



# The Voter

League of Women Voters of Columbia/Boone

VOLUME 77, No. 9

SEPTEMBER, 2012

## Who Own\$ the Election?

Many feel that the Citizens United Supreme Court decision unleashed the unprecedented amounts of money already spent during the 2012 election cycle; others argue that the influx has other causes.

On Tuesday, September 18, the Civil Liberties Committee will present "Who Own\$ the Election?" as part of its Constitution Day celebration. Two distinguished professors from the University of Missouri, Jeff Milyo, Middlebush Professor of Social Sciences and Senior Fellow at the CATO Institute, and Marvin Overby, Middlebush Chair in Political Science, will explore the effect of the landmark Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v Federal Election Commission on financing the 2012 campaigns.



Professor Milyo has served as an expert witness in several state and federal election-related disputes and provided expert testimony on election administration to two US Congressional committees.

Professor Overby's research interests are broad and include legislative procedures in the U.S. House and Senate, the politics of minority groups, and campaign advertising.

The event will take place in the County Commission Chambers of the Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center, 801 East Walnut. (Please note that because of ongoing construction you should access the Chambers from the Ash and 8th Street side.)

Light refreshment will be provided at 6:30; the program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Aline Kultgen, Co-Chair  
Civil Liberties Committee

## LWV Reaching out to our Community

Your League is communicating with the Columbia area each month in several ways. We wanted to remind you to look and listen for us.

- Hear the latest event news on the Paul Pepper show on KBIA. The September show airs on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:50 am.
- We have a monthly CAT TV show that airs on the second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and is re-shown throughout the month.
- Almost every month we have a public forum. This month is Constitution Day (see above) and in October we have the Candidate/Ballot Issue forums. We run ads announcing these events, so look in the local papers. We release public service announcements and these are on many media outlets.
- We write op-ed pieces and letters to the editor. Our most recent op-ed was on Stand By Your Ad and flackcheck.org. Look for our letters to the editor on ballot issues after October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Carol Schreiber at caolschrei@gmail.com if you can help publicize the League's activities.

## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

### September

- **Sustainable Living Fair, Sun., Sept. 9, Student Commons/Columbia College, 11 am-6 pm.**
- **Board Mtg., Mon., Sept. 10, 6:45 pm, Boone Electric**
- **CAT-TV—League Presents, Wed, Sept. 12, 7 pm, Windsor Hall, Stephens**
- **Civil Liberties Com., Thurs., Sept. 13, 1:15 pm, Library**
- **Voter Service Com., Thurs., Sept. 13, 6:30 pm, E. Broadway Hy-Vee eating area**
- **Education Com. Mon., Sept. 17, 6:30 pm, Library Rm. B**
- **Constitution Day: Who Owns the Election?, Tues., Sept. 18, 7 pm, County Commission Chambers**
- **Learn & Share: Mandatory Drug Sentencing. Wed., Sept. 26, 7 pm, 1700 Forum Blvd, Apt. 3101 (Liz Schmidt)**
- **Learn & Share: Mandatory Drug Sentencing, Thurs., Sept. 27. 1:30 pm, 378 Crown Point (Lael Von Holt)**

### October

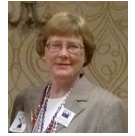
- **Election Forum 1, Thurs., Oct. 4, 6:30 pm, Library**
- **Board Mtg., Mon, Oct 8, 6:45 am., Boone Electric**
- **Election Forum 2, Tues., Oct. 9, 6:30 pm, Library**

### **Fact Checking**

**Want to check the accuracy of allegations or emails? Go to ...**  
[www.politifact.com](http://www.politifact.com) or  
[www.factcheck.org](http://www.factcheck.org)  
[www.flackcheck.org](http://www.flackcheck.org)

## August Board Report

The LWVCBC board met on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Here is a summary of the meeting:



The Board heard a report on a request by the Columbia Public Schools for LWV to oversee the **teacher collective bargaining vote** to be held this fall on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The LWV Board approved the request. The Columbia School Board will finalize plans for this election at their September meeting. The school district has requested us to have a League member at each school to oversee the election, so we need at least 32 volunteers to work a two-hour shift. We are setting up five team captains to recruit at least five people. Ava Fajen has volunteered to be our first team captain! **If you are interested in volunteering for a two-hour shift, please contact Carol Schreiber** at carolschrei@gmail.com.

Plans for the Founder's Day December Luncheon are underway and Marilyn McLeod and Elaine Blodgett volunteered to make plans for the luncheon. The luncheon will be on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at Jack's Restaurant. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Marilyn at Marilyn\_mcleod@yahoo.com.

The Board approved a new recognition category of Friends of the League. We will recognize our Friends of the League at our annual meeting in April. Friends of the League will be individuals and organizations who help to get our message out to the public.

The board looked at some options for new member orientation. One of the ideas is to take a trolley trip on the new Columbia Trolley system. Another idea was a happy hour after the November election to hash over the results. Linda Brown and Liz Schmidt will be in charge of setting times and events. If you have an idea or like these ideas, please email Liz Schmidt at lizschmidt@gmail.com.



The Board also approved the purchase of 10 "Vote! It Counts, League of Women Voters" yard signs. If you live in a high traffic area and are willing to put one of the signs in your yard, please contact Carol Schreiber at carolschrei@gmail.com.

The next board meeting will be on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 p.m. at the Boone Electric Cooperative meeting room. Social time is at 6:30 p.m.

Carol Schreiber  
Co-President

## Opposition to Mandatory Drug Sentencing September's Learn & Share

The US has 75% of the world's prison population. Drug sentences account for 70% of those inmates. Mandatory drug sentences have filled our prisons. **LWVUS at their recent convention voted to concur** with Washington, D.C.'s League position in looking for alternatives in sentencing and opposing mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses.

Learn and Share for September will update our membership on this concurrence. We will have a short presentation on the material and will show a powerful 30-minute movie called "*Perversion of Justice*." There will be time for discussion and sharing. The two sessions are for all of our members and you are encouraged to **bring a friend**.

Both sessions are the same. It would be very helpful if you could email [carolschrei@gmail.com](mailto:carolschrei@gmail.com) if you know you are coming, as this will enable Lael and Liz to set up for the meetings. The Wednesday evening session will be at Liz Schmidt's apartment, 1700 Forum Boulevard, Apt. 3101, at 7:00 p.m. The Thursday afternoon session will be at Lael Von Holt's house, 378 Crown Point, at 1:30 p.m. We hope you can come!



## CAT TV Show Explores the Status of Higher Education in Columbia and What Can Be Done to Reduce Student Debt

A recent report by the College Board was released concerning trends in tuition and fees, enrollment and state appropriations. Some of the surprising results were that:

- For the past three years, Missouri's four-year institutions' tuition and fees increases were the lowest in the country;
- State appropriations for higher education in Missouri declined by 5% over the last five years and Missouri ranks 44<sup>th</sup> in state appropriations per \$1000 income;
- Student enrollment over the past five years grew 17.6 % for four-year degree institutions and 28.6 % for community colleges.

To discuss these findings and address the serious issue of student debt, the LWV is inviting representatives from Columbia's higher education campuses to our September 12<sup>th</sup> CAT TV Show, in the CAT-TV studio, Windsor Hall, Stephens College. The show airs at 7:00 p.m.

### CAT-TV—League Presents



*Live on Charter Communications 983, Mediacom Channel 85 and CenturyTel Prism 601. The program will be re-shown on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 7:00 a.m. and Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. You can also view the program at [www.columbiaaccess.tv/watch](http://www.columbiaaccess.tv/watch). Shows can also be accessed on YouTube by searching for the League in Columbia (the programs can now be see live here also).*

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Columbia Public Schools has asked our League to conduct/monitor the selection of a collection bargaining agent for Columbia's public school teachers, likely on Thursday, October 11. At each school (after school for most, possibly before school as well at Hickman and Rock Bridge High Schools), League members would check off those who are voting, distribute ballots, count the ballots and report the totals. It will take about two hours of your time and will require 32 or more members. Contact Co-President Marilyn McLeod if your are interested in helping.**

## Membership

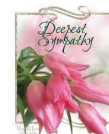
Welcome to our newest members!

Traci Wilson-Kleecamp, 2905 Greenbriar Dr., 441-0043, [twilsonklee@earthlink.net](mailto:twilsonklee@earthlink.net)

Kerri McBee-Black, 540 S. Craig View Dr., Harrisburg, Mo 65256, 874-0635, [mcbeebblackk@missouri.edu](mailto:mcbeebblackk@missouri.edu)



Condolences to long-time member Shirley Troth on the recent loss of her husband, Bill.



## Short Notes from Committee Board Reports

*Prior to each monthly board meeting, committee chairs share what their respective committees are working on. Here are selected notes from those reports. If something catches your attention, all committee meetings are open and always welcome new potential members!*

Education Committee: “At our July meeting, Dr. Rebecca DeNeve, Senior Legislative Analyst for the Missouri House of Representatives spoke to us about Missouri education issues. She writes the language for the related House bills, based on the requests of the bills’ sponsors, and explained this process for us. One aspect that was surprising to us was the confidentiality that is preserved for the legislator who is working on a potential bill. It can occur that Becky will be writing bills on the same topic for different legislators independently of each other and she will discuss each only with the sponsoring individual. She also keeps confidentiality regarding the content of potential House bills when interacting with her counterparts on the Senate Research Staff. It seems inefficient, but she explained that it is necessary.



Becky also talked about the volume of bills that are handled in a legislative session. In the 2012 legislative session 1069 House bills were filed. Of the combined House and Senate bills filed, 131 were in some way related to education. Of those 131, 90 were assigned to the House Education Committee (K-12), 29 were officially heard by the House Education Committee, and 4 were actually passed. Of the four bills related to education that originated in the House or Senate education committees, 3 came from the Senate and 1 from the House. A number of bills passed in this past session affected education but did not originate from the education committees.

One of the most important things that needed to be done in the past session was to make adjustments to the foundation funding formula for education, but this was not accomplished. Probably the most important education bill that did pass was the expansion of charter schools. This legislation allows charter schools to be established in any unaccredited school district, provisionally accredited district, or in accredited districts with local school board sponsorship. We also discussed the language of the proposed constitutional amendment no.2, which has since been voted in at the August primary election.

Becky provided us with some context by noting that many other states are seeing the same types of bills we see in Missouri – for example, the recurring push to try to divert funds away from public education in order to give tuition tax credits to those who attend private schools.”

Energy Matters: “The Energy Matters committee has tentatively decided not to schedule regular monthly meetings next fall, but instead to put our energies into planning a public forum for November.” *To volunteer to assist in the League’s booth at the Sustainable Living Fair or to get more information about committee activities, contact Co-Chair Dick Parker at [rbparker1@centurytel.net](mailto:rbparker1@centurytel.net) or 256-4397.*

Mental Health: “Mental health - or lack thereof - has certainly been highlighted of late by country-wide tragedies of violence, loss of life and child sexual abuse.

But a more positive statement can also be made on mental health by noting the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which is now constitutional law and which recognizes the essential nature of mental health in overall health. Benefits are quite evident such as no exclusion from pre-existing conditions, no life time limits, collaboration in community clinics between health and mental health services, coverage up to age 26, expansion of substance abuse treatment, and mental health parity in insurance. Time will tell if these benefits have a significant impact.”



Voter Service: “The Voter Service Committee will be involved with the Columbia Teachers Collective Bargaining Vote, if approved by our board and the Columbia School Board. We will need about 35 volunteers to work the election.

We will work on VOTE411 next week and try to get all of our candidates in the system.

The Committee will also pursue voter registration events for Centro Latino and Services for Independent Living. We are also waiting to hear from AAUW about activities for the Get Out the Millennial Women Voters activities.”

## 1914 State Convention in Columbia

The historical records of the local chapter of the League of Women Voters are at the State Historical Society of Missouri located in the Ellis Library building (University of Missouri-Columbia). The records consist of official Minutes, newspaper articles, scrapbooks and other papers. These records are considered a permanent collection of the Historical Society and cannot be removed from that location but they can be viewed there and copies can be made. We express our appreciation for the availability of the collection and the very helpful assistance of their staff.

Each month, we will present a brief article in our LWVCBC Voter sharing information about our history based on the papers in the collection. Note that sometimes it is difficult to decipher the handwritten notes, so some unintended errors may occur.

The Executive Committee of the Columbia Equal Suffrage Association met on January 9, 1914 where it was decided that the group should hold monthly open meetings featuring speakers on topics related to their mission. In February, several members addressed the topic "Why I Believe in Equal Suffrage." In March, Mrs. Helen Guthrie Miller spoke on "Suffrage for Missouri in 1915", and Professor Grover Hosford spoke on "Where Women Have the Vote and What They are Doing With It." In March, Professor Max Handmann spoke on "Snobbishness and Feminism"!

A few months later, a front page story in the *Columbia Tribune* (May 19, 1914) reported on the annual convention of the **Missouri Equal Suffrage Association** which was held in Columbia. Mrs. Miller was elected president of the state organization.

Another article in the same issue of the newspaper focused on the "Suffragists at a Banquet" where Mrs. St. Clair Moss and Dorothy Dix, a New York newspaperwoman, were the featured speakers. About 175 people attended. Dorothy Dix (see picture at right) was a nationally known columnist ("Dorothy Dix Talks" for 33 years until her death in 1951); her talk was mostly about journalism with just a few references to suffrage, although the presence of such a nationally famous and successful woman had to be enough of a message in itself.



Mrs. St. Clair Moss was very inspiring, with quotes such as *"There is no woman problem. There is no suffrage problem. It is a problem of humanity..... The danger to society today is not from the thinking, active, industrious woman who is ambitious to be entrusted with the ballot and to take a part in community life"*

As president of Christian College and a woman, she also spoke about the importance of access for women to higher education.

*"Fifty years ago the doors of higher education were thrown open to women and without other assistance women have emancipated themselves, one of the most striking achievements in history."*

She then gave examples of some of the famous women in high positions in America and *"this shows the woman can do the work the world wants done."*

Rev. W. W. Elwang spoke on women's suffrage from a man's standpoint, pointing out that the convention itself was proof that women have the ability to take part in politics "with wisdom and force".

During the legislative session, the Missouri Equal Suffrage Association and other allied organizations had been unable to convince the legislature to pass a bill on suffrage for women. As a result, there was a plan to get a constitutional amendment on the November ballot. This was a major topic of the convention.

They raised \$1000 for the "furtherance of the campaign for equal suffrage in Missouri," with the largest single donation of \$100 by Mrs. W. H. Willis of Columbia. The group "instantly agreed" upon a motion to have more printed matter distributed to the various suffrage leagues around the state for use in the campaign to give out at fairs, picnics and all public gatherings during the summer.

Marilyn McLeod  
Historian



On November 6<sup>th</sup>, you do **NOT** have to provide a PHOTO ID in Missouri's General Election. Please, pass this information on to all your friends and especially our college students. But, please let the students know they must either vote absentee from their home district or re-register to vote in Columbia. Last day to register to vote is October 10.



## October Election Forums Take Shape



LWV will be sponsoring two candidate/ballot issue forums for the November General Election. Both forums will be in the Friends Room at the Columbia Public Library with refreshments at 6:00 p.m. and the forums at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> we will have the contested Boone County State House and Senate races. The House races include: District 44 with Ken Jacob (D) and Caleb Rowden (R); District 46 with Stephen Webber (D) and Fred Berry (R); and District 47 with John Wright (D) and Mitch Richards (R). The 19<sup>th</sup> Senate candidates are Mary Still (D) and Kurt Schaefer (R). We will conclude with an historical presentation on the St. Louis City Police Department (Municipal Police Department Control) ballot issue. The St. Louis City Police have been governed by the State of Missouri dating back to the civil war and this ballot issue would give control back to the city. This current ballot issue seems to have the support of both the St. Louis Police Department and the Mayor of St. Louis.

Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> we will have the contested Boone County races and the rest of the ballot issues. For Boone County Public Administrator we will have Cathy Richards (D) and John Sullivan (R). For County Commissioners we have: Northern District (District II) candidates Janet Thompson (D) and Don Bormann (R); and for Southern District (District I) candidates Karen Miller (D) and James Pounds (R). Since, we have a Democratic Governor the ballot order will be Democratic candidate first with the Republican candidate second. We do not have the final list of ballot issues. We plan to have pro and con speakers where possible. If we are unable to find speakers, League members will present summaries of pros and cons for the ballot issue.

Carol Schreiber, Chair  
Voter Service Committee

### Outstanding Citizen Award

Many individuals in the community have had significant impact on other individuals or groups, whether as a volunteer or as part of their job. Some may be well known; others are not. If you know of such an individual or individuals, please nominate them for this honor. The board will make a final decision on the award. Information for each nominee should at least include the following:

\*\*Name                      \*\*Contact information (address, telephone number)                      \*\*Your name and telephone number  
\*\*Identify the reasons why you are nominating the individual with as many details as possible, up to 2 typewritten pages

**Look for more information in the next Voter.**

### Support Our League



We, as members, are our best source of donations. Here's another idea in our series on planned giving to the League of Women Voters Columbia-Boone County.

If you have a Life Insurance policy, name the League of Women Voters Columbia Boone County as one of the beneficiaries. It is very easy to add or change a beneficiary on a life insurance policy you already own. Just call your life insurance agent or the insurance company from whom you receive statements. Ask for a change of beneficiary form. You just fill out a short form and send it back. Generally all you need is the name, address, and Tax I.D. *If you're interested in doing this, please contact us for our Federal Tax I.D. number.* Since we are an organization and the officers change periodically, it would be a good idea to add our website address, <http://lwwcbc.org>. If at any point you decide you might like to change your mind it is easy to change or remove the beneficiary designation. ***If you have a large estate, and are considering possible tax deductions, please contact your tax advisor.***

Thank you for considering this idea.

For more information on how to make the donation, please contact the President or Treasurer of the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County at <http://lwwcbc.org/>

**Officers**

**Co-Presidents:** Carol Schreiber (657-1467) and Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Ava Fajen (442-0803)

**Secretary:** Joni O'Connor (234-1012)

**Treasurer:** Liz Schmidt (445-0655)

**Board Members & Committee Chairs**

**CAT TV:** Carol Schreiber

**Civil Liberties:** Linda Kaiser & Aline Kultgen (449-2149)

**Communications:** Maydell Senn (445-7844)

**Discussion Groups/Unit Meetings:** Midge Pinkerton (445-2052)

**Education:** Ava Fajen (above)

**Energy Matters:** Win Colwill (445-4663) & Dick Parker (below)

**Historian:** Marilyn McLeod

**Hospitality:** Pam Springsteel (445-0642)

**Membership:** Linda Lenau Brown (447-3939) & Liz Schmidt

**Mental Health:** Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

**Nominating:** Linda Brown (above)

**Other:** Peggy Placier (442-2996) & Diane Suhler (443-0549)

**Peace:** Dick Parker (256-4397)

**Voter Editors:** Joni O'Connor & Linda Kaiser (474-1407)

**Voter Service:** Carol Schreiber

**Web & Social Media:** Rachel Brekhuis (875-4295)

**Meetings**

**Board:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 6:30 pm, Boone Electric Coop

**Civil Liberties:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs., 1:15 pm\*

**Education:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon., 6:30 pm\*

**Energy Matters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs., 10 am\*

**Fundraising:** Varies

**Peace:** Varies

**Voter Service:** Varies\*

\*Meetings at Library

**Membership**

If you have an "12" after your name, your membership is current. Our membership year runs January 1-December 31 (and a "13" means you've paid through next year).

To join the League or renew your membership, fill in the information below and mail it, with your check, to Membership Chair, League of Women Voters, PO Box 239, Columbia, MO 65205.

Dues are \$55 for individuals, \$80 for a household and \$15 for local students.

If you are a member and wish to receive a membership list, please contact Liz Schmidt at 445-0655 or email at lizschmidt@centurytel.net.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I am particularly interested in \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: Tax deductible donations to the Education Fund should be a separate check, payable to LWVMO Education Fund.)

**For more information, contact Liz Schmidt at 445-0655 or Linda Brown at 447-3939.**

**Would you like to see the Voter in color? Save the League printing and mailing costs? You can now get the Voter direct to your computer early by contacting co-editor Linda Kaiser at lindaskaiser@gmail.com. Let her know you would like to receive your Voter via email and the email address you would like used.**

**Websites of Interest**

[lwwcbc.org](http://lwwcbc.org) (local)  
[lwwmissouri.org](http://lwwmissouri.org) (state)  
[lww.org](http://lww.org) (national)

[www.covermissouri.org](http://www.covermissouri.org) (Missouri Foundation for Health)

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

**Columbia – Boone County MO**

P.O. Box 239

Columbia, MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

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*LWV: Where hands-on work to safeguard  
democracy leads to civic improvement.*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



September, 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8
9 Sustainable Living Fair, 11 am-6 pm, Columbia College	10 Board Mtg., 6:45 pm, Boone Electric	11	12 CAT-TV—League Presents	13 Civil Lib. Com., 1:15 pm, Library	14	15
16	17 Education Com., 6:30 pm, Library Constitution Day	18 Forum: <b>Who Owns this Election?</b> County Council Chambers 7:00 p.m.	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Learn & Share: Mandatory Drug Sentencing, 7 pm	27 Learn & Share; Mandatory Drug Sentencing, 1:30 pm	28	29
30	Oct. 1	Oct. 2	Oct. 3	Oct. 4	Oct. 5	Oct. 6