



# The Voter

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

## LUNCH & LEARN JANUARY 14: THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE

The U.S. Constitution requires the use of an Electoral College for presidential voting, but the Electoral College system allows a candidate to win the Presidency while losing the popular vote, as happened in the elections of 1824, 1876, 1888, 2000, and 2016.

One solution to this dilemma — which would avoid changing the Constitution — is the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC). This is an agreement among a group of U.S. states and the District of Columbia to award all their electoral votes to whichever presidential candidate wins the overall popular vote in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. A number of states have already agreed to this, although not yet enough to constitute the

number of the Electoral College votes required to win the presidency. Come learn about the National Popular Vote at the Lunch & Learn program at noon on January 14.

Lunch & Learn programs are held on the second Tuesday of each month, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Friends Room at the Columbia Public Library. These programs focus on public policy issues of interest to citizens of mid-Missouri and are cosponsored with the Library. Although no lunch is provided, attendees are welcome to bring their own or purchase snacks at the library kiosk.



— Barbara Hoppe

## FEBRUARY 13: CONVERSATIONS WITH LEGISLATORS

The League of Women Voters will hold a community meeting at the ARC (Activity and Recreation Center) in Columbia on Thursday, February 13, 2020 with our local Missouri state representatives.

Representatives Bayse, Kendrick, Reisch, Stevens, and Walsh, and Senator Rowden have been invited to describe the legislation they plan to introduce in the 2020 session. Citizens will have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss what they would like to see accomplished at our state Capitol.

There will be a five-minute presentation from each representative and then time for questions from the audience. The evening will conclude with 45

minutes for those attending to speak with their representative individually or in small groups.



Come join others from the community to learn about what's going on in Jefferson City in 2020!

See you at the ARC —

1701 Ash Street

Thursday, Feb 13, 2020

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Plenty of parking available

— Elaine Blodgett and  
Sharon Schneeberger

## FEBRUARY 15 “EQUALI - TEA” WITH SUSAN B. ANTHONY AND FREDERICK DOUGLASS



Our joyful year-long celebration of the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment will continue at a special “Equali -Tea” on Saturday, February 15, 2020, 2-4 p.m., at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1112 E. Broadway.

This is the 200th birthday of Susan B. Anthony! We are very pleased that the Equali-Tea will be cosponsored with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) – Columbia Branch. (Cont'd on pg. 4)

## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!!

More than 80 members and friends gathered at the 100th Anniversary Gala Celebration on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at the Broadway Christian Church to celebrate the centennial of our chapter of the League of Women Voters.

We were very honored to have the current state League president, Evelyn Maddox, welcome us and commend our chapter for all of our activities. Past LWVMO presidents Kathleen Boswell and Mary Merritt also attended.

We were honored by the attendance of a number of elected officials, including members of the Columbia School Board and school superintendent, Columbia City Council and Boone County Commission, a former judge, and current and former members of the State Legislature.

The event started with a rousing serenade of suffrage songs, as well as a patriotic song, by the Mothersingers. In the course of looking at some of our history this year, we learned that Gertrude Marshall, a member and former president of the LWV, was also a founding member of the Mothersingers. They are celebrating their 75th anniversary this year!



We presented the Liz Schmidt Community Service Award to the Voluntary Action Center. Nick Foster accepted the award, which recognizes VAC's fifty years of amazing service to the community. We realized this year that several LWV members were involved in the beginning of VAC, including Gertrude Marshall, Hazel Riback and Helen Mitchell.



Nick Foster

We presented the LWV Outstanding Citizen Award to Steve Hollis in recognition of his many years of outstanding service to the community, both professionally and personally.



Steve Hollis

Both Nick Foster and Steve Hollis had wonderful comments to make about the League and the work that we do. That was very gracious of them. But we also want to be sure to let them and the community know how much we appreciate their great work!

Councilwoman Betsy Peters presented a proclamation from the City of Columbia naming December 2019 "League of Women Voters Month" for the City.

Betsy Peters





Dan Atwill

Presiding  
Commissioner Daniel  
Atwill presented a

proclamation from Boone County naming December 2019 as the "League of Women Voters Month" for the county.

We were so pleased that all of our living past presidents were able to attend (with the exception of Linda Kaiser who now lives in Indiana, although she continues her membership with our League!). See related photo on page 5.

Attendees enjoyed the wonderful refreshments, including a special cake and cupcakes decorated for the occasion. A historical booklet was given to the attendees. If you couldn't attend, but would like to see the booklet, you can find it on our website at this link: <https://lwvcbc.org/lwvcbc-history/>

A giant THANK YOU to the planning committee for this event: Pam Springsteel, chair, Kathryn Allen, Kate Canterbury, Win Colwill, Meredith Donaldson, Marilyn McLeod, Joni O'Connor and Lael Von Holt. Their planning couldn't have been better. And thank you to Andrew Twaddle for serving as the official photographer for the event. He took the photos used in this article.

Thanks also to the volunteers who helped with the setup and take down, including Teri and Steve Miller, Joe Donaldson, Sean Goggins, Carol Schreiber, David Leuthold and Maria and Dick Parker. (My apologies if I accidentally omitted some names. We certainly appreciated everyone's efforts to make this such a successful event!) The planning committee was even able to have the weather cooperate beautifully! This was in December, remember.

Thanks also to Kent's Floral Gallery for the generous contribution of two beautiful floral arrangements that adorned the tables.

Just a few days later, we cheered the exact day of our centennial – December 11, 2019 – with an evening at the DogMaster Distillery. About 35 members and friends came by to share in the event and wish us well into the next century! And, while they were there, to take a photo with the suffragist cutout (see pg. 10). The brewery offered a special "suffragette" drink. Refreshments included delicious pizza and some of our centennial cake and cupcakes.

Another giant THANK YOU to members Kate Canterbury, Barbara Hoppe, Janet Thompson and Brianna Lennon (who so generously brought the pizza) for planning this fun event, and Meredith Donaldson for being our hostess as well as membership chair! And thank you to Joe Donaldson who set up the suffragist cutout for us! (It's more complicated than it looks). A special thank you to Lisa Driskel Hawxby, owner of DogMaster Distillery, for hosting us.

More to come! Can you believe it? There are more events planned in this centennial year! Look for information on pg.1 about the Equal Tea on Saturday, February 15, when we will join the AAUW-Columbia Chapter to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Susan B. Anthony at the First Baptist Church, with special guest appearances by Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony.

As always, I would like to thank all our members. We are so grateful for your support and participation.

Here's hoping you are having an enjoyable holiday season and wishing you all the best in the new year!

— Marilyn McLeod, President





## CELEBRATING LWVUS 100TH ANNIVERSARY WITH VALENTINES

The 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States is February 14, 2020. LWVUS has asked local Leagues to celebrate with a “Day of Action.” As LWV President Chris Carson said

“On February 14, 2020, the League of Women Voters will turn 100 years old. Since our founding, LWV has attracted a tenacious and powerful membership focused on realizing the potential of our democracy. In line with the fact that we were born from the suffrage movement, the theme of our 100th anniversary year is Women Power the Vote.

“On February 14th, we want to celebrate our history, our future—and most importantly, we want to celebrate the power of our members. We know that each League has been working hard to prepare celebrations for our 100th anniversary, and we want to harness the power you are building in your communities by amplifying the League’s message and visibility through an official Day of Action.”



The Columbia-Boone County League has decided our action will be to send Valentines thanking our elected officials for serving in their office. Look for details in the February *Voter* on how you can participate.

— Carol Schreiber

## ERA COMMITTEE UPDATE

The ERA committee will reconvene after the first of the year to plan a calendar-focused plan of attack to get the word out regarding the need for ratification of the amendment in the Missouri Senate.

Evelyn Maddox, LWVMO president, has appointed Teri to be the state point person to coordinate ERA efforts across the Missouri LWV branches. This can only be accomplished with the support of the committee here in our



branch.

Elsewhere in the country, both South Carolina and Virginia have ongoing ratification efforts.

Being the SHOWME state means we need to show them (the USA) by ratifying the ERA and enabling its federal ratification. This means we ALL need to talk about this within our circle of friends as well as notifying our state representatives and senators (by email, phone message or hand written notes).

— Teri Miller, [tstm49@gmail.com](mailto:tstm49@gmail.com)

## FEBRUARY 15 “EQUALI - TEA” WITH SUSAN B. ANTHONY AND FREDERICK DOUGLASS

(Continued from pg. 1) There will be tea (of course) and refreshments, and a special appearance by Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass (a.k.a., actors from the MU play “Votes for Women”).

Susan Brownell Anthony was born February 15, 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts. She partnered with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and in 1869, Anthony and Stanton founded the National Woman Suffrage Association. Anthony was tireless in her efforts, giving speeches around the country to convince others to support a woman’s right to vote.

In 1872 she voted illegally in the presidential election. Anthony was arrested for the crime, and

she unsuccessfully fought the charges; she was fined \$100, which she never paid.

It wasn’t until 14 years after Anthony’s 1906 death that the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave all adult women the right to vote. Her famous saying – “Failure is Impossible” – came true, but sadly she didn’t live long enough to see it.

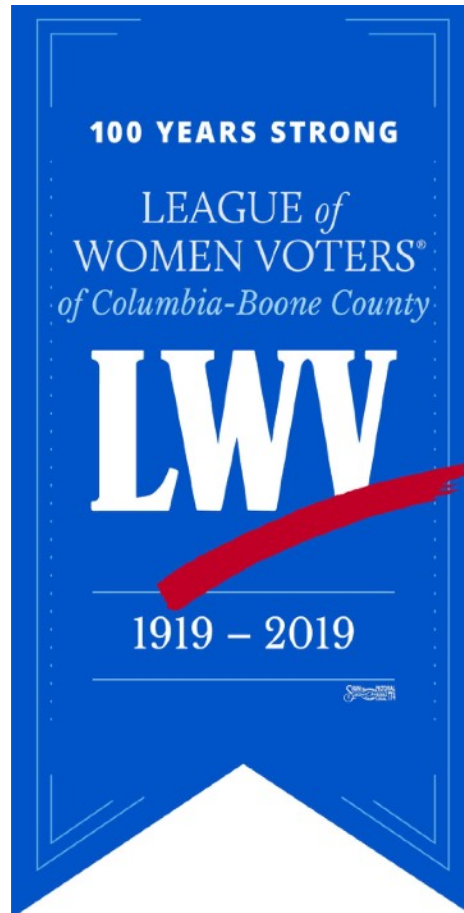
We hope you will plan to attend to celebrate Ms. Anthony’s great work! You can RSVP to: [lwvcbc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcbc@gmail.com) or call Marilyn McLeod at (573) 445-3500.

— Marilyn McLeod

## UPDATE: 100TH ANNIVERSARY LEAGUE CELEBRATIONS!

**Suffrage Exhibit “She Got the Vote”** Boone County History Museum and Culture Center, 3801 Ponderosa. The center is open Wednesday-Saturday 11 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. and Sunday noon - 4:30 p.m. The pen that Gov. Gardner used to sign the presidential suffrage bill is on loan until March 2020. **The exhibit is open until September 2020.**

**“Equali-Tea” 200th Birthday of Susan B. Anthony**, Saturday, **February 15, 2020**, 2-4 p.m. This event is cosponsored with the AAUW and will be held at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1112 E. Broadway. Actors from the MU play “Votes for Women” will attend, and a Girl Scout troop will perform the play they have written.



**“History of Women at the University of Missouri”**, Wednesday, March 11, 2020 Columbia Public Library, 7:00 p.m. (6:30 refreshments). Mary Beth Brown, speaker.

**March 11-15, 2020** Rhynsberger Theater, MU, “Votes for Women,” a play featuring Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass.

**April 7, 2020** Ragtag Cinema, “Suffragette” with Meryl Streep. Underwritten by Central Bank of Boone County. Screening is free and open to the public.

**May 8, 2020** Odyssey Concert, 7 pm, 6:45 preconcert. Women Composers of the 19th, 20th, and 21st Century. Varied Ensembles will perform works by Grazna Bacewitz, Amy Beach, Libby Larsen, and Clara Schumann. First Baptist Church 1112 E. Broadway.

— Pam Springsteel,  
[pspring@socket.net](mailto:pspring@socket.net)



Presidents of the LWVCBC posed at the 100th Anniversary Gala: Win Colwill, Elaine Blodgett, Kathryn Allen, Lael Von Holt, Marilyn McLeod, Carol Schreiber, Joni O'Connor, Peggy Placier, and Diane Suhler. Photo by Andrew Twaddle

## THEY'LL BE THERE!!

I have been a member of the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County (LWVCBC) for three decades now, mostly as a technological resource for my wife, Joni, who has served the Chapter in numerous roles, including as President. However, I have also seen the members of this famed group serve our community, state, and nation from an unusual viewpoint.

In 1976 two of my doctoral advisees from Massachusetts, who had accompanied me when I moved from the University of Illinois to MU to become Civil Engineering Department Chair, asked what we could do to honor and celebrate America in its bicentennial year.

We decided that the greatest resources at our command were those of the University's extension program. So, we inaugurated a series of public Environmental Engineering Forums. These monthly evening forums were held at the Memorial Union. We invited visiting speakers from USEPA and other federal agencies; state environmental regulators; spokesmen for Missouri industry; and scholars from many departments on the campus.

No one was required to attend these forums and no speaking fees were paid. However, they proved popular and frequently attracted local journalists who faithfully reported on the speakers and

discussions. (This lecture series continued for 15 years, until after I returned to the University of Illinois as Chief of the Illinois State Water Survey.)

What struck me most about the attendees at the Environmental Engineering Forums was their variety. If the topic was the siting of hazardous waste landfills in Missouri (initially, targeting areas 'where no one lived'), there would be a busload of dissenting attendees from north-central Missouri. Each substantive issue addressed appeared to bring forth a different interest group.

There was, however, one persistent element among the participants at the forums. At virtually every discussion, no matter how provincial or arcane, members of the LWVCBC could be found. Whether the topic was radioactive waste, acid rain, endangered species, pink planarians, wastewater treatment, or latchkey children, League members were there. Not passive, they spoke, questioned, and expressed sincere interest in every topic.

I believe there is a lesson to be learned from the devotion of these LWV members in addressing the range of critical issues facing us today. Wherever hostile forces threaten to damage Columbia, Missouri, and our nation, ... they'll be there.

— John T. O'Connor

## KEEP FAIR MAPS

Three bills were pre-filed in the Senate last week to repeal Clean Missouri, Amendment 1's redistricting reforms and allow partisan and racial gerrymandering after the 2020 Census.

All three resolutions propose to undo the provisions of the Amendment by eliminating the independent demographer, weakening the race equity standard, putting compactness as the top criteria, while making fairness and competitiveness the least important criteria, and hiding the data used for the final legislative district maps. Incumbents would have more protection, with political parties having more say in drawing legislative district maps than they did in the two-year redistricting process after the last census.

The resolutions introduced by Senators Hegeman and O'Laughlin would use Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) to draw the maps, excluding non-citizens and anyone under the age of 18. That is despite the fact that courts have not accepted

the standard of total voting age population (TVAP) in redistricting and the Supreme Court's unanimous decision in *Evenwel v. Abbott* in 2016 said legislative districts must be drawn using the total population.

Proponents want to put one of these plans on the August 2020 ballot. The only "sweeteners" to repealing Clean Missouri's redistricting reforms would be eliminating lobbyist gifts that Clean Missouri capped at \$5 and taking \$500 off the \$2,500 campaign contribution for Senate candidates.

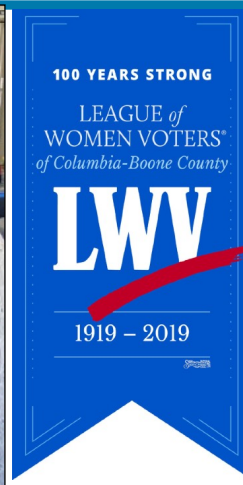
The League encourages members to contact their state representatives to ask them to respect Missouri voters and not replace Amendment 1's fair maps with a more partisan process.

— Nancy Copenhaver  
LWVMO Advocacy Committee Chair





Win Colwill and Carol Schreiber



**MORE 100TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
PHOTOS**



David Leuthold and Ellen Atkins



Lael Von Holt and Jean Sax



Kathryn Allen and Dan Atwill



Scott Christianson and  
Barbara Schneider



Marilyn McLeod and her  
daughter Alison Robuck



Photos this page by Ava Fajen



## Upcoming League Events!



### JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	<b>8 LWV on Paul Pepper</b> KBIA 8:50 a.m. <hr/> <b>Voter Service Committee</b> 2:30 p.m. 3109 Greenridge	9	<b>10 LWVMO State Board Mtg</b> Columbia	11
12	13	<b>14 Lunch &amp; Learn: National Popular Vote</b> Noon, Library	15	16	17	<b>18 Women's Network Legislative Retreat</b> HyVee on Conley Road 8:30 - 2:30
19	<b>20 Board Meeting</b> UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	<b>11 Lunch &amp; Learn: Importance of Local Elections</b> Noon, Library	<b>12 LWV on Paul Pepper</b> KBIA 8:50 a.m.	<b>13 Conversations with Legislators</b> ARC 7p.m.	14	<b>15 Equall-Tea with Susan B. Anthony &amp; Frederick Douglass</b> First Baptist Church 2-4 p.m.
16	<b>17 Board Meeting</b> UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd 6:30 p.m.	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



**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:**

Kate Canterbury (214-536-1300)  
Susan Clark (446-1678)  
Meredith Donaldson (289-3018)  
Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)  
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](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"

**Member News**

Welcome to new members

**Sean Goggins  
Melinda Farazi  
Suzanne de Chazal  
Linda Berent  
Patrick Porter  
and  
Elizabeth Garrett**



Tim Dollens spoke about Columbia's suffrage movement on Dec. 10 at the Columbia Public Library.

**2020 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

We have a total of 105 new and renewed members for 2020. There are still over 75 members who have not yet renewed! Are you one of those?

**We invite you to honor our 100th Anniversary year by increasing your membership payment Single \$100 (regular \$65) and Family \$135 (regular family \$100). This will help us cover expenses for our wonderful Anniversary events this year.**

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>



Leaguers and friends filled the Dogmaster Distillery Dec. 11 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the LWVCBC. Many posed for photos with the suffragist cutout (right) or tried suffragette cocktails (left). Above left, Linda Berent, Ava Fajen and Alison Robuck.

Pictured above right, Marilyn spoke to the group briefly about three bills that have been pre-filed in the MO Senate to undo the provisions of Amendment 1, "Clean Missouri," approved by MO voters in 2018. For more, see "Keep Fair Maps" on pg. 6.

For more about the anniversary events see Marilyn McLeod's report on pg. 2 and 3.

