

Member Spotlight

ERICA VOELL



Where she's from

Erica Voell, a League member since March, grew up in Hutchinson, Kan. After receiving a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas, she earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign.

Erica and her husband, Brad, have lived in the Kansas City area for nine years and have a 4-year-old daughter. For more than five years, she has served as librarian for the children and teen collection at the Kansas City Public Library.

In addition to her work with the League, Erica has a wide variety of interests, including gardening, reading, making jam, Pilates, quilting, sewing and knitting.

Why she joined LWV

Erica joined the League because “the organization made me feel like it was a place where I could make a difference.” Although she explored other organizations, the League’s focus on giving citizens a voice in government through voter registration and education was consistent with her interests and beliefs. The enthusiastic response to the League and interest in voter registration at the Lenexa Art Fair and Old Shawnee Days have illustrated to her the importance of the League’s work.

What the League does well

Erica thinks the League is doing a great job of informing people about elections and issues in a nonpartisan way. She says the legislative coffees are particularly effective and provide a forum that elicits basic questions and concerns that families share. She also points to the website and monthly programs as being informative and well done.

The LWV button pinned to her purse generates many positive comments and questions about registration and voting wherever she goes. All of this makes her want to continue participating in the organization’s work.

Where would you like to see the LWVJoCo focus

Erica considers recruiting more young people and enabling young families to participate in activities as important priorities. Continuing to provide people with opportunities to talk about and consider current events should continue to play a central role in the League’s future.