



The Voter

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

COLUMBIA TRANSPORTATION ISSUES WILL BE TOPIC OF JANUARY 16 LUNCH & LEARN



Drew Brooks, City of Columbia Transit Director, Columbia Councilperson Ian Thomas, and Annette Triplett, Executive Director of the PedNet Coalition will be our guest speakers at the Lunch & Learn program on January 16.

They will talk about what they have been doing to improve transit and transportation in Columbia and will discuss how transportation needs are essential to social equity, daily living, and access to voting.

The speakers will also be happy to take audience questions.

Join us for Lunch & Learn on Tuesday, January 16th from noon to 1 p.m in the second floor community room of the Conley Road HyVee.

— Barbara Hoppe

JANUARY CAT TV: WHAT DOES THE FIRST AMENDMENT TELL US IN THESE TROUBLING TIMES



Provocative speakers banned from campuses, an assault on the free press – these are just a few of the hot -button issues surrounding the First Amendment. The LWV CAT TV show on January 10th at 7 p.m. will look at the First Amendment. We are pleased to announce that a First Amendment expert will be our guest, MU Law Professor Christina Wells. In addition to the live broadcast on CAT TV, we will send a YouTube video of the program to all our members.

The show airs live at 7:00 p.m. on January 10. 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 Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. CAT TV is found on Mediacom Channel 85, Charter Communications 983, and CenturyTel Prism 98.

— Carol Schreiber

LWV ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE NIGHT IS FEBRUARY 8



The LWV Annual Legislative Night with Boone County state legislators will be held on Thursday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library. We are inviting our state legislative delegation, including Rep. Cheri Toalson Reisch (District 44); Rep. Kip Kendrick (District 45); Rep. Martha Stevens (District 46); Rep. Chuck Basye (District 47); Rep. Sara Walsh (District 50); and Sen. Caleb Rowden (District 19).

David Lile from KFRU will be the moderator. Each legislator will have an opportunity to present their priorities for the 2018 State Legislative Session. Audience questions will follow. And then audience members may meet individually with their legislator.

The Columbia Public Library is cosponsoring this event which is free and open to the public.

— Carol Schreiber

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018!!

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING REPORT

The LWV Board wrapped up 2017 activities of our League at its November 27th meeting. The meeting provided a time to review the year's activities and to look forward to a new year of events. Energy topics were spotlighted at our recent public forums: the November Lunch and Learn featured speakers on biomass-fired electricity; the November CAT-TV program focused on the MU Nuclear Reactor.

The board reviewed plans for the Founders' Day Luncheon which was held on December 2nd. We finalized the selection for two awards: Wendy Noren was selected to receive the 2017 Outstanding Citizen Award and Room-at-the Inn was chosen as the recipient of the Liz Schmidt Community Service Award. It is hard to imagine more deserving awardees. On a personal note, I felt very humbled to be making the presentations to Wendy and RATI during the Founders' Day Luncheon. Wendy epitomizes what it means to be a 'public servant' and has been the embodiment of integrity in her role as County Clerk for almost 40 years. RATI reflects faith in action in its mission to provide food and shelter to the least among us during the coldest time of the year. Our community owes a debt of gratitude to the service of Wendy and RATI.

The Board spent time discussing upcoming activities. Besides the monthly Lunch and Learn and CAT-TV programs, we will be hosting a Legislative Night on February 8th. This event provides an opportunity for members of the community to engage with our elected officials.

A social hour is being planned at Logboat in the near future—a chance to connect with a younger generation of voters and possible LWV members. In January, we will host a Program Planning session when we will review national policies of the LWVUS. This is our chance to provide input into the policies and platforms of our national organization. We welcome all League members to be of part of these activities.

As we bring 2017 to a close, we should look back at the year and be proud of the hard work done by members of our League. My sincere thanks to all of you for giving of your time and talents. Whether you have provided an hour of your time or hundreds of hours, your work has made a difference. In times like we face today, it is so important that the LWV remains vigilant in protecting the right of all people to vote. Much has been accomplished . . . much remains to be done.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A JOYFUL NEW YEAR

— Diane Suhler, 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 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 19, 2017. For January 2018 we recognize:

- An MU Reactor Tour was held in January 2017 for LWV members. We recognize **Gayla Neumeyer** for organizing the tour. We recognize **Bill Miller, Heather Hennkens,** and **Leo Manson** as our tour guides. And we recognize **Prof. Rich Ferrieri** and **John Gahl** for special presentations.
- **Barbara Buffaloe** for being our speaker at our February 2017 Lunch & Learn on "The Little Office that Could."
- **Sam Griffin** for providing audio services for many of our forums.
- **Unitarian Universalist Church** for providing a meeting room for our board meetings beginning in January 2017.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

NATIONAL PROGRAM PLANNING 2018

Advocacy is a major function of the League of Women Voters. Grassroots studies form the LWV positions on issues at the local, state and national levels. Each year our local League looks at the positions of either the state League (LWVMO) or the national League (LWVUS).

In 2018 our local League will review the positions of the LWVUS. In LWV lingo, this is called “National Program Planning.”

At the 2016 National Convention, the delegates voted to adopt the Campaign for Making Democracy Work: Voting Rights; Improving Elections; Campaign Finance/Money in Politics; and Redistricting. In previous conventions studies on issues were recommended (such as an update to the outdated agricultural policy), so the commitment to focus all of our efforts on these core issues was unusual.

For 2018, each League throughout the country will be asked if they want to continue the focus on Making Democracy Work. A separate question will be if the local League recommends a new study on an issue that is outdated or recommend a study on an issue not part of the LWVUS positions; recommend to concur with a state or local position, since that group

had completed a study; or not recommend any new action.

After each League weighs in with their recommendations, the LWVUS Board will review the input and make a recommendation to the delegates at the 2018 National Convention in June in Chicago. The delegates will also have the opportunity to bring an issue before the Convention, too. Dick Parker from our local League brought the idea of a Department of Peace before two conventions, though the delegates did not support our proposal.

The process begins here in Columbia on Monday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library Friends Room for our National Program Planning meeting. The “Impact on Issues” contains all of the LWVUS positions. Here is an link to this document: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/book/impact-issues-2016-2018-online-edition>

You will be able to download all the sections to review.

Please, be part of the grassroots work that makes the LWV a great organization. Make your voice heard at our 2018 National Program Planning meeting!

— Carol Schreiber



Past Presidents of the LWVCBC at the Founders Luncheon, from left to right: Joni O'Connor, Lael Von Holt, Win Colwill, Kathryn Allen, Carol Schreiber, Marilyn McLeod and Peggy Placier.

**FOUNDER'S DAY LUNCHEON
DECEMBER 2, 2017**



Wendy Noren received the 2017 LWV Outstanding Citizen Award.



Debby Graham and Jim Jantz represented the Room at the Inn, which received the 2017 Liz Schmidt Community Service Award.



Joan and Steve Mudrick



Maria Parker and Sharon Curry



Larry Brown sang songs and told stories.



Barbara Schneider and Marcia Walker.



Lucille Salerno, Lynn Storvick and Win Colwill.

LWV AWARDS PRESENTED TO WENDY NOREN AND ROOM AT THE INN

A nice crowd of LWV members and friends attended our annual Founders' Luncheon on Saturday, December 2 at the Hilton Garden Inn.

President Diane Suhler presented Wendy Noren with the 2017 LWV Outstanding Citizen Award in recognition of her exceptional career dedicated to public service, through her outstanding leadership on elections at local, state, and national levels of government. Wendy said: "Of all the awards I have received, this one means the most to me." The LWV has had a close working relationship with Wendy for many years. The League Board voted to give the Missouri County Clerks Association a \$200 donation in Wendy's name for their scholarship program.

The Liz Schmidt Community Service Award was presented to the Room at the Inn, represented by

Debby Graham and Jim Jantz. Many League members help with the Room at the Inn and we all know what the great service they provide means for Columbia's homeless population. Members brought new white socks as a donation and the League Board gave Room at the Inn a \$200 donation.

Our Luncheon also featured poignant songs and stories from Dr. Larry Brown about the marginalized in our communities.

Thanks to Marilyn McLeod for handling all the arrangements and to Meredith Donaldson and David Leuthold for handling the check-in at the Luncheon.

— Carol Schreiber

REDISTRICTING: THE CENSUS

Excerpted from: *The 2020 Census and Redistricting in 2021 Project with Dr. Michael O. Adams and Professor Carroll G. Robinson, Esq.*

You may have missed the news that the head of the Census Bureau, John Thompson, resigned a few months ago. In normal circumstances, the departure of a government statistician would receive no attention. But Thompson's departure adds to the growing uncertainty surrounding the success of the 2020 decennial census.

The U.S. Constitution contains fewer than 5,000 words. Only a small fraction of what the government actually does is in this founding document. Yet the Constitution requires the United States government to conduct a census every 10 years to determine how many seats each state will have in the House of Representatives.

One of the most important roles of the census is population apportionment. Apportionment determines how the 435 members of the House of Representatives will be divided among the states so that each state is accurately represented. The census also helps determine the equitable allocation of public funds, such as federal and state funding for educational programs, health care, law enforcements, and highways. The equal distribution of these public funds can only be done properly with up-to-date population data.

The full participation in the upcoming 2020 census is important to emphasize now rather than waiting until 2019 because an accurate census will determine fair representation. When census

information is not accurate the voices of undercounted groups are threatened and the political equality, essential to our democracy is undermined (United Philanthropy Forum). Young children, minorities, and low-income individuals are groups more likely to be misrepresented in the census (United Philanthropy Forum).

Texas is in line to be the biggest winner in congressional reapportionment at the end of the decade. When the 435 U.S. House seats are divvied up by population, new estimates show the state will gain three seats.

If population trends persist through 2020, the date of the next census, Rust Belt states will continue to lose seats, shifting political power to Sunbelt states (according to numbers from Election Data Services, Inc.). Under current Election Data Services, Inc. projections, Texas will gain three new seats in Congress, Florida two new seats, and Arizona, Colorado, North Carolina and Oregon will each gain one seat.

Projected to lose one seat apiece are Alabama, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and West Virginia. Seats are divided up based on the decennial census, with the adjustments supposed to take place in time for the 2022 election.

For more info on the 2020 Census and Redistricting:

<https://work-72592825.facebook.com/groups/1474101665961167/>



Upcoming League Events!



JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	JAN 1	2	3 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 CAT-TV First Amendment 7:00 p.m.	11	12	13
14	15 Civil Liberties Committee 1pm @ 3109 Greenridge Rd.	16 Lunch and Learn Noon Conley Rd HyVee	17	18	19	20
21	22 Board Meeting UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 LWVUS Prgram Planning 7pm Columbia Public Library	30	31 Voter Service Committee 1:30 pm @ 3109 Greenridge Rd.	FEB 1 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Legislative Night 7pm Columbia Public Library	9	10
11	12	13	14 CAT-TV 7:00 p.m.	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Board Meeting UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd 6:30 p.m.	27	28	MAR 1	2	3

LWV Officers:

President: Diane Suhler (443-0549)
 1st VP: Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
 2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)
 Secretary: Carol Schreiber (657-1467)
 Treasurer: David Leuthold (449-1358)

Elected Directors:

Meredith Donaldson (289-3018)
 Barbara Hoppe (443-5107)
 Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)
 Gayla Neumeyer (882-8366)
 Mahree Skala (474-2195)
 Pam Springsteel (445-0642)
 Shirley Troth (443-7033)

Appointed Directors:

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

Committee Chairs:

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

Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Local Website: lwvcbc.org
 State: lwvmissouri.org
 National: lwv.org
 Local Voter Information Portal: lwvcolumbiamo.turbovote.org
 Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"



Thank you very much for your continued support! Dues received now are for the 2018 year. We are preparing for the upcoming Cat TV programs, Lunch & Learn programs, plus our educational forums on a wide array of important topics. Membership dues are \$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 postal mail _____

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

MEMBER UPDATE

In Memoriam: Betsy Winnacker passed away on November 14, 2017. Betsy was a longtime member and supporter of the LWV. The daughter of Senator and Mrs. J.W. Fulbright, she worked for the World Bank, supported the Mizzou Tigers, and was quite active in a number of community groups.

**VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE
 PLANS FOR 2018**

The LWV Voter Service Committee will meet on January 31 at 1:30 p.m. at 3109 Greenridge Road.

We will be planning candidate and ballot issues forums for three elections (April, August and November) in 2018. We will also be working on voter registration, voter education regarding voter photo ID, and redistricting activities.

If you are interested in these issues, please join us. If you are not able to make it to the meeting, but you want to be part of our efforts this year, please email Carol Schreiber at carolschrei@gmail.com.

— Carol Schreiber



League of Women Voters

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

BEHIND THE CAMERA

Barbara Hoppe, Gayla Neumeyer, and I have been taking lessons on using cameras and recordings for our events. CAT TV has been training us in two hour segments. From my perspective its been most interesting, plus learning a new 'skill set' which includes shooting, editing, and putting a whole program together. Barb and Gayla are becoming the professionals; I'm taking a bit longer.

Besides learning something new, it's surprising how much what I learned years ago is so relevant today.

Public speaking and presentations really do require you to not only know the subject, but to be active, interesting, make sure everyone can hear you and that you look at your audience. The camera sees all.

Perhaps you might vaguely be interested in 'another line of work' or just curious, so join the team, learn and participate in programming in small ways at first and find out if this is for you... We enjoy it. If you're interested, contact Barbara Hoppe.

— Elaine Blodgett

CIVIL LIBERTIES COMMITTEE TO LOOK AT HOT ISSUES IN 2018

The LWV Civil Liberties Committee has taken a break, but the times demand that this committee reactivate! If you are interested in working on this committee, please join us on January 15 at 1:00 p.m. at 3109 Greenridge Rd. (If you need directions, please contact Marilyn_mcleod@yahoo.com). There are many hot issues to discuss and actions to take.

The first activity for 2018 will be the LWV CAT TV Show on the First Amendment with MU Law Professor Christina Wells. (See article on this show on page 1.)

— Carol Schreiber



Taylor Burks, Boone County Clerk, and Glenn Nielson, a computer expert, discussed election safety at the Holly Burgess Public Policy Forum on Oct. 29.