



# Missouri Voter

Volume 80, Issue 3

The League of Women Voters of Missouri

## LWVMO Holds Centennial Convention

Several observers and 55 voting delegates attended the 64th LWVMO State Convention on May 3-4 in St. Louis. The convention honored the League’s 100 years and featured several speakers on election reform.



*Alicia Gurrieri with Kathleen Boswell*

On Friday, LWVUS organizer **Alicia Gurrieri** presented a workshop to help League members empower voters and defend democracy.

**Amber McReynolds** gave the keynote and explained how she worked to get comprehensive election reform in Colorado, including automatic voter registration and address changes, mail-in ballots and central vote centers. “Let’s make the voting experience something everyone can celebrate,” she told convention delegates. The former director of elections for Denver, she is now the Executive Director for the National Vote at Home Institute and a senior strategic adviser on various election-focused projects across the country.

McReynolds was introduced by Eric Fey, Democratic Director of Elections for the St. Louis Board of Elections, who serves on the advisory board for Vote at Home. Fey suggested League members reach out to the 166 local election authorities to stress how changing the voting process would make their jobs

easier. He applauded the St. Louis League for using tablets to register voters online, saying it’s much more efficient. St. Louis County has started the procurement process for new voting equipment estimated to cost \$10 million. McReynolds said changing the process instead of the technology could save taxpayers in St. Louis County \$8 million.

St. Louis City Treasurer **Tishaura Jones** told convention delegates that Amendment 1 (Clean MO) was an incredible victory to clean up Missouri politics but the legislature is trying to override voter wishes and undo Clean Missouri. “It received 1.4 million votes – more than any politician,” she stressed, telling League members, “We can’t just play defense. We want positive, lasting change.” She updated the convention on proposed election reforms “to ensure an effective government of, by and for the people.” She also shared some exciting opportunities to make positive lasting changes for voters, including approval of alternative voting systems such as ranked choice.

LWV Awards were presented to Velma Bailey and Catherine Stenger. See more information on both recipients on page 3.



*Tishaura Jones*

Convention information continues on page 5, including photos from “What Woman Wore,” a fashion show that combined history and fashion, and a suffragist tour of Bellefontaine Cemetery sponsored by LWV of Metro St. Louis.

## Message from the President



*Evelyn Maddox*

Our long-awaited celebratory Missouri Convention is over, and what a Convention it was! There were delegates from seven of our eight leagues and debate was forthright, thoughtful, and civilly conducted. Thanks go to the Metro St. Louis League and our Joint Office staff for making the Convention such an enjoyable and productive experience. Board Directors from seven of our eight Leagues were elected to serve the next two years. Be sure to read the report of the Convention in this *Voter*.

The League of Women Voters has an exciting two years ahead of us: we are already celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LWV Missouri; in 2020 we'll celebrate both the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our national League and the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment. We will also have the important November 2020 presidential election for which voters' guides and public forums will be developed; voter registration and Get Out the Vote will be full speed ahead; and voter protection will be at the forefront. The work ahead will require us to use all our grassroots strength.

LWVUS has recognized that we Missouri Leagues are worthy of a \$25,000 Making Democracy Work (MDW) investment to help us build an even stronger grassroots base. MDW grant funds represent an investment which is to be used by local leagues and LWVMO for the following purposes:

- ★ Strengthen our statewide capacity to advance the Leagues' policy goals which include:
  - ⇒ Voter protection
  - ⇒ Democracy/election reform
  - ⇒ Federal voting rights compliance
  - ⇒ Access to the ballot
  - ⇒ Redistricting reform
  - ⇒ Other related activities
- ★ Increase the League's capacity to build and sustain effective social movements
- ★ Build programs with transformational elements which include meeting Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative (DEI) goals, supporting long-term sustainability and furthering the *Making Democracy Work* mission
- ★ Maintain data tracking in each local League and at the state level to amplify our impact

In addition to the MDW grant, we have been granted \$750 to send hundreds of postcards asking Senators Blunt and Hawley to request a Senate hearing on the For the People Act (HR 1/S949). The U.S. House passed this federal legislation in March to provide comprehensive and very significant reforms to empower voters in every state. Your local League may need your help to complete its share of the postcards.

LWVMO's Executive Director, Jean Dugan, is our administrator of the MDW and For the People Act grants. She will require cooperation and our commitment to stay focused on the grants' objectives and we must also be creative in tailoring programs to our communities.

There have always been challenges in our 100 years and League members have always risen to them. It is a pleasure to work with all League members as we rise to the challenges of our time.

— *Evelyn Maddox*, president

## Velma Bailey Receives the Harriett Woods Award

The League of Women Voters of Missouri presented the Harriett Woods Award for Exemplary Community Service to Velma Bailey at the 64th Convention.



*Louise Wilkerson and Velma Bailey*

A former teacher and St. Louis City Alderwoman for the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward, Bailey founded St. Louis Torchbearers 2 in 2011. This youth development organization trains young people to serve in leadership roles among their peers, in their communities, and throughout the world. The charity hosts an eight-week day camp in summer, provides cultural outings and field trips, and offers an after-school homework helper program.

Long-time League member Ida West nominated Bailey saying she “has exhibited outstanding service which goes beyond the normal scope of community volunteerism.” West said Bailey’s efforts helped provide nutritious meals to children, reduce violence among youth, keep children safe and provide quality non-school hours programming.

LWVMO Secretary Louise Wilkerson presented the award to Bailey. “Velma cares about kids and is very deserving of this recognition,” she said.

In accepting the award at the League’s state convention, Bailey said she considers it like a “Good House-keeping seal of approval” for her work.

Harriett Woods was the first woman to be elected statewide in Missouri, serving as Lt. Governor from 1984 to 1988. The League has given an award in her honor every two years since 1995.

## Catherine Stenger Receives the Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award

The League of Women Voters of Missouri presented the Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award to Catherine Stenger for her tireless work to register voters in the St. Louis area, including new citizens at naturalization ceremonies.

In 2018, Catherine contacted all libraries in St. Louis County, St. Louis city and St. Charles County. She then recruited more than 100 League members to register voters at over 55 library locations. The effort to reach high school students throughout St. Louis, Jefferson and St. Charles county was managed by two new members, under her direction and training. During 2018, the high school registrars visited 14 high schools, registering over 1,000 new voters.

Several times a month, Catherine and the registrars attend the naturalization ceremonies for new citizens. These registrations assisted up to 800 new citizens at 38 events from July 2017-June 2018. The total number of new voters registered last year was 2,086. This increase in voter registrations led to new interest in elections and legislative issues which resulted in additional candidate forums and speaker bureau requests during the 2017-2018 election cycles.



*Nancy Miller and Catherine Stenger*

As part of grant funding from LWVUS, Catherine began a program of providing the opportunity for newly registered voters to receive notices of upcoming elections and deadlines for absentee voting, either by an email or text.

## Making the Voting Process Easier

“It is imperative that we address the systematic flaws in the voting process that often exclude many voters,” Amber McReynolds stressed in her keynote address at the LWVMO convention. “We must design a process that puts voters first and makes the voting process convenient for all voters regardless of their political persuasion. Systematic reform will improve the voting experience, increase public trust in the election process and enhance trust in government and political systems broadly.”

The former director of elections for Denver, McReynolds is executive director of the National Vote at Home Institute, a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to ensuring the security of elections and putting voters' needs first.

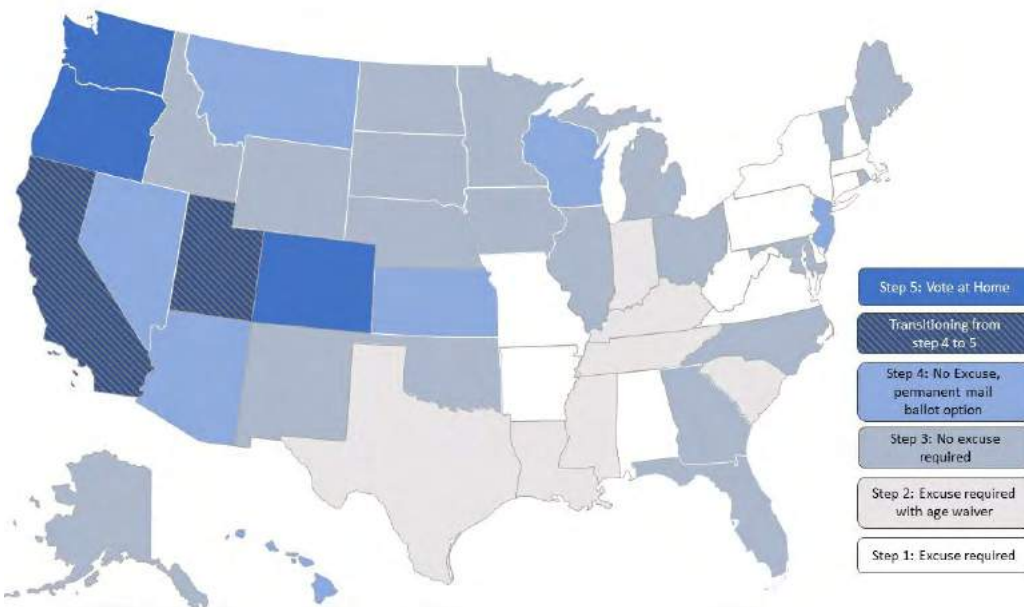
Colorado voters are mailed their ballots, giving them more than three weeks to research candidates and issues. Washington, Oregon and Hawaii also have vote by mail, and a large percentage of the vote in California, Utah, Nebraska, Arizona and Montana comes from mail-in ballots.

“It’s not super fun to be a voter in Missouri,” McReynolds said. She shared the following statistics:

- ◆ Missouri ranks 29<sup>th</sup> in the nation when it comes to how easy it is for voters to cast a ballot, according to a Northern Illinois University study released last year.
- ◆ Missouri ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in the nation last year in terms of state voter turnout, according to research by Nonprofit VOTE.
- ◆ Missouri is one of only 11 states that require voters to provide an excuse each time they need to receive an absentee ballot, according to a state-by-state Vote at Home report.

McReynolds suggested that the League work to have the state allow voters to request a ballot by mail permanently with no excuse required. Since 99 percent of votes are cast on a single day in Missouri, McReynolds said the state is also more vulnerable to cyber attacks.

“**It’s about who votes, not who wins,**” McReynolds says. She supports federal legislation to expand options for voters (HR 1/S949) as well as citizen-driven reforms at the state level.



*Amber McReynolds*

After the Colorado legislature approved comprehensive election reform, McReynolds said the cost per vote in Denver dropped from \$6.86 in 2008 to \$4.27 in 2016. She said Nebraska is a good example of how both parties can work together to simplify the voting process and save money.

For more information about  
Vote at Home,  
go to  
[www.voteathome.org](http://www.voteathome.org).

## 64th LWVMO Convention (continued from page 1)

The Convention approved the slate of officers: president: Evelyn Maddox (Kansas City/Jackson, Clay and Platte Counties); vice president: Marilyn McLeod (Columbia-Boone County); secretary: Louise Wilkerson (Metro St. Louis); and treasurer: Cindy Wunderlich (Metro St. Louis). Members of the board of directors for



**From left to right, Cindy Wunderlich, Evelyn Maddox, Marilyn McLeod, Nancy Copenhaver, Sharon Swon, Marge Bramer, Louise Wilkerson, Carol Schreiber, Joan Gentry, Kathleen Boswell, Melodie Armstrong and Nancy Miller.**

2019-2021 are Melodie Armstrong (Kansas City/JCP Counties), Kathleen Boswell (Sedalia-Pettis County), Marjorie Bramer (Southwest), Nancy Copenhaver (Moberly-Randolph County), Joan Gentry (Southwest), Nancy Miller (Metro St. Louis), Carol Schreiber (Columbia-Boone County), and Sharon Swon (Mexico-Audrain County). Pauline Testerman (Kansas City/Jackson, Clay & Platte Counties), Elaine Blodgett (Columbia-Boone County) and Lorraine Sandstrom (Southwest) will serve on the nominating committee.

During the business meeting, there were unexpectedly long (but civil) debates on some of the program and bylaws proposals, particularly about changing the bylaws on annual audits, meeting electronically, and changing the wording about the timing of state conventions. A concurrence on climate change submitted by the Columbia LWV was not taken up for consideration.



On Friday night, delegates and guests enjoyed *What Women Wore: A League of Women Voters Centennial Fashion Show*. Models shown at right are from the Volunteer Board of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. Nichole Burgdorf wrote the script, which is available at [lwvmissouri.org](http://lwvmissouri.org).

Members of three Leagues provided a look at local historic suffragists from their area, including Pauline Testerman reading about Phoebe Jan Ess (Kansas City); Kathleen Boswell (Sedalia) as Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Marilyn McLeod as Helen Guthrie Miller (Columbia). (Pictured above, left to right)

In honor of the League's centennial in 2019, the League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis hosted a Suffragist Tour of Bellefontaine Cemetery on Thursday. Guide Mary Ellen Vander Linden gave a presentation as Edna Gellhorn, LWVMO's first president.



## Making Democracy Work

LWV of Missouri's Education Fund received a \$25,000 grant from LWVUS to support its multi-pronged approach to Making Democracy Work in the coming year.

LWVMO plans to use many of the same successful strategies used in 2018 to educate voters about the need to have a fair and transparent legislative redistricting process after the next Census. Since the legislature adjourned without passing legislation to undo Amendment 1's reforms, our work will focus on educating voters on new initiated petitions and local work to make voting easier.

# MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

*MDW* grant funds represent pass-through funding which will help support such things as state League staffing, intra-state travel, expenses associated with

holding and attending public events, developing and submitting testimony, grassroots signature collection, advocacy efforts (501(c)(3) only, including litigation, and the development and distribution of educational materials and fact sheets that support these efforts.

As part of this exciting grant project, participating Leagues are required to participate in hands-on coaching to support their long-term fundraising and organizational growth/capacity building skills. Participating Leagues will also take part in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiative.

### Missouri Urban Boards and County Clerks 2019 Conference

Evelyn Maddox and KCJCP President Sandy Eeds attended presentations at this conference May-10. Eric Fey, the Democratic Director for the St. Louis County Board of Elections spoke about the status of the ACLU lawsuit filed in 2014 on behalf of the NAACP and a small group of private citizens. At issue was the composition of the Ferguson-Florissant School Board which was majority white in a district where 80 percent of the students are African-American while 50 percent of the voters are white. This was seen as a violation of the Voting Rights Act. The suit contended that the at-large voting system was the cause of this imbalance. As a result, cumulative voting was adopted allowing each voter to cast as many votes as the number of open seats. The voter could then give all votes to one candidate or distribute their votes to all candidates. The results of the April 2 election left the Board with four white and three African-American members, no change from its previous make-up.



*Eric Fey*

Ben Hovland, vice chair and commissioner of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission spoke about EAC's role in making elections easier and more efficient to administrate. Their website, [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov) provides extensive information of all kinds for the public and election officials

County Clerks and Election Board members believe fiscal notes, which seek the cost impacts of legislation, are very important even though responding to requests for this information is time-consuming. Costs are a big driver in voter reform attitudes in small, poorly-funded jurisdictions. Attendees said Amendment 1 had an impact in causing voting reform and predicted that improvements like no-excuse early voting, voting centers, closed primaries, etc. will be back even if no process improvements were successful this year.

#### Education Fund Contribution Received

A donor recently gave \$200 to the LWVMO Education Fund designated for LWV of Southwest Missouri. The donation was given in memory of Jean Elbert and in honor of the birthdays of Fern Harris and Ilga Ulse.

## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR 2019

**The Legislative Session ended on May 17. Here are some results of the session.**

**REDISTRICTING AND ETHICS RESOLUTION DIES IN SENATE COMMITTEE** (yea CLEAN) HCS/HJRs 48, 46 & 47 (Plocher) would have undone the redistricting reforms of Amendment 1, but did not pass due to a procedural mistake in the Senate committee on May 13. It appears very likely that majority party legislators will seek to force a similar provision through next session. HJR 48 would have significantly undermined the redistributing reforms approved by voters in Constitutional Amendment 1, also known as CLEAN Missouri. If approved by voters, the HJR 48 would have eliminated the nonpartisan state demographer and move partisan fairness and competitiveness to the lowest priority in the redistricting process. The House also added language that could shift the basis of redistricting away from total population, as is currently the practice in all 50 states. Stay tuned for next year!

SB 213 regarding the nonpartisan state demographer did pass which included some positive things such as protections against conflict of interest, providing for financial disclosure, and increased public availability of records. SS/SB 213 (Hegeman) has passed. The bill requires the nonpartisan state demographer to establish the Redistricting Public Comment Portal for the purpose of publicly accepting any comments, records, documents, maps, data files, communication, or information of any kind relating to the redistricting process. Any such submissions shall be accompanied by a disclosure that indicates whether the person making the submission was responsible in whole or in part for the submission or another person contributed money that was intended to fund preparation of the submission and, if so, the disclosure shall additionally identify each such contributor.

### **NO INITIATIVE PETITION CHANGES**

SS/SJR 1 (Sater): The joint resolution pertains to signature requirements for initiative petitions. SJR 1 would have more than doubled the signature requirements by mandating that petitions to amend the Constitution be signed by 15 percent of the legal voters in each of all eight Congressional districts (rather than the current requirement of 8 percent each from six of the eight districts) and also require a two-thirds majority for a petition measure to be adopted, except for a petition to repeal prior initiative petitions such as Amendment 1. This measure would make it harder and more costly for citizens to bring forward relevant policies through the initiative process. **This bill did not pass.**

### **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**

A restrictive bill prohibiting abortions at eight weeks of pregnancy except in medical emergencies passed and was signed by Governor Parson. It does not have exceptions for rape or incest.

### **TERM LIMITS BALLOT ISSUE**

There will be an issue on the ballot to ask voters whether to limit Missouri's lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, and auditor to serving two four-year terms in office (similar to current term limits for governor **and** state treasurer).

### **NO CHARTER SCHOOL EXPANSION**

Although committees in both the House and Senate quickly moved legislation allowing charter schools to be sponsored by outside entities (other than the local school board) and operate in districts around the state, these bills **did not pass**—mostly because of many communications from constituents and bipartisan opposition in many rural areas.

### **NO CONCEALED WEAPONS ON CAMPUS**

HB 575 (Dohrman): This language would have taken away local control of college and university governing boards to regulate concealed weapons on campus and allow any person, including students and staff, with a concealed carry permit to carry concealed weapons on campus. The Senate did not vote on this bill.

## Proclamation on Ratification of the 19th Amendment

LWVMO has submitted a request to the Governor for a proclamation in honor of Missouri's ratification of the 19th Amendment. Here is the draft of the text. (Note that the final version may be altered by the Governor's office.)

### Proposed Proclamation

*Whereas*, one hundred and seventy-one years ago in 1848, the first Women's Rights Convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York, marking the beginning of the bold and courageous Women's Rights Movement; and

*Whereas*, the Women's Rights Movement, as well as every other progressive social change movement, was made stronger by the women of Missouri from every race, class and ethnic background who served on the front line and ultimately played a unique and critical role in Missouri's history; and

*Whereas*, 100 years ago, on June 4, 1919, the United States Congress passed the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution and sent it to the states; and

*Whereas*, on July 3, 1919, Governor Frederick Gardner signed the bill that made Missouri the eleventh state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment; and

*Whereas*, Governor Mike Parson and the citizens of Missouri are proud to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Missouri's ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment on July 3, 2019; and

*Whereas*, the State of Missouri recognizes that the League of Women Voters of Missouri, which arose from the Missouri Woman Suffrage Association, has worked to educate and empower voters since its founding in October 1919, and

*Whereas*, Governor Mike Parson appreciates the struggles of the Suffragists and others who fought for the right to vote by all citizens;

*Now, therefore be it resolved*, that Governor Mike Parson honors those who worked tirelessly to obtain voting rights for all women and encourages all citizens to exercise their hard-fought right to participate in our political system.



**Gov. Frederick D. Gardner signs Missouri's ratification of the federal woman suffrage amendment on July 3, 1919.**



## *League Local Histories*

*President Evelyn Maddox has suggested that an article from each of our eight Leagues about their origin would be very timely in our 100th year. The idea is to publish one League's history in each of our bi-monthly issues in the next 16 months.*

The current League that represents the Kansas City area arose from a number of individual Leagues. Please contact Evelyn Maddox if you have first names for any of the women listed below.

**League of Women Voters of Kansas City** was formed out of the Kansas City Women's Suffrage League which was organized in 1910 by Mrs. Henry N. Ess, wife of Judge Ess. She was the first president and a very positive and outspoken lady. Mrs. Ralph Swofford, Vice-President, later went to Washington, D.C. as Chairman of the U.S. Employees Compensation Commission, an important government appointment. The *Kansas City Post* reported on a parade of 500 women and 17 motor cars in 1914. The "Men's League for Women Suffrage" was also in that parade. Mrs. Allen Poteet, Mrs. Thomas Leavitt, Mrs. Carl Balliett and Miss Lucy Smoot also served as Presidents of the K.C. Women's Suffrage League.

In 1920, K.C. League of Women Voters was organized with Mrs. A. Ross Hill as President. Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover spoke at a well-attended meeting in Muehlebach Hotel Ballroom. Emma Laird Longan, League Parliamentary, wrote the nationally-known "Parliamentary Rules Made Easy."

To improve city government and to oppose the Pendergast regime, the Kansas City League worked to extend the terms of the Mayor and Council from two to four years. The League also worked to put the police under state control. The Kansas City League and LWVMO were very active in three campaigns required to secure the Non-Partisan Court Plan. In addition to on-going Voter Registration and holding Candidate/Issue Forums, the Kansas City league studied the following issues over the past 90 years and has local positions on Education, Public Accommodations and Housing, Council-Manager form of government, Planning and Zoning, financing of city services, budget procedures, Clay County Government, Platte County Government, Jackson County Finance and Government and Mass Transit.

**League of Women Voters of Raytown formed in 1954** with Mrs. Tom Head as the first President. In the course of the 27 years the Raytown LWV studied and supported a sewer bond proposal and a large school bond issue which both carried. The League supported charter government for Raytown, but it was defeated. The League had supported an effort to redraw ward lines for more equitable representation and had studied school election procedures. In another facet of work, Voter Services, the League provided non-partisan information to voters about candidates and their views, and the facts on ballot issues and election procedures until it disbanded in 1981.

**Independence League of Women Voters was born in May 1959** with Connie Jonas as the first president. Other founders were Carolyn Slayton Weeks, Florence Gillham and Jeannette Paxton. Some elected officials in Independence were selling goods to the city and few seemed to know how the bidding was done. During the first year, the membership rose to 80 people who studied the various types of government. The League consensus favored a the city manager type of government that was adopted. Two League members, Connie Jonas and Eileen Souder, were elected to the commission that wrote the City Charter, which was approved in 1961.

**Council of the League of Women Voters of Jackson, Clay and Platte Counties was formed in 1966** to function as a Governing board for League study and action on a county level. A County Item was to be proposed and then adopted by each local League. The item would then be studied, consensus taken, and followed by action.

(continued on page 10)

## Local League Reports

### LWV-Kansas City/Jackson, Clay & Platte Counties

#### **Diversity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A Challenge for Our Time**

Josephine Njoroge shared an important message about white privilege with League members at the annual meeting in Kansas City. She said white privilege is not synonymous with the advantages of wealth and status, rather an indication of how being white entitles one to being treated better than if one were not white. Negative differences in treatment based on color persist by the police, as well as in our civic institutions of education, government, justice, and ordinary daily life.



*Josephine Njoroge*

Njoroge said civil rights have been legislated, we've been educated in diversity, and now we must individually socialize ourselves to be aware of how white privilege is still operating in our diverse society. Although people of color are keenly aware of racial bias in their daily lives, white people are usually unaware of the many ways in which it is manifested. She shared research showing that when a black person and a white person approach a sales clerk together, the clerk will generally respond to the white person first. Social change involves more than legislation intended to eliminate discrimination in our public life.

#### **Tackling the Effects of Tax Abatement Policies**

With a heightened interest in the city council and mayoral election, taxes and where tax dollars go, the Kansas City League's TIF Study, formally called Tax Abatement Study, found unanimous approval at the May 11 annual meeting. The study group has an ambitious schedule – to share the results by early next spring and reach consensus by the annual meeting next May. We have several goals for the study: to serve as an opportunity for members, especially new members, who may not be familiar with how the League reaches consensus; to introduce the League to potential new members; to work with other organizations that may have already worked on tax abatement issues; and last, but not least, develop a consensus position on TIF policies and procedures. Alice Kitchen and Cheryl Barnes are co-chairing the study.

### LWV-Columbia-Boone County

On May 1, Margot McMillen, author of *The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History*, spoke at the annual meeting. Ava Fajen received the Eleanor Goodge Award for Exemplary Service to the League .

### *League Local Histories* (continued from page 9)

By-laws were approved March 1, 1972, to transform the group into the Council of the League of Women Voters of Jackson, Clay and Platte Counties (or Tri-County League). A key purpose of this Council was to eliminate duplication of effort wherever feasible. With the formation of the Lee's Summit League and the Santa Fe Trails (at large) Unit of Raytown, the board was concerned about stretching volunteer time and money too thin.

Presidents of the Tri-County League were Joan Mills, Joyce Stark, Alberta Caquelard, Margie Thompson-Richcreek, Ellen Burger, Esther Myers and Elaine Lenz. It reached positions on the following: Housing, Solid Waste, County Finance, Mass Transit, County Government, Human Resources, Human Rights, Education, City Government, Alternatives to Welfare, County Institutions and Services for Juvenile Wards and Jackson County Jail. This Council disbanded in 1982 .



### Officers

**President:** Evelyn Maddox (Kansas City/JCP Counties)

**Vice President:** Marilyn McLeod (Columbia/Boone)

**Secretary:** Louise Wilkerson (Metro St. Louis)

**Treasurer:** Cindy Wunderlich (Metro St. Louis)

### Directors

Melody Armstrong (Kansas City)

Kathleen Boswell (Sedalia)

Marge Bramer (Southwest)

Nancy Copenhaver (Moberly)

Joan Gentry (Southwest)

Nancy Miller (Metro St. Louis)

Carol Schreiber (Columbia)

Sharon Swon (Mexico)

**Historian:** Linda McDaniel

**Parliamentarian:** Debby Howard

**LWVUS Board Liaison:** Karen Nicholson

**LWVUS MLD Coach:** Donna Lauffer

**Executive Director:** Jean Dugan

**Office Assistant:** Chantal Hoffsten



Suffragist *Edna Gellhorn* helped organize the Golden Lane, a silent demonstration at the 1916 Democratic National Convention. She helped found the League of Women Voters and was elected President of LWV of Missouri in 1919. A civic leader and reformer who worked to establish cleaner water and better safety standards for milk, she also advocated for racial equality and left groups or moved out of buildings when they excluded African-American women.

## League Public Policy Positions

The 2018-2020 Impact on Issues is now available as a download from LWVUS at <https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues>. It can be purchased from Amazon for \$5.95 plus shipping (no shipping charge on Amazon Prime). It is also available on Kindle on Amazon for \$3.95.

The Missouri Guide to State Action is being updated. You can find the most recent version at <https://lwvmo.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/guide-to-state-action-4-9-2019.pdf>



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## 2019 CALENDAR

- June 5:** Centennial of Congress passing the 19th Amendment
- July 3:** Centennial of Missouri ratification of the 19th Amendment
- July 4:** Metro St. Louis centennial entry in Webster Groves parade
- July 12:** LWVMO Board Meeting in Columbia
- Oct. 16-18:** Centennial of Missouri League of Women Voters
- Nov. 13:** Centennial of St. Louis League
- Dec. 11:** Centennial of Columbia League



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