



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS
OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

The League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri

May 2016 Newsletter

GENERAL MEETING

The LWV General Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at the MSU Meyer Alumni Center (300 South Jefferson) from 7-9pm. The public is welcome to attend this event.

"Building Collaboration to Meet Mental Health Needs"

Presented by Chief Executive Officer Mike Brose, MSW, and Associate Director & Chief Housing Officer Greg Shinn, MSW, of Mental Health Association Oklahoma, speak nationwide to help communities break down silos and improve mental health services through collaboration.

MHAOK originated in 1955 in Tulsa as one of the first mental health advocacy associations in the nation. It currently operates statewide with landmark community cooperation in housing and support programs, operating more than 900 units for people with mental illness.

OZARKS MENTAL HEALTH CARE NETWORK (OZMHN)

NEWS

Two Days of Learning May 5-6th

Open to members of League of Women Voters and Ozarks Mental Health Network.

Presentations by Chief Executive Officer Mike Brose, MSW, and Associate Director & Chief Housing Officer Greg Shinn, MSW, of Mental Health Association Oklahoma. They speak nationwide to help communities break down silos and improve mental health services through collaboration.

[<See full schedule here.>](#)

CONVOY OF HOPE EVENT

Saturday, May 7, 2016, 10am-4pm
Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex

Our league will be hosting a voter registration booth at this one-day community support event. They are expecting several thousand guests through the doors during this event, so it's important for the League to have a presence and "do our thing" by registering voters. If you'd more information, please contact Kelly Wood at kellywood@missouristate.edu.

ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar now for our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 17th, Drury University Hoblit Suite at 5:30pm social time, 6:00pm dinner. Please note it is a new day and location from past years. You won't want to miss our exceptional guest speaker! League member Kay Chaudhri will share her experiences of living and teaching in the Middle East for thirteen years.

In 1976, with her children married or away at universities, Kay left Missouri to teach in Bahrain. At that time, she intended to stay for a year or two before returning home or transferring to a location in Europe. Instead she stayed for thirteen years, challenged by teaching in an international school and fascinated by Arab culture. Kay returned in 2006 and 2009 to visit old friends and former students. In 2009, she and another teach traveled for three weeks through Iran. During her years in the area, she visited Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Abu Dhabi. Kay has a unique perspective on this area to share with all of us!

Cost for the dinner is \$20. **Please pay by Tuesday, May 10th**. Send your checks, written to LWV of Southwest Missouri, to P.O. Box 3036, Springfield, MO 65808-3036. More information, including directions to the new location on campus, will be sent prior to the dinner.

PROPOSED BUDGET

The proposed budget for 2016-2017 and proposed bylaw changes will be sent out in a separate email prior to the Annual Meeting on May 17th. Please review this information in advance and be prepared with any questions, as we will vote on these items at the Annual Meeting.

UPDATED LWVUS POSITION

The League of Women Voters announced in April a new [Money in Politics](#) position and its support for legislation to reform the Federal Election Commission (FEC). The positions were based on consensus reached by 336 local and state Leagues and ILOs who participated in the Money in Politics study. In addition to the traditional reason for campaign finance regulation – preventing corruption and undue influence in government – the League now supports several other goals, including: enhancing political equality for all citizens, protecting representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns,

providing voters sufficient information about candidates and campaign issues to make informed choices, ensuring transparency and the public’s right to know who is using money to influence elections and enabling candidates to compete equitably for public office.

HARD WORK PAYS OFF!

Our league won the Rachel Farr Fitch Health Care Award at the Spring Conference in Columbia on Saturday, April 30th! This award is given out every two years at the League Spring Conference to recognize a significant health care program or initiative in a local community.



Caption: Ann Elwell, Kelly Wood, Leslie Carrier, Lois Detrick accepting the award.

Our award was in recognition of our 2-year study on mental health services in Greene County and the inception of the Ozarks Mental Health Network. They gave a very nice description of all the work done the past two years and read our position statement from our mental health study. It was a great recognition for all the hard work put in by the study committee and our League in working on this very important issue in our community. Well done, everyone!

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Save the date! There will be a new member orientation on Sunday, June 5th at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Ilga Vise.

DIALING FOR DOLLARS

On April 24, 2016, the show 60 minutes aired a segment called “Dialing for Dollars”. Nearly every day, members of Congress spend hours on the phone asking supporters and even total strangers for campaign donations. This is an in-depth look at that process. [Click here to watch](#)

Upcoming Dates

OzMHN Two Days of Learning

Thursday-Friday, May 5 & 6, 2016

See schedule for program times and locations

LWV General Meeting

Thursday, May 5, 2016; 7-9pm

MSU Meyer Alumni Center, 300 S. Jefferson

Convoy of Hope Springfield Community Event

Saturday, May 7, 2016, 10am-4pm

Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Location: Drury University Hoblit Suite

National Convention

June 16th-19th, 2016

Washington, D.C.

Summer Sounding Boards

June 18th, 9:30am

TBA: Location and speakers

Summer Sounding Boards

July 16th, 9:30am

TBA: Location and speakers

Summer Sounding Boards

August 20th, 9:30am

TBA: Location and speakers

Celebrate the Vote

100th Anniversary of the Walkless-Talkless Parade

Saturday, September 3, 2016

Naturalization Ceremony

Saturday, September 17, 2016

MSU Plaster Student Union

National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Secretary of State Candidate Forum

Monday, October 3, 2016; 3:00pm

University Plaza



IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION

At the April unit meetings, we heard speakers from the Springfield Impacting Poverty Commission. Poverty is a growing problem in our community. It's a problem that some of us don't really understand, and most of us don't know how pervasive poverty is in our community. This may be a perfect opportunity for the league to partner with them and advocate for change in our community. A copy of the full report and call-to-action is on the website www.Impactingpoverty.org

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

This will be of interest to everyone since we studied the Consitutional Amendment process last fall. In April, the Missouri House of Representatives passed a measure calling for a convention of states. The convention of states comes from Article Five of the United States Constitution. The article says if 34 states pass similar resolutions calling for the convention, state lawmakers from all 50 states can meet to draft and propose a constitutional amendment. To see the story [KY3 Story: Missouri House passes convention of states resolution](#)

TREK ON, DEBBIE, TREK ON!



League member, Debbie Good started her hike of the Continental Divide Trail on April 19th. She began at the Mexican/U.S. border and has plans to hike to the Canadian border if everything goes as planned, a trip which will take about 6 months and cover 3000 miles.

She has trekked over 130 miles so far and is north of Silver City, New Mexico. She is hiking solo, although she does see fellow hikers also on the same trail. Her backpack weighs only 30 pounds, including her food and water. We will continue to include dispatches from Debbie during the summer newsletters. We all send our best wishes and may the wind be at your back, Debbie!



Every 100 miles of the trail is marked with some sort of designation.

There is another hiker with her silver umbrella, used as protection from the sun. Hot and desolate country in southern New Mexico.



COMING IN 2016!

Summer Sounding Board – Remember, we don't have our usually monthly meetings during June, July and August, but we do have our wildly popular Summer Sounding Board gatherings. These are a casual coffee/brunch gathering held the 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:30am at a member's home. Mark these dates down now: June 18, July 16, August 20. More details to come on locations and speakers.

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.



MEET THE LEAGUE

By Angie Filbeck

Nancy Dornan



Member Nancy Dornan is semi-retired from the daily grind of running long-time Springfield business, Maschino's. Her academic background includes a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Missouri State

University in 1966. In 2012, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy in Public Affairs from MSU.

Nancy's interests include reading, cooking, and traveling. She also enjoys the arts and history. She and her husband, Tom, recently returned from a trip that started with a cruise through the Panama Canal and ended with stops in several U.S. cities, including San Diego, Albuquerque, and Chicago. In fact, she managed to take all forms of transportation during that trip: plane, train, boat and car!

Nancy has 4 children and 3 grandchildren, who are scattered from Missouri to Colorado, Montana, and Wisconsin. She is also happy to love and be loved by a broad number of people in her family and outside her family circle.

Nancy is a brand new member, but she's always had an interest in the League. She admires the insight and knowledge of topics that League members have and appreciates that League positions are non-partisan and based on research. Since she's just joined, let's give her a great, big welcome, and put her to work!

Shelby Butler

League member Shelby Butler is the Access Coordinator for the Southwest Center for Independent Living (SCIL), a local independent living center and resource



organization for people with disabilities. Shelby has a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Missouri State University and focuses her professional development training on architectural and program accessibility for people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Shelby likes to spend time outside and enjoys riding her bike and snapping nature photographs. She also appreciates a good game of ping pong and visiting with the great people in her life. Shelby's family includes her 5-year-old son, Neekolai, and 13-year-old cat, Luna. She is a lucky girl, whose wonderful friends and loved ones inspire her and give her hugs daily!

Shelby became a member because she believes the League is an integral part of our community. She likes that the League identifies issues and barriers and then works toward solutions and improvements to benefit the entire community. Her favorite part of being a member is the warm and friendly people she spends time with at meetings and activities. Thanks for being an important part of group, Shelby!

