



The Voter

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

GET READY FOR THE MUSIC MAN ON JUNE 8!



What could be more fun for a fundraiser than a great show, great food, and great friends! This year's show, "The Music Man," will be presented by the Columbia Entertainment Company on Wednesday, June 8.

This award-winning play features con man Harold Hill who comes to River City, Iowa to pitch his fake marching band system but falls in love with the town librarian. The hit Broadway show opened in 1957 and won 5 Tony Awards, including Best Musical.



As in past years, we will start at 6:30 p.m. with a great selection of appetizers, provided by local restaurants and members, and wine from local wineries to enjoy. The play starts at 7:30 p.m..

You should have received a letter about the play with two tickets, which are \$25 each. Perhaps you would like to be an underwriter for \$100 and receive five tickets (one free!). What a deal! (If you can't be there, perhaps you know some folks who would enjoy it.)

To make reservations, contact Liz Schmidt (573-445-0655; lizschmidt65203@gmail.com.)

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this fun evening!

— Marilyn McLeod

PRIMARY CANDIDATE FORUMS WILL BE HELD JULY 12 & 14



Missouri's Primary Election will be August 2nd. Our July forums will only include races with a primary race. The forum for the candidates for Southern Boone County Commissioner will be July 12th. This race includes Ted Farnen (D), Gene Rhorer (D), Brianna Lennon (D), Trevor Fowler (D), Ann Peters (D), Sid Sullivan (D), Fred Parry (R), James Pounds (R), and Matt Cavanaugh (R). The candidates in the Northern Boone County Commissioner race, Brenndan Riddles (R) and Janet Thompson (D), have no opposition, and so will not be part of the forum.

We will host a candidate forum on July 14th for the Democratic candidates for State Representative District 46 (Martha Stevens and Cathy Richards), Boone County Public Administrator (Chimene Schwach and Sonja Boone), and 13th Judicial Circuit (Jeff Harris and Deborah Daniels). All of the candidates are confirmed. Any ballot issues will be discussed at the July 14th forum. Both forums will be at the Columbia Public Library and begin at 6:30 p.m. KFRU will be broadcasting the forums live.

— Carol Schreiber

BARGAIN DUES UNTIL THE END OF JUNE!

National LWV dues have increased by \$1 to \$33 per year, and Missouri LWV dues by \$5 to a total of \$20. These dues are included in the dues members submit to our local league. To cover these costs, members voted at the annual meeting to raise our member dues from \$55 to \$65 and household dues from \$80 to \$100.

Until the end of June, however, you can renew your membership at the old rate. Our fiscal year

begins July 1, 2016 and runs to June 30, 2017. One reason for this generous offer is that we made \$1500 for the two days we helped monitor the campus election re: the union vote for graduate students.

Of course, we accept donations over and above the dues amount. We will use your money wisely.

— Liz Schmidt

BOARD MEETING AND PLANNING SESSION REPORT

Board Meeting:

The Board met on May 23 at the Columbia Public Library for a combination business/ planning meeting. In Peggy's absence, incoming Co-President Diane Suhler presided with the capable help of past Co-President Marilyn McLeod. Carol Schreiber debuted as Secretary, filling the remaining year of Marcia Walker's term. We also welcomed new Board member Meredith Donaldson.

In the business meeting, we heard treasurer, membership, and committee reports. There were updates on:

- June 8 performance of "Music Man."
- July 12 and 14 forums in advance of the August election
- Voter registration at high schools—the consensus was that this was a very successful activity

The business meeting also included some new business/activities/announcements:

- New board meeting place for June-November will be the Boone County Family Resource Center at 1209 E. Walnut Street. Board meeting time and day will remain the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
- A committee was created to work on acquiring 501c3 status for our League
- We will propose to the Columbia Public Schools that the new elementary school be named in honor of Luella Wilcox St. Clair Moss
- Our League will participate in a statewide effort led by LWVMO to prepare a Voter Guide on candidates and ballot issues

Planning Session:

The planning meeting portion of the evening entailed reviewing and identifying activities for the 2016-17 year. The following were some of the ideas/activities discussed:

- A committee was established to review local by-laws and recommend any changes.
- The calendar for the upcoming year will remain similar to the 2015-16 year.
- Program priorities: The Board decided that "Partnering" should be our priority for the next

year. Members involved with other organizations are encouraged to inform our local League of activities and interests that overlap. Our local group will make an effort to partner with and collaborate with other groups on areas of similar interest.

- Membership building, communication, and involvement were identified as priority issues for our group. Toward engaging new and current members, the monthly Lunch and Learn will be designated as our regular meeting time. Immediately following the guest presentation, there will be a short member meeting to update members on activities and to provide social time. Also, membership engagement and interest will be fostered by adding two new social events (in addition to the picnic and December holiday social) to regular League activities. The exact nature of these events will be determined.
- We will support and augment State activities on the Voter ID issue.
- Our local group will continue to work with the *Columbia DailyTribune* and the Kettering Foundation on community engagement.
- The activities of the Speakers' Bureau will be continued and expanded.

The Board has identified some new and exciting activities for the coming year which we hope will engage our membership and foster the mission of the LWV.

The next meeting will be on June 27, 6:30pm at our new location, Boone County Family Resources, 1209 E. Walnut (near the Brookside Apartments).

— Peggy Placier and Diane Suhler
Co-Presidents



UPDATE: MISSOURI PHOTO VOTER ID AMENDMENT

On May 12 the General Assembly approved a proposed constitutional amendment that would enable the state to require photo ID for voting in elections after June 2017. The measure has enough support to override a Governor's veto. As many of you will recall, previous photo ID legislation was declared unconstitutional. So the General Assembly chose to propose an amendment to the Missouri constitution that would enable such legislation.

Joint Resolution 53 would amend the Missouri Constitution with the following:

Section 11. A person seeking to vote in person in public elections may be required by general law to identify himself or herself and verify his or her qualifications as a citizen of the United States of America and a resident of the state of Missouri by providing election officials with a form of identification, which may include valid government-issued photo identification. Exceptions to the identification requirement may also be provided for by general law.

Explanation provided with the measure, which will appear on the November 2016 ballot, reads:

Shall the Constitution of Missouri be amended to state that voters may be required by law, which may be subject to exception, to verify one's identity, citizenship, and residence by presenting identification that may include valid government-issued photo identification?

The amendment does not seem to require photo identification, but would enable implementation of legislation already passed (HB 1631) that explicitly

does require voters to present a government-issued identification card with a photo. For most people this will be a Missouri driver's license. Those without a driver's license must obtain a state-issued nondriver identification, by submitting documents that prove identity such as birth certificates, marriage licenses, etc.

To address objections to the costs of obtaining such documentation, HB 1631 says the Secretary of State's office will provide Missouri documents free of charge and facilitate obtaining documents from other states. The costs have not been calculated. The bill also specifies that if sufficient revenue is not allocated to cover costs, photo ID will not go into effect. Those without photo identification may submit a provisional ballot, but their identity must still be confirmed (the bill sets out options for doing this) for their ballot to count. At the LWVMO conference on April 30, Kathleen Farrell and Linda McDaniel of St. Louis reported on their plans to prepare locals for voter education

efforts in advance of the November vote. We have received a grant from LWVUS for this campaign. Watch for more news in upcoming Voters. In the meantime, inform yourself so that you can address questions from your friends and neighbors.

Full texts of the bills are at:

Amendment: <http://www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills161/billpdf/truly/HJR0053T.PDF>

Photo ID Legislation: <http://www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills161/billpdf/truly/HB1631T.PDF>

— Peggy Placier, Co-President

BILL CLARK GIVES KUDOS TO LWV

On May 9, *Columbia Daily Tribune* columnist and LWV-CBC member (along with wife Dolores) Bill Clark devoted an entire column to our work. Titled "League of Women Voters key to political process," he based the column primarily on the reports compiled by Carol Schreiber and presented at our April Annual Meeting. Clark praised our contributions to the political life of the community, supported by dues, contributions, Friends of LWV, and countless volunteer hours.

Briefly recounting the history of LWV, he noted that today we have men as members. Maybe more men will join as a result! Thank you, Bill, for the great recognition. For those of you who did not see the column, here is a link: http://www.columbiatribune.com/arts_life/community/league-of-women-voters-key-to-political-process/article_83f04179-b9f5-5b82-959c-7f852bd2a758.html

— Peggy Placier, Co-President

LUNCH & LEARN REPORT: “HAT’S OFF”

Hats off to Tim Harlan JD and Aaron Thompson PhD for joining us on May 17th for a Lunch and Learn session in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, and for the excellence of their presentation.

The mental health field is comprehensive and at times complex, but our speakers offered a very valuable program. Their strong knowledge base and experience helped highlight continuing mental health needs as well as mental health progress in our community. Here are some of the highlights from each speaker:

Harlan emphasized that we do not have sufficient training, services, psychiatrists, or psychiatric beds in Columbia or Missouri to serve all the people in need, in all age groups. Two issues that limit access are nonexpansion of Medicaid coverage and high turn-downs for Social Security disability coverage. Harlan praised law enforcement participation in Crisis Intervention Team training that may prevent police over-reactions to mentally ill people. He recommended that we rely on the resources of

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) for reliable information, and provided a great handout of websites.

Thompson said that public schools face the issues law enforcement officers face, but educators have lacked training in how to respond. However, the mental health tax passed in Boone County is making a difference. It has funded the Boone County Schools Mental Health Coalition, providing training for teachers in identifying and responding to students. Another agency, FACE (Family Access Center for Excellence) will soon provide “wrap around” service coordination for any Boone County family struggling with a child. The new FACE Director, Erin Reynolds, attended the meeting and would make a fine future speaker once the program is operational.

As usual, the LWV audience asked lots of good questions. Thanks to all for promoting Mental Health Awareness Month.

— Peggy Placier & Lael Von Holt

CONVERSATION THAT MATTERS!

Several members of the League of Women Voters along with the Columbia Minority Men’s Network have been participating in an on-going project sponsored by the *Columbia Daily Tribune* and funded by the Kettering Foundation. The project was initiated in May, 2015 and is just getting underway. League and Minority Men’s Network members were trained and facilitated two citizen forums held at the ARC during 2015-16. Some have also participated in online conversation sponsored by the Tribune. The goal of these dialogues is to provide a platform for Columbia citizens to share opinions and information about their community.

Several LWV members attended a session on May 18 to review a guide for community dialogue based on findings from the online and face-to-face forums. The LWV participants are hopeful that the project will make our community stronger and more supportive of all Columbians. LWV members will be informed about future events as the project moves forward.

Here is some brief information we think is of interest to all League members.

- Citizens attending the forums are concerned about where we are going as a community.
- Three different concerns about the community have emerged from these discussions/ dialogues. They include inequities, citizen-centered planning, and building bridges between groups. While people agree these are concerns, there is not always agreement about how to address them.
- To follow the process, you can read archives of the online Trib Talks at http://www.columbiatribune.com/opinion/trib_talks_forums/ and make responses on the One Community One Columbia blog located at <https://1community1columbia.wordpress.com/page/3/>

— Sharon Schneeberger



LUNCH & LEARN, EARTH DAY PHOTOS

Top Left: Andrew Twaddle, Sarah Twaddle, Liz Schmidt, Win Colwill and Dick Parker listen intently at the May 17 Lunch & Learn event.

Middle Left: Lunch & Learn Speaker Dr. Aaron Thompson

Bottom Left: Lunch & Learn Speaker Tim Harlan, JD

Top Right: Sarah Twaddle sports a sunhat and shades while volunteering at the LWV Earth Day booth on April 24.

Bottom Right: Lael Von Holt, Peggy Placier and Linda Green flank the LWV Earth Day poster, which featured information about several of the issues we have worked on recently.





Upcoming League Events!



MAY 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE 5	6 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	7	8 The Music Man Fundraiser CEC 6:30 p.m.	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Board Meeting Boone Cty Family Resource Center 1209 E Walnut 6:30 p.m.	28	29	30	JULY 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Ballot & Candidate Forum Library 6:30 p.m.	13 CAT-TV 7:00 p.m.	14 Ballot & Candidate Forum Library 6:30 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Board Meeting Boone Cty Family Resource Center 1209 E Walnut 6:30 p.m.	26	27	28	29	30

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 given of their time, talent and treasure to the LWV. Each month we recognize 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 25, 2016. For June 2016 we recognize:

- **Boone County Commission** for allowing us to use the Commission Chambers for our Constitution Day forum.
- **Broadway Christian Church** for allowing us to use their boardroom for our Board Meetings and for hosting our Annual Meeting.
- **Columbia Access TV, Jennifer Erickson, Sean Brown and Justin Gregory** for working with us to produce our monthly public affairs show.
- **Judge Gary Oxenhandler** for his presentation on “Mass Incarceration and the Sentencing Process” at our May 12, 2015 Lunch and Learn.
- **Dr. Michael Cooperstock and Eddie Hedricks** for being on our CAT TV show entitled “Vaccinations, Superbugs & Ebola” in May 2015.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

LWV Officers:

Co-Presidents: Diane Suhler (443-0549) and Peggy Placier (442-2996)
 1st VP: Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
 2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)
 Secretary: Carol Schreiber (657-1467)
 Treasurer: David Leuthold (449-1358)

Elected Directors:

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)
 Joni O'Connor (234-1012)
 Meredith Donaldson (289-3015)
 Barbara Hoppe (443-5107)
 Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)
 Mahree Skala (474-2195)
 Pam Springsteel (445-0642)
 Shirley Troth (443-7033)

Appointed Directors:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)
 Dick Parker (256-4397)
 Liz Schmidt (445-0655)
 Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

Committee Chairs:

Budget: Shirley Troth
 Civil Liberties: Open position
 Education: Open position
 Energy Matters: Dick Parker
 Fundraising Co-Chairs: Liz Schmidt & Pam Springsteel
 Health: Mahree Skala
 Hospitality: Pam Springsteel
 Membership: Liz Schmidt
 Mental Health: Lael Von Holt
 Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Local Website: lwcabc.org
 State: lvmissouri.org
 National: lvw.org
 Local Voter Information Portal: lwcolumbiamo.turbovote.org
 Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LEAGUE!



As you know, 2016 is a busy election year!! We will have forums for the city council, hospital, school board, county, state and national elections (and primaries), plus our educational forums on a wide array of important topics. Thanks for your support!

As of July 1, dues will be \$65 for individuals, \$100 for a household and \$25 for local students. Individual and household memberships also include

state (LWVMO) and national (LWVUS) membership.

Send to PO Box 239, Columbia, MO. 65205

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.)

MEMBER UPDATE

We are deeply saddened to report the recent passing of LWV members Don Scruggs and Peggy Miller.

LWV TURBOVOTE NOW ACTIVE!

Our voter registration and assistance website is now available at lwcolumbiamo.turbovote.org. It allows individuals to register to vote; request absentee ballots; update addresses; request alerts about upcoming elections via text messages and email reminders; and learn about issues, candidates, etc., through data provided by the non-partisan Voter Information Project. LWV has partnered with Mizzou students and TurboVote to create this website. Mizzou students have their own TurboVote site. Our portal is available to Columbia College, Stephens and Moberly Area CCC students, as well other Boone County citizens.



League of Women Voters

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Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REGISTERING STUDENTS TO VOTE

A sub-committee of the LWV Voter's Service Committee focused on registering high school students this spring, in a joint project with the American Association of University Women (AAUW-Columbia branch). The committee, composed of Aline Kultgen, Sharon Schneeberger, Diane Suhler, Carol Schreiber and Marilyn McLeod, along with Marianne Fues of AAUW, worked with the school principals to arrange voter registration opportunities for students at Hickman, Rock Bridge and Battle High School. (They also contacted the Career Center (to reach out-county students) and Douglass H.S., although these didn't work out at this time.)

Students had to be 17-1/2 to register (and 18 to be able to vote, of course). We registered more than 100 students (about 22 at Hickman; about 45 at Rock Bridge; and 44 at Battle H.S.).

We are very grateful that both Wendy Noren and Art Auer, from the Boone County Clerk's office, were available to assist so that we could use their ipads. As a result, many students could complete their voter registration applications directly online.

Thanks to the committee members and to all the volunteers, including Katie Moeller, Andrew Twaddle, Meredith Donaldson, Mahree Skala, Carol Schreiber, Joni O'Connor and Elaine Blodgett who helped in this project. AAUW volunteers included Sue Tillema, Clara Griffiths, and Sue Galeota.

We hope to provide additional opportunities to register students in late summer or early fall, in time for the November election.

— Marilyn McLeod
