



The Voter

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

MARCH 7 FORUM FOR APRIL ELECTION — UPDATE

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 for Columbia School Board and City Council Ward 5 and the ballot issues on the April 4th ballot. (Nick Knoth is now the only candidate for Ward 1, and our forums only include races with two or more candidates.) **This forum will have both an in-person and a Zoom audience.**

Columbia School Board candidates are Paul Harper, John Potter, Chris Horn, James Gordon, John Lyman, April Ferrao, and Chuck Basye. The library's hybrid setup cannot accommodate seven candidates at one table, so we will interview the candidates one at a time. To avoid putting the first candidate to be 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. High school students have prepared a unique question for each candidate.

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.

On the April ballot, voters will decide city and county ballot issues related to marijuana sales taxes. Kip Kendrick, Boone County presiding commissioner, will speak on the county issue, and Sydney Olsen, Public Information Officer for Columbia, will speak on the city ballot issue.

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

We are creating a Voters' Guide to help voters learn about items on the April 4th ballot. 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 Ward 5
Ballot Issues Information
Voting Information**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February has been a very busy month!

LWVCBC Board Members plus a few regular members met twice in February for several hours to discuss, review and recommend LWVMO Positions and Priorities for the coming two years in preparation for the May 6 LWV State Convention, to be held here in Columbia.

We are recommending that the LWVMO adopt the two local League positions we approved last year, after extensive studies, on 1) Local Control and 2) Marijuana Legalization.

We also listed our recommended priority issues for our local and state public policy action in the coming year:

- Protecting and enhancing voting rights/ Stopping Voting Restrictions
- Local control (State adoption of our LWVCBC position & study- approved in 2022)
- Climate protection and related environmental issues
- Gun safety and control
- Reproductive rights
- Preserve & Protect the Sunshine laws
- LBGTQ discrimination/equality/rights

If you would like a copy of our full recommendations, please send an email to lwvcbc@gmail.com.

Also in February, Marilyn McLeod, LWVCBC Board Member and LWVMO President, courageously and persistently testified many times in Jefferson City against numerous proposed bills that threaten the initiative petition process and our voting rights. Thankfully she was also able to testify in support of a few bills.

Other League Board Members and regular members submitted written testimony and/or contacted their Representatives and various committee members about proposed legislation. Thanks to all of you! We need you to keep weighing in on proposed state legislation in the coming months. We will do our best to keep you updated and informed and send out ACTION emails to you.

Kudos and thanks also go this month to:

- Carol Schreiber for her diligent work on the Voters Guide and for organizing the election forums for the April 4th election.
- Linda Smith and Linda Headrick for working on voter registration and to all those who have volunteered to register voters.
- Our Education Committee for doing excellent outreach to our High Schoolers, getting them registered and prepared for responsible voting. (Cont'd on pg. 6)

2023 ELEANOR GOODGE AWARD

The LWVCBC Board is seeking nominations for this year's recipient of the Eleanor Goodge Award for Exemplary Service to the League of Women Voters. This award will be presented at our annual meeting on April 30, 2023.

If you have someone in mind for the award, send your nomination to Barbara Hoppe at yesforparks@hotmail.com. Please include information about why the person should receive this honor. The award is intended to recognize a person who is a member of LWVCBC and:

- Has shown exemplary service and a long-term commitment to the principles of LWV,

- Whose primary service is at the local level, and
- Whose contribution goes beyond service in an elected or appointed LWV assignment.

This award does not need to be given each year and may be given posthumously.

Some previous recipients include Sharon Schneeberger (2022), Carol Schreiber (2021), Pam Springsteel (2020), Ava Fajen (2019), Joni O'Connor (2018), Elaine Blodget (2017), and Win Colwill (2016).

— Barbara Hoppe
President, LWVCBC

MARCH 13 CELEBRATE SUNSHINE!

Celebrate Sunshine – Open Government is Good Government

Please mark your calendars for a March 13 educational presentation about the Missouri Sunshine Law and how it is used. The Observer Corps committee of the Kansas City League is hosting the virtual event at 6:30 p.m. on March 13, 2023. Our knowledgeable panel comprises Moderator Dave Helling, journalist emeritus; Steve Vockrodt, investigative editor, NPR Midwest Newsroom; and Max Kautsch, Kautsch Law, LLC, a lawyer whose practice focuses on First Amendment rights and open government law. They will share their experiences with the Sunshine Law and answer questions.

This event, which is free and open to the public, recognizes Sunshine Week and the 50th Anniversary of the Missouri Open Meetings and Records Law. To register for this Zoom event, visit <https://bit.ly/LWV-zoom-2>. The event recording will be posted on lwvkc.org and the @LWVKC YouTube channel.

Why is the Missouri Sunshine Law important? It is designed to limit corruption and increase public trust by requiring transparency. The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation by citizens at all levels

of government. The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect citizens' right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible. The League's Observer Corps program is built on its decades of experience in empowering citizens to monitor local governmental meetings and inform the public of issues of concern.

Join the event on March 13, 2023. Remember, government transparency improves our lives and makes our communities stronger. Come learn how the "Show Me State" does Sunshine and why protecting the law going forward is so important.

[Sunshine Week](#) is a national observation sponsored by the [News Leaders Association](#) as an initiative to promote open government.

— Mahree Skala
First VP, LWVCBC



MARCH 14 LUNCH & LEARN: WHAT IS BEING DONE WITH ARPA FUNDS?



The topic for our Tuesday, March 14th Lunch & Learn Program at noon on Zoom will be "What is being done with ARPA funds?" Our Guest Speakers will be Janet Thompson, Boone County Commissioner, and Stephanie Browning, Head of the City/County Health Department. They will discuss the present status of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds and how they have been or will be allocated in Columbia and Boone County. Viewers will be able to submit questions via Zoom Chat. Be sure to join us for this important and informative noon event. To attend the forum, sign up at dbri.org.

Much thanks to Carolyn Amparan, Sierra Club Chair, who did an excellent job at our February 14th Program. She outlined how Columbia can

and should achieve 100% renewable energy by 2030 to address Climate Change what we can do to help make that happen. For more information on specific actions we need you to take to make that happen, see the Climate and Energy article on page 10 and follow what your LWVCBC will be doing in the next few months to take action on human-made climate change.

If you missed Carolyn's excellent presentation you can still listen to her and share it with others. It is on our website at: lwvcbc.org. As always we are grateful to Lauren Williams and the Columbia Public Library, who co-sponsor these programs.

— Barbara Hoppe, Chair
Lunch & Learn Committee

Afternoon Tea



*Please join us for afternoon tea in honor of
Luella St. Clair Moss*

April 1
2:00 to 4:00
First Christian Church
Fellowship Hall
101 North 10th Street



*Luella St. Clair Moss is the League of Women Voters'
nomination for the name of the next
Columbia public school.*

*Please RSVP to Pam Springsteel at pspring@socket.net
by March 11th*

You are invited to an April 1 Afternoon Tea in honor of Luella St. Clair Moss. Details are provided in the invitation above. **Please RSVP to Pam Springsteel by March 11** at pspring@socket.net.

One of the first woman college presidents in the nation, Luella St. Clair Moss also advocated for women's right to vote, served on the Columbia School Board and was the first woman in Missouri to run for Congress

Our League continues to celebrate the life of educator and suffragist Luella St. Clair Moss and encourage the school board to name a school for

her. A new CPS elementary school will be built on the John Warner Middle School campus and the process of naming the new school is expected to begin this spring.

We have invited to join us at the tea the CPS Superintendent, members of the school board, members of Columbia College administration, the director of the Boone County History and Culture Center, the board of the Tuesday Club, and members of Delta Kappa Gamma, the educational sorority to which Luella belonged.

— Pam Springsteel
Chair, Luella Committee

IN MEMORIAM

Shirley Troth



Lael Von Holt

We are sad to report that we lost two titans of our local League in the last few weeks.

Shirley Troth passed away on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. She was born on June 21, 1935, in Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, attended Stephens College here in Columbia, and then went on to further her education at Ohio State and Johns Hopkins University. Shirley joined the League in 1961 and was one of our longest-serving members – more than 60 years! She added the rural perspective to our deliberations as she and her husband operated a farm in the county. Shirley was a stalwart member of our board of directors for decades, ending that service to the League in 2020. During her years on the board, she often chaired our Budget Committee, one of those unsung but critical positions that kept our financial picture sound.

Lael Von Holt passed away on February 20, 2023. She was born on April 9, 1927, in Massachusetts. Lael joined the League in 1974 and served as a member of the local LWV Board for more than thirty years. She was co-president

during the 75th League anniversary year and helped arrange the many events of that commemoration. Lael also served as a board member of the state LWV, sharing her expertise statewide.

Quiet and dignified, Lael was known for her leadership in the mental health field, both in her professional life and her countless hours spent in the quest to obtain good healthcare services for people with mental illness, using the platform of the League as the springboard. She encouraged League members to not only be informed but to get involved. Until her last days, she was still interested in what the League was doing; the latest LWVCBC *Voter* was on the table near her easy chair.

We will miss these two inspirational members of the League for their wisdom and generous contributions of their time and talent to our organization for decades.

— Marilyn McLeod
President, LWVMO

HELPING YOUNG VOTERS FIND THEIR VOICES IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

The LWVCBC Education Committee continues its focus on young voters. First, several high school students will participate in the March 7 candidate forum co-sponsored by LWVCBC and the Columbia Public Library. Each school board candidate will receive a question authored by a student volunteer.

Second, in partnership with Columbia Public Schools, LWVCBC members are registering new young voters and helping them create a plan for voting in the April 4 election. LWVCBC members are staffing tables during lunch breaks at local high schools in late February and early March. Until the registration deadline of March 8, the focus will be on registration.

From March 9 – April 4, the focus will be on getting out the vote (GOTV). The GOTV literature suggests that the following contribute to getting people to the polls:

- Nurture an environment (friends, family & community) that views voting as important
- Help voters create a plan and feel prepared to vote
- Make it fun!

We will hand out the flyer on the following page to help each young voter create an individualized voting plan.

— Linda A. Headrick
Education Committee

LWVCBC AND SOCIAL MEDIA AND YOU

We need you!

First and foremost, our goal for social media is Education for all. We now have these electronic accounts:

- webpage (<https://lwvcbc.org/>)
- e-mail (lwvcbc@gmail.com)
- YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@leagueofwomenvoterscolumbi117>)
- Facebook group page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lwvcbc>)
- Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066526418132>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/lwvcbc>)
- Zoom, and Google drive!

We use these tools to inform people about voting and issues.

Peggy Placier, Carol Schreiber, and Sharon Schneeberger recently met with a Kansas City League member to discuss new ways to meet our goal more effectively. We are expanding our social media team and inviting the participation of any League member interested in educating citizens about their community and state.

Please join us by contacting Sharon Schneeberger at 573-443-4605 or sharon@schneeberger.net. We appreciate YOU, your ideas/suggestions/questions, and names of people you think would be interested (we'll contact them).

Please join us.

— Sharon Schneeberger

- (Cont'd from pg. 2) Meredith Donaldson who has diligently recruited new members and did two excellent new member orientations.
- Last but not least, a **heartfelt thanks to** all our new members and renewing members.

It takes a village!

— Barbara Hoppe, President
yesforparks@hotmail.com





2023 VOTING PLAN

Use the questions below to create
YOUR VOTING PLAN

Use this QR code to find the
resources noted in RED



- ☐ **Am I registered to vote?**
Register by March 8 to vote on April 4
(You can register at age 17.5, but you must be 18 on election day to vote.)
 - If no, go to **Register to Vote**
 - If you're not sure, go to **Check your voter registration**

- ☐ **How will I decide what to vote for?**
 - Go to **What's on My Ballot?**
 - Talk with friends and family whose opinions you value
 - Get informed with a **non-partisan voter's guide**, available at the QR code in the figure above

- ☐ **Do I plan to vote early or "absentee," before election day?**
 - If you qualify, you can request an absentee ballot February 21 – March 22. Go to **Request an Absentee Ballot**
 - Early voting, open to all registered voters: March 21 - April 3 at Boone County Clerk's office, 801 E.

- ☐ **Do I plan to vote in person on election day?**
 - To find your polling place, go to **Where Do I Vote?**

- ☐ **What time will I go to vote?** Do I need to arrange transportation or take off work?
 - Polls are open from 6A to 7P on election day

- ☐ **Are there friends or family members I can bring with me to vote?**

- ☐ **What do I need to take with me when I go to vote?**
 - *Required:* Go to **Voter ID Information**
 - *Helpful:* Sample ballot with your notes about what you've decided

- **What else can I do to encourage my friends and family to vote?**

Follow us on Twitter: @lwvcbc





Upcoming League Events!



MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEB 26	27	28	MARCH 1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Candidate and Ballot Issue Forum 6:30pm Library	8	9	10	11
12	13 Sunshine Law Forum 6:30pm Zoom	14 Lunch & Learn ARPA FUNDS 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 Tea honoring Luella St. Clair Moss 2 pm First Christian Church
2	3	4	5	6	7 LWV on Paul Pepper Show KBIA 8:50 am	8
9	10	11 Lunch & Learn Zoom at Noon	12	13	14	15
16	17 LWVCBC Board Meeting 5:30pm Zoom	18	19	20	21	22 MU Climate Rally
23 Earth Day Booth!	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 LWVCBC Annual Mtg 2-4pm						

LWVCBC MEMBERSHIP NOW 224!!

We entered our roster January 31 in the LWVUS Membership Portal with over 200 members, and we now have 224 members! This will allow us two additional delegates to the May state convention. Welcome to our new members, and thanks to those who recruited them!

The next New Member welcome will be in April. We hope all our members, new and long-time, will reach out to our committee chairs to help with the work of the League. (Contact information is in this newsletter on page 9.)

Our membership committee now includes Meredith Donaldson, Chair; Judy Donovan, who will mail newsletters to those requesting paper copies; and Peggy Owens and Elaine Blodgett, who will be calling members (getting to know new members and checking in on current members). We still need a committee member to send out new member packets and another to help with new member welcomes. These tasks only require an hour or two per month.

— Meredith Donaldson, Chair
Membership Committee

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**In Memoriam**

We are sad to report the loss of two longtime members, Shirley Troth and Lael Von Holt. Please see article on page 5.

Welcome to New Members:

Fran Colley and Tony Castro, Mary Ewigman, Sam Fleury, Janet Frost, Mary Hayden, and Bob Nolte

We now have 224 members!! See page 8 for more details.

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>

MARCH 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CLIMATE AND ENERGY UPDATE

The LWVCBC will have a table at Earth Day in Columbia on Sunday, April 22. Contact Barbara Hoppe at yesforparks@hotmail.com if you want to help. Barbara will also speak at the MU Climate Day Rally on Saturday, April 21.

There is no better way to show love to others and mother earth than by addressing human-made Climate Change locally and globally. Most appropriately, Carolyn Amperan, the Local Sierra Club Chair, was the speaker for our Lunch & Learn on February 14. **If you missed her, you MUST watch this Lunch & Learn Program and share it with others!!** She outlined these necessary GOALS for Columbia:

- Columbia Water & Light (CWL) must achieve 100% clean, renewable energy by 2030 in order to achieve a 50% reduction in emissions by 2035. Our current renewable energy ordinance requires a 30% reduction by 2029. CWL and the Energy Authority are studying this, and a report is due in May or June of this year. The report will provide multiple case study approaches to 100% renewable energy for CWL by 2030 and how

to provide sufficient capacity and energy to meet 24/7 demand and regulations.

- Adopt minimum efficiency standards for rental housing in Columbia,
- Adopt the 2021 International Building Codes for Energy Conservation
- Reduce emissions and energy demand for all city buildings.

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- Attend City Council Candidate Forums (LWVCBC forum on March 7 at the Columbia Public Library and on zoom; Sierra Club forum on March 15 at the Boone County Gov't Center and on zoom; and others). **VOTE ON APRIL 4!**
- Speakers will be at future City Council Meeting - attend to show your support.
- Contact the City Council when the report is available to express your support for 100% commitment via an ordinance.

— Barbara Hoppe
CoChair, Climate and Energy