



The Voter

SEPTEMBER UNIT MEETINGS

The September unit meetings will be Monday, September 17th at 5:30pm at Prima's Mexican Restaurant, 3662 S. Glenstone and Tuesday, September 18th at Drury University Findlay Student Center, Room 204.

Our speaker, Harold Bengsch, Greene County Commissioner, 1st District, will be speaking on Prescription Drug Monitoring programs and other issues related to the opioid abuse epidemic.

**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.*

STATE BOARD REPORT

By Marge Bramer

The LWV State Board met August 25 in Columbia. Some upcoming events of interest to our League in Southwest Missouri will be: The Fall Workshop, October 28, in Sedalia; the Spring Convention, May 4-5, in Kansas City, and the LWVUS Convention, June 28-July 1, in Chicago.

The Fall Workshop will be held at State Fair Community College, from 10:00-3:00. Watch for more information and registration for this event. The emphasis of the workshop will be on finding ways the Missouri League can help and support every local League in the state. Make plans to attend, if you can, and watch for details on the first page of LWVMO website. It should be a fun, interesting, informative day and a great chance to meet other League members from around the state. The St. Louis League will present information on their speakers' bureau, and each League will be given a thumb drive with a copy of this presentation. Our Executive Director will speak on how to increase the use of social media, use technology tools, and increase fundraising using these resources. The Moberly League will explain their Observer Corps. Other proposed topics include the Sunshine Law, Photo ID actions and problems, and forming a 501(c)3 organization that would allow tax-deductible contributions. Each local League will have time to share their ongoing projects and activities.

The Board will work hard this year to improve and expand our communication and support efforts to local Leagues and to greatly enhance our social media presence. We hope to help each League gain knowledge and ideas from other members who are working all around the state to be a voice for citizens

and a force for change. The League of Women Voters of Missouri is a place where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement and greater participation by all citizens.

AUGUST SUMMER SOUNDING BOARD RECAP

Maggie Castrey opened her home to our final Summer Sounding Board. Sixteen league members showed up ready to share their summer adventures and talk about the year ahead in our league. After a round of introductions and updates (Dot Powell's pickleball, Carol Bormann's fibre art installation, new jobs for some, and former teachers' stories around), we settled in to talk about our action groups and ideas for the year ahead. Here are a few things we shared:

1. September 11 at 5:30pm the Photo ID group will meet. Contact Joan Gentry joangentry2012@gmail.com if you want to attend. They will meet at 5 Spice Grill on S. Glenstone. On Wednesday CNN reported this ruling on the Texas photo ID law. "A federal district court judge [granted a permanent injunction](#) against Texas' voter ID law, holding that the state acted with discriminatory intent. Good news, but we still have much work to do in Missouri!"
2. Voter Outreach. National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 26. Christian County league members will host a table at the Library for voter registration. Shane Schoeller wants to partner with us to host voter registration tables at a few local high schools who do not have deputy registrars. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lorraine Sandstorm or Kelly Wood. We will also work with Shane's office to offer 1-2 trainings later this fall and spring to re-certify previous registrars and train new registrars. Details forthcoming.
3. Poverty and Zone 1: Kay Chaudhri reported that they are looking for league members who want to work at Fairbanks at their Thursday night dinners/meetings. Also, this group is considering a "poverty simulation" event to inform league members the plight of the hungry and those with food insecurity issues. Details forthcoming.
4. Sustainability/Environment. There is a street clean up event on Saturday September 9th from 9-11am for our Adopt-A-Street section on West Sunshine. Meet at the Bryan College parking. Contact Lisa Slattery for details.

SUNSHINE LAW WORKSHOP

LWV members Julia Schulze and Dr. Mary Byrne attended the Sunshine Law 2017 Workshop, a day-long education event on Missouri's Sunshine Law. The event, jointly sponsored by Missouri State University's Department of Media, Journalism and Film and the Greene County Clerk's

office at the MSU Darr Agricultural Center on July 26, provided an opportunity for dialogue among government officials, the media and the public about accessing information from public offices in order to maintain government accountability and journalistic integrity. Approximately 75 attendees represented area municipal offices, law enforcement, school systems and the general public.

In the morning, Dr. Shawn Wahl, Dean of MSU’s College of Arts and Letters delivered opening remarks, followed by Greene County Clerk Shane Schoeller and legal experts who offered a comprehensive overview of the Missouri Sunshine Law and discussed best practices for implementing the law from the perspective of different interest groups. Presenters included Dr. Mark Paxton, Media Law Professor at MSU; Jean Maneke, Chief Legal Counsel for Missouri Press Association; Darrell Moore, Deputy Attorney General and former Greene County Prosecutor; and John Housley, Greene County Counsel & Attorney with Lawther Johnson Attorneys at Law.

The afternoon panel of journalists and government officials discussed their experiences with public records and engaged the audience in a question and answer period addressing processes and statutory requirements. Panel members included Dr. Jonathan Groves, MO Sunshine Coalition (moderator); Amos Bridges, Springfield NewsLeader; Jennifer Moore, KSMU Radio; Valerie Peterson, Greene County Sheriff’s Office; Brenda Cirtin, Ozark Transportation Organization and former City of Springfield Clerk; and Roger Hurlbert, Sage Information Systems.

All attendees received a copy of Missouri Sunshine Law Open Meetings and Records Law, published bi-annually by the MO Attorney General’s Office. Organizers plan a similar workshop for 2019.

The comprehensive booklet can be accessed at <https://ago.mo.gov/docs/defaultsource/publications/missourishinelaw.pdf?sfvrsn=4>.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Sustainability and the Environment Update

LWV Street Cleanup will be Saturday, September 9th at 9:00 AM on our section of Sunshine between Fort and Grant. Park in the lot for Everest College which is mid-block on the south side of Sunshine. We will have bags and water. Bring work gloves. If you have safety vests, ‘pooper scoopers’, or ‘extension grabber’, bring them too. Contact Debbie Good at djgood69@yahoo.com if you plan to be there.

Voter Outreach Action Team Update

The Voter Outreach committee will next meet on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 5:45pm at the 417 Magazine offices, 2111 S. Eastgate Ave, Springfield.

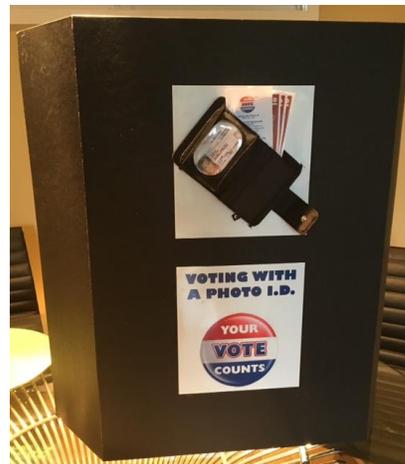
Voter Photo ID Action Team Update

The Action Team for Photo ID will meet Monday, September 11, at 5:30 pm. in the patio room of 5 Spice Restaurant, 2058 S. Glenstone. The room is to your left as you come into the restaurant, and it's reserved under Marge Bramer. If you haven’t joined this team before but would like to attend, please email mkb4405@icloud.com. We’d love to have you join us! Those attending may order food, if you like, while we meet. There will be a couple of appetizers available for the group. Joan Gentry will serve as chairperson this year, and under her capable leadership we hope to make progress both in educating voters about the new requirements and in advocating against these restrictions on voting rights.

Our group will assist with providing information at voter registration events, especially at the two September events: the Naturalization Ceremony on September 13, and National Voter Registration Day, September 26. Helping voters most affected by this law, especially the elderly, minority voters, Zone 1 residents, the disabled, and students, will be a major focus of our group as we prepare for the 2018 elections.

We continue to work with the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition and to participate in biweekly conference calls to monitor the progress of the lawsuit filed by ACLU on behalf of LWVMO and NAACP. A hearing will be held on this litigation later in September.

We will be distributing wallet-sized flyers to voters, to assist them when they go to the polls. These flyers and the display shown below, designed by team member Carol Bormann, will be used at future events.



WANT TO REGISTER NEW US CITIZENS TO VOTE?

Want to register new US Citizens to vote? Plan to attend the Naturalization Ceremony on Wednesday, September 13 on the Missouri State University campus. The ceremony is officially from 10-11am in the Plaster Student Union theatre. Afterwards, there is a reception for new citizens and their families, and that is where we will have a table to register the new citizens to vote. We need volunteers who are deputized to register AND those who can greet the families and give them information about voting. RSVP to Lorraine Sandstrom at lsandstrom@gmail.com by Sunday, September 10th. This is a great event and we encourage many members to attend and assist in welcoming new citizens to the ranks of American voters.



Photos from 2017



WANTING TO GET DEPUTIZED TO REGISTER VOTERS?

Several of our new members have expressed an interest in being deputized to register voters. The training and registration happens county by county as you can only be deputized in your county of residence. If several people are interested a group training can be arranged. If there is only one or two for a county (like Christian and Webster) individual appointments can be made. There is no fee for the training or to be deputized.

The first training/deputizing opportunity for Greene County will not be until December.

If you are interested, please let Lorraine Sandstrom know via email at lsandstrom@gmail.com. Please include your county of residence in the email.

Though LWVSWMO does not do as many voter registration events another election cycle is approaching and the League does continue to offer to help community groups with voter registration to community groups.

LEAGUE UPCOMING DATES

LWV Street Cleanup

Saturday, September 9, 2017 at 9am

Voter Photo ID Action Team Meeting

Monday, September 11, 2017 at 5:30pm
5 Spice Restaurant, 2058 S Glenstone

SWMO Health Care Town Hall

Monday, September 11, 2017, 11:30am-1:00pm
Community Room in SCIL Building B,
1450 W. Cambridge, Springfield

Voter Outreach Action Team Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 5:45pm
417 Magazine offices, 2111 S. Eastgate Ave.

Naturalization Ceremony

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 10am
Plaster Student Union Theatre, MSU Campus

September Unit Meetings

Monday, September 18, 2017 at 5:30pm
Prima's Mexican Restaurant, 3662 S. Glenstone

Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at noon
Drury University Findlay Student Center, Rm 204

National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

HEALTH CARE TOWN HALL

Join an active and solution-focused bipartisan discussion with state lawmakers and policy experts on health care in Missouri. The event will be held on Monday, September 11, 2017 from 11:30am to 1pm at the Southwest Center for Independent Living, Building B Community Room, 1450 W. Cambridge, Springfield, MO. Doors open at 11:15am and light refreshments will be provided.

The panel is composed of Dr. Randall Williams, Dir. Dept. Health & Senior Services; State Rep Lynn Morris; State Rep Crystal Quade; Lincoln Hough, Greene County Commissioner with Crystal Brigman Mahaney, MO Health Care for All and Brian Colby, MO Budget Project.



MEET THE LEAGUE

By Pam Shaver

Camille DeLaurier



Camille DeLaurier joined the League of Women Voters in September of 2016, but she is not new to the Springfield area. After growing up in the Kansas City and Peculiar, Missouri, areas, Camille came to Springfield in 1999 as a freshman at Drury University. After receiving a B.A. in History and Writing from Drury, she went on to acquire an M.A. in English from MSU.

Currently, Camille is a married, stay-at-home mom with two children, ages one and three. Camille says that she and her family enjoy playing at the park, visiting with family and friends, and movie nights. Camille knows her greatest joy is getting to be home for all the special "firsts" with her children, but she would love to work her way into a communications-oriented role in a non-profit company. She has already had some experience in working for the Springfield-Greene County Library System, the Discovery Garden Montessori School, the Diaper Bank of the Ozarks, and of course the LOWV. Camille believes her non-profit work can help her boys "grow to see a world that is more compassionate, or at least grow into men who will strive to make it so."

After fulfilling her role as a great mom, Camille does have a variety of interests that also enrich her life. In addition to reading biographies, fantasy, science fiction, and meticulously researched historical dramas, she also enjoys watching BBC costume dramas. Her favorites include *Pride and Prejudice* and *North and South*. She says she loves the combination of great historical costuming, fantastic acting, and that a "little dash of romance doesn't hurt either!"

Camille has also done some writing in the genres of both fantasy and historical dramas. She believes that being a creative writer will definitely contribute to her future career with a non-profit, since "it takes a lot of creativity and 'thinking outside the box' to help a non-profit thrive." In addition to these interests, Camille has also traveled all over the United States, as well as Canada, Great Britain, Ireland,

Italy, and the southern Caribbean. She says, "In the future I would like to see New Zealand, backpack all over Europe, and take my kids on tons of road trips in the Midwest and beyond." It sounds like her children have much to look forward to!

Camille's involvement with the LOWV has included work with the PR Committee, where her strong research, writing, and organizational background has undoubtedly been a benefit to that committee's projects. She says the League's long reputation of doing amazing work, as well as an increased sense of civic responsibility during the run-up to the November election, were her main reasons for joining our group. According to Camille, she "wanted to be involved with an organization established by and led by driven, ambitious, and committed women." I believe she has found a home with the League of Women Voters.

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY 2017

September 26th is National Voter Registration Day, the largest one-day effort of the year to register voters. Hundreds of thousands of voters will be registering to vote online and offline in a single day.

Created in 2012, National Voter Registration Day raises a powerful reminder and two weeks before the final deadline to register to vote in many states.

Last year more than five million American's didn't vote because they missed a registration deadline or didn't know how to register. National Voter Registration Day wants to make sure no one misses the opportunity to vote due to a registration problem.

