



# Missouri Voter

Volume 77, Issue 6

The League of Women Voters of Missouri

November/December 2016

## LWVMO Fall Conference

The LWVMO held their Fall Conference on November 12, 2016 in Sedalia. About 45 people attended. Speakers included **Rudi Keller**, from the *Columbia Tribune*, who spoke about the recent election, gave background on voting trends over the years, and let us know that newspapers don't have the same resources for funding reporters as they once did, for example, to focus on areas such as the Legislature.



**Kathleen Boswell** told us how difficult it is to immigrate to the U.S. which she learned as a result of her experience with individuals trying to immigrate here.

**Kelly Wood** and **Leslie Carrier** shared their experience in growing the Springfield LWV. Their GOTV ("Get Out the Vote") campaign and strong committee structure were ideas to emulate; they said "Let's stop studying things and start doing things."



**Nick LaStrada**, the Pettis County Clerk, made a return appearance — by popular demand — to talk about the November election. He believes in providing the "red carpet treatment for our voters". They prepared for the largest turnout and he said he saw people come out to vote who he had never seen vote before.



**Professor Jack Hayes** from the State Fair Community College provided an entertaining and enlightening talk about water. The number one cause of water pollution is the suburban/rural small plots that add pesticides and herbicides to the water.

Our thanks to **Kathleen Boswell** who chaired this conference and to the members of the Sedalia LWV for their efforts in making this so successful.

(Photos, top to bottom: Rudi Keller, Kelly Wood and Nick LaStrada)

## President's Message



Dear LWV Members,

The other day, Brookings Institute had a video conference with the lengthy title "The halo effect and the economic value of faith-based organizations." Not only do religious organizations help with poverty issues, but they too, now work on certain political ones. Much of what was discussed caused me to think about late 19th and 20th century development of the awakening of non religious, charitable organizations, for the public good. At first just the wealthy participated, but as we see in the 21st century, all people can join if they have time and interest. Now they/we are called "non profits" and... interesting fact: the majority came into existence after 1950.

League was unusual: it began to organize in 1919 in local areas and states to help citizens, especially women become voters and to be knowledgeable of ballot issues. It was a different kind of charity: non-partisan, studying local and state issues, and using consensus to decide positions to take on those issues. We look into various public policy subjects and present informational meetings. *You know this, but many people don't.*

We continue into the 21st century with those same objectives and being needed more than ever. Think about it: we have to help many who don't have a picture ID for voting or don't understand Voter ID and picture ID or that the law doesn't take effect in Missouri until June 2017. We must continue to listen to our community about issues important to them, participate with other groups on similar issues and most importantly, reach out though our voter information to everyone. It takes time and work, but we've been doing it for about 100 years.

May I add a quote from our national President, Chris Carson:  
There's more we can do to leverage the increased interest in and urgency of our work. The basics of volunteer engagement are key:

- **ASK.** Ask your social media networks, community partners, and your own members to take advantage of this unique opportunity and talk about the League as a place for people who want to make a difference.
- **Be specific** about what the League will be doing to empower and protect voters in your state next year. **Respond quickly to new potential volunteer interest, and be ready to suggest specific, concrete volunteer opportunities for new people to get involved soon** (such as voter registration drives or upcoming voting rights advocacy action).

The challenges are many, but that has never stopped us before. Let's get to work!

**Now as they say, 'Let's Roll'**

—Elaine Blodgett, president, LWVMO



**Photo Voter I.D.**

Although our efforts did not work on defeating Amendment 6, *congratulations to all League members for the work everyone did on Amendment 6 and for all the candidates' meetings, voter information services and voter registration work. We worked hard; we won some and lost some. What we know now is that we need to remain active in our communities on their issues and active in learning about what is going on in the state legislature and then going to discuss issues with our legislators.*

Here's some of what we did on Amendment 6: Distributed thousands of flyers and handouts to educate voters about Photo Voter ID; Ran radio ads across the state to present the facts about Amendment 6 ; Gave many presentations to community groups about the issue; Had many one on one conversations with citizens to persuade them to reject this infringement on our right to vote; Interviewed by radio and TV media.

### **LWV - Contributions Recently Received**

#### ***LWVMO***

In memory of Sue Wolverson from Shirley Wolverson.

In memory of Barb Davis from Mary Ott.

In memory of Liz Schmidt from Marilyn McLeod.

#### ***LWVMO ED FUND***

Contribution from Judy Koepke for voter service.

In memory of Barb Davis from Mary Ott and LWV Mexico Audrain County designated for LWV Mexico-Audrain County.

In memory of Barbara Davis from Peg Prendergast designated for LWV KC/JCP Counties.

In memory of Eleanor Goodge from John Goodge designated for LWV Columbia-Boone County.

In memory of Liz Schmidt from Virginia Van Hove, Susan Hinnant, Susan Tillema, Sharon Curry, Carol Schreiber, Henry J. Waters, III, and Joan & Stephen Mudrick designated for LWV Columbia-Boone County.

**Donations enable us to do our work for Missouri and Missouri League.  
Please give to LWVMO today.**

***To be tax-deductible make your check payable to LWV MO Education Fund. For non tax-deductible donations, make your check payable to LWV MO.***

—Mail to: LWVMO, 8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104, St. Louis, MO 63144.

## Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award

1. The Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award is based on the League of Women Voters principles or positions at the national, state or local levels.
2. The activity to be nominated must be initiated and completed at the local level.
3. In order to be eligible for the bi-annual award, the activity must be completed within two years of receiving the award.
4. The award will be given at the League of Women Voters of Missouri State Convention.
5. The winner will be determined by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Missouri or a committee named by the President of the League of Women Voters of Missouri and approved by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Missouri.
6. The award may be for either an action project or an education project.
7. The award may be given to an individual member of the League of Women Voters or to a League of Women Voters chapter.

### Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominee (League or Individual): \_\_\_\_\_

If nominee is an individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Local League: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of person submitting nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet of paper:

1. Give the League principle or position on which the project was based.
2. Give the time frame for the project. For the 2017 award, the project had to take place from May 2015 (the last LWVMO Convention) and be completed by April 2017.
3. Describe the project and the number of people involved in the project.
4. State the outcome of the project and its effects on the community.
5. Identify which resources were used.
6. Attach: samples of publications, brochures, video tapes, news clippings and information about other publicity, etc.

***Nominations must be received by close of business March 15, 2017***

Mail to: Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award  
League of Women Voters of Missouri  
8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104  
St. Louis, MO 63144

### The Harriett Woods Award For Exemplary Community Service

1. The Harriett Woods Award for Exemplary Community Service, hereafter known as the Award, is presented bi-annually at the League of Women Voters of Missouri State Convention.
2. The recipient of the award will be an individual.
3. The recipient of the award will be a member of the League of Women Voters of Missouri at the time the Award was earned and received.
4. Anyone may submit a nomination.
5. Nominations must be in writing and submitted as announced on the nomination form.
6. The final decision of the recipient will be made by a committee appointed by the President of the League of Women Voters of Missouri.
7. The service or activity does not have to be a League of Women Voters' project, but must be compatible with League of Women Voters' mission and not in conflict with League of Women Voters' program positions.
8. The Criteria for the award will include, but will not be limited to:
  - a. An individual who goes beyond the normal scope of service;
  - b. A service or activity that affects a large number of individuals;
  - c. A service or activity that enhances a community (not necessarily a city).

### Harriett Woods Award - for Exemplary Community Service Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's League: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of individual submitting the nomination:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet of paper:

1. Describe the nominee's project/service/activity (hereafter referred to as Project).
2. State why this Project was needed.
3. State who benefitted and approximately how many people benefitted.
4. State, if any, the Project's long range effects on the community.

Please attach documentation, photographs, copies of awards, copies of commendations, etc.

***Nominations must be received by close of business, March 15, 2017***

Mail to: Harriett Woods Award Nomination  
League of Women Voters of Missouri  
8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104  
St. Louis, MO 63144

### A Message from your State Nominating Committee

Every two years, delegates to LWVMO State Convention elect a new State Board. If you or another member of your League has decided 2017-2019 would be the time for you to serve, please complete this nomination form and return it to our committee for consideration. Thank you.

—Sue Brockett, Nancy Copenhaver, Lois Detrick, Janie Riley and Lael Von Holt, chair.

#### *Form for Missouri State Board Nominations*

##### Part A (General Information)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Local League Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Office or Board Portfolio: \_\_\_\_\_

##### Part B (Optional Information)

The following area is for you to describe your reasons for nominating, qualifications of, interesting biographical information about the above named person. (Attach additional page if needed).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to: Lael Von Holt, 378 Crown Point, Columbia, MO 65203 or email to: laelvonholt@gmail.com.

Deadline: February 1, 2017



## Local League News

### *LWV of Southwest Missouri*

#### *2017 Call to Action:*

Based on new member enthusiasm and for many, reactions to the election, the League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri is ready to take action to improve our democracy, communities, and citizens.

At our November unit meetings, members identified topics to explore and wanted to get the ball rolling right away in 2017. So, our board created work groups or teams take action in a specific area in the coming year. The work groups will be organized around themes such as: Money in Politics, Trash and Recycling Options in Springfield, Improving Landlord/Tenant agreements, and Amendment 6 Actions (helping citizens get necessary documents for state IDs).

In January we will host a general meeting, our Take Action Rally, where members will select one of these themes and meet in groups to develop calls to action.

—Kelly Wood & Leslie Carrier  
Co-Presidents



## CALENDAR

### 2017

- LWVMO Board  
-January 13 -  
Columbia  
(snow date Jan 20)
- LWVMO Board-  
March 11—  
Columbia
- LWVMO Board  
April 28—  
Springfield
- LWVMO Con-  
vention—April  
28-29—  
Springfield

### Officers

**President:** Elaine Blodgett  
**Vice President:** Mary Merritt  
**Secretary:** Peg Prendergast  
**Treasurer:** Debby Waite Howard

### Directors

**Kathleen Boswell:** Public Relations  
**Nancy Copenhaver:** Tax Policy  
**Dianne Modrell:** Health  
**Kathleen Farrell:** Voter Service  
**Linda McDaniel:** Elections  
**Marty Ott:** Legislative Action  
**Marilyn McLeod:** Missouri Voter  
**Janie Riley:** Membership Development

### Nominating Committee

**Lael Von Holt,** Chair  
**Lois Detrick**  
**Sue Brockett**

### LWVUS Board Liaison:

**Karen Nicholson**

**LWVUS MLD Coach:**  
**Donna Lauffer**

**Webmaster:**  
**Rachel Brekhus, Marilyn McLeod**

**Joint Office Executive Director:**  
**Anna Mennerick**





**MISSOURI VOTER**  
League of Women Voters of Missouri  
8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104  
St. Louis MO 63144-2733

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### ***First Call to Convention***

The League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri will serve as hosts for the League of Women Voters of Missouri Spring Convention in Springfield. The Convention will be held on April 28 and 29, 2017. The draft schedule, at this time, is for a late afternoon meeting on Friday followed by a social event/reception (similar to the event held at the Tower Club the last time we hosted the convention) with a full day of meetings on Saturday, April 29. We are still working on location and speakers.

The current committee consists of Lorraine Sandstrom, Belinda Pearson, Kate Evert, Kelly Wood and Leslie Carrier. If you are interested in assisting the committee, please contact Lorraine at [lsandstrom@gmail.com](mailto:lsandstrom@gmail.com). We look forward to again hosting the Spring Convention in Springfield, so save the date.

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Voice: 314-961-6869

Email: [league@lwvmissouri.org](mailto:league@lwvmissouri.org)