



The League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri

# February 2016 Newsletter

## UPCOMING UNIT MEETINGS

### February Unit Meetings

The February unit meetings will be **Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30pm at Nonna’s South, 3512 S. National and **Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>** at noon at Drury University Findlay Student Center.

Crystal Brigman Mahaney, Deputy Director at Missouri Health Care for All and fellow League member will present health policy updates to both February unit meetings. Crystal will cover the legislative updates in the campaign to close the Coverage Gap by expanding Medicaid, other important health policy issues the organization is championing and important opportunities to take action.

### Sneak Preview of Upcoming Unit Meetings

March Unit Meeting – Update on the Greene County Jail diversion and overcrowding issues  
April Unit Meeting – Immigration issues in Southwest Missouri

*\*Directions for Tuesday Unit Meeting: From Central and Summit, go north on Summit and park in the first lot on your right or left. The Student Center is the red brick building in the northwest corner of the parking lot on your left. Go up the stairs by the pergola and Room 204 is immediately inside.*

## CUBA AND COCKTAILS EVENT

Join us on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the home of Carolyn Gerdes to hear Ann Elwell and Kay Murnan share their stories and impressions from their recent trip to Cuba. Ann and Kay went with the League of Women Voters of Florida’s *Sisters Across the Straits* tour.

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES

Membership directories will soon be sent out by email. If you are unable to print the directory or need a hard copy version, please contact your unit leader. If any of your information is not correct, please email Leslie at [rlcarrier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlcarrier@sbcglobal.net).

## MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK UPDATE

The scare of snow on January 21<sup>st</sup> resulted in the cancellation of the Ozarks Mental Health Network (OzMHN) meeting.

The next OzMHN meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 3:30-5:30pm. Our guest speaker is Alyson Harder, of Heartland Behavioral Health. She will be sharing information about Medicaid Managed Care. This meeting is being hosted by Ozarks Community Hospital, in their conference room. Meetings are open to the public. RSVP at [ozmhnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:ozmhnetwork@gmail.com).

## MENTAL HEALTH LEGISLATIVE RALLY

The Annual Mental Health Legislative Rally has been scheduled for February 24, 2016 from 1:00-2:00pm at the State Capitol and NAMI is inviting League members to participate. NAMI Southwest Missouri is coordinating transportation from Springfield for those that would like to attend. NAMI Missouri has funding available to cover the cost of a bus and driver if there is a group from Springfield/Southwest Missouri that is interested in participating in the rally.

If anyone would like to participate and “ride the bus,” please let Debora Biggs ([debora@namiswmo.com](mailto:debora@namiswmo.com)) know as soon as possible. More information on the travel and rally schedule and the webinars will be provided as participants are finalized.

## MISSOURI PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The Missouri Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday, March 16, 2016. Primary voters may select only one party’s ballot. Voters who do not wish to give a political party preference may request an issues only ballot, if one is available in that particular jurisdiction. To see a list of candidates go to <http://www.sos.mo.gov/>



## MONEY IN POLITICS UPDATE

We had a great discussion for a Saturday morning on the *Money in Politics* study update! We had a robust conversation and came away from the meeting very enlightened on the intricacies of campaign finance and free speech! We left there thinking we had learned more by Noon than most people would learn all day! Our consensus results, along with our comments, have been submitted to the National LWV office.



## IN MEMORANDUM

League member Jean Bardy's husband, Jim Lampe, died on January 16th. Jim was a former League member himself, much to Jeanie's delight! This past December, he completed his career at Missouri State University in the College of Business Administration as a professor of Business Ethics. While at MSU, he also established the Center for Business Ethics. The League sends our condolences to Jean and her family.

## LWV MISSOURI LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

Are you receiving the *Legislative Bulletin* from the LWV Missouri? This is a special bulletin that is emailed from the state league throughout the legislative session from mid-January through mid-May. It has updates on legislation, pending bills, and notices of upcoming items of interest. IT will also have ACTION ALERTS to encourage everyone to contact their representatives on critical issues pertaining to League positions. If you are not receiving it via email, please notify Ilga Vise at [ivise@drury.edu](mailto:ivise@drury.edu).

## A BIG THANK YOU!

Thanks to the committee of Susan Rubino, Debbie Good, Angie Filbeck and Shelby Butler who reviewed the League's current local positions to determine if any of them are in need of an update, since many of our positions date back several years. The committee made several recommendations which will be presented to the Board. One recommendation was to reformat and reorganize the positions so they are easier to read and understand. The committee will work on this and have a new version ready to review at the Annual Meeting in May.

## Upcoming Dates

### Cuba and Cocktails

Tuesday, February 9, 2016  
Hosted by Carolyn Gerdes

### February Unit Meetings

Monday, Feb 15, 2016, 5:30pm  
Nonna's South, 3512 S. National

Tuesday, Feb 16, 2016, Noon  
Drury University Findlay Student Center

### OzMHN Meeting

Thursday, February 18, 2016  
Location: Ozarks Community Hospital

### Annual Mental Health Rally

Wednesday, February 24, 2016  
Location: State Capitol

### Missouri Presidential Preference Primary

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

### March Unit Meetings

Monday, March 21, 2016, 5:30pm  
Nonna's South, 3512 S. National

Tuesday, March 15, 2016, Noon  
Drury University Findlay Student Center

### OzMHN Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2016  
Location: TBA

### Women's Equality Pay Day

Tuesday, April 12, 2016  
Location: State Capitol

### OzMHN Meeting

Thursday, April 21, 2016  
Location: TBA

### Annual Meeting

Monday, May 16, 2016  
Location: TBA

# MEET THE LEAGUE

By Angie Filbeck



## Mary Kay Hoops

Mary Kay is a private duty pediatric nurse with Integrity Home Care and she loves working with special needs children. Though she is a nurse now, she took a non-traditional route to find her calling. In 1980 she graduated from Drury College with a bachelor's degree in theater. As a

Special Instructor at Drury, she starred as the theatrical costumer for several years. Her follow-up role was stay-at-home mom until her daughter started kindergarten. Next up she was a cast member in Bass Pro Shops Catalogue Division for 15 years before deciding that she wanted a greater role in life. In 2009 she earned her BSN from Cox College of Nursing's accelerated program, and at the proud age of 51 was awarded with her registered nurse license. Mary Kay took the stage at Integrity in 2010.

Mary Kay lives in Springfield with Randy, her husband of 33 years. Their only child, Rachel, was recently married and lives in Mesa, Arizona with her husband Jeremy. Mary Kay has a variety of interests including, "but not limited to," travel, classical music, museums, archeology, live theater, animals, baseball (we hope she likes the Royals!), and wining & dining with Randy.

According to Mary Kay, the League is a good place to meet people who share similar interests and values, and are also well-informed, well-educated, and generally interesting and pleasant to talk to. She has only been an official League member for a year, but as the spouse of long-time member Randy Hoops, it feels like much longer! We are glad she chose to make it official!

## Randy Hoops

Randy has been a League member here in Springfield for 20 years. He earned his BA from Drury in 1980 and is now a retired television broadcast engineer. In his spare time, he likes to take free courses through MSU 62, a program at Missouri State University that allows mature adults over the age of 62 to enroll in classes and show those young'uns a thing or two.

Randy was very succinct with his answers to the Member Profile Questionnaire, so we are glad that Mary Kay was more forthcoming. Since she has such a wide variety of interests, we are left to assume that Randy may share at least

some of them. Our best guess is that he enjoys the "wining & dining" activity and we hope that traveling is also tops on his list. His wife is obviously a theater fan, so we bet he has a soft spot for that as well.

Randy does tell us that their daughter, Rachel, is 28 years old, which happens to be information that Mary Kay withheld. And since Mary Kay and he both graduated from Drury in 1980, we just bet that they were college sweethearts.

We are glad that Randy has been an active League member for the past 20 years. And we are also glad that he recruited Mary Kay. Our suspicion is that he may have a lot of stories to tell, if you just ask the right questions.

## COMING IN 2016!

**Candidate Forum** – March, 2016. Plans are in the works for the League to host a forum in late March for the six candidates vying for three positions on the Springfield School Board. More details will be announced in the March newsletter.

**Celebrate the Vote** – September 3, 2016. The celebration planned for next September is not for the 100th anniversary of the right to vote (that will be in 2020, as we all know). Rather, this is the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the *Walkless-Talkless Parade*, which took place during the 1916 Democratic National Convention in St. Louis. This was a staged event where thousands of women in white dresses with yellow sashes and umbrellas stood on both sides of the street and formed a "golden lane" that Democratic delegates had to walk through to get to the Convention on its opening day. It was an attempt to draw attention to the suffrage campaign for voting rights for women.

**Candidate Forum** – October 2016. The Missouri Library Association will be hosting its annual state conference in Springfield in October 2016. They would like to hold a candidate forum for those running for Missouri Secretary of State in the November 2016 election. The Secretary of State's position is responsible for allocating monies for public libraries.

