

LWV[®] The Voter

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

ANNUAL FOUNDERS' LUNCHEON NOVEMBER 14

The 2015 Recognition Luncheon will be Saturday, Nov. 14 at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, 1903 Business Loop 70 East. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m., with a noon meal. This will be a great time to celebrate our many years of service to the community. The Columbia League of Women Voters began in 1919. At this annual event we celebrate where we are today and also take a look at the history of our organization or our community and especially the women of the time.

Guest speaker Mary Beth Brown will talk about Annie Fisher, a local entrepreneur who transcended the difficulties of both being a woman and a person of color in the early 20th century.

Documents held by the State Historical Society of Missouri tell us that Fisher, born in 1867 of slave parents, worked as a cook for the George Bingham Rollins family and the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity before starting her own catering business. She was known for her country ham and beaten biscuits, and owned sufficient tableware to



cater events for up to 1,000 diners. She used her earnings to send her daughter to college and to construct her 16-room brick home.



Although we don't know if she was a member of the League, she is an interesting example of how women overcame the barriers of society.

Our speaker, Mary Beth Brown, has a MA in History with a graduate certificate in Museum Studies from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a MSLS in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. She is currently working towards a PhD in history. Prior to working in Black Studies, she worked as a manuscript specialist at Western Historical Manuscript Collection for 6 years.

We will also present this year's Outstanding Citizen Award to Pat Fowler, who is being honored for her service to the community. (See related article below.)

The \$20 buffet lunch will include meat and vegetarian options. Pay in advance or at the door, but **make your reservation by Nov. 9** by contacting Liz Schmidt (573-445-0655 or lizschmidt65203@gmail.com.) Please plan to attend this enjoyable and informative event! Make your reservation today!

— Marilyn McLeod

PAT FOWLER TO RECEIVE 2015 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Pat Fowler will receive the LWV Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award at our Founders' Luncheon on November 14. Pat is being recognized for her quiet but tireless efforts as a citizen advocate both in the city of Columbia and Boone County. Through the years she has participated on countless important city planning and citizen engagement meetings and has



served on numerous commissions including the Columbia Historic Preservation Commission, the downtown Leadership Council, Boone County Planning and Zoning Commission, Comprehensive Human Services and Columbia Public Transportation Advisory Commission, to name a few. She is an excellent example of an engaged, knowledgeable and altruistic citizen.

— Marilyn McLeod

SEPTEMBER BOARD REPORT

Seventeen board members were present for our October 26th meeting. The board encourages all of members to renew their membership for 2016. See page 5 for a renewal form.

Decisions made by the board:

- Approval of Ed Funds for the Feb. 4, 2016 Annual State Legislator Town Hall.
- LWV will begin working with TurboVote, an on-line voter registration service, as an add-on to the arrangement between TurboVote and MU student groups. We will use the service for free to register other local colleges and citizens. More details in the December Voter.
- The board selected Pat Fowler to receive our Outstanding Citizen Award to be given at our Founder's Luncheon on November 14.

Other board actions and reports:

- A committee was created to look at purchasing a projector for Power Point/slide presentations for luncheons and forums. Members: Diane Suhler, Peggy Placier, Sharon Schneeberger, Marilyn McLeod.
- Board members Sharon Schneeberger, Carol Schreiber, Barbara Hoppe, Peggy Placier, Mahree Skala and David Leuthold volunteered to work with the November 9th Money in Politics forum small discussion groups following the speaker presentations.
- Marcia Walker reported that we had a lot of people visit our booth at the Mature Living Fair. We also received a thank you letter.

- Dick Parker reported that we had a larger crowd than in the past stop by our booth at the Sustainability Fair.
- Ten LWV members will be attending the LWVMO Fall Conference on November 7th. If you are interested in attending, please contact Carol Schreiber at carolschrei@gmail.com.
- Dick Parker has now delivered ex-felon voting rights information with voter registrations cards to 5 locations in Columbia.
- We have re-printed our Citizen Information Flyers. We gave them out at the Mature Living and Sustainable Living Fairs, and to a teacher at the MU Asian Affairs Center who wants to use them with her class.

Our next board meeting will be on Monday, November 23rd at the Broadway Christian Church at 6:30 p.m. All members are welcome to attend.

—Carol Schreiber and Peggy Placier
Co-Presidents



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 21, 2015. For Nov. 2015 we recognize:

- **Columbia Public Library** for co-sponsoring and hosting many of our forums and providing meeting rooms. And we thank **Patricia Miller** and **Aimee Leonhard** for setting up our forum and refreshment rooms.
- **Sam Griffin** for providing audio services for our forums.
- **Maggie Siebert, Stephen Gaither** and **Richard Mendenhall** for being on our CAT TV show titled "Update on Veterans Issues in Columbian" in November 2014.
- **Lori Henderson, Gary Harbison,** and **Amy Kelsey** for being on our panel for the "Current Issues in Oral Health" forum in December 2014. Thanks also to **Mahree Skala** for moderating the forum.
- **Prof. Bill Fisch, Bart Tichenor** and **Brent Haden** who were on our panel for the "Ichthus" Forum in December 2014. Thanks also to **David Lile** for moderating the forum.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

NOVEMBER 9 FORUM: MONEY IN POLITICS

On November 9 at the Columbia Public Library we will hold an informative, participative event on the controversial and complex issue of money in politics. We will begin with refreshments at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:00 p.m. This year's study committee planned the event as part of a national review of LWV's position on campaign finance and whether that position should be revised.

Our panel will include:

- Attorney Steve Scott, who has written critically about the Supreme Court's decision to define corporations as "persons" whose donations represent freedom of speech.
- Dr. Jeffrey Milyo, MU Department of Economics, who argues that the campaign finance system is not broken.
- The Honorable Mary Still, who can offer a perspective as a former member of the Missouri General Assembly.

We will make short writings from Scott and Milyo available in advance for anyone who would like to read them.



We are trying a new format for the discussion following the panel. Audience members will be invited to engage in small group discussions to generate questions and comments. We need volunteers who would be interested in taking notes in each small group and informally guiding the discussion along. Please let Peggy Placier know if you would like to volunteer at 573-999-4837 or pplacier@centurylink.net

We hope for a great turnout from both members and the public. Bring your friends and offer rides to people who might need them. Watch for news of a consensus meeting on the topic of Money in Politics in January. Our decisions must be submitted to LWVUS by February 1. Let's hope for good weather!

— Peggy Placier, Co-President

NOVEMBER 11 CAT TV: AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN COLUMBIA

The November 11th CAT TV show will explore affordable housing options in Columbia. Our panel includes Phil Steinhaus, Director of the Columbia Housing Authority, and Ian Thomas, City Councilman from Ward 4.

Thomas is helping to organize an affordable housing symposium to be held in December. Jim Robertson, Managing Editor of the Columbia Daily Tribune, will moderate the program.

CAT TV can be found on Mediacom Channel 85, Charter Communications 983, and CenturyTel Prism 98. The program will be available on our website or at www.columbiaaccess.tv. The show replays on CAT TV at 7:00 a.m. on Tues, Thurs and Sat and 7:30 p.m. on Mon, Wed, Fri and Sun.



— Carol Schreiber, Co-President

NOV. 17 LUNCH & LEARN: JOINING BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

On Tuesday, November 17th, Barbara Hoppe, former 6th Ward City Councilperson, and Janet Thompson, Northern District Boone County Commissioner, will be our speakers at the LWV Lunch & Learn. They will talk about city and county boards and commissions.

Serving on a city or county board or commission is a great way to get involved in local government. Come to learn about these important positions and how to apply for them. The speakers will offer tips for applicants and

explain how the boards and commissions function. They will be happy to answer audience questions.



Lunch & Learn is held in the South Hy-Vee meeting room. You can buy lunch in the restaurant or bring your own food. The program runs from noon to 1:00 p.m. and is open to the general public.

— Ava Fajen, Editor



Upcoming League Events!



NOVEMBER 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOV 1	2	3	4	5	6	7 LWVMO Fall Conference Sedalia
8	9 LWV Forum: Money in Politics Library Friends Room 7:00p.m.	10 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	11 CAT TV: Affordable Housing 7:00 p.m.	12	13	14 Annual Founders' Luncheon Jack's Restaurant Social Time 11:30 a.m. Meal at Noon
15	16	17 Lunch & Learn: How to Get on City Boards & Commissions South HyVee Mtg Room, Noon	18	19	20	21
22	23 LWV Board Mtg 6:30 p.m. Broadway Christian Church	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	DEC 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Holiday Social Unitarian Church 5-7 p.m.	11	12
13	14 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

LWV Officers:

Co-Presidents:
 Carol Schreiber (657-1467)
 and Peggy Placier (442-2996)
 1st VP: Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)
 2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)
 Secretary: Marcia Walker
 (443-8666)
 Treasurer: David Leuthold
 (449-1358)

Elected Directors:

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)
 Joni O'Connor (234-1012)
 Barbara Hoppe (443-5107)
 Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
 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)
 Diane Suhler (443-0549)
 Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

Committee Chairs:

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

Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Board Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the 4th Monday of the month at Broadway Christian Church. All members are welcome to attend.

Websites:

Local: lwvcbc.org
 State: lwvmissouri.org
 National: lwv.org
 Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

**THANKS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LEAGUE!
 PLEASE SEND 2016 DUES NOW!**



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

Dues are \$55 for individuals, \$80 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.)



Mike Griggs, Director of Columbia Parks and Rec, spoke Oct. 20 about the parks sales tax extension on the Nov. 3 Ballot.



League of Women Voters

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBIA MO 65201

Permit No. 122

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

HOLIDAY SOCIAL WILL BE DECEMBER 10!!

Join your friends at the LWV Holiday Social on Thursday, December 10th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The social will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church (main level). We will again bring socks to give to the homeless. White heavy socks are the preferred socks. We also ask members to bring a snack to share. We hope to see you there!

— Carol Schreiber, Co-President



GMO Forum panelists Robert Kremer, Kevin Bradley, Dan Kuebler, Michael Roberts, and Alan Wessler addressed a standing-room-only crowd on Oct. 20. David Lile moderated the panel.