



# The Voter

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

## JAN. 19 LUNCH & LEARN: MISSOURI'S CLEAN POWER PLAN

Kyra Moore, Director for the MO Department of Natural Resources' Air Pollution Control Program, will speak at LWV's Jan. 19 Lunch & Learn about Missouri's Clean Power Plan program development. The Clean Power Plan, issued in August, is the largest step so far in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gasses.

The EPA has charged her department with developing Missouri's plan to reduce CO2 from electricity generation by 37% by the year 2030. This reduction is independent of anticipated population growth and the wider adoption of electric cars. It will not be easy and will require

changes in several aspects of electricity use and generation. Moore is a



Columbia resident and the state's expert on the Clean Power Plan. She has a degree in Chemical Engineering from MU, has worked in the Air Pollution Control Program for more than 14 years, and has been its director since 2011.

Lunch and Learn meets at noon in the upstairs conference room at the Hy-Vee on Providence and Nifong. Come and bring your lunch or buy it downstairs.

— Dick Parker

## JANUARY 13 CAT TV SHOW: RACE MATTERS

The January 13 CAT TV program will explore Race Matters and the issue of community policing. Our panel includes Nikki McGruder, Traci Wilson-Kleekamp, and Lynn Maloney. Randy Picht, executive director of MU's Reynolds Institute of Journalism will moderate.

Race Matters describes its mission as elevating the conversation around race as it relates to socioeconomic status, health, public safety, education and employment. The group asserts that systemic racism is a barrier to equity in our community, and seeks to address this problem.

During 2015 the group has focused on community policing using the recommendations of the Mayor's Task Force on Community Violence. These include building trust and addressing racial profiling and the causes of juvenile crime. The group has spoken at each City Council meeting for the past half year.

Nikki McGruder is the Columbia representative of Diversity Awareness Partnership (DAP) based in St. Louis. DAP describes a vision of inclusive communities where diversity is respected and embraced and equity is the norm. DAP hopes to increase awareness, facilitate engagement and provide education about diversity and inclusion.

Traci Wilson-Kleekamp

has been a neighborhood and community activist for over 20 years. Previously the Director of Diversity and Outreach for the MU School of Medicine, Traci advocates for equity for minoritized groups including women, LGBTQ, the disabled, and faith communities.

Lynn Maloney is a concerned citizen and community volunteer working to understand the issues of racial justice in Columbia and the best ways to move toward social equity. Lynn has been a small business owner in Columbia for 12 years.

Race Matters meets at Bethel Church, 201 East Old Plank Road, every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., and welcomes new participants. They host a closed Facebook page, Race Matters Friends, a Twitter handle racematterscomo, and a listserv.

CAT TV can be found on Mediacom Channel 85, Charter Communications 983, and CenturyTel Prism 98. The program will be available on our website or at [www.columbiaaccess.tv](http://www.columbiaaccess.tv). The show replays on CAT TV at 7:00 a.m. on Tues, Thurs and Sat and 7:30 p.m. on Mon, Wed, Fri and Sun.

— Lynn Maloney

## ATTEND THE JAN. 21 MONEY IN POLITICS CONSENSUS MEETING

The consensus meeting for the national study on Money in Politics will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, January 21, at the Broadway Christian Church at 2601 W. Broadway, in the room where our Board meets each month. If you are not familiar with the church, contact one of the Board members for directions.

To prepare for the process, see the consensus questions, readings, links, and definitions in the December Voter. The website at <http://lwvcbc.org> also has a video of the Oct. 14 CAT-TV program and readings from two of the panelists at our Nov. 9 forum. Video of the forum has been shown on MediaCom and played on KOPN, but we have been unable to get a specific schedule for the broadcasts. Notes from attendees who participated in the discussion at the forum indicated the following concerns:

### Factors influencing reform of campaign finance:

- Broadcast media have a stake in the current level of political spending because of money from advertising and campaign coverage.
- Gerrymandering of districts has resulted in one-sided races and candidates that listen more to donors and corporations than voters.

- With term limits, office holders spend too much time raising money.
- Part of the problem is low voter turnout.
- Negative advertising, not voter education, garners most of the funding.
- In Missouri lack of limits favors certain candidates and big donors.
- Some research claims that money doesn't matter, but this raises the question of why candidates raise and spend so much.

### Ideas:

- Public financing might be a way to even the playing field among candidates (although incumbents already get "free" publicity and would be favored).
- We should look at what other states and countries are doing in campaign finance.
- Candidates should be more transparent in identifying campaign donors. Maine requires identification of top donors in candidate ads.
- Rules should apply to all PACs, not just ones someone disagrees with.

— Peggy Placier

## ANNUAL STATE LEGISLATOR TOWN HALL TO BE HELD FEB. 4

Please join the LWV in meeting with our state legislators on Thursday, February 4 at 7 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library.

Invited legislators are Rep. Caleb Rowden, Rep. Stephen Webber, Rep. Chuck Basye, Rep. Caleb Jones and Sen. Kurt Schaefer.

This year's Town Hall will include the traditional panel, but will also include time for small group meetings with the legislators. From 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. legislators will provide their priorities for the 2016

Legislative Session, followed by audience and moderator questions.

From 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. we will have each legislator at a table and audience members can meet with them in a small group. The audience will be provided with the legislator's district number and committee assignments. Let our legislators hear from you!

— Carol Schreiber



## FRIENDS OF THE LWV OF COLUMBIA-BOONE COUNTY

The LWV of Columbia-Boone County recognizes the many organizations and individuals who have helped us educate the public, provided meeting space and given of their time, talent and treasure to the LWV. Each month we recognize a group of our Friends of the LWV as voted on by the LWV of Columbia-Boone County membership at our Annual Meeting on April 21, 2015. For Jan. 2016 we recognize:

- **Scott Christianson** for moderating our Legislator Town Hall in February 2015.
- **Andy Waters, Mark Gordon, and Mike Jenner** for being on our CAT TV show entitled "Media Ownership and Shaping Public Opinion" in February 2015.
- **Travis Koestner** for his Lunch and Learn presentation entitled "Too Many Roads and Bridges, Too Little Funding" in February 2015. Thanks also to **Tonya Lohman** for her assistance with the presentation.

**Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!**

## LOCAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

At the Nov. 17 Lunch & Learn, former City of Columbia Councilperson Barbara Hoppe and current District II Boone County Commissioner Janet Thompson spoke about opportunities for involvement in local government by participation in the many committees, task forces and commissions established by the City of Columbia and Boone County.

The speakers thanked the many community members who have unselfishly given of their talents to the betterment of the City and County and encouraged community members to participate in local governance through these committees, task forces and commissions.

They stressed that this kind of public service is important because it demonstrates that people from all backgrounds, from all geographic areas in the City and County, are important and necessary to fully reflect the needs, hopes and dreams of our community. It can be the springboard for even more participation by an individual or group that previously lacked a voice in public discourse and decision-making.

The speakers also noted that the wide range of committees allows for community members with an equally wide range of talents and interests to participate in local governance. From airports to planning and zoning to public health to scenic trails, or Cultural Affairs, opportunities abound for

community members to use their knowledge and skills to better our City and County.

Both speakers noted that the time commitment needed for the diverse commissions, committees or Taskforce varies greatly depending on the purpose. The most time-intensive for both the City and County is service on the respective Planning and Zoning Commissions.

Community members who are interested in service to the community should decide which committees, commissions or task forces are best suited for them, based on both their talents and their time.

Hoppe and Thompson encouraged all residents of Boone County to visit the websites of the City of Columbia ([gocolumbiamo.com](http://gocolumbiamo.com)) and Boone County ([showmeboone.org](http://showmeboone.org)) for listings of all of the commissions, etc., their terms of service, geographic or other requirements for membership, and the mechanism for submitting applications.

Either speaker would be happy to talk with you if you are considering applying for a commission or committee and have further questions. Barbara Hoppe can be reached at 424-9668 or [yesforparks@hotmail.com](mailto:yesforparks@hotmail.com). Janet Thompson can be reached at [jthompson@boonecountymmo.org](mailto:jthompson@boonecountymmo.org) or 886-4305

— Barbara Hoppe, Janet Thompson

## MEMBERS GATHERED FOR DEC. 10 HOLIDAY SOCIAL

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 6



Joni O'Connor, Sharon Curry, and Peggy Placier

Win Colwill and Linda Brown



## Upcoming League Events!



DECEMBER 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	JAN 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 <b>LWVMO Priorities Day at the Capitol</b> 9:30 a.m.	13 <b>CAT TV: Race Matters</b> 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19 <b>LWV on Paul Pepper</b> KBIA 8:50 a.m.  <b>Lunch &amp; Learn: MO Power Plan</b> South HyVee Mtg Room, Noon	20	21 <b>Consensus Meeting: Money in Politics</b> Broadway Christian Church Board Room 6:30p.m.	22	23
24	25 <b>LWV Board Mtg</b> Broadway Christian Church 6:30 p.m.	26	27	28	29	30
31	FEB 1	2 <b>LWV on Paul Pepper</b> KBIA 8:50 a.m.	3	4 <b>State Legislator Town Hall</b> Library 7:00 p.m.	5	6
7	8	9	10 <b>CAT TV</b> 7:00 p.m.	11	12	13
14	15	16 <b>Lunch &amp; Learn</b> South HyVee Mtg Room, Noon	17 <b>National Program Planning</b> Location TBD 6:30 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22 <b>LWV Board Mtg</b> Broadway Christian Church 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26	27



**LWV Officers:**

Co-Presidents:

Carol Schreiber (657-1467)  
and Peggy Placier (442-2996)  
1st VP: Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)  
2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)  
Secretary: Marcia Walker  
(443-8666)  
Treasurer: David Leuthold  
(449-1358)

**Elected Directors:**

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)  
Joni O'Connor (234-1012)  
Barbara Hoppe (443-5107)  
Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)  
Mahree Skala (474-2195)  
Pam Springsteel (445-0642)  
Shirley Troth (443-7033)

**Appointed Directors:**

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)  
Dick Parker (256-4397)  
Liz Schmidt (445-0655)  
Diane Suhler (443-0549)  
Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

**Committee Chairs:**

Budget: Shirley Troth  
Civil Liberties: Open position  
Education: Open position  
Energy Matters: Dick Parker  
Fundraising: Open position  
Health: 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 at 6:30 p.m. on the 4th Monday of the month at Broadway Christian Church. All members are welcome to attend.

Websites:

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

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

## THANKS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LEAGUE! PLEASE SEND 2016 DUES NOW!



Membership dues are now due for 2016. As you know, 2016 will be a busy election year!! We will have forums for the city council, hospital, school board, county, state and national elections (and primaries), plus our other educational forums on a wide array of important topics. Thanks for your support!

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.

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 email \_\_\_\_\_

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



## MEMBER UPDATE

The league welcomes new member Diane Reinhardt.

**Membership Report:** So far we have collected 2/3 of the 2016 memberships: We have 52 yet to go. Thanks to all new members who have joined. If your label is marked 15, you owe for 2016. If you get your VOTER by email, you probably received a letter in the mail not too long ago. We will mail reminder postcards out this month to those who still owe.

— Liz Schmidt and Linda Brown, Co-Chairs



**League of Women Voters**

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcba.org>

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Liz Schmidt and  
Kathryn Allen

**MEMBERS GATHERED DEC. 10 FOR  
HOLIDAY SOCIAL; DONATED 68 PAIRS  
OF SOCKS FOR ROOM AT THE INN**



Patsy Danner and Lael Von Holt



Dick Parker and his grandson Dontay