

LWVN VOTER 4-2016



Annual Meeting

Saturday • April 23, 2016 • 11:30 AM

Memorial Presbyterian Church; 601 24th Ave., SW, Norman

LWVN
P.O. Box 720621
Norman, OK 73070
norman.ok.lwvnet.org

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Agenda

- Welcome and introduction of speaker**
The Proposed Sales Tax for Education - Pros and Cons
Norman Cooper, Executive Director
Oklahoma Retired Educators Association, OREA

- LWVOK Fiscal Policy Study - Judy Reynolds**

Business Meeting

- Nominating Report:**

Nominees for Steering Committee:

Sandy Bahan, President
Joyce Collard, Treasurer
Lois Hilbert, Secretary
Helen Duchon, Facebook & VOTER Editor
Doris Kupfer, Web Manager
Phoebe Schmitz, Membership Off SC
Marj Greer, Sally Church, Cathy Buchwald, Members

- Budget Report – Joyce Collard**
Report on informal financial review
Presentation of Budget for 2016-2017
- Local Program**
- President's Report**
- Suggestions for the Steering Committee**
- Adjournment**

Annual Meeting Luncheon

April 23, 11:30 am

Memorial Presbyterian Church Bring a salad or dessert.

Norman Cooper, Executive Director, Oklahoma Retired Educators Association

Mr. Cooper will lead a discussion of the **proposed one-cent sales tax** to be used for increasing teacher salaries in the public schools and for improvements in Common Ed and Higher Ed.

Mr. Cooper has been the Executive Director of the OREA since 2007, after retiring from the Oklahoma Education Association where he was involved in collective bargaining and legislative lobbying for 26 years. Prior to his years with OEA and OREA, Mr. Cooper was a Social Studies teacher at Mustang High School. Mr. Cooper and his family have lived in Norman since 1969 and his children are graduates of the Norman Public Schools. Mr. Cooper holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Oklahoma.

Following Mr. Cooper's presentation, **Judy Reynolds**, a member of the Norman League, will briefly present information on the **Fiscal Policy Study** being undertaken by the state Oklahoma League of Women Voters.

Activities During 2015-2016

Fall meeting – Issues Facing Norman - Homelessness, Sept. 14, 2015

Consensus Study – US Constitutional Convention Rules, Oct. 14, 2015

Education Forum - Co-hosts with Norman PTA - November

Candidate Forum - Norman City Council Wards 2, 4, 6, February 29, 2016
with YouTube recording posted on our LWVN Facebook Page

Hot Topic Lunches –

Kara Joy McKee - Racism - June

Debra Krittenbrink - Bridges - November 18, 2015

Annette Pretty - Cleveland County Election Board - January

Vote 411 - Candidate information postings for City council election

Observers – Norman City Planning Commission

Legislative Rail Task Force

Communications – Facebook 428 “Likes”; *VOTER* newsletter;

Website updates and calendars, norman.ok.lwvnet.org

Elizabeth Pierce
served as moderator
for our League
Forum, Feb. 29,
2016 at Norman City
Hall. Candidates for
Wards 2, 4 and 6
answered the nine
questions below.
Chase Spivey made
a YouTube video of
their answers.

Photo by
Helen Duchon



What's up for Ward issues?

Here are the nine questions asked of candidates for Norman City Council Wards 2, 4 and 6. Question 1 was presented by the Norman LWV Steering Committee. Questions 2 thru 9 were written questions from the audience.

1. Do you support the City Council's decision this past September to participate in the creation of a Regional Transit Authority, whose goal is to provide mass transit connections by bus or rail to other metro cities?
2. Are you committed to funding a standalone senior center and eliminating the existing library as the site for the center?
3. I have lived on Terrace Place for 20 years. My house backs Merkel Creek on the south and by the bridge on Brooks Street, lowest part. When will the City Council finally do something to help the potential flooding before it is too late? I am still waiting.
4. Do you support a tax for items sold online?
5. What specific issues are peculiar to your ward and what will you do to address them?
6. What is your position on purchasing an armored vehicle for Norman PD?
7. Will you describe a specific City of Norman issue that you have been directly involved in or a committee that you have served on and what has this experience taught you?
8. Mr. Hickman, do you support the Canadian River Park project and why?
9. In the event that the Norman Forward funds are not adequate to fund all of the projects, how will you prioritize spending?

Election Calendar

June 28, 2016 Statewide Primary Election

Primary for Oklahoma state and county offices. Will decide candidates to appear on the General Election ballot. Last day to register to vote: June 3
Deadline to request absentee ballot: 5 p.m. June 22
Early voting: Thursday, June 23, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, June 24, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

August 23, Runoff Primary Election

If needed, this election will be held for those seats not decided in Statewide primary and will decide the candidates appearing on the General Election ballot.

Last day to register to vote: July 29.
Deadline to request absentee ballot: 5 p.m. August 17. Early voting: Thursday, August 18, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, August 19, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, August 20, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

November 8, 2016 General Election

The election will be for national, state, county offices including U.S. President. The ballot will also include bills put before the voters. So far, there are two State Questions.

Last day to register to vote: October 14.
Deadline to request absentee ballot: 5 p.m., Nov. 2.
Early voting: Thursday, November 3, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, November 4, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday, November 5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

ABOUT EARLY VOTING

In-person absentee voting will be held from 8 am to 6 pm on the Thursday and Friday before ALL elections. For National elections, Saturday from 9 am to 2 pm is also included.

DEBRA KRITTENBRINK

Bridges, Executive Director

Debra Krittenbrink spoke at the Nov. 18, 2016 Hot Topic Luncheon at Interurban. She is the executive director of Bridges, a nonprofit that serves homeless high school students. She hails from Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and her start in the flatlands made her realize she should have been born in the mountains. She and her husband, Mark, moved to Breckenridge, Colorado, for five years, where Debra managed the ski school and Mark worked as an architect. They still go back to ski when they can.

She graduated the University of Oklahoma with a degree in special education and taught for four years, eventually ending up as a public relations practitioner for the Metropolitan Library System, then Kinko's, and finally as an owner of her own

PR business. As a believer in the idea that business opportunities will appear to those who pay attention, she came to Bridges eight years ago and loves it.

She currently sits on the Mayor's Committee to End Chronic Homelessness (ECHO), chairs One Vision One Voice, a collaboration of homelessness agencies, and is a founding member of Women United, a Norman United Way group.

Photo by Helen Duchon



Calendar

LWVN Annual Meeting

April 23, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm , Memorial Presbyterian Church, LWVN Annual Meeting.

LWVOK State Council May 20-21, Lawton, OK

The Lawton League of Women Voters will be hosting Council 2016, May 20-21, and president Jacqueline Achong is already making plans for a great meeting. Look for complete details in the "Call to Council" coming your way this month.

Where: Fairfield Inn and Suites, <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/lawfi-fairfield-inn-and-suites-lawton/>, Lawton, Oklahoma (special Council rate will be \$77 a night)

Contact Joyce Collard or Sandy Bahan for carpooling. See page 1 for phone numbers.

