



The Voter

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

MAY 12 LUNCH & LEARN PROGRAM: BE INCLUSIVE DAY WITH EVERYONE ON ZOOM



This month's Lunch & Learn will be held on the regularly scheduled date and time: Tuesday, May 12, from noon -1 p.m. But this month it will be on Zoom! Details about how to log onto Zoom will be forwarded to members and will be listed on our website and Facebook account when they are available.

The topic this month is Inclusivity and it is the first program in a two part series titled **"Diversity and Inclusion."** If you are able, please tune in to learn about ways to be inclusive and provide needed accommodations in our workplaces and public spaces. Since this is a "Lunch & Learn", you can even be eating your lunch (in the comfort of your home, of course) while participating!

This program will be presented by Kari Utterback, senior administrative supervisor in the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health & Human Services. She is a 2019 Columbia Values Diversity Award winner.

Kari has worked extremely hard at promoting social diversity and cultural understanding in our community. She is a leader in the "Building Inclusive Communities" training program at the City of Columbia. It offers training for employees and members of partner agencies and encourages a cultural paradigm shift through discourse on compassion and acceptance. The program provides a film series, a read-and-discuss book series, and guest lecturer events.

We have been fortunate to have the Columbia Public Library as a cosponsor of these events, and we hope the library will be able to resume its co-sponsorship next month on June 9 for our L&L program: **"Diversity & Inclusion" Part II** - "Improving participation & engagement with voters," with guest speaker Nikki McGruder, Director of the Inclusive Impact Institute.

— Barbara Hoppe, Lunch & Learn Chair

LWV CANDIDATE FORUMS ON ZOOM



LWVMO has a Zoom account, and our local League will use that account to host two candidate forums for the June 2nd local election.

On **Tuesday, May 12 at 7 p.m.** we have invited the candidates for Columbia City Council Ward 1 to participate in our forum.

On **Wednesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.** we have invited the candidates for Columbia School Board to participate in our forum.

Barbara Hoppe, former Columbia City Councilwoman and LWV member, will moderate the forums. We will send our members a link to click on to take you to the forum (you may be required to download the Zoom app when you click on the link, if you already have used Zoom you



should be sent directly to the Zoom screen).

The candidates' and moderator's pictures will appear on the screen along with their names. Candidates will present opening statements followed by questions from the moderator and finish with closing statements.

The forums will last 35 to 45 minutes. No questions from the viewers will be accepted, since this is our first experience with the format and we want to see how well it works.

The forums will be recorded and a link will be provided for those who want to view them later.

— Carol Schreiber & Sharon Schneeberger

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We hope that this finds you and your family well and safe. As we said last month, that is the most important consideration.

It appears that our last month and a half of social distancing and stay-at-home" orders have helped our county thus far. [Public Health Order #2020-04](#) extends the existing [Order #2020-03](#) until May 3rd, while relaxing some restrictions. Under the new order, retail businesses may receive online and telephone orders and fulfill them with shipping, delivery, and curbside pick-up. These businesses must adhere to Social Distancing Requirements including limiting the number of employees on site and maintaining a disinfection plan.

Our regular programs for the month of May would have taken place at the public library, but we obviously will not be able to do that.

However, we will be holding several public events on Zoom! Our monthly Lunch & Learn, as well as two candidate forums. Details are included in this issue of *The Voter*.

Although we regret that this won't work for some League members (and some members of the public) because they don't have Internet access, it is at least an effort to reach out to as many members of the public as we can.

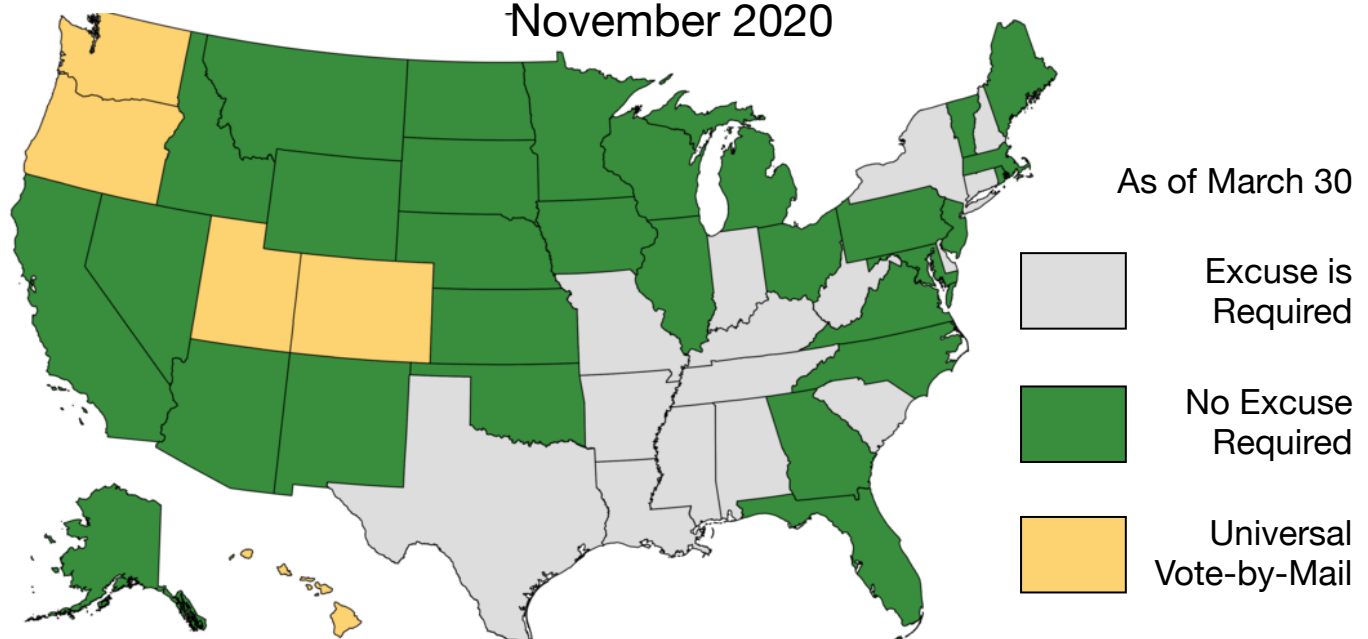
As you recall, we were unable to hold our regular Annual Meeting in April, but in order to comply with our bylaws, we were able to conduct the business of the League using email and postal mail. Thank you to all the members who took the time to respond to our request. (We are a group that cares about voting, after all!) All the ballot issues were approved.

Most of the nominees for the LWVBC board that were part of the slate of nominations were continuing their service on the board, for which we are certainly grateful. But let me give a hearty welcome to our new board member, Rene Powell! We are looking forward to Rene's ideas and input on the many issues we take up.

— Marilyn McLeod, President



States With No-Excuse Mail Voting or Universal Vote-by-Mail For November 2020



PROTECTING ELECTIONS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Meredith Donaldson, Elaine Blodgett, Sharon Schneeberger and Carol Schreiber watched the Brookings Institute webinar on protecting elections during the coronavirus pandemic. E. J. Dione, Elaine Kamarck and Tom Wheeler presented the material. The following information includes the things we thought would be of most interest to our LWV members.

38% of voters in the nation are already voting by mail; evidence of any fraud is miniscule. According to Elaine Kamarck, the cost for states to go to vote by all-mail ballots could be \$2 billion. Considering the current stimulus just passed was for \$2 trillion, she argues that is not that much.

Kamarck suggested the best ways to have successful elections during this pandemic are:

- All mail ballots
- No excuse absentee ballots
- Increase early voting polling locations – reduces density of voters on election day
- Establish a national goal of having half of all ballots completed without going to a polling place.
- Declare Election Day a holiday – Governors can declare election day a state holiday – reduces density of voters at pre and post work hours
- Prepare now to get polling locations ready - use the knowledge accumulated during the lockdown to set up safe polling places

Issues to consider in 2020:

- All swing states have no-excuse absentee voting
- Many Republican Secretaries of State have good systems and support mail in voting
- Election results may be delayed, especially with mail in ballots, but that is acceptable to have safe elections
- Paper ballots are a MUST
- Polling locations will probably be reduced from 2016
- Need a new generation of poll workers – they are the most vulnerable age group for the virus. Suggestions are use AmeriCorps, grad students

receiving aid could work polls, and, if election day was a holiday, more could work at polls.

- Non-profits can aide in GOTV (Get out the Vote) efforts to help poll working and other activities related to getting help to disabled and vulnerable populations, help voters use absentee voting and other options and know deadlines.
- There may be many more paper ballots (WI had 5x more in the April 2020 election than in 2016) and there is a need for a structure to manage this. NGO's could be trained to help with tasks related to this.
- Election date is in statute and Congress will not allow that to be changed, so there WILL be a November election.
- We have 6 months to plan; message from Elaine Kamarck was "Just Do It!"
- It should be the priority of Congress to restore the Voter Rights Act!!

Tom Wheeler provided historical context related to the 1918 election amid the Spanish flu. The local elected officials determined who had to be quarantined, so that often became a political decision. But, they did have elections.

The discussion of the history of voting in the United States revealed that a patchwork of state and local election laws have disfranchised voters at different times. For example, Lincoln could not vote for his reelection because in Illinois one had to be present in the state to vote. And during the Civil War, the ability to vote depended on where one lived and there were a variety of ways of permitting voting, even including collecting votes from soldiers out on the battlefield.

The main take away is that we have 6 months to plan and we must use that time wisely to have a safe and legitimate election.

— Carol Schreiber



MINUTES OF COLUMBIA SCHOOL BOARD 1922-1925

Pam Springsteel, chair of our 100th Anniversary Committee, was able to obtain copies of the Minutes of the Columbia School Board during the tenure of Luella St. Clair Moss. We appreciate the efforts of the School District staff to research, copy and provide copies of the Minutes for us.

Here are Pam's notes from reading these historic Minutes:

Luella St. Clair Moss was elected on April 4, 1922. Other members of the board are F.W. Niedermeyer, Mr. Miller, Mr. S.W. Conley, Mr. Edwards, W.J. Palmer and W. M. Dinwiddie. Mr. Edwards elected president of the board for 1 year. Mrs. Moss appointed chair of Teacher Committee.

4/12/1922

Moved to elect teachers for the year 1922-23.

Accepted plans for new school building. (Ridgeway was the next school built)

Mrs. Moss moved that the board approve teachers attend summer school every 2nd or 3rd year. Motion passed.

Salaries for teachers approved for the following year. All male teachers paid \$40-60 per month more than female teachers. All teachers at Douglass School paid less than all other teachers. Some janitors paid more than Douglass School teachers. Bills are paid each month. Coal is purchased each month for heating. A piano is rented from 1922-5. A half-time truant officer was hired.

11/20/1922

Mr. Guitar hired to supervise building of new school (Ridgeway)

1/29/1923

Iron rods are being installed in the foundation of Lee School to support the foundation. Later one wall of the school had to be replaced because of the instability of the foundation.

4/4/1923

Annual local election: new member Mrs. Moss Edwards, Dinwiddie reelected. Increased levy of 55 cents passed.

5/21/1923

Enumeration Report

	White	Colored	Total
Male	1200	247	1447
Female	1261	320	1581
Total	2461	567	3028

6/4/1923

Professor Kuhlman of MU proposes that the Board and the County Court jointly hire a County Supervisor of Public Welfare. The Board will consult the County Court about this.

8/6/1923

New school to be named for John Ridgeway.

3/3/1924

The Mothers Club has sent a letter requesting that the Bible be read in the schools. The letter was acknowledged and the Club was notified that they would take this under careful consideration.

4/2/1924

Election held 4/1/24. Neidermeyer sworn in by Dinwiddie. Neidermeyer and Conley won. Neidermeyer named new president of the Board. Mrs. Moss Edwards* elected to be vice-president.

8/18/24

Mr. Dinwiddie resigned from the board because of his moving out in the county. Mrs. Van Horn elected to fill out the rest of his term.

2/9/25

Mrs. Moss moved that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to place in the hands of the teachers of the grade school and high school a text book of the readings of the Bible such is now in use in a large number of public schools in this country, that the teachers be authorized to read daily if time will permit and without comment on the reading and that any pupil whose parent shall send a written request to the Superintendent, Principal, or Teacher to have the pupil excused from the room during the reading, that such excuse be granted without question or comment. Motion carried; Mr. Conley voted no. (continued on the next page)

1922-1925 COLUMBIA SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES (CONT'D)

3/19/25

Board met for a special meeting to consider buying land for a high school on the David A. Hickman property (former fairgrounds). Forty acres bought for \$27,500.

4/6/25

Returns of the school board election- there were 2 women and 2 men candidates. Mr. Nowell and Mrs. Van Horn won. The levies passed as did all levies from 1922-5. Mrs. Moss did not run. Mr.

Conley and Mr. Edwards moved to express their gratitude to Mrs. Moss for her work on the school board.

The old board adjourned.

— Pam Springsteel

*Note: Mrs. Moss Edwards is a different person than Luella St. Clair Moss.

COLUMBIA'S HISTORY OF CLIMATE ACTION

There are two global crises at this time: the one which developed rapidly and will fade fairly rapidly is taking most of the attention away from the one that is slower moving but could be much more consequential. The slowly developing one is developing more rapidly than had been expected and we are having difficulty moving our response to meet the faster pace.

In 1988 the United Nations formed the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which issued its first report in 1990. The report was based on weather data through the 1980s. This report served as the basis for the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, where the UN created the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The U.S. is still a member of the UNFCCC.

The first IPCC report established the 2 degree Centigrade benchmark maximum temperature rise - from before the industrial revolution to 2050 - in order to avoid the most catastrophic effects.

At the local level, in 2004 the voters in Columbia passed the Renewable Energy Ordinance with a vote of 78%. The LWV helped draft the ordinance and was one of several groups that carried petitions.

The first Renewable Energy purchased by the city utility was in 2005, by means of a contract with a landfill in Illinois. That contract was short lived, as in the summer the transmission grid through St Louis could not handle the additional load.

Renewable Energy Reports for Columbia have been published annually since then; the latest one (2018) showed that renewable energy made up

16% of the electricity sold locally by Columbia's utility.

In 2006 the Columbia City Council endorsed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which Mayor Darwin Hindman had joined upon its creation in 2005. This resulted in the City Council ordering a GreenHouse Gas Inventory (GHGI) to be completed every five years. One is underway for 2019. In 2015 the City-owned electric utility was responsible for 45% of the GHG in Columbia, followed by 27% from transportation fuel, 8% for heating, and 17% for energy produced by two other utilities, Boone Electric and the University. In 2017 Mayor Treece joined the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, formed in 2008, and on December 18 the City Council formed the Mayor's Task Force on Climate Action and Adaptation Planning (MTFCAAP). Work on the CAAP started immediately and was close to completion the next fall.

In October 2018 the IPCC issued a special report recommending that the goal be reduced to 1.5 degrees Centigrade maximum increase, based upon weather data through the first part of this century. The IPCC report states that to meet the 1.5 C goal by 2050, the greenhouse gas production must be cut by 55% by 2030.

In June 2019 the City Council adopted the CAAP final report and the Climate and Energy Commission was formed to make recommendations for implementation. This report was based upon the IPCC 1990 report's target, as had everything up to then been.

(continued on next page.)

COLUMBIA'S HISTORY OF CLIMATE ACTION

(continued from previous page) Columbia should aim for this goal. The easiest way for Columbia to meet this goal is to move the electric utility to 100% renewable energy. This is doable, since renewable wind and solar energy is less expensive - because it has no fuel cost - than fossil fuel-produced energy. To achieve 55% reduction in GHG Columbia also needs reduction by other utilities and must change part of our

transportation fuel and heating fuel to renewable energy sources. Those changes are much easier with 100% renewable energy for our electric utility.

The Climate and Energy committee of the LWVCBC therefore advocated at the Sustainable Living Fair that the DEADLINE was now 2030 not 2050.

— Dick Parker, Energy & Climate Chair

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT UPDATE

Due to the end of the Missouri legislative session coming up on May 15th, coupled with the coronavirus pandemic, the current house bill HCR64 is "dead in the water," so to speak. Representative Judy Morgan of the KCMO area is term limited out of office. Judy told me that Representative Crystal Quade of the Springfield area



will pick up the ERA mantle next year. I've written the representative to introduce the LWVMO, myself, and our interest and willingness to see ERA ratification in Missouri.

— Teri Miller, ERA Committee Chair



Upcoming League Events!



MAY 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2				MAY 1	2
3	4	5	6	7 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	8	9
10	11	12 Lunch & Learn: Diversity & Inclusion Noon, (Zoom) ***** LWV Candidate Forum, 7pm, (Zoom)	13 LWV Candidate Forum, 7pm, (Zoom)	14	15	16
17	18 Board Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

LWV Officers:

President: Marilyn McLeod
(445-3500)
1st VP: Barbara Hoppe (424-9668)
2nd VP: Diane Suhler (443-0549)
Secretary: Carol Schreiber
(657-0639)
Treasurer: Ruth Milledge
(268-9591)

Elected Directors:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)
Kate Canterbury (214-536-1300)
Susan Clark (446-1678)
Meredith Donaldson (289-3018)
Rene Powell
Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
Mahree Skala (474-2195)
Pam Springsteel (445-0642)

Appointed Director:

Dick Parker (256-4397)

Committee Chairs:

100th Anniversary: Pam Springsteel
Budget:
Census: Carol Schreiber
Civil Liberties: Marilyn McLeod
Clean Missouri: Sharon
Schneeberger
Education: Open
Energy & Climate: Dick Parker
ERA: Teri Miller
Fundraising: Pam Springsteel
Health: Mahree Skala
Hospitality: Pam Springsteel
Membership: Meredith Donaldson
Mental Health: Mahree Skala
Speakers Bureau: Open
Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

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**Welcome to new members:**

Carolyn Amparan, Jan Dye, Vickie Park and Nancy Yang

In Memoriam**Margaret Joseph (1923-2020)**

Margaret was living in Colorado at the time of her passing. She was a former president of our League, from 1974-1976. Her obituary said that she "was most proud of her tenure as the president of the Boone County League of Women Voters".

Sue Bader (1928-2020)

Sue was a longtime member of the League, and we have received several donations in her memory.

John McLeod (1947-2020)

John was a member of the LWV, and was the husband of current LWVCBC president Marilyn McLeod.

Joan Watson (1931-2020)

A former member, Joan had moved a few years ago to Minnesota to be near her children.

2020 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership dues are \$65 for individuals, \$100 for a household, \$25 for local students, and **(NEW) first year \$30 for new members 30 years of age and younger.** 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.)



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

League of Women Voters

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

UPDATE: 100TH ANNIVERSARY LEAGUE CELEBRATIONS!

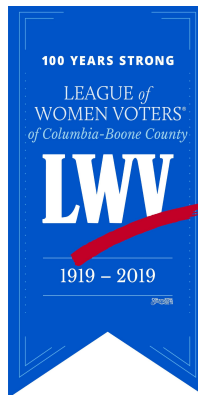
As of the date of this publication, the three Centennial exhibits are closed due to the pandemic. Check their websites for updated information after the stay-at-home order is lifted.

Suffrage exhibit: "She got the Vote" Boone County History and Culture Center, 3801 Ponderosa. Once the museum reopens, the exhibit will continue until September 2020.

Stephens College Exhibit "Suffrage, What's Fashion Got to Do with It?" Stephens College Fashion Museum on the Mezzanine of Lela Wood Rainey Hall, 6 North College Avenue. The Fashion Museum is now closed.

State Historical Society of Missouri art gallery, Exhibit: "Missouri Women: Suffrage to Statecraft". Exhibit runs through July 25. Center for Missouri Studies, Art Gallery, First Floor, 605 Elm Street. The Center is now closed.

May 8, 2020, Friday, Odyssey Concert/ Women Composers of the 19th, 20th, and 21st Century. This concert is cancelled but check the website for possible online performances: <https://www.odysseymissouri.org/>



May 26, 2020, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., (tentative date), Ragtag Cinema, film "Suffragette". Film starring Meryl Streep. Free admission. Underwritten by Central Bank of Boone County.

June 2, 2020, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Ragtag Cinema, "Year of the Woman", a documentary, free and open to the public.

June 30-November 9, 2020. Museum of Art and Archaeology, exhibit "American Women Artists since the Vote". Museum hours: Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. (At this time, the museum is closed).

July 4, 2020. Saturday, Kickoff of Bicentennial of Boone County. Noon, reenactments at Columbia Cemetery; 4 p.m., Courthouse Square, Stephens College Theater Dept. , reenactment of Boone County women: Thomasina Talley Green, Maude Adams, Joan Crawford, Rebecca Boone, Sarah Whybark, Shirley Hardwicke, Helen Stephens, Barbara McClintock, Ann Hawkins Gentry, Ann Covington, Muriel Battle, Laura Ingalls Wilder.

August 26, 2020, Wednesday. League Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. This event will include our Annual Meeting, rescheduled from April. The Stephens College A Capella Choir will provide entertainment.

— Pam Springsteel, pspring@socket.net