



The Voter

NOVEMBER UNIT MEETINGS

The November unit meetings will be Monday, November 20th at 5:30pm at Prima's Mexican Restaurant, 3662 S. Glenstone and Tuesday, November 21st at Drury University Findlay Student Center, Room 204.

Our November unit meeting programs will be presented by Fred Schlegel, Environmental Engineer with the Public Drinking Water Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Fred will be speaking about "Clean Water", the history of the MDNR and the role it has had in "Clean Water". He will show us how to find specific details about drinking water quality from every water system in the state, how to access the data and the violations of the regs where present, Consumer Confidence Reports, etc.

**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.*

GENERAL MEETING

Join us for a general meeting on November 18th at 9:30am at the Southwest Center for Independent Living, 2864 S. Nettleton. Our speaker will be Commissioner Peggy Davis of the Greene County Drug Court. Here is a link to some information about her:

<http://www.greenecountycourts.org/commissioner-davis/>

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Last Chance! Renew your League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri membership now! Please complete the membership form ([click here to download a copy](#)) and submit with your dues by the end of November. You can pay at a unit meeting, the general meeting, or mail in. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Snyder at 417-619-3403 or angie.p.snyder@outlook.com.

LWVMO FALL CONFERENCE

By Lee Ann Worman

The League of Women Voters of Missouri Fall Conference was held Saturday, October 28, in Sedalia, at State Fair Community College. Attending this year's conference were co-presidents Kelly Wood and Lorraine Sanderson, and board members Marge Bramer, Joan Gentry, Jill Smull, Julie Steiger, and Lee Ann Worman.

The presentations at this year's conference were a varied and fascinating mix of topics, dense with information and calls to action, sure to have something to pique the interest of every member of our Southwest Missouri League.

Clean Water

The League then welcomed our first guest speaker, Sean Nicholson with Clean Missouri, an initiative to reform campaign finance rules and increase the integrity, transparency, and accountability in government. Mr. Nicholson outlined the five central points of the proposed

Clean Missouri state constitutional amendment:

1. Eliminate almost all lobbyist gifts in the General Assembly by banning any single gift worth more than \$5,
2. Require that legislative records be open to the public,
3. Lower campaign contribution limits for state legislative candidates capping donations at \$2,500 for state senate candidates, and \$2,000 for state house candidates,
4. Require politicians to wait two years before becoming lobbyists, and
5. Ensure that neither political party is given an unfair advantage when new maps are drawn after the next census by asking a nonpartisan expert to draw fair legislative district maps, which would then be reviewed by a citizen commission.

During a very thorough and lively post-presentation Q&A, attendees learned that Clean Missouri was crafted by GPS Impact, a progressive political consulting firm located in Kansas City. Clean Missouri has been endorsed by the League of Women Voters. For more information on Clean Missouri and the proposed legislation, got to www.cleanmissouri.org.

Photo Voter ID

Next to appear was Nick LaStrada, Chief Deputy Clerk of Pettis County, to explain what his office is doing to comply with the new constitutional amendment. During his post-presentation, Q&A, Mr. LaStrada was asked some very pointed questions regarding how his office could insure every vote from every eligible voter was counted, with some League members recounting their own experiences with difficulties voting in their own precincts or in obtaining compliant identification. Mr. LaStrada stressed the advantages of the provisional vote, an option not previously available to Missouri voters before the Photo Voter ID amendment, and the commitment of his office and offices around the state to insure the integrity of the final count.

St. Louis Speakers' Bureau

League member Nancy Miller gave an overview of the structure of the League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis Speakers' Bureau. The Speakers' Bureau is a service where

the League provides their community with women who can speak authoritatively on a wide variety of political, economic, and social issues as well as present League positions. Community organizations can book League speakers on their website for events.

Statehood for the District of Columbia

Anne Anderson’s impassioned presentation detailed the history of disenfranchisement of 700,000 United States citizens, all of whom are residents of the District of Columbia. The League of Women Voters of the District of Columbia received a \$50,000 grant to fund travel for representatives to reach out to other Leagues to gather support, raise awareness, and encourage League members to tell the leadership of the current 50 states to pass legislation admitting the District of Columbia as our 51st state. We will be posting more information on the lwvswmo.org website.

NOVEMBER 7, 2017 ELECTION

Check out the ballot issues for the November 7, 2017 Special Election on the Greene County website now!

<https://greenecountymo.gov/files/PDF/file.pdf?id=31280>

LWVMO BOARD MEETING

Mark your calendars now for the Missouri LWV Spring Convention, May 5, in Kansas City! The day will include interesting speakers, workshops, and activities. Cost will be \$25, including lunch. Watch for more details in future newsletters, but **SAVE THE DATE** now! One probable speaker is someone who has traveled the world assessing global warming and its effects on the people of all areas of the globe.

The LWVMO State Board met in Sedalia on October 27th, with a short break to serve dinner to about 60 hungry Sedalia families. Some topics discussed are listed below.

Nancy Hutchins, LWV office, works on the state FB page and requests local Leagues to send her items to post. She’ll aid any League when needed.

Project Request from Columbia-Boone County was approved for a community program co-sponsored by AAUW, “How Safe Are Our Elections?”

Elizabeth McDonald, LWVMO Executive Director, is willing to come to local Leagues to provide technology assistance and training on websites, using PayPal, etc. She would like to have an information-sharing site among local Leagues, using Google Drive or something similar as a repository of materials.

LWVUS Convention – Chicago – June 28 – July 1. This should be a great event, and we’re exploring the possibility of members from around the state traveling together by Amtrak from St. Louis. Watch for details in future newsletters!

Anne Anderson of the Washington, D.C. League attended our meeting and spoke to the conference on Saturday on the problems encountered by D.C. residents and their lack of representation.

Linda McDaniel, as Liaison for Missouri Voter Protection Coalition, reported on current events in both the Voter Photo ID lawsuit (hearing November 9, 9 am in Clay County – would like to have League members attend) and the action letter sent to Secretary of State Ashcroft and DMV about their obligations under the Motor-Voter Act.

LEAGUE UPCOMING DATES

OzMNH Meet & Greet with Dr CJ Davis

Tuesday, November 7 at 6-7:30pm
Springfield Art Museum, 1111 E Brookside Dr

Voter Photo ID lawsuit hearing

Thursday, November 9 at 9am
Clay County, MO

General Meeting

Saturday, November 18 at 9:30am
Southwest Center for Independent Living
2864 S. Nettleton

November Unit Meetings

Monday, November 20, 2017 at 5:30pm
Prima’s Mexican Restaurant, 3662 S. Glenstone

Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at noon
Drury University Findlay Student Center, Rm 204

LWVMO Spring Convention

Saturday, May 5, 2018
Kansas City, MO

LWVUS Convention

June 28-July 1, 2018
Chicago, IL



OZMHN EVENT

The Ozark's Mental Health Network's open-to-the-public meeting is a Meet and Greet with the new President and CEO of Burrell. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, November 7th from 6-7:30pm at the Springfield Art Museum. We want this event to be well attended, so please plan to come and be sure to tell lots of people about it.

If you want to help with refreshments and with set up, please contact Julie Schulze schulzeju@aol.com

Library. In 1983, she moved to Springfield and became the branch manager of the Kickapoo Branch Library of the Springfield Greene County Library, where she was named executive director in 1989. Annie has also been a member of the Downtown Rotary Club for 27 years, where she became its first female president. Her other achievements include serving as a board member of the Mayor's Commission for Children, as well as working with the Springfield Innovation Center, the Forest Institute of Professional Psychology until its closure, and the Springfield Public School Board, among others. Finally, Annie served on Governor Carnahan's state commission on information technology, and as the legislative chair of the Missouri Library Association.

Since her retirement, her main focus has been on the homeless and mental health issues in our area. In 2009 Annie and another colleague, Doug Pitt, the founder of Care to Learn, were asked to co-chair a homeless task force. She says, "That opened my eyes to the complex issues that face too many in our region." This task force continued to research problems faced by the homeless and to recruit significant individuals in our community who could help. Annie says, "After two years we felt like we had adequate information and had mobilized some new players, so we developed a report and ended the task force. Since that time, I have been working behind the scenes to advocate for those recommendations." In 2014, she convened a group called Integrated System of Services to bring together the various organizations that serve the homeless to find ways for them to work together more effectively.

As a result of her work with the homeless, Annie has come to understand how closely mental health issues contribute to the homeless situation. Annie states, "From my time working on homeless issues, I realize that the majority of the individuals are struggling with mental health issues. In fact, the growth in homelessness started in the late 70s with the closing of the mental health institutions and continued with the closure of all but one mental health hospital about six years ago. The idea was to provide care within their communities, but the funding for it never appeared."



**Ozarks
Mental Health
Network**

Care about mental well-being?
Desire integrated services that are affordable and accessible?
Let this be Your Network

Please join our MEET and GREET with
DR. C.J. DAVIS
New President and CEO of Burrell Behavioral Health

Burrell is a comprehensive provider of behavioral health services with a 1,000+ person staff. As the DMH Administrative Agent, Burrell is the primary entry and exit point for services to thousands of residents with and without insurance.
Hear about Dr. Davis's background and his vision for the future.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7*
6 -7:30pm
Springfield Art Museum
1111 E Brookside Dr, Springfield, MO 65807
Open to the Public

The Ozarks Mental Health Network is an educational and advocacy group for practitioners, clients and families dealing with behavioral health issues in Greene County, Missouri. Partnerships include representatives from the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, System of Services, Greene County Health Department, Burrell Behavioral Health, Greene County Specialty Courts, Disabled Veterans Outreach/Missouri Job Center, League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri, and Missouri State University.

*Don't Forget to Vote!

MEET THE LEAGUE

By Pam Shaver

Annie Busch



Annie Busch is a LOWV member who has truly been immersed in the Springfield community for many years. After acquiring a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a Master's in Library Science from the University of Missouri, she became a branch manager at the St. Charles City County

Annie became a member when she discovered that our League was conducting a study of mental health facilities and issues in our area. She says she is also encouraged by the health department's current work on this issue. Her extensive knowledge and experience with the issues of mental health and homelessness are definitely valuable resources for our League, and we are privileged to have Annie as a member.

