemical plants. It now goes to the Senate.

Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

[Affordable Health Care for America Act](#) - Vote **Passed** (220-215) The House approved this health care reform bill by a slim margin. The Senate is expected to begin work on its own health care reform bill soon.

Rep. Dennis Moore voted **YES**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
 OF JOHNSON COUNTY
 9531 MEADOW LANE
 LEAWOOD KS 66206**

Upcoming Events

Friday November 20	Naturalization Ceremony: Register new voters; 1:30 p.m.; Federal Courthouse, 5 th and State, Kansas City, KS.
Saturday December 5	Annual Holiday Party: 2-4 p.m.; Central Resource Library, 9875 W. 87 th Street, Overland Park KS Guests include local and state elected officials.
Friday December 18	Naturalization Ceremony: Register new voters; 1:30 p.m.; Federal Courthouse, 5 th and State, Kansas City, KS.
Saturday January 9	General Meeting: Topic: Proposed Local Studies for 2010-2011; 8:30 a.m. refreshments, 9-11 a.m. program, 11 a.m. Board Meeting; Atonement Lutheran Church, 9948 Metcalf, Overland Park, KS.

The deadline for the January VOTER is December 10.