



# The Voter

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

## MARCH 12 FORUM ON MISSOURI'S SUNSHINE LAW: SHINING A LIGHT ON GOVERNMENT



The Missouri Sunshine Coalition (MSC) is a group that advocates for preserving and strengthening the provisions of Missouri's Sunshine Law. According to the Sunshine Law, "It is the public policy of this state that meetings, records, votes, actions, and deliberations of public governmental bodies be open to the public unless otherwise provided by law." Because open government is consistent with the mission of LWV, we pay dues to the MSC and have a voting representative on their board. Our representative this year is Peggy Placier.

Every March, the National Freedom of Information Coalition, of which MSC is a member, holds a Sunshine Week to highlight national, state and local efforts to promote transparency in government. This year MSC and LWV, along with our long-time partner the Columbia Public Library, will co-sponsor a forum for Sunshine Week. Here are the details:

### A Conversation with Attorney Nathan Nickolaus, Missouri Department of Economic Development

Facilitated by Jim Robertson, Managing Editor, Columbia Daily Tribune  
March 12, Columbia Public Library  
Refreshments at 6:30pm  
Program begins promptly at 7:00pm

Questions we will consider are: What are the specific provisions of this law? How well is it working? What are some recent cases in which the public has benefited from open government? Are there cases in which closed records or meetings are justified? Nathan Nickolaus is a former municipal attorney for Jefferson City and author of "The Sunshine Law" published by the Missouri Bar. The conversation will be followed by an open Q/A discussion. Everyone in attendance will receive a copy of the latest booklet on the Sunshine Law from the Missouri Attorney General. Please come!

## MARCH 18 FORUM: CANDIDATE/BALLOT ISSUES



The LWV Candidate/Ballot Issue Forum for the April 8th election will be held on March 18th at the Columbia Public Library in the Friends Room. Refreshments will be available at 6:00 p.m. and the forum will start at 6:30 p.m. First Ward candidates Ginny Chadwick and Bill Easley have confirmed. We also will have candidates for the Columbia School Board. Fifth Ward Councilwoman Laura Nauser is running unopposed and will not be part of the forum, however she plans to attend the forum and will be available to talk to individuals.

Columbia School Board Superintendent Chris Belcher will present information on the school

bond issue. And Boone County Fire District Chief Scott Olsen will present information on the Fire District bond issue. We are looking for anti-bond issue speakers and if we find them, we will invite them to present the opposition position.

We are pleased to announce that KFRU will once again broadcast the forum live and will provide our moderator, Ms. Renee Hulshof. Mediacom will video-tape the forum and it will be re-shown. KOPN will also replay the forum prior to the April 8th election. The Columbia Public Library is co-sponsoring the forum. LWV members and the public are encouraged to attend.

## FEBRUARY BOARD REPORT

The Board spent most of our meeting preparing for our Annual Meeting on April 10th. We needed to approve the budget, nominating committee report and by-laws change, so that we could include them with this Voter to meet our obligation to notify our members.

The by-laws change is to allow co-presidents to have staggered terms. We felt this would help with leadership continuity. Marilyn McLeod will run for a one-year term as co-president and I will run for a two-year term. We will be looking for a new co-president candidate for next year.

We were happy to find members who will be new to our board (if elected): David Leuthold (Treasurer), Susan Marshall (filling a one-year term for a board member who moved away), Sharon Schneeberger, Mahree Skala and Jan Swaney. Current board members wishing to remain on the board are Diane Suhler, Lael Von Holt and Dick Parker and they can remain on the board as appointed board members. Board members with one year remaining on their terms are: Liz Schmidt, Ava Fajen, Marcia Walker, Rachel Brekhus, Joni O'Connor, Peggy Placier, Pam Springsteel and Shirley Troth. We will have a good mix of new and veteran board members. We will be thanking Midge Pinkerton for her long-term service on the board at our Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Columbia Country Club and the board decided to set the cost at \$25 for the dinner. Vicki Russell will speak and we will present the Eleanor Goodge Award for service to the LWV. Nominations will still be accepted until March 15th for this award.

Our League can send three delegates to the LWVUS National Convention in June in Dallas,

TX. Each League can send one delegate and then one more for each 50 members. We have around 140 members. The board approved sending Carol Schreiber, Peggy Placier and Diane Suhler. Elaine Blodgett from our League will also be attending as President of LWVMO.

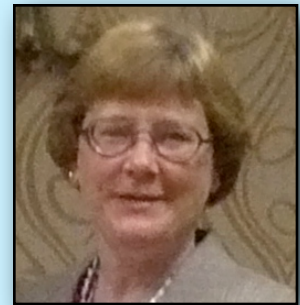
The LWVMO Spring Conference will be at Webster University in Springfield, MO on Saturday, April 5th. The fee is \$30 which includes materials, lunch and coffee breaks. If you are interested in attending, let me know at carolschrei@gmail.com, as we have funds to pay for some members' registration fees.

Our new fundraising chair, Win Colwill, reported on the plans for the fundraising play, Spamlot, for June 11th. Our goal is to fill the house! Details will be presented in upcoming Voters.

The committee on LWV Meetings presented ideas for our next League year (April 2014-March 2015). These ideas will help us avoid weather-related cancellations like last December's Founders Day luncheon. The new 2014-2015 board will have a complete calendar for activities by June 2014.

Our next board meeting is Monday, March 24th at the Broadway Christian Church conference room at 6:30 p.m. Members are welcome. We were happy to welcome Helen Washburn to our meeting last night.

Carol Schreiber  
Co-President



## PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

By-laws Proposed Change – Add last sentence that is bold and underlined to Article IV Section 1.

### ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Sec. 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The officers of the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, Missouri, shall be a president or co-president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer who shall be elected for terms of two

years by the general membership at an annual meeting and take office immediately except the treasurer will not take office until July 1 of that year. The first-vice president and the secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The second vice-president and the treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years. **If there are co-presidents, one may be elected in an even-numbered year and one in an odd-numbered year and either may be a one-year term.**

COLUMBIA – BOONE COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PROPOSED BUDGET 2014-2015				
INCOME:		2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
	ED FUND	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	MEMBER CONTRIB.	\$300	\$300	\$300
	MEMBER DUES *	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,700
	MISC. INCOME	\$1,500	\$1,400	\$1,400
	OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS	\$300	\$300	\$300
	OTHER INCOME	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
	FROM SAVINGS	\$1,000	\$130	\$730
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$14,100</b>	<b>\$13,130</b>	<b>\$13,930</b>
EXPENSES:				
	ED FUND	\$500	\$500	\$500
	ADS	\$795	\$750	\$800
	BOARD	\$100	\$100	\$100
	BULLETIN	\$1,700	\$2,000	\$2,000
	LWVMO DUES (\$16) *	\$2,400	\$2,240	\$2,240
	LWVUS DUES (\$31) *	\$4,650	\$4,340	\$4,340
	MEETINGS	\$300	\$300	\$300
	MEMBERSHIP	\$150	\$150	\$150
	MISCELLANEOUS	\$500	\$500	\$200
	NAT, CONVENTION	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,000
	POST OFFICE	\$600	\$600	\$600
	STATE CONVENTION	\$150	\$150	\$200
	VOTER SERVICE	\$455	\$500	\$500
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$14,100</b>	<b>\$13,130</b>	<b>\$13,930</b>
	* (140 members)			

### **Board Nominations**

**Co-Presidents:** Carol Schreiber (2-year term); Marilyn McLeod (1-year term)

**Treasurer:** David Leuthold (2-year term)

**Members:** Susan Marshall (1-year term), Sharon Schneeberger, Mahree Skala, and Jan Swaney (2-year terms)

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## TELL THE EPA YOU SUPPORT LIMITS ON CARBON POLLUTION DEADLINE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – MARCH 10

On June 25, 2013 President Obama announced a series of executive actions to reduce carbon pollution and combat climate change, including directives to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop carbon standards for power plants, the nation's largest source of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. As the first step, standards for new sources were released in September 2013.

The proposed standards set specific limits on emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) for all fossil-fueled power plants built in the future.

The standards will prevent construction of new plants that might continue to emit high levels of CO<sub>2</sub> for decades.

The standards, according to the EPA, are in line with investments in cleaner energy technologies that are already being made by the power

industry, e.g. natural gas and renewable energy sources.

These standards do not apply to any existing power plants or any units undergoing modification; guidelines for existing plants are to be proposed by June 2014.

Don't miss this opportunity to voice your support for nationwide limits on CO<sub>2</sub> pollution from future power plants. Take action NOW. The public comment period ends March 10.

Go to: [www.lwv.org/](http://www.lwv.org/) You will see on the screen: Making Democracy Work and "Take Action – Support EPA's Limits on Carbon Pollution". Click on the picture and read the LWV's message. Add your own comments. Click on Send to make your voice part of the official record. It's so easy!

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## COME ON BOARD THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI

Do you know someone who has good ideas and energy? We are looking for that combination for the League of Women Voters of Missouri Board.

LWVMO is our state leadership organization, representing the membership through Legislative Action, Voter Service, Educational Opportunity, and the Missouri Voter. Board members, both elected and appointed, meet on a regular basis to carry out their leadership role and report on their particular portfolio.

What do we do? We advocate for League priorities through our non-partisan presence at the Legislature in Jefferson City. At Spring Council and Fall Conference, we gather with members from around the state for legislative

updates, networking, and educational workshops. At State Convention every two years, the board and members gather to elect directors, approve the budget, set the agenda, and hear speakers of note. Most importantly, League friendships are renewed.

Would you like to join us? Do you know of someone who would be excellent? Two portfolios are currently available: Fund Raising and Membership/ Leadership Development. Who should our nominating committee contact?

If you are interested, contact our President, Elaine Blodgett, and tell her you're ready to come on board. E-mail: [elaineblodgett@gmail.com](mailto:elaineblodgett@gmail.com)

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## LAST CALL FOR ELEANOR GOODGE AWARD

This award is presented to a member of the LWV of Columbia-Boone County who has demonstrated exemplary service and a long term commitment to the principles of the League. The primary service should be at the local level, but may also include service at the state and/or national level. It will not be given solely in recognition of one's performance in an elected or appointed League assignment.

This award may be given posthumously. If you would like to nominate someone to receive this award, please send their name and a brief description of their service activities to [Marilyn\\_McLeod@yahoo.com](mailto:Marilyn_McLeod@yahoo.com) by March 15, so that the board can make a selection at our March board meeting. The award will be presented at our Annual Meeting in April.

## OUR HISTORY SERIES #19: STATE ROLL OF HONOR

In 1930, the board members of the Columbia League of Women Voters were asked to nominate the members of their chapter who were active in the Women's Suffrage Movement in Missouri to the "State Roll of Honor". The plan was to erect a plaque at the State Capitol in Jefferson City to celebrate the individuals from around the state who had worked so tirelessly for the vote.



The matter was discussed at their meeting on March 29, 1930. Mrs. Mary Asbury McKay asked that her name be taken off the list, but "this motion was not seconded and was lost by default." They then moved that the names of Miss Ella Victoria Dobbs, Mrs. F.F. Stephens, Mrs. Mary Asbury McKay, and Mrs. Walter McNab Miller be presented to the state board for this honor. At their April 10 meeting, the manner of recommendation had been changed by the state board and they were asked again to submit a "panel" of names. They submitted the names of Mrs. Luella St. Clair Moss, Mrs. Rosa Ingels, Miss Dobbs, Mrs. McKay, Mrs. F.F. Stephens and Mrs. Walter McNab Miller. The secretary noted in the Minutes that Mrs. Moss had been placed on the national honor roll.

Each League had been asked to contribute toward the cost of the bronze plaque. The Columbia board decided to ask "the League as a whole to raise money" by "putting on a benefit movie". Members present were "all urged to buy and sell tickets."

On January 21, 1931, the Missouri League of Women Voters unveiled a bronze tablet at the Capitol in Jefferson City listing Missouri pioneers in the Women's Suffrage Movement. The tablet bears the names of fifty-five women and is still located at the Capitol right near the rotunda.

Along with the names, it says:

This tablet is a tribute to those Missouri women whose courageous work opened the opportunities of complete citizenship to all women of the state. January 1931. Placed by the Missouri League of Women Voters.

The next time you are there, you might want to look for it and find the names of our local heroines.

--Marilyn McLeod, Historian



The League provided coffee and goodies on "filing day," February 25, at the Secretary of State's office in Jeff City. From our League: Elaine Blodgett, Lael Von Holt and Marilyn McLeod. From other Leagues: Marty Ott (St. Louis), Mary Merritt (Sedalia), Laura Worstall and Linda Ahmann (Mexico.)



## Upcoming League Events!



March 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
2	3	4	5 CAT TV 7 pm	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 FORUM: Missouri's Sunshine Law 7PM, Library	13	14	15
16	17	18 FORUM: Candidate/ Ballot Issues 6:30pm, Library	19	20	21	22
23	24 Board MTG, 6:30 PM Broadway Christian Church	25 Paul Pepper 8:50AM KBIA	26	27	28	29
30	31	1 APRIL	2	3	4 Play/ Fundraising Committee Mtg 1:30 pm, Location TBA	5 LWVMO Spring Council, Springfield, MO
6	7	8	9 CAT TV 7 pm	10 LWVCBC Annual Meeting, Columbia Country Club, 6:00pm	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Paul Pepper 8:50AM KBIA	22	23	24	25	26
27 EARTH DAY BOOTH	28	29	30			

## Contact Information

### 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: Susie Liu (442-0313)

### LWV Board Members:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)

Sue Breyfogle (474-7977)

Holly Burgess (449-0625)

Joni O'Connor (234-1012)

Dick Parker (256-4397)

Midge Pinkerton (445-2052)

Peggy Placier (442-2996)

Pam Springsteel (445-0642)

Diane Suhler (443-0549)

Shirley Troth (443-7033)

Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

### LWV Committee Chairs:

Civil Liberties:

Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)

Education: Peggy Placier

Energy Matters: Dick Parker

Health: Jan Swaney (442-3172)

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. All  
members are welcome to attend.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



## Membership Application



If you have not yet paid your dues for 2014 it is time to do so! 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 \$15 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.)

Websites:

Local: lwvcbc.org

State: lwvmissouri.org

National: lwv.org

**David Burgess, husband of member Holly Burgess, died recently. Holly is currently in St. Louis recovering from some health issues.** You can write to her at this address:

Holly Burgess

C/O Jill Muth

9435 Sunny Creek Lane

Sunset Hills, MO 63127

**Pam Springsteel** recently suffered a fall and is recuperating nicely at home. She would probably like to hear from you:

Pam Springsteel

5901 Redwing Drive

Columbia, MO 65202



**League of Women Voters**

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

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**ANNUAL MEETING PLANNED FOR APRIL 10:  
FEATURED SPEAKER WILL BE VICKI RUSSELL,  
PUBLISHER OF COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE**



We hope you will join your LWV friends at our Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 10th at the Columbia Country Club (off Old 63). Vicki Russell will be our featured speaker and her topic will be "The World Needs the League of Women Voters and Newspapers More Than Ever." (We are so happy to be able to hear Vicki Russell at this time, since we had to cancel our December luncheon.)

Since this is our Annual Meeting, we will be voting on the Nominations Committee Report, a bylaws change, and the proposed budget for 2014-15. (Copies of the various documents to be voted on are included in this mailing.) We will also be presenting the Eleanor Goodge Award for Exemplary Service to the League to one of our exemplary members!

Social time will begin at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. We will have plated service, offering either Chicken Marsala (with salad, potato, vegetable, rolls, dessert) or Vegetarian Lasagna (with salad, rolls and dessert). The cost is \$25.

**Please make reservations by calling Liz Schmidt at 573-445-0665 or send check payable to LWVCBC to Liz Schmidt, 1700 Forum Boulevard, #3101, Columbia, MO 65203.**

**Be sure to specify whether you want the chicken or vegetarian option.**

**Deadline for Reservations: March 31.**

***LOOK INSIDE FOR A COMPLETE CALENDAR  
OF UPCOMING EVENTS ON PG 6***