



The Voter

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

CANDIDATE AND BALLOT ISSUE FORUMS



The League is co-sponsoring, with the Columbia Public Library, a General Election Candidate Forum on October 21 and a Ballot Issue Forum on October 23.

On October 21 we will have the following races and candidates: State Rep 44 - Tom Pauley (D) and Caleb Rowden (R); State Rep 47 - John Wright (D) and Chuck Basye (R); Boone County Recorder - Nora Dietzel (D) and Lisa Ballenger (R); Boone County Collector - Brian McCollum (D) and Cheri Toalson Reisch (R); Division 5 Associate Judge - Kim Shaw (D) and Michael Whitworth (R); and Boone County Presiding Commissioner candidates Dan Atwill (D) and James Pounds (R). We have confirmed the attendance of all candidates.

For the October 23rd forum we are still confirming pro/con speakers on some of the issues, as noted:

Amendment 2 – MO Evidence in Sexual Crimes Against Minors: Pro speaker is Daniel Knight, Boone County Prosecuting Attorney and Con speaker is Stephen Wyse, Civil Rights Attorney.

Amendment 3 – MO Teacher Performance Evaluation: Still seeking Pro speaker; Con speaker is Otto Fajen, MNEA.

Amendment 6 – Early Voting: Still seeking Pro speaker; Con speaker is Brian Smith, MO Rural Crisis Center.

Amendment 10 – MO Governor Budget Recommendations. Still seeking speakers.

Columbia Prop 1 – Property Tax Increase for Public Safety: Pro speaker is Mayor Bob McDavid; still seeking Con speaker.

Columbia Proposition 2 – Increase in Developers Fees: Pro speaker is Karl Skala, Ward 3 City Councilman and Con speaker will be from the Columbia Board of Realtors.

The Missouri Budget Project will find a con speaker for Amendment 10. If you know of a con speaker on Columbia Prop 1 or pro speakers for Amendment 3, 6, or 10, please contact Carol Schreiber at carolschrei@gmail.com. If we only have a speaker on one side of an issue, the speaker will have five minutes and the moderator will read the LWVMO pro or con statement.

Both forums will be at the library with 6:00 p.m. refreshments and the forum starting at 6:30 p.m. Both forums will air live on KFRU.

--Carol Schreiber, Co-President

CELEBRATE 95 YEARS! FOUNDER'S DAY LUNCHEON NOV. 12



The 2014 Founders' Day Luncheon will be held Wednesday, November 12 in the Windsor I Room, Holiday Inn Executive Center, 2200 I-70 Drive West. Social time begins 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.

And it is the birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the first woman at the Seneca Falls Convention who called for women to get the vote. It was very controversial at the time!

We will present the Outstanding Citizen Award to Chris Kelly, retiring member of the Missouri House of Representatives. Our luncheon speaker will be Vicky Riback Wilson.

Lunch will include soup, sandwich and dessert for \$20. Make reservations prior to Nov. 7 by calling Liz Schmidt at 573-445-0655 or emailing her at lizschmidt65203@gmail.com. Please specify regular or vegetarian lunch. You can pay at the door if you like, but please make a reservation by November 7.

-- Marilyn McLeod, Co-President

SEPTEMBER BOARD REPORT

We had thirteen LWV board members present for our September 22nd Board Meeting.

The Board is pleased to announce that Chris Kelly has been selected as our Outstanding Citizen of the Year. The award will be presented to Chris at our Luncheon on November 12th. See the article in the Voter for further details.

The Board welcomed David Leuthold back from Montana and he has taken up his duties as our Treasurer. The Board thanked Liz Schmidt for her years serving as our Treasurer. She will continue as our Membership Chair.

The new \$95 for 95 Years Fundraising Campaign was kicked off with Board members receiving the fund raising letter. This letter will be sent to our members after this meeting. We are compiling a list of possible donors to encourage them to contribute to the LWV, too.

The Board reviewed the picnic, Lunch and Learn and the college fairs. Suggestions were made for changes and we will try to improve these events to get better attendance.

The date for the December social has been set for December 11th (our 95th Anniversary). This will be informal and intended to encourage

members to have conversations with their fellow League members. There was a suggestion to bring some board games, too.

Marcia Walker will man our booth at the Mature Living Fair on October 10th. She is looking for another volunteer. If you are interested, let me know at carolschrei@gmail.com.

LWVMO State President Elaine Blodgett reminded the Board about the upcoming LWVMO Fall Conference on November 15th in Sedalia. All members are welcome to attend. Bob Priddy from MissouriNet will be the featured speaker. Please, look for information in the upcoming LWVMO Voter.

Our next Board Meeting will be on October 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Broadway Christian Church. All League members are welcome to attend.

--Carol Schreiber,
Co-President



2014 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN AWARD TO BE PRESENTED TO REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS KELLY

Representative Chris Kelly will receive the LWV Citizen of the Year Award at the Founders' Day Luncheon, November 12, 2014 at the Holiday Inn.

Chris Kelly is the model for what it means to have a life dedicated to public service. In a remarkable career involving all levels of government -- local, state and national --he has shown us all the importance of citizen involvement in our democracy. His illustrious local career began by working with social services; then serving as Boone County Clerk; followed by multiple terms as state representative (for two different time spans); chairing the Missouri Labor and Industrial

Relations Commission; as well as service as Boone County Associate Judge.

Very few people have had the breadth and depth of experience that Chris Kelly has had and we have been the lucky recipients of his devotion to making people's lives better. As the League of Women Voters, we are non-partisan, and commend his ability to work across party lines. We know that he has been a supporter of campaign finance reform as well as for open meetings, two issues of particular importance to the League.

--Marilyn McLeod, Co-President

\$95 FOR 95 YEARS CAMPAIGN!!

Do you know that this December, the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County will celebrate our 95th Anniversary? Our organization evolved from the movement to gain suffrage for women to an organization that works to ensure that all citizens are well informed before casting their ballot. This important work continues to our time.

In celebration of this anniversary, we are asking our members to participate by contributing to a special fund raising campaign called "\$95 for 95 Years".

Your regular membership is \$55. This historic year, we are asking you to add \$40 to your 2015 membership renewal for a total of \$95. If you have a household membership, we are suggesting an increase to \$160 (\$80 current membership plus \$80 for the fund raising campaign).

Our goal is to use our new funds to be more visible in the community in promoting voting, providing education on issues, working on campaign finance and redistricting law reform, having a robust social media presence, and a



stronger advocacy role on important issues.

When you join our League you are also a member of the national and state Leagues. Our local League keeps only \$9 of the \$55 membership for individuals. The other \$46 goes to LWVUS and LWVMO. For a household membership of \$80 only \$11 stays locally, with the other \$69 going to national and state Leagues. All of the extra \$40 for individual and \$80 for

household memberships we are asking for will stay here locally.

We hope you will renew your membership soon and add the extra contribution to keep our organization strong and vital in our community.

A membership form is enclosed with this issue of the *Voter*. Please mark your activity preferences on the form. If you would like your copy of the *Voter* to be sent via email, just note that on the form. We hope you will add the special donation to your check! Mail to LWVCBC, PO Box 239, Columbia 65205. Thank you!

--Marilyn McLeod, Co-President

VIRGINIA MINOR INDUCTED TO HALL OF FAMOUS MISSOURIANS



Above: Mary Mosley, Missouri Women's Network, and sculptor Cynthia Hitschler pose with newly unveiled bust. Left: Local LWV members Elaine Blodgett, Joni O'Connor and Ava Fajen, and Anna Mennerick, Joint Office Exec. Dir. of LWVMO, at the well-attended induction ceremony in the Missouri House Chamber on September 10.

THE LWVMO GUIDE TO NOV. 4 STATEWIDE BALLOT ISSUES

Amendment 2 - Missouri Evidence in Sexual Crimes Against Minors

Ballot language: *"Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended so that it will be permissible to allow relevant evidence of prior criminal acts to be admissible in prosecutions for crimes of a sexual nature involving a victim under eighteen years of age? If more resources are needed to defend increased prosecutions additional costs to governmental entities could be at least \$1.4 million annually, otherwise the fiscal impact is expected to be limited."*

Fair ballot language: A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to allow evidence of prior criminal acts, whether charged or uncharged, to be considered by courts in prosecutions of sexual crimes that involve a victim under 18 years of age. The amendment limits the use of such prior acts to support the victim's testimony or show that the person charged is more likely to commit the crime. Further the judge may exclude such prior acts if the value of considering them is substantially outweighed by the possibility of unfair prejudice to the person charged with committing the crime.

A "no" vote will not amend the constitution regarding the use of evidence of prior criminal acts to prosecute sexual crimes. If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Proponents say: This amendment would allow evidence which could determine whether someone is likely to be a repeat offender in sexual assaults or child molestation. People believe that offenders will reoffend (98% in 2008 poll). Evidence shows that the recidivism rate is 13% for incest, 24% for rapists.

Opponents say: We already have precedent that allows admission of such evidence in particular circumstances, particularly in sentencing hearings. The actual recidivism rate is much lower than the public believes, 13% for incest and 24% for rape.

Amendment 3: Missouri Teacher Performance Evaluation

Ballot language: *"Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:*

- Require teachers to be evaluated by a standards based performance evaluation system for which each local school district must receive state approval to continue receiving state and local funding;*
- Require teachers to be dismissed, retained, demoted, promoted and paid primarily using quantifiable student performance data as part of the evaluation system;*
- Require teachers to enter into contracts of three years or fewer with public school districts; and prohibit teachers from organizing or collectively bargaining regarding the design and implementation of the teacher evaluation system?"*

Fiscal impact: Decisions by school districts regarding provisions allowed or required by this proposal and their implementation will influence the potential costs or savings impacting each district. Significant potential costs may be incurred by the state and/or the districts if new/additional evaluation instruments must be developed to satisfy the proposal's performance evaluation requirements.

Explanation: This constitutional amendment would mandate rules to be applied statewide concerning how teachers are evaluated, hired, paid, retained, promoted and dismissed:

- Local districts would have to use state-approved standards-based evaluation systems.
- Hiring, pay and retention would be based on student performance (standardized test scores).
- Teacher contracts would be limited to 3 years.
- No collective bargaining regarding teacher evaluations.

Proponents say: It will enable districts to evaluate teachers every 3 years. Poorly performing teachers can be removed; good ones kept. It protects collective bargaining for salary,

(cont'd on p. 5)

benefits, and working conditions. It will improve quality of education.

Opponents say: It takes away local control. It mandates a one size fits all approach instead of treating students as individuals. It requires more standardized testing, leading to more “teaching to the test.” It is more costly due to more tests. Current system allows for removal of poor teachers through regular monitoring and evaluation system.

Amendment 6: Early Voting

Ballot language: “Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to permit voting in person or by mail for a period of six business days prior to and including the Wednesday before the Election Day in all general elections?”

Fair ballot language: A “yes” vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to permit voters, in years when the legislature provides funding, an early voting period of six business days prior to and including the Wednesday before Election Day to cast a ballot in all general elections. This amendment does not allow early voting on Saturday or Sunday. A “no” vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to provide all voters with a six-business day early voting period. If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes

Fiscal impact: State governmental entities estimated startup costs of about \$2 million and costs to reimburse local election authorities of at least \$100,000 per election. Local election authorities estimated higher reimbursable costs per election. Those costs will depend on the compensation, staffing, and, planning decisions of election authorities with the total costs being unknown.

Explanation: This constitutional amendment would set up rules for early voting in Missouri:

- Early voting may take place for six business days prior to the election (at boards of election offices during normal business hours only). No other locations may be used.
- Early voting is prohibited on weekends.
- Early voting may only take place if the legislature chooses to provide funds to pay for it.
- Absentee voting system will remain as is.

Proponents say: Missouri is one of only 7 states in the nation that currently does not allow early voting in some form (we do allow absentee voting.) This would put in place a reasonable early voting system. The rules for voting are uniform throughout the state. Funding remains under legislative control.

Opponents say: This is not a real early voting system. There is no voting during the week prior to the election, no extended hours, and no voting on weekends. It is for 6 days only. The proposed system is more restrictive than 29 other states, including Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, and Arkansas. The legislature can eliminate early voting by refusing to fund it. Because this is a constitutional amendment, it will be very difficult to put a real early voting system in Missouri in the future.

Amendment 10 - Missouri Gubernatorial Budgetary Recommendations

Ballot language: *“Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to require the governor to pay the public debt, to prohibit the governor from relying on revenue from legislation not yet passed when proposing a budget, and to provide a legislative check on the governor’s decisions to restrict funding for education and other state services? State governmental entities expect no direct costs or savings. Local governmental entities expect an unknown fiscal impact.”*

Fair ballot language: A “yes” vote will amend the Mo. Constitution regarding the requirements placed on the governor for proposing a state budget and for withholding money appropriated in the budget passed by the legislature. This amendment prohibits the governor from reducing funding passed by the general assembling without receiving legislative consent, and provides certain other restrictions on the governor’s ability to increase or decrease line items in the budget. This amendment further

(LWVMO Guide to Ballot Issues continues on page 6)

(Continued from page 5, LWVMO Guide to Ballot Issues)

prohibits the governor from proposing a budget that relies on revenue from legislation that has not yet passed in the general assembly.

Explanation: This amendment places a number of limitations on the Governor's powers to propose a state budget and to allocate state funds without legislative consent.

- Governor cannot reduce or withhold funding passed by the legislature without legislative consent.
- Governor cannot change line items in the budget without legislative approval.
- Governor cannot use revenue in a budget proposal if the legislation to provide the revenue has not yet been passed by the legislature.

Proponents say: The governor should not have "unchecked power" to decide how money gets spent. Governor Nixon has withheld funding authorized by the legislature in the past. The legislature should control the budget.

Opponents say: The governor is responsible for a balanced budget. The current system works well.

COLUMBIA LWV PARTICIPATES IN PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH

Here are LWVCBC Board Member Dick Parker's remarks from the Sept. 21 People's Climate March in Columbia:

The LWV has been involved with climate change since 1998. In June the federal EPA proposed a rule reducing carbon release from existing electric generating plants by 30% below the 2005 levels. This is called the Clean Power Plan. This is great! Utilities produce almost half (44%) of the CO₂ produced by the U.S. One can anticipate strong opposition to this from the electric industry and the coal industry since coal is the worst polluter.

Such government proposals come with a comment period. We lost the first round of this fight when the EPA extended the comment period 45 days to Dec. 1 at the request of half of the Senators who were lobbied by the utilities

who hope to get many customers to write opposing the proposed rule.

Each of us needs to let EPA know that we strongly support reduced CO₂ emissions. They count the "for" and "against" responses. Final rules will be issued next June. We can not afford to lose the next round. Each of us needs to let EPA know that we support the 30% reduction in carbon dioxide pollution.

Clean Power Plan comments to EPA can be made via internet:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602-0001>; then click on the blue "Comment Now" box in the upper right corner.

Or via mail: U.S. EPA Headquarters, 1201 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460, Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602

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 gave their time, talent and treasure to the LWV. Each month we are recognizing 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 10, 2014. For October we recognize:

- *Columbia Missourian* for providing extensive coverage of our forums and providing complimentary free-second day ads.
- Dr. Karen Edison, Mary Timmel and Aaron Swaney for being part of our forum called Using Missouri's Health Insurance Marketplaces: A Forum for Small Employers and Individuals in October 2013. We also thank Aaron Swaney for being a guest on our CAT TV show in October 2013 titled "How to Use the Healthcare Marketplaces."

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

OUR HISTORY SERIES #23: FIRST CONGRESSWOMAN VISITS COLUMBIA AND CALLS FOR PEACE

When women finally got the vote in 1920, the League of Women Voters had as its mission the education of women voters. Although the League itself is non-partisan, women were encouraged to be personally active in politics. Running for office, however, took another level of dedication.

We know that Mrs. Luella St. Clair Moss, former president of Christian College, put her hat in the ring for a seat in the U.S. Congress in the 1920's, but didn't get past the primary. Getting elected to office as a woman – especially at the national level -- was very difficult for a very long time.

So it was a special event when Miss Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress, came to Columbia. Front page articles about her visit appeared in both the *Columbia Tribune* and the *Columbia Missourian*. She spoke at four(!) different venues on November 4, 1937: at the League of Women Voters' luncheon meeting at 12:15, at Stephens College at 2:00, at Christian College at 6:30 p.m., and at 7:30 she spoke at the Baptist Student Center.

Her primary theme was about peace. Consider that this was 1937, and war clouds were looming over Europe. "Today we have a war habit", she said and the article in the *Missourian* quotes her extensive remarks about the need for peace.

For those of us who don't remember Ms. Rankin, she was first a professional lobbyist for the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Her speaking and organizing efforts helped Montana women gain the vote in 1914. She was elected to Congress in 1916 from Montana (before the right to vote for women was legal in every state) and served from 1917 to 1919 during the First World War. Rankin ran as a progressive (Republican), pledging to work for a constitutional woman suffrage amendment and emphasizing social welfare issues. As a committed pacifist, she was one of 50 members of Congress who voted against the war resolution.

After leaving Congress, she divided her time between pacifism and social welfare. Rankin became the leading lobbyist and speaker for the National Council for the Prevention of War from 1929 to 1939.

She ran for Congress again in 1940 and won re-election to the House with 54 percent of the votes cast for a second term—just less than a quarter of a century after she was elected to her first term. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, when the vote was cast to declare war, she was the only member of Congress to vote against it. During the Vietnam War, she led the Jeannette Rankin Brigade, numbering 5,000, in a protest march on

Washington in January 1968 that culminated in the presentation of a peace petition to House Speaker John McCormack of Massachusetts. At the time of her death in 1973 in California, Rankin was considering another run for a House seat to protest the Vietnam War. Clearly a life dedicated to peace! (She was over 90 years old!)

Of course, war and peace continues to be a topic of discussion.

Locally, many women have held public office on the school board, on the city council, and in county-wide positions, including county commissioner, but there have been very few women members of Congress from Missouri and none from our district until now (Vicky Hartzler appears to be the first). We do now have a woman U.S. Senator (Claire McCaskill). In 95 years, it appears that there have been very few women state representatives from our area (Vicky Riback Wilson, Mary Still and Judy Baker come to mind.). We've come far, but still have far to go.

Vicky Wilson will share some of her experience at the legislature with us at our Founder's Day Luncheon on November 12.

--Marilyn McLeod, Historian





Upcoming League Events!



OCTOBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 Health Comm. 6:30-8:00 p.m. Library Room A	30	OCT 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Council on Aging Lifestyle Festival	11
12	13	14	15 Lunch & Learn 12-1 HyVee Mtg Rm	16	17	18 CAT TV Special Show 3:00 p.m.
19	20 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	21 Candidate Issue Forum Library 6:30	22	23 Ballot Issue Forum Library 6:30	24	25
26	27 LWV Board Mtg Broadway Christian Church 6:30 pm	28	29	30	31	NOV 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	11	12 Founders Day Luncheon Holiday Inn Exec Ctr 11:30a.m. CAT TV Veterans Issues 7:00 p.m.	13 Forum: Education Hot Topics Library 7:00	14	15 LWVMO Fall Conference Sedalia
16	17	18	19 Lunch & Learn 12-1 HyVee Mtg Rm	20	21	22
23	24 LWV Board Mtg Broadway Christian Church 6:30 pm	25	26	27	28	29

LWV Officers:

Co-Presidents:

Marilyn McLeod (445-3500) and
Carol Schreiber (657-1467)

1st VP: Liz Schmidt (445-0655)

2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)

Secretary: Marcia Walker
(443-8666)Treasurer: David Leuthold
(449-1358)**Elected Directors:**

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)

Susan Marshall (489-6712)

Joni O'Connor (234-1012)

Peggy Placier (442-2996)

Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)

Mahree Skala (474-2195)

Pam Springsteel (445-0642)

Jan Swaney (864-0435)

Shirley Troth (443-7033)

Appointed Directors:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)

Dick Parker (256-4397)

Diane Suhler (443-0549)

Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

Committee Chairs:

Budget: Shirley Troth

Civil Liberties: Marilyn McLeod

Education: Peggy Placier

Energy Matters: Dick Parker

Fundraising: Win Colwill

Health: Jan Swaney &

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 on the
4th Monday of the month at
Broadway Christian Church. All
members are welcome to attend.

Websites:

Local: lwvcbc.org

State: lwvmissouri.org

Membership Application

You can now pay your 2015 dues.

Please send your dues to Membership
Chair, League of Women Voters, P.O.
Box 239, Columbia, MO 65205. Thanks
to all LWV members for renewing your
membership promptly!

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.

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.)

Member News:

The League welcomes new member **Ruth Milledge**.



Guest Janet Kely and LWV members Barbara Knowles and Jan
Swaney enjoy the Sept 9 LWVCBC annual picnic at Bethel Park.



League of Women Voters

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LWVMO FALL CONFERENCE IN SEDALIA NOV. 15

The LWVMO Fall Conference will be on November 15th in Sedalia. Bob Priddy will be the luncheon speaker. Watch for details in the LWVMO Voter.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SPECIAL CAT TV LIVE AUDIENCE PROGRAM SAT, OCT. 18: CIVIL WAR HISTORIANS



Saturday October 18, we will host a very special "League Presents" program. Historian Aaron Astor of Maryville College, Tennessee will speak with Keona Ervin of the MU Department of History and a live audience on his book *Rebels On the Border: Civil War, Emancipation and the Reconstruction of Kentucky and Missouri*.

We will need 4-5 volunteers to set up the chairs for the studio audience, and take them down afterward. One of these people will need to sit outside the studio at a table to direct audience members into the studio, so that person will miss part or possibly all of the live show. The other volunteers should be able to be part of the audience. The setter-uppers need to arrive by 1:00 for the 3:00 show; the table-sitter will need to be in place by 2:00, and the taker-downers

will need to be able to stay until the audience disperses after the show wraps at 4:00 pm., and will then take the chairs down.

What a potentially interesting and educational afternoon with other League people and historically interested citizens! Please contact Carol Schreiber, (email carolschrei@gmail.com, phone 657-1467) to volunteer.

For information about the other events in the MU-sponsored series on Lincoln the Civil War and the Constitution, including online registration for the Civil War Bus Tour hosted by our own Rachel Brekhus, see: <http://library.missouri.edu/about/events/lincoln/>. <http://library.missouri.edu/about/events/lincoln/>.

--Rachel Brekhus, LWVCBC Media Guru
