



# IN LEAGUE REPORTER

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST LOUIS

8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104,  
 St Louis, MO 63144  
 314.961.6869      league@lwwstl.org  
 www.facebook.com/lwwstl      www.lwwstl.org

### MAY 2014

#### 2014-2015 LWVSTL BOARD of DIRECTORS

Co-Pres.    Linda C McDaniel  
                  Kathleen Farrell  
 1st V.P.    Pat Jones  
 2nd V.P.    Nancy Miller  
 3rd V.P.    Unfilled  
 Sec'y        Pat Soraghan  
 Treas.       Becky Clausen

#### Directors

Rosalie Brasch  
 Micky Croyle  
 Eve Golden  
 Nancy Hutchins  
 Dianne Modrell  
 Sydell Shayer  
 Catherine Stenger  
 Louise Wilkerson

#### ANNUAL MEETING ADOPTS ADDITIONAL LOCAL PROGRAM

Everyone is talking about whether St. Louis City and St. Louis County should remain as they are or form some type of joined government structure. At our annual meeting on April 26th, members decided to add our educated and thoughtful voices to the conversation.

Sydell Shayer presented the recommendation from the Board of Directors.

Members approved the following proposal:

**The League of Women Voters of St. Louis will conduct a two-year study of the relationship of the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County with emphasis on the question of whether St. Louis should become a municipality within St. Louis County.**

Our League has a long history of studying local government, and a number of our members are interested in learning more about this issue in order to participate in the conversation. Local municipalities, the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and ad hoc community groups have already begun the conversation.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact our presidents at [presidents@lwwstl.org](mailto:presidents@lwwstl.org) or call the LWVSTL office at 314.961.6869.



*Co-presidents Linda McDaniel and Kathleen Farrell lead the discussion on our local program.*

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS SLATE ELECTED

The Nominating Committee recommended the following slate. It was unanimously approved.

#### Officers:

Nancy Miller - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.  
 Pat Soraghan - Secretary  
 Becky Clausen - Treasurer

#### Directors:

Eve Golden  
 Mickey Croyle  
 Nancy Hutchins  
 Dianne Modrell  
 Louis Wilkerson

#### Nominating Committee 2015-2016

Mary Brown, Chair  
 Charlene Dummett  
 Norma Jean Downey

Respectfully submitted, Nominating Comm.2014-15

K Wentzien, Chair  
 Alfreda Brown  
 Rosalie Brasch  
 Nancy Miller

**MEMBERS ARE REMINDED: 2014-2015 DUES SHOULD BE SENT IN TODAY!**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS MAY 2014

The St. Louis League had a very successful year. We began the year shortly after the 2013 Annual Meeting with a newly elected Board of Directors retreat. We set our priorities for the year, developed the year’s program and calendar, planned new League meeting formats and met with our LWVMO sister Leagues to set state priorities and gear up for what would be a most challenging advocacy year in Jefferson City.

Some of the highlights of this year were:

- A 4% increase in membership
- Two successful fundraisers
- Monitoring of St. Louis City/St. Louis County reorganization issue
- Summer get together on the Hill
- A year-long well informed Agriculture Position consensus
- A stellar year of learning about Medicaid expansion, the Affordable Care Act, GMO’s, School Transfers, Early Childhood Education, and other important issues through the In League Reporter, Metro News, and unit meetings.
- Collaborations with community organizations
- Two new “Learn at Lunch” programs on Gun Violence and Korea that were well attended.
- Meeting with the St. Louis County Board of Elections
- Voters Guides, St. Louis City Housing Authority Elections, Candidate Forums
- Voter registration of newly naturalized citizens
- Meeting with 24 international visitors from 23 countries
- National Voter Registration Day letter to the editor
- Tailgate sale, Kickoff purse auction, children’s book donations at our Holiday Luncheon
- Voter information hotline elections and throughout the year

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 ☆ **Great** ☆  
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 ☆ **Organizations** ☆  
 ☆ **demand a high** ☆  
 ☆ **level of** ☆  
 ☆ **commitment** ☆  
 ☆ **by the people** ☆  
 ☆ **involved.** ☆  
 ☆  
 ☆ **Bill Gates** ☆  
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 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

It didn’t seem like an off election year when we produced a 26 page Voters Guide for the April election and had record turnout at our candidate forums in some hotly contested races! We did our best to represent the League in our community and are gearing up for a very busy 2014-15 midterm election season.

We are ever grateful to Anna Mennerick and Julie Behrens who magically seem to get everything done and the many volunteers and board members who answer every call for service. We are honored to serve you.

*Linda Claire McDaniel*                      *Kathleen Farrell*  
 Co-Presidents



2014-2015

## 2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

### League of Women Voters of St. Louis

8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104  
 St. Louis, MO 63144  
 www.lwvstl.org  
 314-961-6869

**NAME(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE/CELL PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Newsletters are delivered by email to save the League financial, paper, and people resources. If you would prefer a paper copy through postal mail, please check here \_\_\_\_\_*

**DUES INCLUDE MEMBERSHIP IN LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS.**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LWVSTL**

Annual Membership Dues — April 1st, 2014 - March 31st, 2015
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Sustaining	\$1,000	\$ _____
Supporting	\$ 500	\$ _____
Contributing	\$ 250	\$ _____
Individual (1st member in household)	\$ 70	\$ _____
Each Additional Household Member	\$ 30 X _____ =	\$ _____
Student	\$ 30	\$ _____
For anyone who cannot afford the Individual Level	\$ 45	\$ _____
Contribution		\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$ _____

Dues may also be paid by credit card at the League website.

[www.lwvstl.org](http://www.lwvstl.org)

### Member Interest Checklist

*Please check your interest areas.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Board Leadership
- \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Forums
- \_\_\_\_\_ Communications
- \_\_\_\_\_ Education
- \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Issues
- \_\_\_\_\_ Events Planning
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health Care
- \_\_\_\_\_ International Relations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative Action
- \_\_\_\_\_ Office Support
- \_\_\_\_\_ Speakers Bureau
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voters Guide
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voter Registration
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voter Service Hotline

*The League of Women Voters depends on volunteer leadership to carry out the work of the organization.*

***Thank you in advance***

**LWV-STL Health Care Committee recommends the following actions:**

LWV- STL members join 1) Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance 2) Missouri Health Care for All and 3) Missouri Medicaid Coalition. (Each organization is without a fee but does provide ongoing, valid information. Vision, Values and Mission Statements of each of these coalitions are available online along with membership sign-up.)

Individuals are encouraged to express direct communication to their respective elected representatives. Find out who your representatives are at [www.house.mo.gov/sitemap](http://www.house.mo.gov/sitemap) and enter your zip code or at senate.mo.gov. The current session will end May 17. Weekly contact is encouraged. Letters to the Editor are encouraged. Attend information sessions as a show of support. MAY 6 will be a rally in Jefferson City to show support for Medicaid Expansion.

*Dianne Modrell,  
Health Care Committee Chair, LWV-STL*

**TAXATION**

The Senate gave final approval (Third Reading) **SS#3/SCS/SBS 509 AND 496** (Kraus) on April 1 by a party-line vote of 23-9. According to the Missouri Budget Project, in an unusual special committee meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>, the House Ways & Means committee passed SB 509 a massive tax scheme that will starve education, health, infrastructure, and other critical services of nearly \$800 million a year when fully implemented.

**The wealthiest Missourians would see a nearly \$8,000 tax cut, average Missourians would see just \$4.75 a month. But they would likely end up spending more in increased fees, sales, and property taxes.**

This bill passed the House on April 16 and was sent to Governor Nixon. He has 15 days to consider the bill. The Governor has indicated that he will veto this bill, but it will be possible for the Legislature to bring it up again before session ends on May 16 to override the veto.

**EDUCATION**

As reported last month **SB 493** passed the Senate. It would require the State Board of Education to adopt a classification system that would accredit individual school buildings within a district, instead of the district as a whole. Student transfers would be coordinated by three regional authorities: one for St. Louis City and County, one for Kansas City and Jackson County, and one for the rest of the state. Another provision would require the State Board's classification system to accredit charter schools. It includes an amendment that would allow students from unaccredited schools to transfer to private, nonsectarian schools within the district. SB 493, containing numerous provisions, was heard in the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee on April 8<sup>th</sup>. SB 493 may reduce the likelihood of some districts becoming unaccredited and may reduce the adverse financial impact of the student transfer law. However, early childhood education and extended learning time were not included.

It appears to be the one bill currently advancing.

Marti Ott  
*Education Chair LWVSTL*

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Members gathered at Orlando Gardens in Webster Groves on Saturday, April 26th, for the Annual Meeting.



From left, Sydell Shayer, Eve Golden, Jeff Golden, Julie Behrens, Marjorie Courtney, Barbara Elbrecht, Denny Joerger, and Elise Joerger

From left, Agnes Garino, Joyce Schuetz, Marion Stuvland, Nancy Hutchins, Pat Jones, Claiborne Handleman, Janis Pupillo, Mary Ellen Bruckner, and Dianne Modrell



From left, Betty Ann Gilbert, Jeanne Morrell-Franklin, Debbie Howard, Becky Clausen, K Wentzien, Marjorie Jokerst, Mickey Hall, and Ginny Hartley

From left, Nancy Miller, Suzanne Watson, Julian Long, Kathleen Farrell, Linda McDaniel, Pat Soraghan, Catherine Stenger and Laura Paunan



From left, Rosalie Brasch, Carol Portman, Cindy Mitchell, Nancy Bowser, Marty Ott, Sue Williams, Judith Smart, and Lolly Wehrli

ANNALS OF THE LEAGUE



## NEW LOCAL STUDY PROPOSED, DISCUSSED AND ADOPTED AT ANNUAL MEETING



Director Sydell Shayer presents the recommendation from the Board of Directors to adopt a two-year study of the relationship of the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County with emphasis on the question of whether St. Louis should become a municipality within St. Louis County.



Member Joyce Schuetz is spearheading the drive to raise funds for a bust of Virginia Minor that will be placed in the rotunda of the capitol in Jefferson City.


*See page 7*



Co-presidents Linda McDaniel Kathleen Farrell lead the discussion on whether or not to adopt the new study. The study will examine all possible scenarios for the relationship between the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

**Members are reminded to pick up a Medicaid Expansion yard sign in the office. Be sure to call before you come to make sure someone is there.**

**The Medicaid Expansion Rally will be held at the capitol in Jefferson City on May 6th. Call Marty Ott 314.434.0330 for information.**



# 1,000 STRONG

**\$10 x 1,000 = \$10,000**

**Stand with 1,000 Missourians for equal rights.  
Help put Virginia Minor's bust in the Hall of Famous Missourians\***



Virginia Minor led the fight for women's suffrage in Missouri. In 1872, she led hundreds of women in an effort to get women the right to vote under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. With her husband as her lawyer she sued. But the Supreme Court in *Minor v. Happersett* decided that women were not covered by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment's guarantee of equal citizenship for all Americans. Not until 1971, nearly 100 years later, did the Court finally apply the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to women. After losing the case, she studied law and continued her work for women's suffrage until her death in 1894.

**Be 1 of 1,000**

**Send your \$10 to the Missouri Women's Network Education Fund**

\*Busts are on permanent display in the Missouri capitol. They are privately funded.

More information: [sbreeze@mindspring.com](mailto:sbreeze@mindspring.com) or [mmosley@tranquility.net](mailto:mmosley@tranquility.net)

Contributions are **tax deductible**. Make checks payable to Missouri Women's Network Education Fund and mail to Joyce Schuetz, 528 Oak Ridge Trails Ct., Ballwin, MO 63021

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITTEES**

**STUDY COMMITTEES RESUME MEETING IN OCTOBER. WATCH FOR ADVOCACY UPDATES IN THE ILR.**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE**

**HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**UNIT MEETINGS**

**UNITS WILL RESUME MEETING IN OCTOBER. WATCH FOR INFORMATION IN THE SEPTEMBER ILR.**

**VOTER REGISTRATION CONTINUES**

During March and April, our registrars registered 202 newly naturalized citizens.

Looking ahead to the November 2014 general elections, additional voter registration events are being scheduled in September at many area colleges and universities.

LWVSTL deputized registrars volunteer 3-4 times per month to register new voters. Most of these sessions are on Fridays, at 11 a.m., downtown at the Eagleton Courthouse. If you would be interested in more information about this rewarding opportunity, please contact Catherine Stenger at 636.532.0473 or [catherinestenger@yahoo.com](mailto:catherinestenger@yahoo.com).



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**MEMBERSHIP**

New Members:

Brian White  
4386 West Pine Blvd. Apt. 2W  
St. Louis MO 63108-2242

Cliff Zell  
1502 Coulter Forest  
St. Louis MO 63122

Rejoined:

Angie, Terry & Kelly Dunlap  
952 Westrun Drive  
Ballwin MO 63021-4417

Patti Walley  
2119 Forest Ave.  
St. Louis MO 63139-3506

Address Changes:

Nancy Cross  
4945 Buckingham Ct. Apt. 2E  
St. Louis MO 63108-1463

Betty & Ken Maag  
21 N. Old Orchard Ave. Apt. 416A  
St. Louis MO 63119-2670



**VOLUNTEER CORNER**

Thanks to our volunteers during the busy month of April preparing for the annual meeting and the many tasks necessary to keep the League functioning as a viable organization: Liz Aurbach, Brenda Banjak, Sally Beck, Nancy Bowser, Rosalie Brasch, Stefany Brot, Esther Clark, Jim Clark, Becky Clausen, Marjorie Courtney, Mickey Croyle, Bob Elgin, Joan Esserman, Kathleen Farrell, Agnes Garino, Betty Ann Gilbert, Mickey Hall, Barbara Harris, Ginny Hartley, Debby Howard, Nancy Hutchins, Pat Jones, Kathleen Lottenbach, Linda McDaniel, Nancy Miller, Dianne Modrell, Carolyn Nolan, Marty Ott, Carol Portman, Mary Beth Reynolds, Sydell Shayer, Judith Smart, Pat Soraghan, Catherine Stenger, Billie Teneau, K Wentzien, and Sue Williams. This list includes the St. Louis board members. When you attend a board meeting, please remember to sign the volunteer book in the office so we have a record of our volunteers' hours. We appreciate your commitment to the League.



If you have time to donate to the League please contact our volunteer coordinator, Barbara Harris at 314.968.3609 or email Barbara at MBJH@charter.net

*Julie Behrens, Staff*

**From the Executive Director's Desk - Anna Mennerick**



Thank you all for another successful program year. Your integrity of purpose, faithfulness to ideals, persistence in the face of opposition, and willingness to take on new challenges make my job interesting and worthwhile.

August and November elections are right around the corner, I look forward to working with all of you as we continue to serve our community and region.



IN LEAGUE REPORTER

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS  
8706 MANCHESTER ROAD, SUITE :04  
SAINT LOUIS, MO 63144

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**CALENDAR**

**APRIL 2014**

Members are reminded: 2014-2015 dues should be sent in today! Thank you!

**MAY 2014**

Tues. May 6th 9am-2pm	MEDICAID EXPANSION RALLY	Jefferson City
Mon. May 26th	<b>OFFICE CLOSED—MEMORIAL DAY</b>	
Wed. May 28th 6:00pm	LWVSTL Board Meeting	League Office

**JUNE 2014**

Fri.-Tues. June 6—June 10	<b>LWVUS CONVENTION</b>	Dallas, TX
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