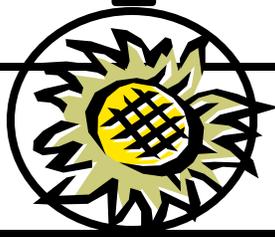
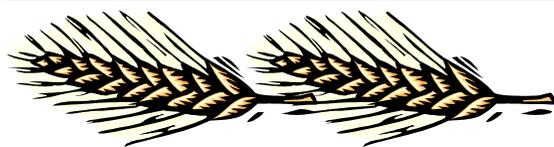


# VOTER



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*The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization of women and men of every age, race, background and political belief. Through more than 1,200 local Leagues, state Leagues and the national organization, League members work to promote citizen action on local, state, and national issues.*

## ***Duane Schrag: WATER in KANSAS***

***LUNCH & LEARN, Tuesday, January 14, 2014  
12:15pm, Salina Public Library, Prescott Room***



2006 was the year the river dried up in Salina. Duane Schrag, then a *Salina Journal* reporter, did an in-depth series of articles on Salina's water supply as local residents worried and wondered about the future of this essential natural resource.

On Tuesday, January 14, Schrag will update us on water in Kansas. Schrag, now on staff at The Land Institute southeast of Salina, will review the research he did in 2006 and discuss the prospects for our water supply.

Here is an excerpt from the July 9, 2006, installment of the series "Smoky Hill River Basin Water Crisis":

"For the first time that anyone can remem-

ber, the city came close to drawing all the water out of the Smoky Hill River last month.

"Half the city's water supply comes directly from the river. Ordinarily the city pumps less than 3 percent of the river's water. Last year, it was 7.5 percent. On June 16, it was two-thirds of the water that reached Salina.

"It's not that the city is taking more water. It's that the river is down.

"And it's down more than you think."

Come hear an update on the status of Water in Kansas from Duane Schrag and be ready to ask questions.

The public is welcome at Lunch & Learn, sponsored six times each year by the Salina League of Women Voters. Audience members are invited to bring lunch and eat as they listen.

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT • ABNER PERNEY

**The New Year is an important election year, and Kansas will be a state all the rest of the country will be watching.** Our current powerful politicians have experimented with tax policy, public education, gun policy, welfare policy, voter identification, voter registration, health care, abortion regulation, water policy, and energy policies. None of their changes have shown any positive improvement for the majority of the population that I can discern.

Unfortunately, there is a huge gap between the interests of the majority of the population and the interest of the majority of voters. The majority of voters, which is a minority of the total population, has been convinced to vote for policies which for the most part are contrary to their own best interests. To me, it is disheartening—if not absolutely tragic—to see how the eligible voting public has essentially abandoned the

election process, when only 85 years ago women were fighting desperately to gain the right to vote.

**What has happened to cause the epidemic of non-participation in our country?** Yet there is as much verbal conflict about what's wrong with the government as ever.

There are an immense number of factors contributing to a general blunting of the understanding of the citizenry that it is their duty and responsibility to see that the country's elected officials are primarily occupied in providing a governmental framework that allows every person in the country a means of obtaining and enjoying the basic needs of life in these United States. **Too many of those elected into power today are primarily concerned with their personal political power** and are genuinely dedicated to the belief that they can best hold onto those things by encouraging ignorance and apathy in the general population.

**Non-participation in the election process is then further encouraged by injecting fear of government** – of “enemies,” most of which have been

intentionally created – and by simple distraction of the people away from their own responsibilities and power.

**The League of Women Voters** is one of the few nationally active organizations working to increase citizen participation through education and active voter registration. Millions of people need to learn that the United States of America was formed primarily because the colonies were being governed without representation and without a government concerned about equity in the lives of the people being governed. In all too many ways, seemingly accelerating since the Viet Nam War, **our country has allowed itself to move into a mode of governance controlled by moneyed interests** that is less representative of the needs and wants of the majority of people.

**It is our challenge for the New Year** to recruit more voters, to help them become educated about for whom and for what policies they are voting and thereby help return us toward a more equitable, more representative, form of government.

—Abner



## CALENDAR



- JAN.
- 14 Lunch & Learn—  
Water in Kansas
- 14 Board meeting
  
- FEB.
- 11 Lunch & Learn
- 11 Board meeting
- tba Ag Consensus Meeting  
(see p. 3)
  
- MAR.
- 11 Lunch & Learn
- 11 Board meeting
  
- APR.
- 8 Board meeting
- tba Annual Meeting

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER AMY ADAMS

Amy Adams is the library's public relations coordinator. She promotes the library's programs and services through advertising, traditional and social media, the website, newsletters, calendars and the CLASS catalog. She will also talk endlessly about the benefits of the library to anyone who will listen.

Amy, a native Salinan, received a B.A. in English from Bethel College in North Newton. Following college she was a full-time volunteer through Men-

nonite Voluntary Services at Rosedale Development Association in Kansas City, Kan. She then worked as a copy editor at the *Salina Journal*, writing the occasion editorial and parenting column.

She has been married to her husband, Chris, since 2007 and the two have a beautiful 3-year-old son Liam. Amy loves to read, write, cook, fail at gardening, sing and laugh a lot.

Welcome, Amy Adams!

## NATIONAL LEAGUE STUDYING AGRICULTURE

### Salina League will have a chance to give input

Agriculture is the focus of the League of Women Voters U.S. two-year study.

How can a study cover the entire, vast topic of "Agriculture"?

The nine-member national study committee, including one Kansas member, has narrowed the scope of the study—down from ALL of agriculture to what still seems like an enormously broad swath.

According to LWV.org, the study will focus on two sets of issues:

1) Current technology issues in agriculture including genetically modified organisms (GMOs), herbicides, pesticides, agriculture water pollution, aquifer depletion, antibiotics in livestock, and accurate food labeling; and

2) Current agriculture finance issues including consolidation in agriculture

industries, crop subsidies and the federal agricultural regulatory process.

The decision to study agriculture was made at the 2012 national convention.

The study process began over a year ago when the LWVUS board established the timeline for the study.

**Local and state Leagues around the country will meet to discuss the Agriculture Study consensus questions. Watch for notice of our local meeting between now and April 1, 2014.**

League members from around the county volunteered to participate.

Representatives of the League's non-political Education Fund interviewed applicants and chose the study committee. It includes Jessica Trites Rolle of

Overland Park, Kansas, along with members from Maryland, Michigan, Maine, Illinois, two from Pennsylvania and two from Oregon, including the chair, Norman Turrill.

Since that time, the committee has selected study materials and posted numerous documents on the LWV.org website. All League members are welcome to review the materials and participate in an online discussion, and state and local Leagues may hold public meetings and form their own study committees.

The national committee has lately been formulating "consensus questions" which will be approved by the Education Fund Committee and adopted by the board.

The next step, to be completed by April 1, is for League members across the country to discuss the consensus questions—in small groups at the local and state levels—and reach (naturally) a consensus. Each discussion group submits its responses to the national League of Women Voters. If the "Agreement Committee" decides that a consensus has been reached, a new position statement in line with that consensus is submitted to the national board, and the new statement is proposed for approval at the upcoming 2014 biennial convention.

The last time the Salina League of Women Voters participated in a consensus discussion was during the study of education issues. That was a stimulating and fascinating experience for the dozen or so members involved, around a table at Mokas.

Please watch for an announcement of a date for the consensus discussion. Look up study materials at: [www.lwv.org/content/agriculture-update-suggested-summer-reading](http://www.lwv.org/content/agriculture-update-suggested-summer-reading).

### HOW TO CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Email the Governor through his website: <http://governor.ks.gov>

#### US SENATE:

##### Pat Roberts, (202) 224-4774

109 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1605  
<http://roberts.senate.gov>

##### Jerry Moran, (202) 224-6521; NEW:

361A Russell Senate Office Building  
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<http://moran.senate.gov>

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[jrclaeys@house.ks.gov](mailto:jrclaeys@house.ks.gov)

Topeka phone: 785-296-7670  
**Dist. 71—Diana Dierks**, 820-7504  
1221 Sunrise Dr., Salina  
[Diana.dierks@house.ks.gov](mailto:Diana.dierks@house.ks.gov)

Topeka phone: 785-296-7642  
**Dist. 108—Steven Johnson**  
785-667-6601  
10197 S. Hopkins Rd., Assaria  
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**STATE LEAGUE REPORT**

*In October, Lori Trow represented the Salina League at the Kansas League of Women Voters "League Day" in Topeka. Here is her report:*

The morning session was an introduction to our state study - Fracking, Water and the Future. We had a panel of three speakers: Rex Buchanan, Interim Director, Kansas Geological Society; Susan Stover, Manager of the Kansas Water Office; and Duane Shrag, journalist/environmentalist with The Land Institute and the Kansas Sierra Club.

They provided much information about the history and impact hydraulic fracturing (called "fracking") has had and continues to have in Kansas. A website for registry of chemicals used in fracking is [FracFocus.org](http://FracFocus.org).

Our lunch speaker was Professor Bill Rich from the Washburn Law School who spoke to the group about the elements of a perfect storm gathering around our right to vote. The three components in this are Campaign Finance, Voter Regulation and Judicial Apportionments.

The afternoon session was small group conversations on (1) Fracking in Kansas, (2) MLD (Membership and Leadership Development) and Sustainability; (3) LWV Communication and (4) Voter regulations in Kansas and their impact on voter registration.

League Day happens twice a year, once in the fall and once during the legislative session. These are meetings full of bright, engaged League members of all ages from across the state. Consider attending the next League Day. The date—probably in February—will be publicized to all League members. You will come away better informed and inspired by the engagement of others in topics important to Kansas citizens.

**DEATH PENALTY AND LWV**

On Monday, August 19, 2013, Salina League of Women Voters held its "Fall Issues Forum" at the Salina Public Library. Kristin Bollig was the invited speaker. Kristin is an organizer for Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty (KCADP). She is also a member of the LWV of Topeka and Shawnee County, and she enjoys sharing her work at KCADP with local leagues around the state.

The League of Women Voters of Kansas (LWVK) was one of the first states to enact a position against the death penalty—in 1981. Many other state Leagues followed suit. In 2006, the League of Women Voters-US affirmed these individual state positions by taking a national position in support of abolishing the death penalty.

The LWVK joins a diverse coalition of organizations in the repeal effort, partnering with the KCADP. Some of the reasons that groups such as the LWVK oppose the death penalty include:

- The death penalty costs much more than a sentence of life without parole.
- The death penalty does not deter other crimes, or contribute to our public safety in any way.
- There will always be the risk of executing an innocent person.
- This is an exciting time for the coalition

because Kansas has a real opportunity to pass repeal legislation during the upcoming session.

Some of the topics in Kristin's presentation included innocence, the cost of the death penalty, public safety and deterrence, and an update on the repeal efforts here in Kansas. We had a lively discussion about the many flaws in the death penalty system, and how we can improve our state by repealing the death penalty.

In October of this year, KCADP hosted the 2013 Abolition Conference, an annual event. It was held on Saturday, October 19, in Topeka. Please consider participating in this event in future years. Other ways to get involved include contacting your legislators, writing letters to the editor, and hosting a KCADP presentation at another organization or faith group you attend. Contact Kristin at [Kris-tin@Ksabolition.org](mailto:Kristin@Ksabolition.org) or 785-235-0214 for more details.

The LWV of Salina looks forward to lending our support to the 2014 repeal effort!

In past years the Fall Issues Forum was called the "Membership Meeting." This year's Salina LWV board of directors decided that a name change was warranted to make it clear that the meeting was not just "for-members-only."

**FINANCE DRIVE COMING IN FEBRUARY**

Watch your mailbox in February for the annual Salina League of Women Voters finance drive letter.

Our local League keeps dues more affordable by only charging enough to cover (just barely) the cost of state and national dues we pay for each member. That leaves us few funds to take on local projects. For those projects we rely on donations.



Please consider a generous contribution. If you would like to help with the mailing, please contact Emma Doherty (827-2478 or [doherty@midkan.net](mailto:doherty@midkan.net)). She annually cooks a lovely dinner for all those participating in folding letters, stuffing, stamping and labeling envelopes. Members are welcome to help with that process—just let Emma know well ahead of time. We'll be deciding the date soon.

**CONSIDER BECOMING NEW VOTER EDITOR!**

Do you have writing skills? Ideas to share? An eye for design?

The VOTER is a important part of the Salina LWV—it allows us to catch up on events we have missed, communicate with

each other and publicize our activities to others in our community.

We need a new VOTER editor. Long-time editor Ann Zimmerman is happy to assist in the transition.

## SALINE CO. SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT: REPORT on October Lunch & Learn

Sheriff Glen Kochanowski has been on the job for forty-eight years in the Sheriff's office. Currently the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is one of the main issues.

The JDC opened in 1984 in a converted gas station to house six to eight juveniles and one staff member with volunteer assistance by students from Kansas Wesleyan University and Brown Mackie. In the early 1990s, the types of offenders in JDC began to change from truants, vandals, and young people who wouldn't obey their parents to juveniles who committed more serious crimes – rape, robbery, attempted murder. In 1995, JDC was remodeled to house ten juveniles, including some girls. There were eight rooms, two with bunk beds. Around that time, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment began requiring that JDC staff have many hours of continuing education each year, which meant that the sheriff could no longer use college student volunteers. Two paid staff on duty around the clock were needed, even if only one inmate was in detention. A minimum of five staff members were needed to ensure that all shifts were covered and to allow for weekends, sick days, holidays and absences.

In 2013, JDC was closed, and all juveniles were transferred to Junction City, which has a 28-bed facility. Salina's JDC had become too dangerous - inmates had attacked property, staff and each other causing injury and property damage. The sheriff had thought the juveniles would be coming back soon, but the county commissioners decided they should stay in Junction City since it cost the county less money. The cost savings are significant – the JDC budget was over \$700,000, while the cost for housing them in Junction City and transporting them back and forth (including delays) is closer to \$400,000. But the sheriff noted the disadvantages of juveniles being far from their families and having a long transport to court in Salina.

The sheriff would like to expand the jail to be a full-service "justice center," which would include the courts, Community Corrections, Inc. (CCI), and county attorney's office all together in one two-block area.

If we build a new JDC, he says, we should build it for 50 beds: 40 beds + 10 night-only beds to keep those 10 in school. Meetings have been held for the past year with a county committee and consultant on this topic.

The current adult jail was new in 1997 with 192 beds. Originally federal prisoners and others were housed there, but then the county had to quit taking outsiders because of too many home-grown prisoners. The Salina jail meets national standards for 165 inmates, but occupancy has been as high as 240!

The women's facility is built for 20 women. Currently there are 47 women inmates, and there have been over 50 at certain times. Since October 2011, Saline County has been housing some of its women inmates in Beloit.

The state keeps passing its prisoners down to county facilities.

The county spends over \$495,000 on housing out local prisoners.

In response to a question, the sheriff reported that few of the inmates are convicted of marijuana charges, so legalizing marijuana would not help. Most marijuana cases are add-on misdemeanors attached to more serious charges.

In January 2013, Saline County Judge Jared Johnson started "drug court" involving the judge, law enforcement officers and Community Corrections personnel.

Prevention programs, early childhood programs and other programs aimed at keeping people out of jail all cost money.

Saline County is doing more electronic monitoring, yet jail numbers continue to maintain and rise. Recidivism is high. Of 3739 inmates in the past year, 2981 were repeat offenders; only 762 were new.

Many kids don't respect their parents, others or themselves.

Medical bills are high. The legislature passed a bill saying Sheriff's offices only have to pay Medicaid rate, which helped.

USD 305 now has a diploma program in the jail. This program is fairly successful and is paid for by USD 305.

The city police department provides the dispatch services free. That's about

\$36,000/mo. worth of services.

CCI gets grants to keep people out of jail. The sheriff's office has one full-time officer whose whole job is to look for grant money, but they all require matching funds.

Most of the inmates are there for serious crimes – especially murder, rape, robbery, child abuse, and major drug cases.

Cable TV is the best way they have to control inmates.

Cameras around the county have allowed them to catch criminals – especially thieves and illegal trash dumpers. The sheriff's office has at least 15 cameras around the county now.

The sheriff would like a basic mill levy to support his department – county commissioners provided this for the road and bridge department.

The sheriff tries to find ways to put inmates to work. Several female inmates work in the laundry from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. One male inmate does indoor jobs like emptying trash and cleaning. Two male inmates work outside doing such jobs as snow removal, grass mowing for the highway patrol and caring for the pauper's cemetery. Some inmates serve meals – about 200,000 meals are served in the jail each year. The meal servers can be felons, but other jobs are reserved for those convicted of lesser crimes.

Unusual cases include one inmate who was 6'7" and weighed 577 pounds. The jail was paying \$500 rent per month for an extra-large bed, and even that was starting to break down. Some inmates welded two beds together, which worked for this inmate, saving all the rental money.

Inmates do not get fine-reductions or pay for these jobs, but they ask to get the chance to do them and apparently love doing them. The labor saves the county about \$250,000 per year. The sheriff says his offices produces \$800,000 per year that goes back to the county.

One audience member asked why there are so many more female inmates than in the past. The sheriff had no explanation, but he said more and more female inmates are incarcerated for very serious crimes.

## SALINA DOWNTOWN INC. — November Lunch & Learn

Melissa Rose Hodges recently took on the role of Executive Director of Salina Downtown Incorporated (SDI), following long-time director, Phyll Klima.

Melissa began her November 12 talk by calling the Salina LWV the “League of Extraordinary Men & Women” in recognition of all our good work over the past decades.

Melissa’s father and grandfather ran Phil Rose & Son Jewelers downtown, and Melissa worked downtown in a clothing store during high school and college, so she is happy to be working now on behalf of downtown. SDI started in the 1980s as “business improvement district” (a response to tax advantages given to the then-new Central Mall) and now serves as the marketing arm of downtown businesses.

SDI offers mini-grants for façade improvement, loans for new business recruitment, and cluster marketing, where several businesses go together to buy advertising and SDI pays one-third of the cost.

SDI has an “Entrepreneur Assistance Center” with an office, computer, printer, etc., for business people to use if they don’t have all the equipment they need for a particular purpose.

SDI sponsors many special promotions:

**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**, for example, encourages downtown businesses to decorate in pink. This year, the Masonic Center was bathed in pink lighting, and money was raised for breast cancer research.

The **Big Boo-Rama** at Halloween brings many thousands of kids downtown for trick-or-treating – it has become so successful that some businesses are concerned about not having enough time to do business that day. Others love it.

**Parade of Lights** and the Christmas Festival in late November (this year, Saturday, November 23) includes the **Frosty 5K** for Big Brothers Big Sisters, miniature train exhibit, carriage rides and visit from Santa besides the parade.

**Salina Sculpture Tour** brings sculptures downtown as well as people to vote for their favorite sculptures.

**Kitchen4Hire** at the Masonic Center is one of SDI’s more successful efforts, providing a professional kitchen that meets health depart-

ment standards. It can be rented by people to produce food for sale. Roger Coberly, whose new cookie business was recently featured in the *Salina Journal*, and the Prairieland Market, whose members are producing carry-out lunch items sold at the market, 305 E. Walnut, are two successful customers.

**Electrical and lighting issues** are high on SDI’s agenda. Because of the tragic electrocution of young Jayden Hicks at Campbell Plaza, much of downtown lighting is turned off until all the wiring can be replaced. New LED sidewalk lights are gradually being installed. Melissa was disappointed that they would not all be ready by the date of the Parade of Lights.

The current lack of lighting prevents more tragic accidents, but the darkness also causes its own problems – people have tripped and fallen in the dark on their way to evening events at the Stiefel. Melissa is pushing for faster progress.

The new LED lightposts are taller than the old decorative lights, which means they are too tall to allow volunteers to decorate them. Melissa reports great cooperation from the city, which has agreed to install decorative banners on the light posts. Three shapes and sizes of plain red banners were hung in the 200 block of North Santa Fe, and SDI has been taking a poll to determine the most popular version. Once shape and size are determined, various banners can be produced to decorate for holidays, seasons, and special events.

Blue Sky Brewery in the former Anderson’s Leather building was set to open soon after November Lunch & Learn.

SDI is cooperating closely with the **Friends of the River**. A recent study on the potential impact of having water flowing in the river (not any of the other more elaborate developments discussed in recent years) predicts an eleven-million-dollar increase in riverside and downtown property values from that single change.

Almost every week there are new proposals for developing the H.D. Lee building at Elm and Santa Fe. It is a huge building with little room for parking, so designers must get creative. Some proposals have included retail stores at street level, offices on the second floor and condominiums or apartments above that.

The former Phoenix Hotel, Fifth and Iron, is being transformed into Assurance Partners offices in the central building with the rest of the property tentatively set to become a \$9 million recreation center. SDI aims to raise half of that. Such a facility would bring back business and activities Salina lost to Newton, Manhattan, and other cities with nice recreation centers.

SDI has precise boundaries around the central part of downtown, but it works with other organizations and businesses just outside of the district, since each benefits the other. An example is close cooperation with the Salina Community Theatre.

Salina is very close to having a food store in the former East Iron Dillons Store—final lease details are in the works.

“The Lee District” name for downtown is being phased out – it did not present a clear image of what downtown is.

Beautifying downtown is on the SDI agenda. City commissioners Householter and Blanchard have been taking walking tours with Melissa to find broken curbs and other repairs needed. In response to audience questions about planters and urns on the sidewalk, Melissa said some of those have been vandalized by rowdy bar patrons at night, discouraging shop owners from having decorative items.

Melissa hopes to discuss law enforcement issues with the new police chief. Parking enforcement costs more than it generates in fines. She thinks the city should consider disbarring parking fines. She also would like the city to consider having a bicycle patrol downtown at key times, especially at the hours the bar close, when the most vandalism occurs.

In audience input, League president Abner Perney suggested changing the downtown promotion from a Historic Downtown to a Futuristic Downtown.

Other audience members were concerned about dirty store windows, unswept sidewalks and other unsightliness.

Melissa also mentioned the difficult issue of homelessness downtown.

She hopes to set up a searchable database for the SDI website, which would allow faster access to downtown information.

## Highlights of LIBRARY BOARD OBSERVER REPORTS

Thanks to League member Mike Wilson for Library and North Salina reports.

**Sept. 17 Meeting:** The new CLASS (Community Learning And Skills Sharing) schedule was distributed. Proposals for spring classes were to be submitted by October 18.

In August, more than 5000 reserved time in the Tech Center, more than 1400 e-books were borrowed; almost 28,000 people visited the library; and there were 10 security incidents.

New board member David Greiser is completing Sally Donatell's unexpired term.

A new 8'x8' concrete slab with a bench on the south side of the library is being designated as a smoking area.

Some PG-rated DVDs are being moved to Youth Services.

Salina Reads program begins in October with the book *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*.

Electricians replaced the ceiling lights during the hours between 6:00 and 9:00 a.m. before the library opened. The entire non-fiction adult section now has new, more efficient T-8 fluorescent lamps from Philips, much brighter than before.

Donita Michaelsen (LWV member) from Youth Services is retiring.

**Oct. 15 Meeting:** Friends of the Library (FOL) book sale is set for Oct. 25 and 26. FOL purchased a \$25 gift certificate for each library staff member.

Kristi Hansen, Youth Services director, discussed that department's activities, including twice-weekly Brainy Babies Storytime for children birth through 24 months and their caregivers; Friday programs that include crafts, puppet theater and Rolling Hills Storytime & Craft; a new program – Bonding Thru Board Games; seven preschool Storytime sessions each week; 6 by 6 – an early literacy initiative; outreach to the Martin Luther King Child Development Center, Salina Child Care, and an after-school program at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church, and more.

Additional work on ceiling tiles will require twenty additional work days and \$14,820 on the ceiling lights project.

A policy revision now requires children age 10 and younger to be supervised (and within sight of) a caregiver who is at least age 16.

The library is on budget except that a leak

earlier in the year caused water to be over budget for the year with only 75% of the year completed.

September activities: 4800 Tech Center users; 1300 e-books borrowed, 25,121 library visitors.

Hoopla is a new service being considered that allows patrons to download movies and music; however the potential cost could be large.

Seven locations around Salina are outreach sites for a rotating book collection for adult readers, with Sterling House on E. Kirwin Street being the newest addition.

The library's security provider has been changed to Smart Security.

**Nov. 13 Meeting:** The FOL October book sale brought in \$2300. Unsold items will be donated to other organizations including one in Ethiopia.

Concealed weapons carrying policy was discussed but no action taken.

2013 budget: \$2,254,307, with \$120,000 expected to be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund at the end of December.

October Activities: Tech Center reservations: 5000; 1300 e-books borrowed; 26,663 library visitors.

The ceiling lights project is complete.

The new security firm is making a positive impression on staff and public.

**Dec. 17 Meeting:** FOL gave \$25 in Smoky Hill Silver to each staff member and purchased poinsettias for the library.

\$120,000 was approved to be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund.

A new policy prohibits borrowing on cards with fines of \$10 or more. Patrons may use other library services (computers, classes, etc.) if their fines are under \$50. Fines must be cleared before renewing a card.

Another new policy limits types of items to be borrowed: For instance, a maximum of two video games may be borrowed for seven days each, a maximum of 50 books may be borrowed for 28 days each and a maximum of one Kindle reader may be borrowed for 14 days. However, there is a limit of 50 on all types of items.

November Activities: Tech center: 4000+ reservations; 1340 e-books borrowed; 25,679

library visitors.

Eighteen employees contributed a total of \$1634 as part of the United Way campaign.

The new CLASS catalog will be ready by December 27; registration begins January 7.

FOL is providing four small, free libraries around the city – 2' wide, 1'deep, 3' tall, with the policy of "leave a book, take a book," to be placed at Kansas Wesleyan, the Salvation Army Community Center, YMCA and Jerry Ivy Park.

The library will be closed on Martin Luther King Day, January 20.

## North Salina Meeting

On a Monday evening in September, 16 people attended a meeting of the North Salina Community Development, Inc., including Jon Blanchard, City Commissioner; Gary Hobbie, Director of Community and Development Services for the City of Salina; and Johnna Voseller, USD 305 Board member. Officers present were Barb Young, President and Mike Wilson, Secretary and LWV member.

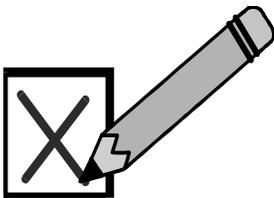
Todd Smith of K-Tron (formerly Premier Pneumatics) discussed a proposed new bulk solids Innovation Center on North Front Street. The center would be financed with up to \$1.6 million in federal, state and local grants to be acquired by a local coalition including Kansas State University, the Salina Chamber of Commerce, the Salina Economic Development Corporation and several private companies, including ADM and Vortex. K-State students and faculty would conduct research there.

Blanchard reported on progress in enhancing the "Five-Corners" location where North Ninth meets Pacific and Broadway. Rick Weber reported on the ongoing rainbarrel project: 55 rainbarrels were assembled and distributed with more individuals requesting barrels. Barb Goode (new League member) announced a rainbarrel event in October. League member David Norlin announced work on engagement grants.

North Salina Community Development meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. For meeting minutes and much more information, see the website: [www.northsalina.org](http://www.northsalina.org).

**League of Women Voters of Salina**  
**PO Box 502**  
**Salina, KS 67402-0502**  
**www.lwvsalina.org**

## JOIN US



**JOIN IN THE ACTION:** Become a member of the League of Women Voters of Salina or renew your League Membership. There is no better time than **NOW** for you to join the League. Please take a moment now to become a member.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League at the following level:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Single Membership (circle one)  
    *Contributing Level*      \$55.00  
    *Sustaining Level*      \$47.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership (circle one)  
    *Contributing Level*      \$80.00  
    *Sustaining Level*      \$68.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student Membership      \$20.00

\_\_\_\_\_ I am unable to join the League at this time, but enclosed is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

For more information, please contact: **David Norlin, Membership Chair**  
**608 E. Republic, Salina, Kansas 67401**  
**Telephone: 825-7847 Email: davidnor@sbcglobal.net**

Make checks payable to: **The League of Women Voters of Salina**, and mail to **PO Box 502, Salina, KS 67402-0502**.