



The Voter

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

LWVCBC HAS REACHED 200+ MEMBERS!

Welcome new members and renewed members! Thank you to all who recruited new members! By reaching the 200 mark, we can now send two additional delegates to the state LWV convention!!

Please join us for this month's New Member Welcome and Orientation on February 4 at 10 am to find out more about your local LWV and how it links with the state and national Leagues. Learn how your membership supports actions at all three levels to educate voters, monitor legislation, and take action on important public policy issues.

If you are interested in becoming more involved, this Member Welcome can also help you find your niche in our League. For 100 years, members have found that involvement in the League has led them to better understand public policy issues and helped them be more active citizens. Right now, we are looking for help from members interested in web management, membership development, environment and climate action, legislative issues, and someone

who could serve on the board as treasurer.



A Zoom invitation will be sent to members before the event. If you are interested but unable to attend, please contact Meredith Donaldson, mjdonsn@gmail.com, 573-289-3018, as she plans to arrange another Welcome in the near future.

— Meredith Donaldson, Chair
Membership Committee

NEW MEMBER WELCOME FEBRUARY 4, 10AM ZOOM

All new members and other interested members are invited.

A Zoom link
will be sent to all members.

FEBRUARY 14 LUNCH & LEARN: CLIMATE CHANGE AND 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY



Please join us on Tuesday, February 14th, for our Lunch & Learn Program at noon on Zoom when our speaker will be Carolyn Amparan, Sierra Club Chair. She will discuss the crucial issue of Climate Change, how the City can successfully achieve 100% renewable energy locally by 2030, and what you can do to help make this happen. Register for a Zoom link on our website lwvcbc.org or the library website.

At our January Lunch and Learn Program, we learned about the important work that Shaunda Hamilton from Boone County Community Against Violence and Catey Terry from Moms Demand

Action are doing to reduce violence in our community. They also explained how we can help in their efforts. We are thankful for their much-needed work. If you missed this or any other Lunch & Learn Program you can watch it (or share it with others) by going to our website: lwvcbc.org.

As always, thank you to Lauren Williams and the Columbia Public Library, who co-sponsor these programs.

— Barbara Hoppe, Chair
Lunch & Learn Committee

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

Your LWVCBC has been busy this January, and there is a lot for us and you to do this year. A big concern is state legislation being proposed to further restrict voting rights and to make it more difficult, likely impossible, for the public to get initiative petitions on the ballot or get them passed.

Several members of our LWVCBC Board attend the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC) Zoom meetings every Monday at 10 a.m., headed by Denise Lieberman. The meetings are attended by over 100 participants representing organizations throughout the state concerned about preserving voting rights.

Regular attendees from our league are Marilyn McLeod, Carol Schreiber, Ruth Milledge, Sharon Schneeberger, and myself. By attending these weekly meetings, we stay current on what is going on in Jefferson City and how we can all collaborate to educate and advocate for voting rights in Missouri.

Already a number of bills have been filed - and are being heard in committees - that seek to limit voting or to make it more difficult to get initiative petitions on the ballot and virtually impossible for voters to pass.

HJR43 would increase the number of signatures needed to place a measure on the ballot and increase the threshold for passage from a simple majority to 2/3 - a nearly impossible threshold.

HJR 30 would require proposed constitutional amendments to receive not just a majority of votes cast statewide (the rule now) but also to prevail in a majority of state legislative districts.

HJR 18 would increase the number of signatures required to place proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot, only allow them to be on the ballot during a general election, and increase the threshold for passage from a simple majority to a 2/3 majority.

HJR 24 & 25 increase the threshold for passage of a constitutional amendment to a majority of all registered voters in the state. Currently, measures pass when they receive a majority of votes cast.

SB44 Requires local election authorities to investigate the qualifications of any person who has not engaged in voter activity for two years. The election authority would be required to include those voters in any canvass that would lead to being purged from the rolls.

This directive could lead to Voter Purges beyond the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) and target low propensity voters, voters of color, those with disabilities, seniors, and others with health conditions. Voters presently cannot be removed from the rolls solely for failure to vote. As Denise Lieberman of MOVPC says, this bill "opens the door to investigations of populations who already face the greatest barriers to voting." We should be taking steps to make it easier and more convenient for low propensity voters to vote, not subjecting them to investigation.

Our local League will be monitoring Legislation in Jefferson City during this session and sending out emails to members when live and/or written testimony is needed.

You may also want to join Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (it is free). They have excellent information and updates and have been very active in legally challenging several recent laws that make it more difficult to vote. You can also attend the weekly Monday Zoom meetings, if you are so inclined. Go to their website: <https://www.movpc.org> and scroll down to the bottom of the page to join.

Thank you so much for being a member of the LWVCBC and helping to make democracy and voting work!

— Barbara Hoppe, President
yesforparks@hotmail.com



FEBRUARY 7 LOCAL LEAGUE STATE PROGRAM PLANNING

The LWVMO Biennial Convention will be held on Saturday, May 6, in Columbia. In preparation for the convention, each local League reviews the present State Positions and makes suggestions for keeping, deleting, or revising them. (These policy statements are available online; links are provided later in this article.) Leagues may also submit new positions to be adopted. These recommendations are due by February 28. **Our LWVCBC Board will meet on February 7 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom to discuss and finalize our League's recommendations.**

Non-board members are welcome to join us for this meeting. If interested, send an email to lwvcbc@gmail.com. I will make sure to get you

the Zoom link. If you don't want to attend the meeting but want to share your thoughts or opinion about any positions, let me know, and I will share your input with the meeting participants.

Here is a link to the "Guide to State Action," which contains our current positions.

[2021-2023 GUIDE TO STATE ACTION revised 1-2022.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Here is the link to the LWVUS "Impact on Issues":

[Impact On Issues 2020-2022 | League of Women Voters \(lwv.org\)](#)

— Barbara Hoppe, President, LWVCBC



LWVCBC members pose with a portrait of Luella St. Clair Moss on January 19 in Dorsey Hall at Columbia College. Columbia College Charter Day celebrated the anniversary of day the state charter was granted for the institution originally called Christian Female College. The event honored Luella St. Clair Moss, who served three terms as president of the college, and acknowledged her remarkable accomplishments. Our local LWV is leading a campaign to name the next CPS elementary school for St. Clair Moss. See page 4 to read Roger McKinney's *Columbia Daily Tribune* article on the event. Thank you to Mike Sleadd for this photo.

COLLEGE HONORS FOUNDING MOTHER



Roger McKinney

Columbia Daily Tribune

This article was written by Roger McKinney and originally appeared in the Columbia Daily Tribune on January 20th, 2023. Reproduced with permission.

With several members of the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County attending, Brad Lookingbill, Columbia College's distinguished history professor on Thursday paid tribute to a college founder - Luella St. Clair Moss.

The event in a former gym in Dorsey Hall was for Columbia College Charter Day. It was 172 years ago Thursday when the State Legislature granted the charter for what was then Christian Female College, later becoming the co-educational and worldwide Columbia College.

College President David Russell in his remarks acknowledged the League of Women Voters members present and their effort to name the next elementary school in Columbia Public Schools for St. Clair Moss.

"We agree that this would be a fitting tribute to a leader who shattered many a glass ceiling," Russell said.

St. Clair Moss served three non-consecutive terms as college president, the first in 1893 when her husband, who was the president, died suddenly. Between 1893 and 1920, she oversaw enrollment growth from 50 to 150, Lookingbill said.

"The 28-year-old widow was one of the first women to helm an institution of higher learning," Lookingbill said.

St. Clair Moss embraced the junior college concept, he said. She sold U.S. government Liberty Bonds during World War I.

She founded the Columbia Equal Suffrage Association in 1912, campaigning for the right of women to vote. She was president of the Missouri League of Women Voters from 1925 to 1927. She was the first woman on the Columbia Board of Education in 1922. That year, she ran

for Congress, the first woman nominated for Congress from Missouri.

Lookingbill quoted from some of her campaign appearances.

"Political life, to be well balanced, needs men and women," Lookingbill said, quoting St. Clair Moss.

Another quote: "I have outsat many long sessions in committees where I have been the only woman. I have never been smoked out. In fact, I must be what they call a man's woman since I work very happily with men."

Lookingbill provided yet another quote from her 1922 campaign.

"Men will be able to develop more fully and completely when women are developed beyond the state where they are parasites," Lookingbill said, quoting St. Clair Moss.

Campaigning in 40 towns in the district, she traveled over 5,000 miles in a car driven by University of Missouri student John Dalton, a future Missouri governor.

"She had a mind for detail and a broad vision for the country," Lookingbill said.

He read from a St. Louis Post-Dispatch piece advocating for her election, stating that for a man with her qualifications election would be certain. It went on to state that if she were defeated, the only reason would be that she's a woman.

"Luella did not gain enough male votes to win," Lookingbill said.

St. Clair Moss died in 1947 and is buried in Columbia Cemetery. Lookingbill said hers "is the face of this institution."

"Today we remember the centennial of her campaign for Congress with pride, enormous pride," Lookingbill said.

"It was great to hear from Lookingbill about the details of St. Clair Moss's life, said Barbara Hoppe, president of the Columbia-Boone County League of Women Voters.

"She's just an outstanding woman," Hoppe said. "We're excited about the opportunity to get the next school named after her."

APRIL ELECTION CANDIDATE & BALLOT ISSUES FORUM MAR. 7

The LWV and the Columbia Public Library will cohost a Candidate and Ballot Issues forum on **Tuesday, March 7, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Friends Room. The forum will feature the candidates and ballot issues on the April 4th ballot. Races will include the Columbia School Board and Columbia City Council Wards 1 and 5. This hybrid forum will have an in-person audience and a Zoom audience.

There are six candidates for the Columbia School Board: Paul Harper, John Potter, Chris Horn, James Gordon, John Lyman, and April Ferrao. The library's hybrid setup cannot accommodate six candidates at one table, so we will interview the candidates one at a time. To avoid putting the first candidate interviewed at a disadvantage, we will provide the questions to all the candidates ahead of the forum. Candidates will have a two-minute opening statement and a one-minute closing statement.

The Columbia City Council candidates for Ward 1 are Pat Fowler and Nick Knoth; candidates for Ward 5 are Donald Waterman and Gregg Bush. With fewer candidates to interview, we can use

our normal forum setup with candidates seated side-by-side. Candidates will answer moderator and audience questions and have a two-minute opening statement and a one-minute closing statement.

The April ballot will also feature Columbia and Boone County ballot issues related to marijuana sales taxes. We will have informational speakers for these issues.

To attend the forum on Zoom, go to dbri.org to sign up. David Lile will be our moderator and KFRU and KOPN will broadcast the forum live.

We will create a Voters' Guide to help voters learn about items on the April 4th ballot. The Guide will provide school board and city council candidates' responses to a set of relevant questions and information on the Columbia and Boone County marijuana tax ballot issues. We hope to have the Voters' Guide available by March 15. A link will be sent to our members and posted on our LWVCBC website.

— Carol Schreiber, Chair
Voter Service Committee

COMING SOON:

VOTERS GUIDE

For the Columbia Contested Races April 4, 2023 ELECTION

**Columbia School Board
Columbia City Council Wards 1 and 5
Ballot Issues Information
Voting Information**

League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County lwvcbc@gmail.com, <http://lwvcbc.org/>

WHY DOES THE SUNSHINE LAW MATTER FIFTY YEARS LATER?

Passed in 1973 with bipartisan support and signed into law by then-Governor Kit Bond, Missouri's open records law was intended to shed some "sunshine" on government proceedings in the wake of the Watergate scandal. It was a promise to do the public's job honestly and transparently. For the first time, it guaranteed the public's right to have access to their government's business.

Previously, public bodies (including state and local elected officials and executive branch offices) were free to do their work in the dark. They did not have to let the public know when they were meeting, what they were discussing, or who was influencing their decisions, and they did not have to provide written records to the public or the press. In other words, they could act in secrecy without accountability.

Over the years, the law has been updated several times. It was expanded in 2004 to include the public's right to record a public meeting, but unfortunately, the state Supreme Court decided that the law did not apply to the legislature. The passage of the Clean Missouri ballot issue in 2018, however, made sure that it does apply.

Now, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this law that is so important to modern democracy, the Governor and the legislature have targeted the Sunshine Law as needing

"improvement." Multiple bills have been filed, some of which would drastically roll back the law so the public would have access only to formal proceedings and records of decisions already made but not to the actions, correspondence, or meetings leading up to those government decisions.

Members of the Missouri Sunshine Coalition, including the Missouri Press Association, are closely monitoring this legislation, and we will share information with LWV members as the legislative session unfolds. Fair and open government is a core value of the League, and we must continue to shine the light of accountability on governments at all levels.

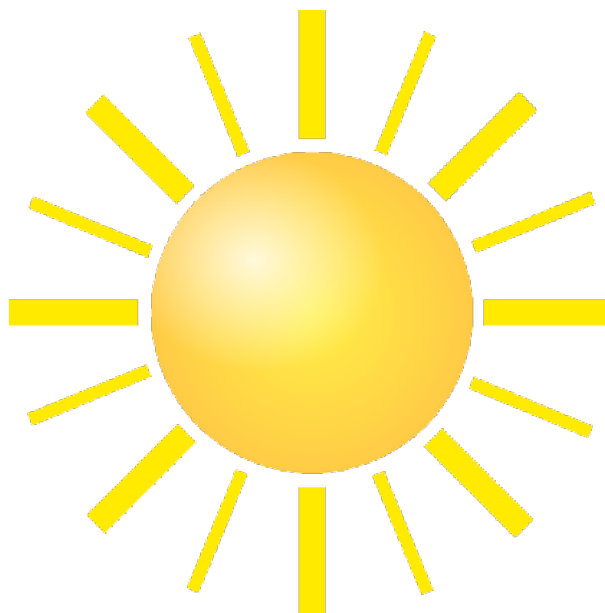
For more information:

Kathy Kiely, April 2022 LWV-CBC Lunch & Learn - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHSBuOlohtw>

Current Sunshine Law - <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/ViewChapter.aspx?chapter=610>

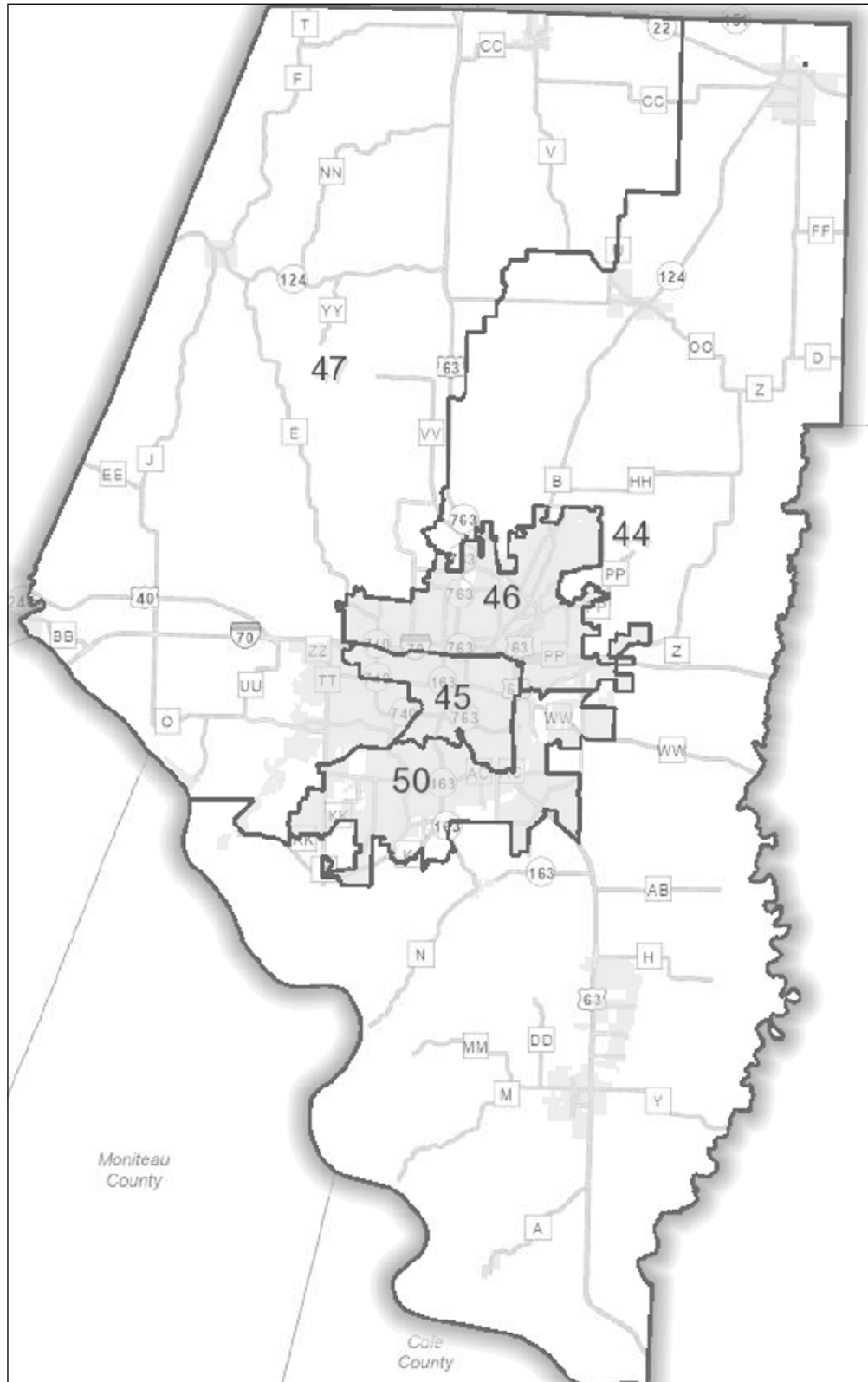
2022 Sunshine Heroes Awards - https://www.columbiamissourian.com/news/two-missourians-named-sunshine-heroes-for-keeping-public-records-open/article_d6fd0dda-0eaa-11ed-a2d6-fb193700ad4b.html

— Mahree Skala
First VP, LWVCBC



WHO REPRESENTS YOU IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE?

Who represents you in the state legislature? What Missouri House district do you live in? How many House districts are in Boone County? The map below shows the five Missouri House districts.



WHO REPRESENTS YOU IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE? (cont'd)

Below you will find information about the the five Boone County House Representatives — the committees to which they have been appointed in 2023, and a link to a short recording of an interview* with each of them.

District 44 Cheri Toalson Reisch, <https://youtu.be/-Rqjgs3wBpc>

- Higher Education, Vice-Chairman
- Elections and Elected Officials
- Elementary and Secondary Education
- Healthcare Reform

District 45 Kathy Steinhoff, <https://youtu.be/HQ2bn1UEEDU>

- Budget
- Pensions
- Subcommittee on Appropriations - Education

District 46 David Tyson Smith, <https://youtu.be/e3Qoj7ad68U>

- Elections and Elected Officials
- Emerging Issues
- Judiciary
- Rules for Administrative Oversight



District 47 Adrian Plank, <https://youtu.be/LOe-iHsLuOE>

- Agriculture Policy
- Rural Community Development
- Workforce and Infrastructure Development
- Special Committee on Small Business

District 50 Doug Mann, <https://youtu.be/LOe-iHsLuOE>

- Elementary and Secondary Education
- Emerging Issues
- Special Committee on Government Accountability
- Subcommittee on Appropriations – General Administration

More information can be found here- <https://house.mo.gov/MemberRoster.aspx>

* For our first project in the LWVCBC “Connect the Dots . . .” informational video series, we interviewed our Boone County state representatives prior to the 2023 session. The interviews were done at the REDI studio, with David Lile moderating, and are each about ten minutes in length.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS!!

Jennifer Crump
Judith Donovan
Amy Enderle
Joanne Fulton
Irene Ganjam
Sue Heggerty
Patricia McDonald
Ann Morgan
Cindy Mustard
Kristen Neeley
Carmen Price
Julie Saperstein
Chimene Schwach
Mary Schantz
Bonnie Trickey
Dixie Williams

JANUARY 19 LUELLA EVENT PHOTOS

LWVCBC members honored Luella St. Clair Moss on January 19 at Columbia College. Our local LWV is leading a campaign to name the next CPS elementary school for St. Clair Moss. Roger McKinney's *Columbia Daily Tribune* article on the event is reproduced on page 4. Our thanks to Columbia College for these photos.



Above, Win Colwill and Pam Springsteel at the January 19 event to honor Luella St. Clair Moss. Pam chairs the committee leading the campaign to name the next CPS elementary school for St. Clair Moss. Left, Barbara Schneider and Joni O'Connor (front) and Mike Sleadd and President Barbara Hoppe enjoy the event.



Upcoming League Events!



FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN 29	30	31	FEB 1	2	3	4 New Member Welcome 10am Zoom
5	6	7 State & Local Program Planning 6:30 pm on Zoom	8	9 LWV on Paul Pepper Show KBIA 8:50 am	10	11
12	13	14 Lunch & Learn Climate Change Zoom at Noon	16	16	17	18
19	20 LWVCBC Board Meeting 5:30pm Zoom	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	March 1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Candidate and Ballot Issue Forum 6:30pm Library	8	9	10	11 Tea honoring Luella St. Clair Moss 2 pm Columbia College
12	13	14 Lunch & Learn Zoom at Noon	15	16	17	18
19	20 LWVCBC Board Meeting 5:30pm Zoom	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	APRIL 1

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:
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
Speakers Bureau: Open
Voter Registration: Linda Smith
Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

The Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Local Website: lwvcbc.org
State: lwvmisouri.org
National: lwv.org

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

MEMBER NEWS

We have 205 new and renewed members for 2023!!

Welcome to New Members:

This month the roster of new and renewed members is lengthy!
Please see page 9 for the list.

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. ***We invite you to add an additional \$23 for 2023 to support the work of our League.**

Individual Dues \$65 _____ ***\$88** _____

Household Dues \$100 _____ ***\$123** _____

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**



FEBRUARY 2023
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

League of Women Voters

PO Box 239
Columbia MO 65205
<http://lwvcbc.org>



Columbia College President David Russell addressed the crowd honoring Luella St. Clair Moss on January 19 in Dorsey Hall at Columbia College. Columbia College Charter Day celebrated the day 172 years ago when the state charter was granted for the institution that was originally called Christian Female College. Roger McKinney's *Columbia Daily Tribune* article on the event is reproduced on page 4. Thank you to Columbia College for this photo.