

August 2010

The Voter

Board of Directors
League of Women Voters of
Greater Birmingham
205 583-5000
admin@lwvqb.org

- Sarah McDonald, President
- Nancy Ekberg, 1st Vice President
- Angelyn Simmons, Secretary
- Amanda McGriff, Treasurer
- Joyce Lanning, Director
- Leonette Slay, Director
- Ida Tyree-Hyche, Director
- Joan Burroughs, Public Relations
- Ginny Randolph, Voter Services
- Karen Threlkeld, Editor
The Voter
- Connie Amwine, Nominating
Committee Chair
- Jean Johnson,
Off-Board Technical Director
- Ann Smith,
Off-Board Observer Corps Water
Works

Board Chooses McDonald Successor

Sarah McDonald, Greater Birmingham League President, will resign her position in December. Her husband is retiring from UAB and they will relocate to North Carolina (where of course Sarah will join the League!) That means a successor is needed. According to the bylaws, the vice presidents step up in such a situation. Birmingham has only one vice president, Nancy Ekberg, and she is presently unable to accept the position. The bylaws further state that the board may choose from among its elected members. **The League is fortunate to have Leonette Slay to stand-in as President from January until the 2011 Annual Meeting where the next President will be elected.**

Leonette and Sarah attended the National Convention in Atlanta in June-2010 where they met the “co-presidents” of a League in Indiana. While they are called “co-presidents”, they are really a president and a presidential trainee, or mentor and protégé. This results in a training year and then a presidency year. While it is a two-year commitment, it is less stressful because no one comes into the job with no experience. Furthermore, the workload can be shared between the two. The nominating committee has only to find a mentee each year, not a president for two years.

Although Leonette will technically be the protégé from now until December, she has plenty of experience as president of the Tuscaloosa League some years ago. The board will then select her protégé for January 2011 until the 2011 Annual Meeting.

All of this information is intended to allow the members to prepare for the bylaws change that will be needed if this system is to become permanent. The board invites your comments and input.



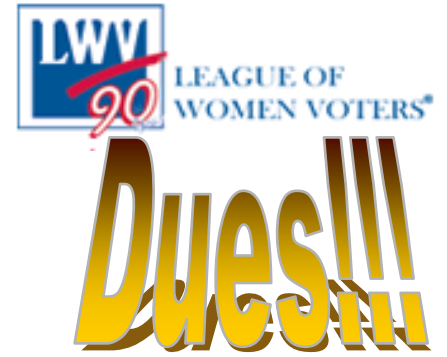
League President Sarah McDonald

Voters Service Volunteers Needed

We have several projects coming up in Voters Service that should be fun and helpful to the public. If you would like to volunteer, just call Virginia at 699.5582.

The projects include the following:

- Voter Guide that will be published on our web site and linked to the national LWV site voter education program called Vote411. We will need to get started by August 20th, so call right away. We will be creating questions and mailing them to the candidates.
- Alabama Government at Your Fingertips will need updating after the November election. For anyone who would like to help with this it will not require meetings and can be done from your home on your own time. We will need a couple people to proof read the final document before printing so if you are good with details we need you.
- We are planning a survey of public information available through government web sites. This will require one meeting and then most of the work may be completed on your own computer at home. We will be putting the information together for a report in the Spring.



It's that Time Again!

DUES need to be paid by September 30. You can pay online using PayPal on the League website (<http://www.lwvgb.org>) or you can send a check for \$45 for an individual membership or \$65 for a Family membership to Amanda McGriff, LWVGB Treasurer, P.O. Box 320847, Birmingham, AL 35232.



The League on the Editorial Pages

In honor of the League's 90 years of service and the 90th anniversary of the ratification of Amendment 19 to the U.S. Constitution, Judith Hand and Sarah McDonald have an editorial for the *Birmingham News*.

It should appear in the Sunday August 15th edition so plan to look for it. The last 90 years have been so important for voter franchise. Now we plan to move forward with the good work our predecessors passed on to us.

The Voter



The League on WBHM 90.3

For public awareness and education regarding the upcoming election, the LWVGB Board decided to underwrite 5 *All Things Considered* programs on WBHM. We decided to focus on registering to vote and voting.

Be sure to listen for the League's name on

October 6

October 18

November 1

November 2

February 14, 2011 (our 91st Birthday)

Members of the Board are contributing to our LWVAL Education Fund to allow us to execute this project.

If any member wants to join us, we will use the extra money to support more sessions.

You may make a tax deductible contribution on line (www.lwvgb.org and indicate that it is for the Ed Fund) or send a check made out to LWVAL Ed Fund to our address - PO Box 530522 Birmingham, AL 35253.



It's a Party!!

What: League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham 10/10/10 Global Work Party!

When: Sunday afternoon, October 10, 2010 – Save the Date!

This is our opportunity to join other Leagues and groups all over the world to celebrate climate solutions at the local level—and to let our leaders know how important it is that they join the effort to shift our focus to cleaner energy.

There are many actions needed – cleaning up our roadways, waterways, and air, energy audits, planting trees, supporting local agriculture and greenspaces, working on cleaner fuels and more bike lanes and so many more!

Help us decide on our project by the end of August. If you are a member of a group which might want to partner with LWVGB as we plan our Work Party, or have some suggestions, please contact Joyce Lanning at 879-0808 or jalanning@bellsouth.net.

You can join the League's climate change email list [by signing up at the For Members section of the LWVUS website](#). For more project ideas and resources, check out the League's new web-based [Toolkit for Climate Action](#) and [350.org's October 10 webpages](#).

Put these dates on your calendar now:

- **11:30 on September 30, 2010 in the Electra Room of Alabama Power.** The room will be available starting at 11:00 for those who would like to get lunch at the cafeteria to bring to our meeting room to learn about our part of the Global Work Party.
- And save the **afternoon of Sunday, October 10, 2010**, to join in our chosen project!

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LWVGB Calendar

Month	Day	Time	Event
September	7	11:30am	Board Meeting Community Foundation Building
September	30	11:30am	Monthly membership meeting Alabama Power Company Electra Room
October	10	TBD	10/10/10 Global Work Party

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“There is no such thing as a little freedom. Either you are all free, or you are not free.”
~ Walter Cronkite

They call it PMS because
Mad Cow Disease was
already taken.
~Author Unknown

There are always too many
Democratic congressmen,
too many Republican
congressmen, and never
enough U.S. congressmen.
~Author Unknown



League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham
PO Box 530522
Mountain Brook, AL 35253