



The Voter

The League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, MO

PRIMARY CANDIDATE FORUM ON JULY 22 BALLOT ISSUES FORUM ON JULY 24



Candidates in the August primary races will be featured in a **Tuesday, July 22 forum in the Friends Room at the library at 6:30 p.m., with refreshments at 6:00 p.m.**

The July 22 forum features primary candidates in the races for 47th District Representative, Boone County Recorder of Deeds, and Division 5 Associate Judge. Candidates running unopposed for county offices and the state legislature will not be included in the forum. The proposed 1/8 cent county sales tax for the fairgrounds will also be covered. KFRU's David Lile will moderate the forum and it will be broadcast live on KFRU radio.

Our Ballot Issues Forum will be **Thursday, July 24th, in the Friends Room at the library at 6:30 p.m., with refreshments at 6:00 p.m.** The August primary ballot will include five proposed constitutional amendments: the so-called "Right to Farm" measure; an amendment that concerns the people's "right to be secure in their electronic

communications and data from unreasonable searches and seizures"; an amendment that creates a "Veterans Lottery Ticket" to raise funds for projects and services related to veterans; an amendment that would declare the right to keep and bear arms as an unalienable right that the state must uphold; and a three-quarters of a cent sales tax to fund state and local highways, roads and bridges. We will try to find pro and con speakers on all issues; if we cannot find speakers, we will provide pro and con information.

Candidate and ballot issue forums for the November general election will be held in October. The state issues on the November ballot include early voting, allowing lawmakers to override gubernatorial budget cuts, and permitting evidence about prior criminal acts to be used against people facing prosecution for child sex offenses.

JULY 9 CAT TV FEATURES NEW BUS SYSTEM: COMO CONNECT

The LWV will present a CAT-TV program on Wednesday, July 9th at 7:00 p.m. that highlights the city's new bus transit system -- CoMo Connect. The new transit system will begin operations on August 4th. CoMo Connect will replace the current hub-and-spoke bus transit system with a north/south, east/west interlinking transit system. CoMo Connect will increase the area covered by the City's transit system and will allow more flexibility for riders.

Guests on the July 9th program will be Drew Brooks, Multi-Modal Manager for the City of Columbia, and Ian Thomas, City Council Representative from the 4th Ward. The program will be moderated by Randy Picht, Executive Director of the Reynolds Journalism Institute.

CAT TV can be found on Mediacom Channel 85, Charter Communications 983, and CenturyTel Prism 98. The program will be available on our website a few days after July 9th or at www.columbiaaccess.tv. The replays on CAT TV are at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

-Diane Suhler



JUNE BOARD REPORT

The LWV Board met on June 23. We had 15 Board members in attendance, including Liz Schmidt, who moved that day!

The Board was updated and made decisions on many upcoming events:

The Fall Kickoff Picnic will be on September 9th at Bethel Park. Each Board member will contact a new member and invite them to come. The picnic will begin at 5:30 p.m.

On October 18th we will have a special CAT TV show. Rachel Brekhus has confirmed that Dr. Aaron Astor, author of *Rebels on the Border*, will talk on the post Civil War period in border-states like Missouri.

Our Founder's Luncheon will be our 95th Anniversary, so we would like a nice venue. We have a committee working on the details for a November date and location.

Our new Lunch and Learn regular program will be on the third Wednesday at the Grindstone Hy-Vee meeting room (except September will be the fourth Wednesday) through December. We need to look at the available technology to determine the fall programs.

The Board decided to participate in the Boone County Council on Aging Lifestyle Festival on

October 10th. We are looking at our other opportunities, too.

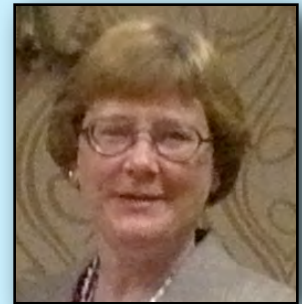
The Board decided to show the PBS movie *One Woman, One Vote* in August at the library. We would like to have material available for our activities related to our theme, *The Voter – Our First Priority*.

The Board approved buying an ad reminding citizens that the voter registration deadline is July 9 for the August primary election.

The Board also heard a report from the Fundraising Committee on the great success of our fundraising play. This year we raised over \$4,400, more than twice what we made last year. Thanks to all of our underwriters and all those who contributed time, food, wine and money and thanks to the Columbia Entertainment Company.

The next Board Meeting will be on July 28th at the Broadway Christian Church.

Carol Schreiber
Co-President



FRIENDS OF THE LWV OF COLUMBIA-BOONE COUNTY

The LWV of Columbia-Boone County recognizes the many organizations and individuals who have helped us educate the public, provided meeting space and gave their time, talent and treasure to the LWV. Each month we are recognizing a group of our Friends of the LWV as voted on by the LWV of Columbia-Boone County membership at our Annual Meeting on April 10, 2014. For July we recognize:

- Columbia Area Career Center for providing a speaker for a CAT TV show in January 2014.
- Mediacom, Sheila Kausler and Nick Thompson for taping and broadcasting our forums.
- Dr. Paul Wallace for being on our CAT TV show on *Terrorism: An Expert's Overview* in June 2013.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!



Bartenders Mike Seat and George Smith entertained the crowd and poured the drinks.



Liz Schmidt greeted guests and took tickets.



Board Member Susan Marshall pictured with Diana Moxon and Tom O'Connor.



Lovely smiles from Jerry and Ruth Thompson



Marge Hicks, June Pfefer, Win Colwill and Bernice Prost.



LWVUS NATIONAL CONVENTION HELD IN DALLAS JUNE 6-10

Decisions made at the 2014 LWVUS National Convention included the following:

- President Elizabeth McNamara won re-election.
- The PMP (per member payment) will remain \$31 for 2015 and go to \$32 for 2016.
- Concurrence with LWV New Jersey on Human Trafficking was passed. Our local League had recommended this action.
- A floor concurrence with LWV Kansas on Living Wage failed to pass with a 2/3 majority. There were issues with the language and the detail of the position.
- Studies on economic inequality and a revision of the ag position were defeated. Mostly these failed to pass, because we already have a lot on our agenda.
- Resolutions – Climate Change and Campaign Finance resolutions passed. The Campaign Finance resolution urged the board to act quickly on this issue as part of the three-part program approved.

A comprehensive three-part program was approved, however we do not know how that will translate into studies for local Leagues. They estimated maybe one study in 2015-16 on one of the following topics:

- Study the process of amending the U.S. Constitution, including constitutional conventions. (There are efforts to pass a Constitutional Amendment to correct the Citizens United ruling among other issues and the national board wants to make sure any wording does not result in unintended consequences.)
- Review and update position on campaign finance.
- Review the redistricting process for U.S. Congress. (There is already an operating task force on this issue.)

There is a new Young People's Task Force and an amendment to the budget added a Minority Task Force. There was a general sense that the League needs to be more diverse.

Missouri had 17 delegates and there were 645 voting delegates nationally. Forty-seven states were represented as well as Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C.

There were several interesting speakers and many workshops. The Columbia delegates will each write an article about their experience; two are on the next page.

--Carol Schreiber, Co-President



LWV CBC's four delegates to the national convention are pictured in the front row: Diane Suhler, Carol Schreiber, Elaine Blodgett, and Peggy Placier. Also pictured is Becky Clausen of St. Louis.

My Convention Notes, Peggy Placier

The Young People's Task Force session was packed. We need to use different strategies to recruit younger members and keep LWV vital. They distributed a toolkit, which is available on the LWVUS website. What should MO do? We need to be conscious of how often we say, "We've always done it that way," and think about the accessibility of our meetings/events for students, working women and mothers/fathers.

Voter Protection is a big issue in 23 states. In SC, arguments for voter ID focused on fraud and "dead" voters, both without credible evidence. LWV joined others to oppose this under "reasonable impediment" language of the Voting Rights Act. Department of Justice supported them but Supreme Court recently struck down parts of VRA. FL has seen multiple forms of voting law manipulation. 2012 election was "embarrassing" due to long lines. LWV sued over voter registration limits and won, but early voting was cut so the long lines persist. What should MO do about early voting? Will voter ID return?

The Climate Change session proposed a network of local leagues with an interest in their local climate and water issues. Message: Focus on what people "treasure" about a place, show impacts through stories, emphasize actions people can take. Include this issue in candidate forums. What does Missouri stand to lose?

FL, MN, WA, and NY reported on school choice and the big money behind it (private and government). FL LWV got press attention with a state report critical of charters. LWV in WA joined a fight to stop charters as unconstitutional (based on state constitution language prohibiting public funding of private schools). NY focused on tax credit scholarships and their resegregation effects. ALEC provides the model language on these to state legislators. The caucus attendees have started a blog for sharing articles and info. In MO we are tracking this issue and tax credit scholarship issue.

MA state league urges that we look at money in politics. Materials are on the LWVUS website and LWV Minnesota site. Goal: a Constitutional amendment on campaign finance. In MO we should look at the 501c4 issues with private groups. Could we do a study of the flow of private money into MO elections and politics?

My Convention Notes, Diane Suhler

One of the best sessions I attended was on the election process. Dr. Mark Jones of Rice University discussed the impact of majoritarian voting systems, limited/cumulative voting systems and proportional representation voting systems on the number of women and minorities elected to office, on gerrymandering, on groups being underrepresented by elected officials, and on money in politics. The U.S. is one of the few countries with majority voting; a move to proportional representation would fix a number of the problems in our political system.

Professor Stephen Murdock of Rice University spoke on US demographic trends. He is concerned that education is leaving the Hispanic groups behind. As the proportion of Hispanics in the US population increases, the future of the U.S. will be tied to how well this group does economically, politically, and socially.

The Help America Vote Act of 2002 was the first time the Federal government has provided funding to state and local governments to run elections and to modernize elections procedures. The main functions of the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) are to ensure that voting systems used in elections are certified to guarantee the integrity of the voting machines and ensure that data collection is accurate. Four key recommendations from the EAC: 1) Support online voter registration; 2) Exchange voter registration databases among states; 3) Provide for registration at motor vehicle registration places; and 4) Allow for voting prior to election day.

One of the highlights of the convention was the talk presented by Mayor Annise Parker of Houston. I saw her as a female version of Bill Clinton. She did a wonderful job of highlighting the skills needed to be the mayor of a large city and the demands of such a position.

Another caucus session that I attended was "Don't Drink the Water: Protect Your Water from Chemical Spills." This session focused on various types of tanks that hold chemicals that often are not inspected regularly and can leak resulting in toxic chemicals being leaked into the environment.



Upcoming League Events!



JUNE 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 JULY	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 CAT TV CoMo Connect 7 pm	10	11 Civil Liberties Committee 2:00p.m. Location TBA	12
13	14	15	16 Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 am	17	18	19
20	21	22 Candidate Forum Refreshments 6:00 pm Forum 6:30pm Library	23	24 Ballot Issues Forum Refreshments 6:00 pm Forum 6:30pm Library	25	26
27	28 LWV Board Mtg 6:30 pm Broadway Christian Church	29	30	31	AUGUST 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 CAT TV 7 pm	14	15	16
17 Film: One Woman, One Vote 2:00p.m. Library	18	19	20	21 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 am	22	23
24	25 LWV Board Mtg 6:30 pm Broadway Christian Church	26	27	28	29	30

LWV Officers:

Co-Presidents:
 Marilyn McLeod (445-3500) and
 Carol Schreiber (657-1467)
 1st VP: Liz Schmidt (445-0655)
 2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)
 Secretary: Marcia Walker
 (443-8666)
 Treasurer: David Leuthold
 (449-1358)

Elected Directors:

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)
 Susan Marshall (489-6712)
 Joni O'Connor (234-1012)
 Peggy Placier (442-2996)
 Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
 Mahree Skala (474-2195)
 Pam Springsteel (445-0642)
 Jan Swaney (442-3172)
 Shirley Troth (443-7033)

Appointed Directors:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)
 Dick Parker (256-4397)
 Diane Suhler (443-0549)
 Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

Committee Chairs:

Budget: Shirley Troth
 Civil Liberties: Marilyn McLeod
 Education: Peggy Placier
 Energy Matters: Dick Parker
 Health: Jan Swaney
 Hospitality: Pam Springsteel
 Membership: Liz Schmidt
 Mental Health: Lael Von Holt
 Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Board Meetings are held on the
 4th Monday of the month at
 Broadway Christian Church. All
 members are welcome to attend.

Websites:

Local: lwwcbc.org
 State: lwvmissouri.org
 National: lwv.org



Membership Application

If you have not yet paid your dues for 2014 it is time to do so! Please send your dues to Membership Chair, League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 239, Columbia, MO 65205. Thanks to all LWV members for renewing your membership promptly!

Dues are \$55 for individuals, \$80 for a household and \$15 for local students. Individual and household memberships also include state (LWVMO) and national (LWVUS) membership.

Name _____

Email Address _____

Street _____

City _____

State and Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

I am particularly interested in _____.

I would like to receive my Voter by email _____

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



New Address: Liz Schmidt

1408 Business Loop 70 West, # W 208
 Columbia, MO 65202
 Email lizschmidt65203@gmail.com

New Members:

Joann Vest [<jvest000@gmail.com>](mailto:jvest000@gmail.com)
 2306 Meadow Lark Lane, Columbia, 65201
 (573)441-2624

Kip Kendrick
 1516 Windsor, Columbia, MO 65201



League of Women Voters

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**AUGUST 17 FILM KICKS OFF YEAR-LONG THEME
"THE VOTER: OUR FIRST PRIORITY"**



"The Voter: Our First Priority" is the theme for our League for this year. As a kick-off for this, we will have a **special showing of the PBS film "One Woman, One Vote"** on Sunday, August 17 at 2:00 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library.

How did America call itself the world's greatest democracy, but denied the right to vote to more than half its citizens? With narration by Susan Sarandon, this film documents the 70 year struggle for woman suffrage, from Elizabeth Cady Stanton's call for women's rights in 1848 to the final passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920.

We will have refreshments.

The event will be cosponsored by the Columbia Public Library.

- Marilyn McLeod, Co-President

**DON'T FORGET!!
THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE
IN THE AUGUST 5 PRIMARY ELECTION IS JULY 9.**
