



The Voter

League of Women Voters of Columbia/Boone County

VOLUME 77, NO. 12

DECEMBER, 2012

Climate Change and Our Health

The summer of 2012 was one for the history books. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported that July was the hottest month since modern record keeping began in 1895; more than 80 million people in the U.S. endured 100 degree temperatures during the summer heat waves. On June 28 the temperature in Columbia climbed to 106 degrees, setting a new all-time high for the month of June, according to the National Weather Service.



Are these heat waves the “new normal”? How does the heat affect the health of Columbia residents? What is being done? What else can we do? Three panelists will address these questions at “Climate Change and Our Health”, on Thursday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library Friends Room. (Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.)

David Lile, of KFRU radio, will moderate. The speakers are Rebecca Roessel, Social Services Supervisor, Columbia-Boone County Public Health and Human Services; Allison Kellenberger, RN, and Dr. Dick Parker, Biologist.

This free public event is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, Columbia Public Library, Renew Missouri and the Osage Group of the Sierra Club.

Anniversary Luncheon

Our League was established in December 1919, several months before the national LWV was established at its first convention in Chicago, 1920.



We celebrate this anniversary each year with a luncheon and the awarding of our Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award. This year, the luncheon is on Saturday, December 15, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Jack’s Gourmet Restaurant, 1903 Business Loop East.

Our guest speaker will be **Dianne Lynch**, president of Stephens College since 2009. Before coming to Columbia, she was dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca (N.Y.) College and chairwoman of the Journalism Department at St. Michael’s College in Burlington, VT. At this event, the Citizen of the Year Award will be presented to **Dr. Anne Deaton**.

The cost of the luncheon will be \$20 per person. The served plate menu will include roast beef, mashed potatoes, sugar snap peas, spinach salad, rolls and butter, iced tea and brownies for dessert. Vegetarian lasagna and spinach salad will be available for vegetarians. Although payment can be made at the luncheon, reservations must be made by Monday, December 10 with Liz Schmidt, LWV treasurer, via telephone (445-0655) or email at lizschmidt@centurytel.net.

Come join us as we celebrate our beginnings, our present and our future at this great annual event.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

December

- **Energy Forum: Climate Change and Our Health, Thurs., Dec. 6, 7 pm, Library**
- **Board Mtg., Mon, Dec. 10, 6:45 pm., Boone Electric**
- **Civil Liberties Com. Mtg. Thurs., Dec. 13, Library**
- **Founder’s Day Luncheon, Sat., Dec. 15, 11:30 am, Jack’s Gourmet Restaurant**
- **Bill of Rights Day, Sat. Dec. 15**

January

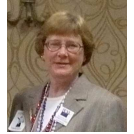
- **Civil Liberties Com. Mtg. Thurs., Jan 10 Library**
- **Board Mtg., Mon, Jan. 14, 6:45 pm., Boone Electric**
- **Columbia Values Diversity Breakfast, Thurs., Jan. 17, Holiday Inn Expo Center**
- **Education Com. Mtg., Mon., Jan. 21, 6:30 pm, Library**
- **LWVMO Legislative Action Day, Wed., January 23, Jefferson City**
- **Learn & Share: State Program Review, Wed., Jan. 23, 7 p.m., Boone Electric Coop.**
- **Health Com., Date & time to be determined.**

Fact Checking

Want to check the accuracy of allegations or emails? Go to ...
www.politifact.com or
www.factcheck.org
www.flackcheck.org

November Board Report

The Board is pleased to announce that Anne Deaton from the University of Missouri and wife of Chancellor Brady Deaton has been named Citizen of the Year. She will attend our December 15th luncheon. We encourage all members to attend.



LWVMO has asked local Leagues to interview our new state representatives and state senator concerning the 2013 legislative session. The interviews are to be completed by mid-December. Several board members signed up for the interviews. If you are interested in participating, contact me at Carolschrei@gmail.com.

Our Learn and Share for January will be on State Program Planning and in February on Local Program Planning. What is program planning? We look at our current positions on issues and discuss whether we need to make any changes. This is a good time to understand what our positions on issues are and better understand the grass roots efforts of the League. The information from the state planning will be presented at the LWVMO State Convention in May 2013 in Columbia.

The Board decided to use the CEC production of "9 to 5" in April as our 2013 fundraiser. The spectacular musical for the fall has been postponed, so we decided to go forward with a musical we know our members would enjoy. Joni O'Connor will secure our date for the fundraiser.

Membership contribution levels are still being discussed. We have appointed a committee to work this out and report back in January.

The Board also discussed taking an active role in the Putting Kids First (mental health sales tax issue) advisory board formation. The League plans to have representatives at the County Commission meetings and the co-presidents will submit a letter outlining our interest and concerns.

The LWVMO State Convention will be held in Columbia on May 4 and 5. If you are interested in helping Marilyn McLeod plan for the convention, please let her know at Marilyn_mcleod@yahoo.com.

May your holidays be wonderful!

The next board meeting will be on Monday, January 14th at 6:45 p.m. with social time at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is at Boone Electric Cooperative.

Carol Schreiber
Co-President

Money in Politics



For those of us who were appalled by the deluge of money from independent outside groups without accountability in the recent election, I would like to refer you to [www. opensecrets.org](http://www.opensecrets.org). This is the website for the **Center for Responsive Politics**, a research group tracking money in US politics and its effects on elections and public policy.

You will find there a wealth of fascinating data and information about the financing of the 2012 elections. Although many pundits have concluded that all of that money did not make much difference, in fact, the CRP analysis indicates that the candidates with the most cash on their side of the equation frequently prevailed, whether it came from outside groups or was raised by campaigns themselves. For the House and Senate, there were in total 460 winning candidates, but only 43 of them had less money on their side than their opponents. Interestingly candidates with the most money prevailed in 92.7% of House races, but in only 63.7% of Senate races.

However the report does indicate that the huge investments by non-party outside groups, including super PACs and politically active nonprofits, showed underwhelming returns. These groups spent more than \$1 billion dollars including \$562 million in the presidential race. Meanwhile President Barak Obama clinched his second term by relying on many of the same campaign finance tools he used in his pre-Citizens United victory in 2008: party support and an in-house campaign finance operation that turned to individual donors and a web of elite bundlers to expand its reach. Thus we find that Obama, though targeted by more than \$290 million in outside spending opposing his reelection, was the recipient of only \$26.3 million from outside groups supporting him. In comparison, Romney had \$97.6 million opposing him and \$61.8 million supporting his campaign.



I have scratched only the surface of the information available at this website. I urge you to take a look at www.opensecrets.org!

Aline Kultgen, Co-Chair
Civil Liberties Committee

Outstanding Citizen for 2012—Anne Deaton

League Board selected Anne Deaton to receive our Citizen of the Year Award this year. Dr. Deaton has a long and distinguished professional and volunteer resume. We are honoring her for her many achievements, but we are especially focused on her work and commitment to education and bettering the lives of young people.



Dr. Deaton in her professional and personal life has chosen to help others both within and without the community in which she lives. Like so many of us, she began with a BA in liberal arts (English) with Education and then found her career. In her early days in Blacksburg, Virginia she was member of the local League of Women Voters.

There are significant themes that we as League of Women Voters find important in her many activities. While her interests are wide ranging, two areas stand out: her keen interest in mental health issues, including the area of post traumatic stress syndrome and autism, and the welfare and mentoring of children in both education and organizational settings. As a leader in the community she has set a high bar and is a wonderful example of dedication to others.

An interest in mental health issues has led her to organize the Missouri Autism Response and Research Association and to be on the advisory council for the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurological Disorders. Furthermore, she is a founding member of "Step Up! American Association for Rwandan Women" which helps women and children in Rwanda with post traumatic stress disorder.

In working with young people, Dr. Deaton has been a volunteer in Stand By Me (mentoring youth in Columbia schools), continues work with Missouri 4 H Foundation and Impact Mizzou (mentoring international students), and currently serves on the board of Boone County Coordinating Board for Early Childhood Education. In the past she was member of the state board for Special Olympics Missouri and the Wonderland Camp Board (a special camp in Missouri for persons with disabilities).

In addition to her work with young people, she has served as Deputy Director of the Missouri Division of Aging (1993-2000) and Director of the Missouri Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (2000-2004).

Dr. Deaton's personal philosophy: "Work to promote good for all people, be thankful, have the courage to seek truth and freedom and your life will be meaningful whatever path you take."

Dr. Anne Deaton is most deserving of this award for her continuing work with people of all ages and abilities and the compassion she shows in her choices of volunteering and career. Come help the League celebrate our Outstanding Citizen for 2012 at the December luncheon.

The Time is Now!



Hello to ALL GOOD LEAGUERS! The time for the 2013 dues approaches. We begin collecting dues in the fall for the next year, and some of you have already paid. If your label says "13," you are paid. If you get your Voter by email, check with Liz Schmidt (445-0644, lizschmidt@centurytel.net) if you don't know whether or not you have paid.

The national LWV is gearing up to get everyone paid by mid-January 2013. So we begin in the middle of the last month of 2012 to encourage you to support LWV. We will have fewer election forums next year, but we know we have one coming in March for the April elections. December 6 (see elsewhere in this bulletin) is an interesting forum on global warming and health consequences. We have a big year coming up and want **YOU** to be part of all we do.

Mail your dues to LWV Columbia-Boone County, PO Box 239, Columbia, 65205 or to Liz Schmidt, 1700 Forum Blvd., # 3101, Columbia, 65203.

Dues are \$55 per person, \$80 per household, and special local/student dues are \$15. We also will take donations over and above the dues amount. Thanks so much.

Liz Schmidt,
Membership Committee

Mental Health Update

The League of Women Voters' portfolio in Mental Health reflects a changing and controversial landscape. On the advancing side in mental health, we see increasing research and treatment in Autism, at the MU Thompson Center for example; increasing recognition of post trauma conditions for returning veterans; awareness of the mental health needs of children and adolescents; and benefits in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act - benefits such as collaboration in both health and mental health services; inclusion of insurance for pre-existing conditions; insurance coverage up to age 26 on family plans; and mental health parity. Organizations such as National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) provide valuable services in education, support and advocacy.

On the challenging side in mental health, we see lingering stigma, closure of inpatient psychiatric facilities, decline in available bed space, restricted budgeting, limited outpatient services, and well documented unmet needs.

In addition to educating, the League of Women Voters has been an observer in this mental health arena, particularly with the Mental Health Board of Trustees. An update follows, along with two other boards of interest.

1) The Boone County Mental Health Board of Trustees, a statutory board under appointment by the Boone County Commission, was initiated in January, 1992 and remained active until March, 2012 when it disbanded. Factors involved here included lack of full member commitment, poorly defined goals for mental health, and political influence. It's unlikely this board will be reactivated.

2) Voters recently passed Proposition 1 for a Community Children's Service Fund. This proposition, promoted by the Putting Kids First coalition, called for a 1/4 cent county sales tax to accommodate well documented health, mental health and safety needs of children, youth and families. Proposition 1, supported by 57% of the vote and authorized by statute, requires the appointment of a Board of Directors for administration and expenditure of tax monies received. Members of this board will be residents of the county, but other qualifications are not clear at this time. The Boone County Commission will be responsible for these appointments, but the process has yet to be announced.

3) The Boone County Public Administrator was successful in the last election to win a second term, and is expected to follow through with her recommendation for an appointed Mental Health Advisory Board, designed to be action oriented to assist the Public Administrator's office in its challenging role with mentally ill clientele. This board is in the preliminary stage of organization and will likely meet in January to define its official status, its leadership and goals.

Citizen boards such as these are very much a part of the landscape in mental health.

Lael Von Holt

Legislative Retreat

For over 25 years, the Missouri Women's Network has sponsored a legislative retreat in early January. The focus of this retreat is recent elections and the upcoming legislative session. The event this January promises to be especially exciting given the controversies and contests of the November election and the potential state legislative agenda.

The weekend begins at 8 pm on Friday evening, January 11, with a workshop and discussion. Saturday, January 12 (beginning at 8 am) will feature a major speaker, discussion of a specific area of legislation affecting women and the setting of legislative priorities for the upcoming session. The retreat is held at Rickman Conference Center in Jefferson City. There is no conference fee; however, there is a charge for meals and housing.

For registration information, contact any of the following women: Grace Butler, 573-449-8062, gbutler1111@aol.com; Mary Mosley, 573-642-6354, mmosley@tranquility.net; or Shirley Breeze, 314-831-5359, sbreeze@mindspring.com

For more information, go to aauwmo.org. Look to the right for the calendar. Click on the notation for the Legislative retreat. A page will open and you may download or view a flyer about this event.

Holly Burgess
AAUW President, LWVCBC member



From Equal Suffrage Association to League of Women Voters

As noted in a previous issue, there were no entries in the Minutes book of the Columbia Equal Suffrage Association from December 1914 to April 1918. The missing Minutes may have been written elsewhere and been lost, but the book picks up again in 1918. At the meeting of October 21, 1918, the members were informed that a letter had been received from Mrs. Helen Guthrie Miller, now the president of the state organization, stating that she could not devote all her time to the work of the organization due to needing to help her husband with his business. In March 1919, a state convention was held in St. Louis and at that convention Mrs. Miller was named "an honorary president."

In early 1919, an article appeared in the *Columbia Tribune* that a woman, Mrs. Grace Dowell, had applied for the position of city treasurer in Columbia. On February 1, a second article reported that "a woman cannot hold city office". A search of the State Statutes had disclosed that a woman could not hold a city office because it required that she would have to be a "qualified voter". Interestingly, there was no such prohibition in the Statutes for holding county offices; in fact, the same article reported that several women were holding county offices in Missouri. It was remarkable, however, that a woman had dared to apply for the city position.

In a column entitled "Suffrage Notes" which appeared in the January 5, 1919 edition of the *Columbia Tribune*, the Missouri Suffrage Association introduced a bill asking for presidential suffrage for the women of Missouri. It was introduced in the House as Bill No. 1 and Senate as Bill No. 1. Apparently, another bill on the subject was introduced into the state legislature which called for an amendment to the state constitution. The Suffrage Association felt that a constitutional amendment would be undesirable because it would make a state campaign necessary, which "will mean a large expenditure of time, money, energy. This is unnecessary as the amendment will be passed by Congress in Washington by 1920 and a state campaign would therefore be a duplication of effort."

The article goes on to say that "the question arises is there something wrong with the men of the state that they are the last law-making body of all states of the union to wake up to the fact that women want the vote and are going to get it?" Mrs. Harshe of Columbia was quoted: "Even in Germany where children have never been rocked to sleep to tunes of liberty the women are voting for their representatives."

The Columbia Equal Suffrage Association passed a suffrage resolution on February 7: "*Whereas, Missouri is one of the sixteen states in this union which has no form of suffrage for women; and whereas the members of the Equal Suffrage League of Columbia believe that the men of Missouri are in sympathy with the growing democracy of the world, which is rapidly enfranchising the women of Europe, and with the women of Canada now fully enfranchised, therefore:*

"Be it resolved that the members of the Equal Suffrage League of Columbia do hereby urgently request that the members of the Senate vote for Bill No. 1 granting to women presidential suffrage, and that this resolution be filed in the records of the Senate."

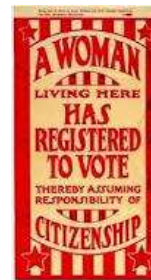
A major editorial in the *Columbia Tribune* (February 8, 1919) endorsed the Senate vote to place Bill No. 1 on the calendar (it would still need two more votes before final passage) and objected to the other measure that would make it a constitutional amendment, calling it "an equivocation – an attempt to avoid the issue and to delay action... and the senate should stop hedging and pass Bill No. 1, granting presidential suffrage to the women of the state."



Since major efforts were still ongoing at the national level, the editorial also "unqualifiedly endorses President Wilson's demand that the United States Senate immediately act favorably upon submitting a constitutional amendment granting suffrage to the women of the United States... The Senate would have passed such a measure long ago but for the filibustering tactics of a few senators who imagine that all the gray matter and all the convolutions in the brains of the country lie in the craniums of its men... Granting suffrage to women is an act of simple justice."

As we all know, the 19th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution was passed by the U.S. House on May 19, 1919 (with a vote of 304 to 89), and passed by the U.S. Senate on June 4, 1919 (with a vote of 56 to 25), and after ratification by the states, was finally adopted on August 26, 1920.

In anticipation of ratification, the Columbia Equal Suffrage Association met on October 1st, 1919, and decided to establish citizenship schools which would not charge any tuition, would be centrally located, and would be open to everyone. They determined that a general invitation would be extended through the press and "a broad campaign of education in political affairs would be inaugurated in order to help both men and women to become intelligent voting citizens." At this same meeting, it was noted that they would begin preparations to "close the affairs of the organization before it ceases to exist under the good old name of 'The Equal Suffrage Association of Columbia' and become a component part of The League of Women Voters."



(continued on next page)

From Equal Suffrage Association (continued)

On December 11, 1919, the organization met in the Commercial Club. Along with other business reporting on the citizenship school, "Slips were given out defining the League of Women Voters... its aims and its broad general purposes, the last of which were asserted to help make a country in which all voters speak English, read their own ballot and honor the American flag." A revised Constitution was accepted which re-named the organization "The League of Women Voters, of Columbia, Missouri" with "the object ...to obtain full suffrage for women and to that end to convince voters of the wisdom and expediency of so extending the suffrage, and also to prepare women for an intelligent exercise of the franchise."

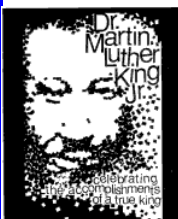
And so was born our local chapter of the League of Women Voters, actually a few months before the establishment of the national League.

Marilyn McLeod, Historian

Condolences to the families of long-time League members who have recently died:
Sandy Rosenholtz and Thelma McArthur



Columbia Values Diversity Celebration



The 2013 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2013, 7-8:45 a.m., Holiday Inn Expo Center, 2200 I-70 Drive SW. The event provides a community breakfast, music, an artistic performance by Clyde Ruffin. This year, the person giving the keynote address will be **Martin Luther King III**.

As usual, LWV of Columbia-Boone County will have a table. If you get your ticket from us, the cost is \$10 per person and they will be available at our lunch on December 15. You can also reserve them by calling Liz Schmidt at 445-0655 or lizschmidt@centurytel.net (We have 10 tickets available.)

Local members attending the LWVMO conference in Sedalia on November 10 were Marilyn McLeod, Liz Schmidt, Joni O'Conner, Rachel Brekhuis, Linda Kaiser and Elaine Blodgett.



Officers

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

1st Vice President:

2nd 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: Carla Klein (417-6319633) & Dick Parker (below)

Health: Linda Kaiser (below) & Jan Swaney (442-3172)

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: 2nd Monday, 6:30 pm, Boone Electric Cooperative

Civil Liberties: 2nd Thurs., 1:15 pm*

Education: 3rd Mon., 6:30 pm*

Energy Matters: Varies

Fundraising: Varies

Health: 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 (local)

lwwmissouri.org (state)

lww.org (national)

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



| December, 2012 | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Forum: Climate Change and Your Health, 7 pm, Library | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 Board Mtg., 6:45 pm, Boone Electric | 11 | 12 | 13 Civil Lib. Com., 1:15 pm, Library | 14 | 15 Founding Day Lunch, 11:30 am, Jack's Bill of Rights Day |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Christmas  | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | Jan. 1  | Jan. 2 | Jan. 3 | Jan. 4 | Jan. 5 |