



Missouri Voter

Volume 78, Issue 4

The League of Women Voters of Missouri

July/August 2017

President's Message

Dear Members,

I can't begin to say enough about how important team work is and how great the LWVMO board is at it. I had booked a long trip to Scotland and Belarus for this summer before I agreed to become the state president. Once I took on the role, I thought that the summer may be a quiet time with not much going on in the season after a presidential election so that it was still safe to be out of the country for about five weeks. Boy, was I wrong!



I am especially thankful to Marilyn McLeod taking over the necessary job of calling the board together to get quick answers when they were needed so the partnerships could be formed and information sent out. I knew we made the right choice when she was asked to be the vice president.

I truly appreciate Linda McDaniel for continuing in her role with the group watching and fighting against actions that will limit voters' rights; even if I had been here, I couldn't have gotten up to speed fast enough to speak with the authority she has developed.

Elizabeth McDonald has done a great job in the state office. I think we both learned a lot from the LWVUS council that we attended just before I headed off on my long trip. We look forward to sharing more about what we experienced there.

Thanks for all of the board members for taking the time for conference calls, for fast replies to the many emails and for proofreading the drafts. You all did a fantastic job and I am proud of you. I did keep up with reading all of the many emails that flew back and forth.

We have our next board meeting on Friday, Aug. 25 in Columbia, and any local members are welcome to attend. We will be putting the final touches to our fall workshop and beginning discussions on the spring convention, so we like to have input on what to include in the presentations. We are trying to keep the price low so that the local Leagues can bring as many members as possible for a great day of education and networking. Watch for registration forms coming soon. It is shaping up to be a busy fall and we have our work cut out for us.

—Kathleen Boswell, president

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI

PRESS RELEASE -- July 28, 2017

In regard to the Pence-Kobach Commission Request for Voter Information

The League of Women Voters is dedicated to ensuring that all eligible voters – particularly those from traditionally underrepresented or underserved communities-- have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote. Encouraging all eligible voters to participate in our elections is the mission of the League of Women Voters since its founding almost 100 years ago. Every vote counts, and our votes make a difference.

At this time, the newly appointed Pence-Kobach Commission on Election Integrity has asked every state to provide sensitive voter roll data, including the names, addresses, dates of birth, political party affiliation, past voter history, partial social security numbers of registered voters and even criminal history. This is a violation of privacy and has ominous implications for voting rights and election integrity. The League has serious concerns about the collection of this personal information by the Commission as well the release of the information by the states. ***The Commission's request for voter data should be alarming to any American who values privacy, security, or integrity of our elections.***

We are concerned that the Pence-Kobach Commission is laying the groundwork for potential voter suppression by the wrongful removal of eligible voters from the rolls. It appears to be a part of a wider effort of the Commission to suppress the vote and undermine our elections by spreading falsehoods about our election system. ***Our democracy is stronger when more, not fewer, citizens are involved in the electoral process.***

We are concerned that this effort by the Commission may lead to dangerous election policy that would limit the eligibility and right of individuals who are fully qualified to vote.

We are greatly disturbed that this Commission is undermining the public's confidence in our elections. We've already seen thousands of voters around the country cancel their voter registration since the Commission's request for personal voter information from all 50 states.

In Missouri, Secretary of State Ashcroft has publicly agreed to Mr. Kobach's request for voter information and that the release will be consistent with Missouri law imposing conditions on what voter information can be released, for what purposes, and in what circumstances.

As we understand it, voter information includes name, address, date of birth, county, precinct and voting history (not how you voted but which elections in which you voted).

There are specific conditions in the Missouri statutes which apply to obtaining and using the information, as well as paying the required fee for any organization requesting the information. The League of Women Voters of Missouri urges the Secretary of State to ensure that the Kobach Commission follow Missouri law in obtaining the information and using the information. For the sake of all Missourians, we expect that he will follow through with this commitment. ***We encourage all Missouri voters to contact the Secretary of State's office at (573) 751-2301 or (800) 669-8683 or by email at elections@sos.mo.gov to express your concern.***

U.S. Court Upholds Kobach Collection of Voter Data

U.S. News (July 25, 2017) has reported that Marc Rotenberg, President of Electronic Privacy Information Center, will continue its “push” to protect voter data in spite of having lost EPIC’s request for a restraining order to stop the Commission on Election Integrity’s collection of voter data from all states. Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly of the U.S. District Court for District of Columbia denied EPIC’s request on the basis that the Commission is not a federal agency; therefore it is not required to submit to a privacy impact assessment.

According to St. Louis’ *Riverfront Times* (July 6, 2017) Commission Vice Chair Kobach has asked for the following information about all voter registrants: **full first and last names, middle names or initials, address, date of birth, political party, last four digits of social security number, voter history (elections voted in) from 2006 onward, active/inactive status, cancelled status, information regarding any felony convictions, information regarding voter registration in another state, information regarding military status, and overseas citizen information.**

Missouri Secretary of State Ashcroft will now comply with Missouri law and provide the data that Missouri law specifies must be provided because he has said that as long as the Commission’s request is made in the required format and the \$100 fee is paid, he will provide all data permitted by Missouri law. The Missouri law that governs release of voter information was effective August 28, 2003 and is shown below.

TITLE IX SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS 115.157.

1. The election authority may place all information on any registration cards in computerized form in accordance with section 115.158. No election authority or secretary of state shall furnish to any member of the public electronic media or printout showing any registration information, except as provided in this section. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, the election authority or secretary of state shall make available electronic media or printouts showing unique voter identification numbers, voters' names, dates of birth, addresses, townships or wards, and precincts. Electronic data shall be maintained in at least the following separate fields:

(1) Voter identification number;	(7) Street direction;	(13) Zip code;
(2) First name;	(8) Street name;	(14) Township;
(3) Middle initial;	(9) Street suffix;	(15) Ward;
(4) Last name;	(10) Apartment number	(16) Precinct;
(5) Suffix;	(11) City;	(17) Senatorial district;
(6) Street number;	(12) State;	(18) Representative district;
		(19) Congressional district.

Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, the election authority shall also furnish, for a fee, electronic media or a printout showing the names, dates of birth and addresses of voters, or any part thereof, within the jurisdiction of the election authority who voted in any specific election, including primary elections, by township, ward or precinct, provided that nothing in this chapter shall require such voter information to be released to the public over the internet. (Note: Subsection 2 pertains to withholding information on persons with protective orders and specified law enforcement occupations.)



Working Together for Equality and Justice

August 21, 2017

Reception 5:30, Program 6-8 pm

**Centennial Hall
Community Christian Church**

4601 Main St., Kansas City, MO

Parking available in the garage south of the church

The challenge before us today is how to work together across cultural lines for **women's equality and social justice.**

Panelists:

Sharon Sanders Brooks, Activist, Historian, & Former KCMO Councilwoman
Theresa Garza, Owner, Lincoln Consulting & Former Jackson County Legislator
Shanna Steitz, Senior Minister, Community Christian Church, KCMO

Moderator:

Barbara Anne Washington, President, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Mu Omega Chapter

rsvp at: <https://womenworkingtogetherforjustice.eventbrite.com>

Co-sponsors: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Mu Omega and Beta Omega Chapters; Kansas City, MO Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Greater Kansas City Chapter A. Philip Randolph Institute; League of Women Voters of Kansas City, MO, Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties; and Women in the NAACP (WIN)

Statement from LWVUS on the Health Care Repeal Bill

Strong Grassroots Opposition Stops "Skinny Repeal" in Senate

Washington, DC – July 28, 2017—The League of Women Voters president, **Chris Carson** today issued the following statement on the Senate voting down the health care repeal bill:

"Early Friday morning a bipartisan majority of U.S. Senators said 'no' to legislation that would take health care away from millions of Americans. It is time for Congress to stop futilely trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act and get to work on fixing the law to improve health care for the American people."



WOMEN'S
Equality
Day
August 26

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY
August 26, 2017

30th Annual Equality Day Brunch

The Missouri Women's Network presents the 30th Annual Equality Day Brunch on Saturday, August 26th. This event will commemorate the 97th anniversary of women winning the vote on August 26, 1920. The program will feature speakers, presentations and legislative updates.

This is an excellent event for League members to meet and network with women throughout the state.

Equality Day Brunch
Saturday, August 26, 2017
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Clayton Plaza Hotel
7750 Carondelet, Clayton, MO
(Free parking on Orange Level)

Brunch and Program (\$40); Student rate (\$20).
Missouri Women's Network Dues for individuals (\$20)
Missouri Women's Network Dues for Organizations (\$30)

Make checks payable to: Missouri Women's Network
Mail to: Julie Triplett, 401 Oakmont Circle, Ballwin, MO 63011
Contact: julietrip@att.net

For more information, contact: apatriciashores@att.net

SHOWIT2VOTE.COM

For information about the voter ID rules from the Secretary of State's office, click on this link:

<http://www.sos.mo.gov/showit2vote>

Local League Reports

LWV of Columbia-Boone County

Although it is summer, our League has been very busy. We co-sponsored with the Boone County Commission a forum on Homelessness and Mental Health in July with around 80 community members attending as well as 15 panel speakers!

We co-sponsored with the Columbia Public Library a workshop on How to Run for Office in July with LWV members Barbara Hoppe and Nancy Copenhaver as two of our speakers. We had about 20 people participate.

Our July CAT TV show featured a representative of the Secretary of State's office discussing implementation of photo voter ID. We have a YouTube video of the show, if you are interested in viewing the show. Here is a link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iD85OgoLJmM> Our August show will be on cyber-crime and our September show will be on big-pharma.

Our League was offered a fund-raising opportunity by a retired political science professor. He has written a play called "Practicing Democracy" and we will be handling promotion and tickets, etc. for the performances on September 21-24. We will receive any of the profits from the play. If you are interested in attending, the tickets are \$10 and the play will be at the United Methodist Church in downtown Columbia. We are planning several opportunities for voter registration in September. And, finally our annual fall picnic will be on September 7.

—Carol Schreiber

LWV of Kansas City/Jackson/Clay/Platte Counties

Voter Protection Outreach by LWV KCJCP

During the last month the Voter Protection team has continued to reach out to voters about Photo ID requirements for the August 8 election. At the Bluford Library on July 12, we reached over 1800 people during a Power Point presentation that was live streamed on Facebook. Our audience at the Plaza Library included MO Representative Judy Morgan who extemporaneously spoke about Missouri's extension of the deadline for compliance with the federal "Real ID" law that affects driver's licenses.

Our trained presenters made numerous appearances in Metro KC during July. Linda McCurry talked to seniors at John Calvin Manor in Lee's Summit where their response confirmed the need for absentee voting information as well as about Photo ID. Elizabeth Darr will be speaking at the West Plaza Neighborhood Association in September. She is also incorporating Photo ID education and absentee voting into contacts while she volunteers for Meals on Wheels at the Shepard's Center. Other outreach events included Evelyn Maddox's participation in Representative Burnett's Town Hall panel in Independence with Secretary Ashcroft and Tammy Johnson from the Jackson County Board of Election. She also appeared on Steve Krause's "Up To Date" program on KCUR, on August 1, along with SOS Ashcroft. Rosemary Durkin spoke briefly about LWV and Voter Photo ID at Community Together, a network of social service and non-profit organizations.

We now have over 20 trained volunteer voter registrars who work registration sites in the Kansas City Election Board district. Any LWV member may distribute "postcard" pre-registration forms to the public in any county's election board area, but only KC Election Board in our area permits trained volunteers to register voters on site.

—Evelyn Maddox

Officers

President: Kathleen Boswell (Sedalia)

Vice President: Marilyn McLeod (Columbia)

Secretary: Louise Wilkerson (St. Louis)

Treasurer: Becky Clausen (St. Louis)

Directors

Marge Bramer (Springfield)

Nancy Copenhaver (Moberly)

Debby Howard (St. Louis)

Evelyn Maddox (KC)

Carol Schreiber (Columbia)

Linda Smith (KC)

Sharon Swon (Mexico)

Nominating Committee

Peggy Placier, Chair (Columbia)

Pauline Testerman (KC)

Elaine Blodgett (Columbia)

Executive Director: Elizabeth McDonald

Voter Protection Coalition Liaison:

Linda McDaniel

LWVUS Board Liaison: Karen Nicholson

LWVUS MLD Coach: Donna Lauffer



CALENDAR

2017

August 25—LWVMO Board meeting—Columbia

October 27—LWVMO Board meeting—Sedalia

October 28—LWVMO Fall Conference—Sedalia

2018

January 17 —LWVMO Board meeting - Jefferson City

March 16 —LWVMO Board meeting - Columbia

May 4—LWVMO Board meeting

May 5—LWVMO Spring Conference
Kansas City

June 28-July 1—2018—LWVUS
Chicago

2018 LWV Calendars are now available!



1-9 Calendars—\$7.00 each plus S&H
10-99 Calendars—\$6.00 each plus S&H

You can order from LWVMO:

League of Women Voters Missouri
8706 Manchester Rd. Suite 104,
St. Louis, MO 63144

Questions? Call 314-961-6869 or email

league@lwvmissouri.org. Please include your name, address, telephone number and email.

You can order directly from the LWVMO website at this link:

<https://lwvmissouri.org/shop-2/calendars/>



MISSOURI VOTER
League of Women Voters of Missouri
8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104
St. Louis MO 63144-2733

**PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
at St. Louis, Mo**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



***LWVMO Fall Conference
October 28, 2017
State Fair Community College—Sedalia***

(Details in our next issue)

**Hotel reservations for Oct. 27 available at the Comfort Inn, 3600 West Broadway.
(660) 829-5050. Rooms are \$82 plus tax. Reserve before September 26. Mention LWV.**

The Missouri VOTER is published bi-monthly at the League of Women Voters of Missouri (St. Louis).
Subscriptions are \$2 per year.

Periodicals postage paid at St. Louis, MO USPS 593-960.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Missouri Voter, LWVMO, 8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104, St. Louis,
MO 63144. All other correspondence to Kathleen Boswell, president, at the same address.

Voice: 314-961-6869

Email: league@lwvmissouri.org