

Caucus Update

Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus

Fall

'07

2007 Officers

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National Women's Political Caucus Endorses Clinton

MLWPC will host a Club 44 debate-watching party in addition to its regular meeting on Monday, December 10. Shown on a large format screen, the debate will be shown live following brief chapter business and announcements. Refreshments will also be available. All are welcome.

Because this event is broadcast on Live television, a confirmed start time has not been determined. Please check you e-mail for a time confirmation.

The National Women's Political Caucus has endorsed Senator Clinton. As part of its endorsement, NWPC will organize its members in 30 states, running a grassroots fundraising effort for Hillary, and holding events throughout the country. Club 44 is the campaign's effort to identify and mobilize young women voters who support Hillary Clinton for president.

The event will also include the installation of 2008 Officers. Also, gold membership pins will be available at this event for those who have not received one.

Debate Watch Party and
Holiday Meeting

December 10

Holiday Inn
Broadway &
Second Street

Get to Know Kentucky Women

In 1978 the Kentucky Commission on Women initiated a campaign to bring attention to the outstanding contributions women make to Kentucky. The scope of this effort included Kentucky women who have significantly aided the development and advancement of life in the Commonwealth, but have generally been omitted from historic accounts. "Kentucky Women Excel" began with a commission-sponsored exhibit at the 1978 Kentucky State Fair, which included watercolor portraits of six women who had different interests and worked in non-traditional ways, particularly in the eras in which they lived. Now, these portraits hang in the Capitol - providing a more appropriate balance to the statues and busts of men who impacted Kentucky's history. MLWPC is pleased to share these stories with our members and newsletter recipients to honor some of Kentucky's most-notable women.

Get to know: Dr. Allie Hixson, Adair County, 1924-2007

At 51 years old, Dr. Allie Hixson's life took a new direction when she became involved in the national movement for women's equality. Dedicated to women's issues, Dr. Hixson has become one of the most prominent feminist leaders in Kentucky and an important leader in the National Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) Movement. Dr. Hixson served as co-organizer of the Kentucky Pro-ERA Alliance and the Kentucky Women's Agenda Coalition, was elected chair of the Kentucky International Woman's Year in 1977, spoke at the National ERA Rally, worked closely with Lt. Governor Thelma Stovall, among many other activities and achievements. Dr. Hixson is a woman of tremendous achievement against the odds, a woman who worked tirelessly to advance the rights and opportunities of women in her native state and the nation.

A sister remembered

The MLWPC is sorry to announce the passing of Dr. Allie Corbin Hixson on October 30, 2007. She was a founding mother of the Caucus, a feminist, and a woman who never lost her voice.

The Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus works to increase women's participation in the political process and to identify, recruit, train and support feminist women for election and appointment to public office.

MLWPC Principles

- To strive for equality for all women
- To ensure reproductive freedom
- To achieve quality dependent care
- To eradicate sexism, racism, anti-Semitism, ageism, ableism, violence, poverty and discrimination on the basis of religion or sexual orientation

MLWPC Goals

- Encourage women to be active and effective in all aspects of the political process
- Support the efforts of KWPC-endorsed candidates who run for or are appointed to office
- Organize women around the state for political action on women's issues
- Initiate, lobby and monitor legislation which guarantees women equal protection under the law and for programs and measures which benefit women

The Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus uses the Greek symbol for women to form five circles, representing the five races, intertwined to symbolize unity of purpose and that together we can achieve anything.

2008 MLWPC Meeting Schedule

As part of the 2008 programming, MLWPC will offer round-table discussions and informal presentations from the following individuals and groups. The new initiative aims to foster greater dialogue and increased contact with those who represent women constituents.

All meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month at the remodeled Holiday Inn at Second Street and Broadway from 5:30 to 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Meetings are FREE and open to all members, public and guests. Assorted hors d'oeuvres are optional for \$10. Reservations are appreciated and can be made by contacting Angie Wallace at (502) 412-3070 or akwallace0818@yahoo.com. No meetings are held in June, July, August and November.

January 24	A conversation with State Chairs of the Democratic, Libertarian and Republican parties.
February 28	A conversation with Democratic and Republican Party Metro Council Caucus Chairs
March 27	A conversation with Shively Mayor Sherry Conner and celebration of Women's History Month
April 24	Legislative forum with local State Representatives and State Senators as they report on the 2008 General Assembly
May 22	A conversation with the women of the Metro Council
September 25	A conversation with PVA Tony Lindauer and County Clerk Bobbi Holsclaw
October 23	Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
December 4	Installation of Officers and Holiday Reception

MLWPC 2008 Officers announced

The following individuals will be installed as Officers at the December meeting.

President	Melinda Niemann
Vice President	Angie Wallace
Secretary	Carolyn Shaw
Treasurer	Bobbi Jo Weber
Immediate Past President	Nicole V. Candler
Members-at-Large	Sherry Conner Margaret Harris Kimberly Greenwell
Policy Council	Jennifer Moore

MLWPC offers a chance to speak out

by Membership Chair Virginia L. Woodward

Fresh from the 2008 elections, still feeling the victory of electing so many pro-choice candidates to statewide office...and yet, there was only one woman in the top field of candidates. Crit Lual-len.

We have long way to go in Kentucky. It is no wonder Kentucky ranks as one of the worst states in the country for women to live and work as documented by research conducted by the Institute for Women's Policy Research. For details visit their website at www.iwpr.org.

In closing the books for 2007, many of us begin to make choices for year-end charitable giving and organizations you will support, I hope you will choose to join/rejoin the Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus (MLWPC) for 2008.

For over 35 years, MLWPC has been committed to changing the political landscape in Kentucky.

Notably many of the women who have run for office in Louisville or are currently serving in elective office including the Judiciary were first participants in the MLWPC Campaign Schools offered every year in collaboration with our sister affiliate in Lexington.

Progressive candidates aggressively seek the MLWPC endorsement either locally or through our state affiliate the Kentucky Women's Political Caucus.

Innovative and thought provoking programming continues to be the main stay of the MLWPC monthly meetings. Next year, MLWPC will celebrate "A Year Of Conversations" highlighting opinion leaders from State Party chairs to Metro government officials. Plan to join us.

Could 2008 be the year we see a woman elected President of the United States and a woman elected as U.S Senator for Kentucky?

It was the following poem by Pastor Nemuellor, a victim of the Nazis, that influenced my decision to run for Congress.

FIRST THEY CAME FOR THE JEWS
I DID NOT SPEAK OUT
BECAUSE I WAS NOT A JEW

THEN THEY CAME FOR THE COMMUNISTS
I DID NOT SPEAK OUT
BECAUSE I WAS NOT A COMMUNIST

THEN THEY CAME FOR THE TRADE UNIONISTS
AND I DID NOT SPEAK OUT
BECAUSE I WAS NOT A TRADE UNIONIST

AND THEN THEY CAME FOR ME
AND THERE WAS NO ONE LEFT TO SPEAK FOR ME

As women we must speak out! If we don't, who will?

Join MLWPC and become a part of making history in 2008. Help us to continue our work to encourage and empower women. No one will hear you if you don't first speak out.

Join the conversation please join/renew for 2008 today!

Community Calendar

December 1, 8:30 a.m.

Kentucky Women's Network

Holiday Inn, Hurstbourne

Registration \$35

Forums include *Voting: Protecting Our Rights and Health Care: A Right or a Privilege?* Continental breakfast and lunch with Governor-elect Steve Beshear included. For more information visit www.kywomensnetwork.org.

December 12, noon

BPW River City

Jefferson Club

Lunch is \$20.

Contact Mary Lewis at 499-4420 or lewism@msdlouky.org for reservations and details. Meetings are held monthly on the second Wednesday.

January 9, noon

BPW River City

Jefferson Club

Lunch is \$20.

Contact Mary Lewis at 499-4420 or lewism@msdlouky.org for reservations and details. Meetings are held monthly on the second Wednesday.

Send us your announcements

The Caucus Update promotes programming and announcements for other organizations. Since MLWPC is a bipartisan group, all organizations are welcome to submit event information to nicole.candler@insightbb.com

2007 Membership Renewal

- Benefactor Member, \$125
- Governing Member plus KWPC and NWPC membership, \$80
- Governing Member plus KWPC membership, \$40
- Limited-income or Student Member, \$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-mail _____

Party Affiliation _____ Occupation _____

Please make checks payable to MLWPC. Send to 1906 Hillcircle Road, Louisville, KY 40214



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