



# The Voter

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

## VOTE ON APRIL 4TH!!

The April 4 ballot will include candidates for the Columbia school board and two Columbia city council seats plus two ballot issues. The seven candidates for school board are Paul Harper, John Potter, Chris Horn, James Gordon, John Lyman, April Ferrao, and Chuck Basye. The two City Council Ward 5 candidates are Don Waterman and Gregg Bush. The only active candidate for Ward 1 is Nick Knoth.

The two ballot issues — Columbia Prop 1 and Boone County Prop 1 — are both for a 3% sales

tax on recreational marijuana purchases. For more information see our website, [www.lwvcbc.org](http://www.lwvcbc.org), for the video of our March 7 Candidate/Ballot Issues forum and the Voters Guide.

On April 4, the polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. For information on voting, poll location, etc., go to <https://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/>.

— Carol Schreiber, Chair  
Voter Service Committee

## APRIL 11 LUNCH & LEARN: THE CURRENT STATE OF AGRICULTURE - LOCAL, NATIONAL, & GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

**Our Lunch & Learn Program Tuesday, April 11, at noon on Zoom** will feature guest speaker Wyatt Thompson, professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics at MU, updating us on "The Current State of Agriculture: Local, National, and Global Perspectives." Professor Wyatt is part of the Food and Agricultural Research Policy Institute (FAPRI) at MU, which does all of the agricultural baseline work for Congress. To attend this forum on Zoom, sign up at [dbri.org](http://dbri.org).

**Save the date!** May is Mental Health Awareness month. **Our Lunch & Learn Program Tuesday, May 9, at noon on Zoom** will be co-sponsored by the Children's Grove and the Columbia Public Library. Join us for this special program on "Mental Health for Golden Girls." Guest Speaker Vinita Khanna will discuss common myths about

aging, barriers to finding support, overcoming the stigma attached to mental health, and more!

Much thanks to Boone County Commissioner Janet Thompson and Stephanie Browning, Director of the Columbia Boone County Health Dept., who spoke to us in March about the ARPA Funds. It was very interesting and informative. If you missed it, you can catch it on YouTube on our website, [lwvcbc.org](http://lwvcbc.org), or the [dbri.org](http://dbri.org) website.

Thanks as always to Lauren Williams and the Columbia Public Library for co-sponsoring these programs. We look forward to hybrid (combined in-person and zoom) Lunch & Learn Programs beginning in September in the Friends Room of the Columbia Public Library!!!!

— Barbara Hoppe, Chair  
Lunch & Learn Committee

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Remember to Vote on April 4, or you can vote in person before April 1 at the Boone County Clerk's office; no excuse needed.

This is a busy time at the State Legislature. Be sure to read your LWVMO emails with information on the Bills that are being heard each week and contact your State Legislator to weigh in! Also, share the information with friends and neighbors so they can make their voices heard on proposed legislation, especially those who don't live in Columbia or Boone County.

We should all give a big thank you to Marilyn McLeod, our State LWVMO President and an LWVCBC Board Member, who has diligently and steadfastly testified this session on our behalf in Jefferson City. In fact, she valiantly traveled to Jefferson City three days in a row this month - March 20, 21 & 22 - and testified on several Bills. She is truly a warrior and wonder woman! Yet also one with finesse, grace, and good humor! I had the pleasure of driving down to Jefferson City with her on March 22, and we both testified on HB 367, a Bill that would bring back (reinstate) the Presidential Preference Primary in Missouri so voters can once again vote easily and conveniently in Presidential Preference Primaries. If you weren't aware, the Presidential Preference Primary was hastily replaced last year - without a public hearing - with the archaic caucus system.

The Presidential Preference Primary Bill, HB 367, was sponsored by State Rep. Rudy Viet [R-Wardsville], and a similar Bill, HB 267, was sponsored by State Rep. Cyndi Buchheit-Courtway [R-Festus]. It was so refreshing to see both parties supporting these Bills and speaking with such civility, clarity, and intelligence. The Chairs of the State Republican and Democratic Parties were both there to testify in support. My favorite testimony was from a Jefferson City woman, who said she was there "just as a regular voter, not representing any organization." She spoke about how she voted in every election and wanted to continue to vote for her choice of Presidential Nominee in the same manner she votes in every other election - privately, conveniently, and efficiently! Others testified about how military

members and those who are ill, older, disabled, working, taking care of family or kids, have family emergencies, etc., cannot participate and vote in an archaic caucus process that goes for several hours in the evening and is often chaotic and intimidating, as well. This was so refreshing to hear, see, and experience. We hope that there is more bipartisanship, civility, and mutual collaboration that will make it easier, not more difficult, for people to vote and have a say in their government and in their future.

This is my last President's message in *The Voter*. At our April 30 Annual meeting, our membership will Vote for the new President for the next two years and other Officers and board members and approve our Budget for the coming year. Mahree Skala is the Board Nominee for President and has been the 1st VP for the last two years. I think she will do a great job of being President. Please attend our Annual Meeting in Person or by zoom, as we need a Quorum to conduct business. Our Featured Guest Speaker will be Mayor Barbara Buffalo, and refreshments will be served! (For more important information about our Annual Meeting see the article on page 3.)

Finally, a huge thank you to all the Board Members and Committee Chairs who have contributed diligently to articles for *The Voter* newsletter, month after month, and especially to Ava Fajen, who has taken the time to put it all together in such a thoughtful, readable and appealing fashion.

— Barbara Hoppe, President  
LWVCBC  
[yesforparks@hotmail.com](mailto:yesforparks@hotmail.com)



## LWVCBC ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 30!

This year we are happy to announce that the LWVCBC Annual Meeting will be held in person and on zoom on Sunday, April 30th, at 2 p.m. in the Friends Room of the Columbia Public Library!

Our Featured Speaker will be Columbia's Mayor Barbara Buffaloe.

The Eleanor Goodge Award will be presented to Meredith Donaldson, LWVCBC Membership Chair (See article on pg. 5).

Our Membership will vote on a slate of new and renewing Board Members

and Officers and the proposed Budget for next year. The list of nominees and the proposed Budget are presented in this newsletter on pages 4 and 6.

Refreshments will also be served! We do need a quorum to conduct the annual meeting, so please plan to be there or attend by zoom. We will send out the zoom link closer to the date.

See you there!

— Barbara Hoppe, President  
LWVCBC



Mayor Barbara Buffalo

## EARTH DAY WILL BE APRIL 23!

The annual Columbia Earth Day Festival will be held on Sunday, April 23rd, 12:00 - 7:00 p.m. in Downtown Columbia and Peace Park. The LWVCBC is planning a table and presence that is interesting, informative, and promotes action! We will let you know in an email our exact table

location when we know it, closer to the date. Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors to stop by too! See you there!

— Barbara Hoppe, CoChair  
Climate and Energy Committee



### Nominations for LWVCBC Board Members, 2023 Officers

Office	Name	Term
President	<u>Mahree Skala</u>	2023-2025 (renewal)
1st Vice President.	Susie Adams	2023-2025 (new)
2nd Vice President	Sharon Schneeberger	2022-2024
Secretary	Carol Schreiber	2023-2025 (renewal)
Treasurer	Mary Hayden	2023-2024 (new)

### Elected Board Members

Meredith Donaldson	2022-2024
Ruth <u>Milledge</u>	2022-2024
Kate Canterbury	2022-2024
Diane <u>Suhler</u>	2022-2024
Linda <u>Headrick</u>	2023-2025 (renewal)
Marilyn McLeod	2023-2025 (renewal)
Elaine <u>Blodgett</u>	2023-2025 (renewal)
Pam Springsteel	2023-2025 (renewal)
Rene Powell	2023-2025 (renewal)
Barbara Hoppe	2023-2025 (renewal)

### Appointed Board Members (by President and Board)

Zainab Jasim

### Proposed Next Year's Nomination Committee for 2024:

#### Suggestion that we ask Committee chairs

Linda Smith  
Ena Chippendale  
Susan Koenig

## MEREDITH DONALDSON TO RECEIVE 2023 ELEANOR GOODGE AWARD

Meredith Donaldson will be awarded the 2023 Eleanor Goodge Award for Exemplary Service to the LWV of Columbia-Boone County at our Annual Meeting on April 30! Here is the nomination made by Marilyn McLeod, Carol Schreiber and Sharon Schneeberger that perfectly captures Meredith's contributions and "can do" spirit:

"Meredith has contributed the type of service to the League that can best be described as a "quintessential Leaguer!" In her words, "I had been a league brat and been a member in college and as a young adult, BUT once the family came, I did not have time...or so I thought. I thought from my early experience with my mother (we had to clear League papers to have dinner in the dining room) one could not just be a member."

"And she has not been "just" a member. After retirement, she jumped right in and has been a consummate member who always raises her hand when something needs to be done. She is always ready to volunteer. Need help to run an event? Meredith is right there. Need members to plan an event? Meredith is there. Need a script for the film about our 100th anniversary? Absolutely! Help with producing the film? You bet! Want some help with the fundraiser? Of course! Need someone to contact a member or

send a personal note to cheer them up or express sympathy? No need to ask; she's already taken care of that. Need a ride

someplace? Meredith is ready to pick you up and go! (Especially if it is snowing or you need a ride to the Capitol!)

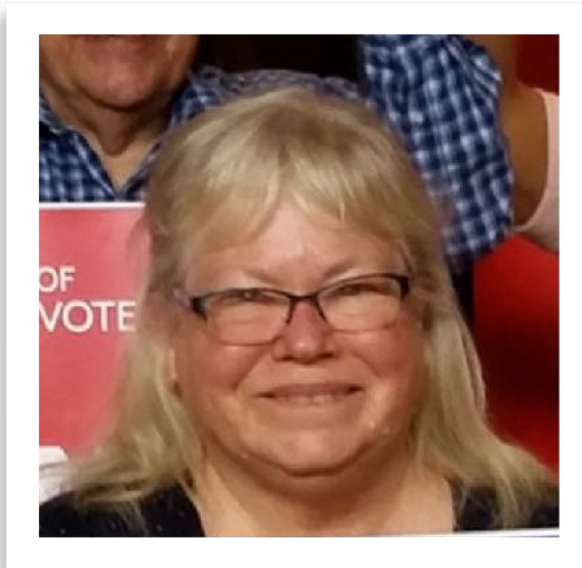
"Meredith's can-do attitude and willingness to jump in and do the work that needs doing demonstrate her exemplary service to the League. Even before chairing our membership committee, Meredith was already working on ways to connect to individuals to encourage them to join. Since becoming chair of that committee, she has invigorated our efforts and brought the number of

members to the highest count we have had for decades (if not ever), making personal contacts, and planning events for new members to encourage them to get engaged.

"In addition, Meredith has served on the local LWVCBC board for seven years and also participated in statewide work, for example, as a member of the LWVMO Nominating Committee."

We will be delighted to honor Meredith Donaldson with the Eleanor Goodge Award in recognition of her outstanding service and devotion to our League. Join us April 30!!

— Barbara Hoppe  
President, LWVCBC



## CELEBRATE SUNSHINE! LEARN HOW THE SUNSHINE LAW HAS BEEN USED TO ENSURE OPEN GOVERNMENT



An excellent panel discussion celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Missouri's open records law can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2Ofsu3pGOI>. Sponsored by the Kansas City/Jackson-Clay-Platte Counties LWV.

— Mahree Skala  
First VP, LWVCBC

## PROPOSED LWVCBC 2023-2024 BUDGET

LWC/CBC	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 actual	2021/22 actual	2022/23 To date	2022/23 budget	2023-24 budget	
							<b>INCOME</b>
LWVMO Educ Fund	1,420	60	100	384		1,000	LWVMO Ed Fund
Member Contributions	1,425	1,426	2,351	2,476	1,200	2,000	Member contributions
Member Dues	8,993	8,993	10,400	10,981	8,300	11,000	Member Dues
Misc. Income	100	100	493	850	200	500	Miscellaneous*
Income from Play	0	0					Income from Play
Fundraiser				130	3,300	4,000	**
From Savings		0				700	Discretionary Funds
Other Contributions	0	0	0	475	100	100	Other Contributions
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,938</b>	<b>10,578</b>	<b>13,344</b>	<b>15,296</b>	<b>13,100</b>	<b>19,300</b>	
							<b>Expenses</b>
LWVMO Ed Fund	2,300	0	100	302	1,000	1,000	LWVMO Ed fund
Awards	800	198	400			400	Awards
Board	11	11	94	0	200	200	Board
Bulletin	450	839	130	383	800	1,200	Bulletin
LWVMO Dues	3,100	3,100	3,470	3,370	3,600	4,000	LWVMO Dues***
LWVUS Dues	4,960	4,960	5,552	5,392	5,000	6,100	LWVUS Dues****
Meetings, Inch&lm	180	180	300	150	100	200	Meetings,Inch&lms,fnrdrs
Membership	270	270	121	65	300	400	Membership
Miscellaneous	10	90	801	859	250	850	Miscellaneous*****
Natl Convntn	0	0	0	0	1,500	1,500	Nat; Convention
Post Office	0	108			120	150	Post Office
State convntn, council	0	200	172	293	400	400	St. Convention, council
Voter Service	1,217	1,258	0	427	500	500	Voter Service
				200	200	200	Issue Outreach
				0	1,000	1,000	Scholarships/Internships
				284	500	500	Education Committee
				21	200	400	Hospitality Committee
				0	200	100	Health Committee
				28	100	100	Climate,Energy Comm
				75		100	Luella Committee
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,298</b>	<b>11,214</b>	<b>11,140</b>	<b>11,851</b>	<b>15,970</b>	<b>19,300</b>	

- \* Picnic = ~ 80%
- \*\* Surplus of funds from previous years if necessary
- \*\*\* @211 members
- \*\*\*\* MO + Nat. = 92% of dues
- \*\*\*\*\* Partly for Picnic

## NEXT STEPS IN SOCIAL MEDIA FOR LWVCBC

Because newspapers and print journalism do not have the readership they had in the past, we are seeking other ways to educate people about voting and voting issues. Toward that end, the Social Media committee developed a description for a social media internship. We currently have two qualified applicants we look forward to interviewing for our Social Media Developer and

Coordinator Internship. We will keep you informed as we look forward to setting up an effective and efficient system to share visual education creations with you and the public. If you would like to join the Social Media Committee, email [sharon@schneeberger.net](mailto:sharon@schneeberger.net).

— Sharon Schneeberger, Chair  
Social Media Committee

## MARCH 7 LWVCBC ELECTION FORUM WAS WELL ATTENDED



The March 7 election forum had a large in-person and online audience (top photo). For the first time, the forum featured a question for each school board candidate written by a CPS student (bottom left). David Lile moderated the forum and Ward Five candidates Don Waterman and Gregg Bush answered questions (bottom right). Photos by Ava Fajen.



# Upcoming League Events!



## APRIL 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	<b>APRIL 1</b> Tea honoring Luella St. Clair Moss 2 pm First Christian Church
2	3	<b>4</b> VOTE!! Election Day	5	6	<b>7</b> LWV on Paul Pepper Show KBIA 8:50 am	8
9	10	<b>11</b> Current State of Agriculture Lunch & Learn Zoom at Noon	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	<b>22</b> MU Climate Rally & Party for the Planet
<b>23</b> Earth Day Booth! 12-6:30	24	25	26	27	28	29
<b>30</b> LWVCBC Annual Mtg 2-4pm	<b>MAY 1</b>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	<b>9</b> Mental Health for Golden Girls Lunch & Learn Zoom at Noon	10	11	12	13
14	<b>15</b> LWVCBC Board Meeting 5:30pm Zoom	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



**LWV Officers:**

President: Barbara Hoppe (424-9668)  
 1st VP: Mahree Skala (474-2195)  
 2nd VP: Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)  
 Secretary: Carol Schreiber (657-0639)  
 Treasurer: Elaine Martin

**Elected Directors:**

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)  
 Kate Canterbury (214-536-1300)  
 Meredith Donaldson (289-3018)  
 Linda Headrick  
 Marilyn McLeod (239-3708)  
 Rene Powell (864-4087)  
 Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)  
 Pam Springsteel (445-0642)  
 Diane Suhler (443-0549)

**Appointed Directors:**

Dick Parker (256-4397)  
 Zainab Jasim  
 Terryonna Samuels

**Committee Chairs:**

Budget: Open  
 Civil Liberties: Pam Springsteel  
 Education: Zona Burk  
 Energy & Climate: Barbara Hoppe & Sharon Schneeberger, Co-chairs  
 ERA: Susan Koenig  
 Fundraising: Open  
 Health: Mahree Skala  
 Hospitality: Pam Springsteel  
 Luella Committee: Pam Springsteel  
 Lunch & Learn: Barbara Hoppe  
 Membership: Meredith Donaldson  
 Mental Health: Mahree Skala  
 Social Media: Sharon Schneeberger  
 Speakers Bureau: Open  
 Voter Registration: Linda Smith  
 Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

**The Voter Editor:** Ava Fajen

Local Website: [lwvcbc.org](http://lwvcbc.org)  
 State: [lwvmissouri.org](http://lwvmissouri.org)  
 National: [lwv.org](http://lwv.org)

Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

**MEMBER NEWS**

**Welcome to New Members:**

Nancy Fuchs, Robin Hogan,  
 Melissa Jacques (a senior at MU), and Kelsey Meyer

*We now have 227 members.*

**2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**League of Women Voters Columbia-Boone County**

**COME AND JOIN US!**

**Simply fill out the form and mail to the address below**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

First Time Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues include local, state and national membership.

Individual Dues \$65 \_\_\_\_\_

Household Dues \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

New member 30 years of age and under. \$30 \_\_\_\_\_

Student Dues (Ages 16 to 25; Enrolled FT/PT) \$FREE \_\_\_\_\_

Subsidized Dues (for members on limited income) \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to subsidize dues for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

members who cannot afford membership rates.

General Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make Checks Payable to LWV and mail to:**

League of Women Voters  
 PO Box 239  
 Columbia, MO 65205

Newsletters are sent via email. If you need a paper copy, please check here \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Donation to LWVCBC Education Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Donations to Education Fund are tax-deductible. Please include a separate check payable to LWVEF-MO704



**League of Women Voters**

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

**MISSOURI LWV BIENNIAL CONVENTION MAY 6TH**

Join us for "Getting in More Good Trouble," the 66th LWVMO State Convention, on Saturday, May 6. The Convention will be held in person at Columbia's Broadway Christian Church.

Our Columbia LWV Chapter can have up to 11 official voting delegates, but non-voting observers can also attend. This year's Convention costs \$40 for both delegates and observers.

The Convention is primarily a business meeting where we will elect officers, approve the state LWV budget, present two of our Awards, and, very importantly we will vote on LWV positions on Local Control and Adult Use of Marijuana (both concurrences presented by our League); and Election Security (proposed by the LWV of KC) as well as other proposed changes to the LWVMO public policy program.

Although this is not a traditional educational conference, it is a great opportunity to meet members from around the state to network and discuss the issues that are of interest to us all.

The luncheon speaker will be Danielle Lang, Senior Director, Voting Rights, for the Campaign Legal Center. She'll share the arguments she made challenging HB 1878 restrictions in court and provide an update on the League's lawsuit with the Missouri NAACP about the restrictions. (HB1878 is the strict new voter ID bill passed by the Missouri legislature in 2022.)

If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with LWVCBC President Barbara Hoppe and let her know of your interest. Her email is [yesforparks@hotmail.com](mailto:yesforparks@hotmail.com), or call 573-424-9668.

— Marilyn McLeod  
President, LWVMO