



## The League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri

# The Voter

### UPCOMING UNIT MEETINGS

The February unit meetings will be Monday, February 19th at 5:30pm at Prima's Mexican Grill, 3662 S. Glenstone and Tuesday, February 20th at Drury University Findlay Student Center, Room 204.

Our speakers will be Matthew Patterson (Monday night) and James Owen (Tuesday noon) from Renew Missouri. Renew Missouri is a not-for-profit organization committed to renewable energy and energy efficiency policy throughout the state. The group advocates on these issues before the Missouri Legislature, the Public Service Commission (which regulates privately-owned utilities), county commissions, and city halls all over 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.*

### LWV BOARD REPORT JAN 2018

Board members of the LWV of Southwest Missouri met on Monday, January 22, 2018. Our regular agenda included a brief report from the treasurer, membership updates, unit and general meeting planning, updates from board members and their action groups, and upcoming events. Highlights of the meeting include:

- To give our newest members an overview of LWV and how to get involved, Ilga is planning our next new member orientation. It is scheduled for Sunday, February 25 from 1:30-4:00, location tba.
- After January 31, 2018, the 2018 League Membership will be official with the LWVUS. We will email the updated league directory by the February unit meetings and provide a few printed copies at that time as well. At the time of this meeting, we had 107 members.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled or in progress.

- February: James Owen with Renew Missouri
- March: Community Focus Group report and discussion
- April: Rosie is a local organization committed to helping women get involved with the community. Not confirmed, but in discussion to have them talk about the state of women running for office and what to expect.

- General Meeting: April 28 at SCIL. We will host a "Poverty Simulation" and discussion afterwards. More information to come.
- Summer Sounding Board topics are being reviewed and confirmation will come soon.

2018 is Voters' Guide time! An organizational meeting is set for Tuesday, February 27, 5:30 at the Library Station, Sante Fe room. Anyone interested in working on our fall Voters' Guide may attend.

Nora Cox is heading up our first ever Political Trivia Night fundraiser. It is scheduled for Friday, April 6, hosted at the Pitch Pizza and Pub. She will organize a work group to develop door prizes, trivia questions, room set up, and publication of the event.

A nominating committee is being formed to recruit and recommend a slate of new board members for 2018-2020, a vice president, treasurer, and co-president. They will present the slate at our May Annual Meeting.

Lisa Slattery and Jill Stieger are LWV representatives on the Greene County Election Advisory Board. She reports that they have met, they conducted a review of three voting machines, and Shane Schoeller recently announced a decision has been made about which company and system will be purchased soon. Their next meeting will talk about physical voting locations and what to address.

The board discussed and motion passed to provide board meeting discussion points to all members in the next newsletter or other communication.

Brief update from the action groups Voter Advocacy and Protection was given by Joan Gentry.

Next board meeting is Monday, February 26, 2018.

### LEAGUE NAMETAGS

If you would like a League nametag, call John at Springfield Stamp & Engraving, 417-881-8828. They have the template and logo for the nametag and it usually takes about 1-2 days to complete. The nametags are \$9 each. Springfield Stamp & Engraving is located at 1416 S. Glenstone, near the Glenstone Station Post Office.

# LWV MISSOURI – STATE BOARD REPORT

Several interesting and informative events are happening in Leagues around Missouri!

Mark your calendars now for the spring conference, May 5, to be held from 9:30 to 3:00 in Independence. Cost of \$20.00 will include lunch, and several exciting speakers and workshops will be on the agenda. Of particular note will be Dr. Christopher King, who has traveled the world extensively studying climate change and national security. Contact Kelly or Lorraine if you'd like to attend. There will be carpools for those who wish to go.

Other exciting projects were shared at the meeting.

- Sedalia held a "Fill the Pipeline" reception to encourage women to run for office and provide information for them to do so.
- Kansas City has received training and equipment from their local access television station, so they can broadcast local League events.
- Statewide plans are developing for greater coordination and sharing among Leagues, which will be coordinated through the state office.
- Board members are following legislation and providing testimony at hearings in several areas, including taxes, education, health, and budget.
- February 27, 7:45 am, at the state capitol – First day of candidate filing! The Missouri League will have a table there with coffee, pastries, and League information. If you'd like to be part of this interesting morning, please email Marge Bramer at [mkb4405@icloud.com](mailto:mkb4405@icloud.com).
- Kansas City League has received approval to conduct a forum next fall for statewide candidates. More information about this event will be included in future newsletters.

## VOTERS' GUIDE MEETING

The Voters' Guide organizational meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm at the Library Station, 2535 N Kansas Expressway, in the Santa Fe Room.

Join members of the League to learn about our biannual Voters' Guide (VG) and the important community service it provides, and how to get involved in creating and distributing the guide in fall. The VG is created and printed in late fall, just ahead of the November election.

## SAVE THE DATE! VOTER DEPUTY REGISTRAR TRAINING

The Greene County Clerk's office will be offering Voter Deputy Registrar training on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am and on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. This will be open to all League members who reside in Greene County and who wish to be able to register new voters.

To register for April 19<sup>th</sup>: <http://whoozin.com/AHJ-HPM-9JEW>  
To register for April 25<sup>th</sup>: <http://whoozin.com/PFN-ARD-QFXA>

## TRIVIA NIGHT

Save the date: April 6, 2018, 7-9:00pm  
Political Trivia Night at the Pitch Pub benefiting the League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri. Local celeb Beth Domann to serve as guest MC. Start getting your trivia group together now. Details forthcoming on RSVP.



## WE'RE ON THE RADIO!

If you're new to the League, you may not know we have a weekly radio program on KSMU 91.1 FM (the local NPR station) which airs every Monday morning at 9:43 am (no, that is not a typo, it's where we land in the national *Morning Edition* lineup). The program is called "Making Democracy Work" and covers topics about government, non-profits, and civic engagement in our area. A committee of League members host this show and select their own guests and topics. If you know of someone who would be a great guest for the show, please contact Leslie Carrier at [rlcarrier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlcarrier@sbcglobal.net).

Recent topics include: Greene County Voting Equipment Update, Improving Local Farming through Conservation, Behind the Scenes at the 911 Emergency Communications Center, Springfield Conservation Nature Center, Southwest Missouri Council of Governments, Non-Profit Leadership, Renewable Energy and Safe Drinking Water.



Tune in every Monday morning at 9:43 to listen to the program. If you miss it on the air, you can listen on the web at <http://ksmu.org/programs/making-democracy-work>.

## UPDATE: SPRINGFIELD’S TRASH SERVICE WILL NOT CHANGE.

The idea of changing the way trash is hauled in Springfield has reached the end. City Council voted to “cease all efforts to obtain information from trash-hauling companies and stop educating the public about potential changes coming to the trash system” (Springfield News-Leader). Council said the public has spoken and declared no interest in changing the current system of trash service.

The League has studied and been interested in the city-wide trash hauler issue for several decades. In unit meetings last April, we heard from a representative from the City of Springfield’s Environmental Services department who explained the trash hauler study and the reasons behind potentially changing the trash system. Council received enough citizen comments to determine the public was satisfied with the current service and did not desire a re-design of the trash hauler system.

To read the complete article in the Springfield News-Leader, click here: <http://sgfnw.co/2DXYLxw>

## GENERAL MEETING

Walk in Their Shoes – The Simulation Experience

Most League members are empathetic to families who face poverty in our country, but here’s a way for us to really understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month. On Saturday, April 28, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., the League will sponsor A Poverty Simulation at the Southwest Center for Independent Living, 1450 West Cambridge, in Springfield.

The purpose of the event, facilitated by OACAC, is to sensitize people to the realities faced by low-income people. The simulation will be the kick-off for an action group on poverty to study the issue and find out how the League can help.

This is a simulation, not a game. It’s a serious effort to learn about the lives of people in poverty. The simulation is conducted in a large room with the “families” seated in groups in the center of the room. Around the perimeter are tables representing community resources and services for the families. Realistic portrayals contribute greatly to the experience.

## LEAGUE UPCOMING DATES

### **Voter Outreach Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, February 7, 5:45pm  
417 Magazine Offices, 211 S Eastgate Ave.

### **Unit Meetings**

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm at Prima’s  
February 20<sup>th</sup>, noon at Drury Findley Student Ctr

### **New Member Orientation**

Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-4:00pm  
Location TBA

### **2018 Voters’ Guide Organizational Meeting**

Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm  
Library Station, Santa Fe Room

### **LWVSWMO Board Meeting**

Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Political Trivia Night**

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7-9:30pm  
The Pitch Pub & Pizzeria

### **Voter Deputy Registrar Training, Greene Co.**

Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am  
Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm  
Location TBA

### **General Meeting – Poverty Simulation**

Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am-1pm  
Southwest Center for Independent Living

### **LWVMO Spring Convention**

Saturday, May 5, 2018  
Kansas City, MO

### **LWVUS Convention**

June 28-July 1, 2018  
Chicago, IL



# VOTER ADVOCACY & PROTECTION ACTION GROUP

The Voter Advocacy and Protection Action team met January 24, 2018. We explored several ideas for actions as the election year progresses. Among those include asking MSU students to survey nursing home clients concerning the Photo ID law and to determine if the Photo ID PowerPoint presentation would be a useful tool to use in those settings.

We also agreed that advocacy for the National Voter Registration Act and the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2017 is an important goal. Team members were brought up to date on the legal status of the Photo ID legal action and were asked to report about experiences at the Department of Motor Vehicle offices concerning information about registering to vote and obtaining non- driver photo IDs.

A meeting with Peggy Davis of Drug Court has been scheduled to determine if there is an advocacy role we can play with her clients. We are encouraging members to become poll workers. And we plan to begin a letter writing campaign advocating for League issues, particularly those relating to voter advocacy and protection. Our next meeting will be February 28, 2018, at 5:30 pm.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Do you follow the League on Social Media? Check out the following for National League, Missouri State and our Local League!

### Facebook

League of Women Voters of the U.S.

<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/>

League of Women Voters of Missouri

[https://www.facebook.com/lwvmo/?hc\\_ref=ARTIQScKtKabUtdI2D-QiFQJCHqczSbX\\_xwWPLfyAHlzP-X9rWOHxm2dJIFuqcTOB0A](https://www.facebook.com/lwvmo/?hc_ref=ARTIQScKtKabUtdI2D-QiFQJCHqczSbX_xwWPLfyAHlzP-X9rWOHxm2dJIFuqcTOB0A)

League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVSWMO/>

### Twitter

League of Women Voters of the U.S.

<https://twitter.com/LWV>

League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri

<https://twitter.com/lwvswmo>

### Instagram

League of Women Voters of the U.S.

<https://www.instagram.com/leagueofwomenvoters/>

