



# The Voter

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

## MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK: HOW NEWS MEDIA AND CITIZENS CAN WORK TOGETHER



The August 12 League Presents CAT TV show will be a discussion of the Kettering Foundation grant to the Columbia Daily Tribune. Its purpose is to improve democratic practices and promote public deliberation. Part of a "learning exchange" are the Trib Talks online, interactive and moderated dialogue forums. These forums allow citizen-driven dialogue and there will also be in-person forums in August and September.

Our guests will be Sarah Read, the local consultant working on the Trib Talks forums project; Robert Ross, former spokesperson for the

city of Columbia and now with the Mizzou Alumni Assn.; and Peggy Placier, LWVCBC Co-President. Jim Robertson, managing editor, will moderate the show, which begins at 7:00 p.m..

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.

— Carol Schreiber, Co-President

## ANNUAL FALL KICKOFF PICNIC WILL BE SEPTEMBER 10

Our League will celebrate our members and welcome prospective members at our annual kickoff picnic on Thursday, September 10 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Stephens Lake Park in the Gordon Shelter. Entrance is on Broadway.

This is a great time to learn what our committees are planning for the fall, to re-connect with other League members and to introduce potential members to what the League is about. You will

also have an opportunity to sign up for committee(s).



We will provide sub sandwiches, drinks and tableware. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Bring a friend, neighbor or colleague to the picnic and introduce them to the League!

— Marilyn McLeod

## MEMBERS INVITED TO SPECIAL STATE MEETING AUGUST 22

On Saturday August 22 at the LWVMO office in St. Louis there will be a special meeting of the State LWV Board with others who would like to learn more about state and national LWV initiatives. If you arrive early there will be breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Then at 9:00 a.m. we will meet with our membership/leadership person, Donna Lauffer from Kansas. In addition we will host Karen Nicholson, our state liaison from Texas. Along with Peggy Placier, Karen will review what happened at the LWVUS Council meeting in June, and then Donna and Karen will be glad to discuss any issues of interest to local leagues.

Members who would prefer to come the day before may arrive in St. Louis on Friday

afternoon and either get a motel room or home stay with St. Louis



League members (please provide plenty of notice). We are currently thinking about having a great meal and possibly going to the Missouri Botanical Garden, as it is open on Friday nights.

The more members at the meeting, the more fun and informative it will be. It's a rare opportunity to converse with state and national LWV members. Contact State President Elaine Blodgett at [elainebloodgett@gmail.com](mailto:elainebloodgett@gmail.com). The LWVMO office is at 8706 Manchester Rd., Suite 104, St. Louis, MO 63144.

— Peggy Placier, Co-President

## JUNE AND JULY BOARD REPORTS

### June Board Report

Thirteen board members were present at the June 22nd Board Meeting. The Board heard reports on activities planned for the fall:

- The Fall Kick-off Picnic has been scheduled for September 10th at Stephens Park Lake
- Constitution Day Forum will be at the library on September 16th
- Lunch and Learn for September 15th will be a power point presentation on Money in Politics to kick-off our activities on this national study topic
- The LWV will have a booth at the Sustainability Fair in October
- The LWV will have a booth at the Mature Living Fair on October 9th
- The LWV will co-sponsor a forum on the Health and Environmental Effects of GMO's on October 20th at the library (other co-sponsors are the Columbia-Boone County Board of Health and the Columbia Public Library)

The LWV is working on educating citizens about ex-felons right to vote. An op-ed article for the Columbia Daily Tribune was printed on July 7th. ([http://www.columbiatribune.com/opinion/oped/ex-felons-have-voting-rights/article\\_e308c6e0-0790-50f6-98d5-15f5e2312622.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/opinion/oped/ex-felons-have-voting-rights/article_e308c6e0-0790-50f6-98d5-15f5e2312622.html).) We are also preparing a brochure to be distributed at a variety of locations throughout Columbia.

Possible topics for fall Lunch and Learn events will be: how to become a member of boards and commissions, and redistricting in Missouri.

There was also a discussion about changing the LWV from a 501c4 and 501c3 organization to only a 501c3 organization. We are looking at what other Leagues and LWVMO are doing before making a final decision.

### July Board Report

Thirteen Board members were present at the July 27th Board Meeting. The Board approved:

- Ed Fund requests for the Constitution Day Forum on September 16th and the GMO health and environment effects forum on October 20th
- The purchase of a portable microphone system for \$70 to use at events and Lunch and Learn
- Moving forward with changing our local LWV to a 501C3 organization from a 501C4 organization

Updates were provided to the Board on the brochure for Ex-Felon Voting Rights; locations to put the brochures; upcoming Lunch and Learn speakers; upcoming CAT TV shows; joint voter registration opportunity with AAUW; and the November luncheon.

We are looking for new Chairs for the following committees: Education, Fundraising and Civil Liberties. If you are interested, please contact me at [carolschrei@gmail.com](mailto:carolschrei@gmail.com).

The August board meeting will be on August 24 at 6:30 at the Broadway Christian Church at 6:30 p.m. All members are welcome to attend the meeting.

Get involved with your League of Women Voters!

Carol Schreiber and Peggy Placier  
Co-Presidents



## UPDATE: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND MONEY IN POLITICS STUDY PROCESSES

The study committee for the two consensus processes for 2015-16 met again on July 16. You may be wondering why we are doing two studies in one year. The two issues are linked. Some people (including former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens) believe that the only way to end runaway political spending in the aftermath of the Citizens United decision is to amend the Constitution to allow “reasonable limits.” In contrast, a recent New York Times op-ed argues against an amendment and in favor of public financing. See [http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/21/opinion/the-only-realistic-way-to-fix-campaign-finance.html?emc=edit\\_ty\\_20150721&nl=opinion&nid=19591289&\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/21/opinion/the-only-realistic-way-to-fix-campaign-finance.html?emc=edit_ty_20150721&nl=opinion&nid=19591289&_r=1)

### Process for the Constitutional Amendment Study, to be completed by Dec. 1:

- **Study the Documents:** Summaries of both questions and the reading/discussion guide (along with links to the full texts) will appear in the September *Voter*. The study committee is working on providing clear, condensed versions to help everyone understand the issues. If you want a preview, they are already posted at <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/constitutional-amendment-study>
- **Come to the Constitution Day Forum:** On September 16 we will hold a forum at the Boone County Government Building with Dr. Justin Dyer, an expert from the MU Political Science Department who can address the practical aspects, as well as the pros and cons, of amending the Constitution.
- **Attend the Consensus Meeting:** Probably in October, Marilyn McLeod and David Leuthold will facilitate the consensus meeting. Then we will send our verdict to Washington.

### Process for Money in Politics, to be completed by Feb. 1:

The Money in Politics review process will also get started this fall, but we have until Feb. 1 to gauge our level of consensus.

- **Come to the September 15 Lunch and Learn:** Our first step will be to pilot the provided PowerPoint presentation at the September Lunch and Learn for feedback. If all goes well, the speakers’ bureau may take it to community groups as a way of generating interest and even membership. We hope to video record this so that more people can view it.
- **Attend the November Forum:** We will hold a forum on Nov. 9 on the history of and controversies over “big money” in U.S. political races.
- **Study the Documents:** The questions have not yet been posted, but background materials are available at <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/money-politics-review>. We will include highlights in the November *Voter*.
- **Other Events?** This topic is of such great public interest that we may come up with more opportunities for discussion.
- **Attend the Consensus Meeting:** Probably in January.

Please participate in these two processes! We want our “consensus” to represent the views of the membership.

— Peggy Placier, Co-President

## LUCKY STIFF FUNDRAISER A HUGE SUCCESS!

All 112 Columbians lucky enough to attend the "Lucky Stiff" fundraiser on June 10 at the Columbia Entertainment Company enjoyed a delightful evening of delicious refreshments, congeniality, and hilarious entertainment. The event added over \$3900 to the League's operating fund which supports our citizen information, education and advocacy activities.

Several photos from the event were featured in the "Pulse Shots" section of the *Columbia Daily Tribune* ([http://www.columbiatribune.com/arts\\_life/pulse/pulse-shots-ballot-boosters/article\\_366f02df-1cf0-5930-b9cc-0f210902346b.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/arts_life/pulse/pulse-shots-ballot-boosters/article_366f02df-1cf0-5930-b9cc-0f210902346b.html)), and additional photos are included here.

Special thanks for the event's success go to the civic-minded businesses who contributed food, wine and door prizes. Many thanks go to these fine restaurants and businesses for their generous support: House of Chow, Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, 44 Stone Public House, Broadway Brewery, Room 38 Restaurant & Lounge, Sycamore, Tellers Gallery and Bar, Gerbes Supermarket, Macadoodles, Les Bourgeois Winery, The Columbia Entertainment Company, Upper Crust, and World Harvest Foods.

League members who contributed food or door prizes also deserve our sincere appreciation: Pam Springsteel, Linda Brown, Joan & Steve Mudrick, Zona Burk, Ruth Milledge, Eillen Atkins, Diane Suhler, Joni O'Connor, Marilyn McLeod and Marcia Smith. And a hearty "hurrah" for our expert wine servers: George Smith and John O'Connor.



Michael and Sarah Seat



Rachel Brekhus and Peg Miller

We want to also thank the many League members and friends underwriting this event, including Kathryn & Bill Allen, Elaine Blodgett, Rachel & Wayne Brekhus, David and Joanne Cowan, Jack & Win Colwill, Patsy Danner, Ava Fajen & Scott Christianson, Gloria Gesztesy, Leigh Huesgen, David Leuthold, Steve & Joan Mudrick, Marilyn McLeod, John & Joni O'Connor, Peggy Placier, Sharon Schattgen, Liz Schmidt, Sharon Schneeberger, Carol Schreiber, Sean Spence, Michael & Sarah Seat, Ian & Ellen Thomas, Janet & Marge Thompson, Michael Trapp, Marcia Walker, Hank Waters and Betsey Winnacker.

Many thanks go to the members of the Fundraising Committee for their hard work in putting this event together: Ellen Atkins, Linda Brown, Melinda Farhangi, Marilyn McLeod, Joni O'Connor, Liz Schmidt, Pam Springsteel and Win Colwill (chair).

The Board has already announced that the 2016 fundraiser will be the all-time musical favorite, "The Music Man", produced by the Columbia Entertainment Company. Mark Wednesday, June 8, on your calendars now!

— Win Colwill, Fundraising Chair



Barb Schneider and Vicki Hobbs



Lael Von Holt and Liz Schmidt



## NEW MEMORIAL PARK TO CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

This article is drawn from a message sent to us by the Elizabeth MacNamara, president of the LWVUS, which is partnering with the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association to create a memorial that celebrates the fight for women's suffrage, to be erected in time for the upcoming 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 2020.

It will be located in the Occoquan Regional Park in northern Virginia, which is near the former location of the Occoquan Workhouse, where dozens of suffragists were incarcerated in 1917 for picketing the White House. The inhumane treatment of those brave women became public knowledge and boosted the fight for the 19th Amendment. Although the park will be built by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (now known as NOVA Parks), the funds for the memorial must be raised privately.

LWVUS encourages all Leagues and individuals to consider donating. Learn more by visiting the Turning Point website, [www.suffragistmemorial.org](http://www.suffragistmemorial.org). Donations can be made through the website or by mail to TPSMA, 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. Gifts of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on the Donor Wall, and three state Leagues (Colorado, Tennessee, and Virginia) have already contributed at that level.

LWVUS believes building a memorial to the suffragists will create a place and the momentum to educate and inspire present and future generations to continue the fight for equal rights. We are urged to take part in efforts over the next five years to celebrate both the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage and 100 years of continuous League efforts in Making Democracy Work.



**Upcoming League Events!**



AUGUST 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUGUST 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 CAT TV: Making Democracy Work 7:00 p.m.	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 LWV Board Mtg 6:30 p.m. Broadway Christian Church	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	SEPT 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 CAT TV: 7:00 p.m.	10 Fall Picnic 5:00 p.m. Gordon Shelter Stephens Lake Park	11	12
13	14	15 Lunch & Learn: Money in Politics South HyVee Mtg Room Noon	16 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.  Constitution Day Forum Boone County Govt Bldg 7:00 p.m.	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 LWV Board Mtg 6:30 p.m. Broadway Christian Church	29	30			

**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)  
 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"



Time to think about dues for the fall of 2015 to pay for our 2016 events. Please send your dues to Membership Chair, League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 239, Columbia, MO 65205.

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**

We are pleased to welcome new members Ann Edwards and Patricia Doss.

LWV member Terry Ganey's book with Claire McCaskill, entitled *Plenty Ladylike: A Memoir*, will be published by Simon and Schuster on August 11. Ganey, a respected journalist and author, has studied Missouri politics for decades.



Suffragists picketing the White House in 1917.



**League of Women Voters**

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## **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 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 21, 2015. For August 2015 we recognize:

- **Mediacom, Sheila Kausler, Adam Cooney and Greg Dailey** for taping and broadcasting our forums and Lunch and Learn.
- **Columbia Daily Tribune** for providing extensive coverage of our forums, providing a matching paid ad with a free ad and putting our pictures in the Sunday Pulse section: **Jim Robertson**, managing editor, of the Tribune for moderating our CAT TV shows; and **Andy Waters** for being on the CAT TV show panel on Media Ownership and Shaping Public Opinion.
- **Rep. Stacey Newman** for her presentation on The State of the Right to Vote in September 2014.
- **Dr. Jolene Yoakum, Adam Dube and Kristie Wolfe** for being on our CAT TV panel Columbia High Schools: Options, Challenges and Opportunities in August 2014.

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

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