



**IN LEAGUE REPORTER – JUNE 2010**  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS**  
**8706 Manchester Road, Ste. 104, St. Louis, MO 63144**  
**314.961.6869                      www.lwvstl.org**

**From the President:**

As I look back over the past year, it has been a busy one that seems like it just began last week. It has been a privilege to work with the board and the very many of you who volunteer and make the League all it is.

My thoughts of the year include the units, so well attended, with great discussion, questions and wonderful program. We had a statewide study on Early Voting reaching consensus and having to think and rethink our own opinions. Studies are not as simple as they may seem. We had a committee that did great work and the material they prepared led us to the consensus. Involved in each of the programs presented was a committee reporting on their work for the year.

Health care was constantly before us for months, from the action alerts, reviews and discussion of the legislation before Congress. And it resulted in success. The health care legislation passed. But of course we know that the debate and discussion are not over. It will need to be closely followed as to how it is implemented, nationally and in the state of Missouri.

We had some fun too, a great Kickoff Meeting, a new effort to interest people in the League with a Wine and Cheese get together, a great Holiday luncheon and a very successful auction with some real competition between people who were bidding on the same item, and our annual theatre party.

Without a doubt the biggest project of the year was our April Voters Guide published in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch through a new collaborative relationship between the Post and the League. About 50 people volunteered about 350 hours to do the research for the guide. The result was a distribution of more than 300,000 Voters Guides and a public that was informed about their municipal elections.

We renegotiated the lease on our office space where we have been for 15 years and where we will stay for another five. And most importantly we were able to get slightly reduced rent. The activity of the League does slow down some during the summer. We will not have units but you will continue to hear from me. Next on the agenda is the National Convention and I will try to write brief reports of each day's action which will be on our facebook page.

Have an enjoyable summer.

*Linda C. McDaniel*

- 2009-2010 LWV ST. LOUIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
- Officers**
- Co-Pres. Linda C. McDaniel  
Becky Clausen
  - 1<sup>st</sup> V. P. Kathleen Farrell
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> V. P. Pat Jones
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> V.P. Enid Tennenbaum
  - Sec'y. Mary Beth Reynolds
  - Treas. Cindy Mitchell
- Directors**
- Dixie Buford
  - Eve Golden
  - Kathleen Kelly
  - Katharine Kilpatric
  - Mary Long
  - Marty Ott
  - Sydell Shayer
  - Nancy Thompson
- Newsletter Ed. Nancy Miller

**CALENDAR**

Tues.	June 8	10 am	Tour Danforth Plant Science Center	p. 4	N. Warson Rd
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**SAVE THE DATES**

Sat.	August 21	10 am	Equality Day Brunch	p. 7	Crown Plaza Hotel
Thurs.	August 26		Equity Day Celebration LWVSTL/YWCA	p. 7	YWCA

## *Anniversary Celebration*

From the moment we donned our beads and badges until the last door prize was awarded, the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the founding of the League of Women Voters was a very special day. Event chair Mary Merritt from Sedalia and a host of helpers put on a wonderfully memorable celebration. The award recipients were women of determination, perseverance, intelligence and grace who present a model for public service not often glimpsed in our media center public arenas. Speaker Vivian Eveloff of the Sue Shear Institute brought us information about women in politics with both specifics about Missouri women and the rates of candidacy for women. Columnist Jo Mannies traced her career as a journalist to her present position as a political reporter for the *St. Louis Beacon*. Both women brought into focus the everyday world of women in public life today.

The Historic Quilt which was lovingly made in honor of American suffragists was won by Carolyn Nolan, a LWVSTL member. The second quilt, with Mrs. Frank Leslie, instead of Missourian Phoebe Cousins, will be raffled at the national convention.

Fifty year members from across the state were honored, including 28 from the St. Louis area. Some of these ladies shared their memories with us.

### ***Adelaide M. Schlafly***

I was born into a world in which my mother was not allowed to vote and neither my sisters nor I could expect to vote when we reached adulthood. When women finally gained the right to vote, the League of Women Voters realized that voting responsibly meant fully informing oneself about candidates and issues before casting a ballot. I'm grateful to the League for all it has done for voter education in America. Our democracy is stronger as a result.

### ***Sydell Shayer***

At age 27, this stay at home mom of two decided it was time to do something for myself. Upon the recommendation of a friend, I joined the League of Women Voters. It changed the course of my life and opened up a whole new world.

I discovered that taxes was an interesting subject. I learned that city aldermen could be elected by district or at-large. I met League members whose sole discussion material was not what they saw on television the previous night. We did not own a TV. I learned that I could speak in public even if it meant that I had to read from a script. I learned that you did research on interesting topics even though I was no longer in school.

My first airplane trip was to a League Convention where I met League members from other parts of the country who had strange accents, and to my surprise they thought it was I with the accent.

Now 53 years later, I can say it has been a wonderful journey. The League is where I met most of my friends, where I have learned most of what I know, and where I discovered that giving is receiving and where one person can make a difference.

### ***Yvonne Logan***

I started on the Civil Rights Committee of the Kirkwood League; my first active memory was traveling to Jefferson City to testify against school segregation in the early fifties in the distinguished company of Frankie Freeman, Anne Moeller and Dorothy Moore. I was in awe of them!

Through the years the most important thing the League has done for our family is to give us trustworthy information on candidates and issues. It makes you happy to vote when you know what you're doing.

***Emma Lee Chilton***

One of my favorite League stories was told by George Roudebush whose wife, Dorothy, as a young mother was president of the St. Louis League in the mid 1940s. Their little daughter, Susan, was four or five and had a friend over to play. The telephone was ringing constantly. Dorothy was too busy to answer. She asked Susan to find out who was calling and to tell them she would call back. After the phone call, Susan returned to her playmate and said, "Does your mother belong to the League of Women Voters?" The little girl said, "I don't know." Susan said, "Well, then she doesn't!"

***Joy Guze***

My grandmother, Minnie Hadden, married young and married a much older man. Instead of starting a family, she threw herself into civil affairs, primarily Women's Right to Vote. At Doylestown, PA, she campaigned for peace and human rights becoming one of the founding members of Women's International League of Peace and Freedom and League of Women Voters, as well as Audubon Society. No bird feathers on her hats!

***Mickey Hall***

Long-lasting friendships plus opportunities to develop office skills, knowledge, and leadership, plus serve the community—all there for you in the league.

***Doris Flowers***

Wherever I have lived, the League has been an important key in getting me involved in my community.

It has inspired me to observe meetings of county and city schools, school boards, special school districts and fire districts in various places along the way. It enriched my life for more than two decades as I hosted unit meetings for a long and changing parade of wonderful League friends.

***Ann Husch***

I joined the league when I was 19 or 20 years old, before I could vote. The year I was born was 1920 – the year that women were given the right to vote throughout the United States. It is hard to believe we had to wait that long. I was proud to be a part of the League and its function of helping people to learn to vote intelligently without political bias. I was particularly impressed with Dorothy Moore and her skill as president

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***JUNE EVENTS***

**NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The national convention of the League of Women Voters of the United States will take place in Atlanta, Georgia, June 11-15. Our St. Louis President, Linda McDaniel, will be chairing the Oversight Committee while our delegates will be Kathleen Farrell, Sydell Shayer, Agnes Garino, and Nancy Miller. Mary Merritt of Sedalia will attend to supervise the selling of raffle tickets for the historic quilt drawing. Two quilts were made by members from across the state to commemorate the 90th anniversary of women achieving the vote by showcasing the women who made this possible. The Missouri quilt, that included Phoebe Wilson Couzins, a suffragist from St. Louis, was won by Carolyn Nolan, a LWVSTL member. The quilt to be raffled at the national convention includes Mrs. Frank Leslie, a colorful supporter of the suffrage movement and publishing baroness. Tickets for the raffle of the national quilt may be purchased at the league office or

by mailing in the form attached on page 9. The Historic Quilt booklets with interesting descriptions of each of the women honored on the quilt are available at the League office for \$3.

## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OPPORTUNITY !!

The Donald Danforth Plant Science Center puts St. Louis at the center of research to preserve, modify and develop plants that will help us cope with climate change, water shortages and a rapidly growing world population. The EQ committee has arranged a tour of the facility for Tuesday, **June 8<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. The Center is located at 975 North Warson Road north of the intersection of Warson and Olive. There will be some walking so wear comfortable shoes. Also, space is limited so please call or email the office for reservations. Join us for this opportunity to learn more about the cutting-edge research on food, pharmaceuticals, and biofuels being done here in St. Louis.



*Tour the*

### **DONALD DANFORTH PLANT SCIENCE CENTER**

975 North Warson Road, 63132

**Tuesday, June 8, 2010**

10:00 a.m.

Space is limited: for reservations call or email the League office at  
314.961.6869 or [league@lwvstl.org](mailto:league@lwvstl.org)

Wear comfortable shoes

## **THE LEAGUE AT WORK**

### **Book Sale**

When we had our book sale in October it was cold, wet and windy and we made \$485.60 which included, so Denny Joerger tells me, some donations.

We had so many wonderful books left, we kept them in my garage and at the Joergers and had another sale on May 1. We decided to cut our prices to 25 cents for paperback and 50 cents for hardback and just have a one day sale. Again we had a bit of rain. We made \$229.10 this time. Maybe we should have kept our \$1.00 and 50 cent prices but one young girl paid us with two rolls of pennies for her books so the low price may have helped her.



Thanks to Esther and Jim Clark, Ken Maag, K Wentzien, Denny, Elise and Carl Joerger and a special nod to Sydell Shayer who got up early to bring books over to the Loop at 10 o'clock AM!

I have my garage nice and clean now and those of you who held your books and anyone else who has books can bring them anytime.

*Barbara Elbrecht, Chair*

## ENERGY PRESENTATION

During the month of April, Jan Christian Andersen and Kellye Markowski spoke at the Webster/Kirkwood unit meeting on the subjects of Wind Energy and Energy Efficiency. These topics are directly related to the idea of sustainable living, a topic we will continue to hear more and more about in the future. Homes and businesses emit a far greater amount of carbon into the air than do cars, greatly contributing to the greenhouse gas / climate change problem. While many products are in less demand in a down economy, the demand for energy continues to increase each year with population growth and so do the problems we are creating. Wind and energy efficiency in our homes are an essential part of the solution.

The Wind Capital Group was the first organization to build a profitable wind farm in northern Missouri. Wind farms create jobs, inject millions of dollars into local rural businesses, supplement land owners enabling them to continue farming and help solve the global emissions problem. Our national goal for energy independence calls for reaching a 25% renewable energy goal by 2025 and given the government outreach, grants and economic stimulus monies, we anticipate exponential growth in our state creating more than 10,000 new jobs and saving Missourians \$331 million over the next 20 years on their electric bills.

Jan also addressed League member's concerns regarding the affect of wind farms on the environment. Wind Capital Group performs feasibility studies to determine placement that will have the least impact on the environment and still effectively capture the wind. Wind produces competitive power with no fuel costs and creates energy independence.

Developing energy efficiency in our homes is also a key part of our nation's goals to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. President Obama projects 1 million homes need to be weatherized annually. Kellye Markowski, owner of Energy Smart Homes, explained the Energy Star with Home Performance program developed by the government and sponsored by the Missouri Botanical Garden. The Energy Star purpose is to promote energy efficiency retrofits in our homes and provide the consumer with quality assurance as this new industry emerges.

Certified contractors in the program conduct comprehensive home energy audits to help homeowners understand the best course of action to reduce energy usage and costs. For example, many homeowners believe this will require costly replacement of all their windows. While this is an improvement, it might surprise you to know window replacement will not have the greatest energy efficiency impact or greatest return on your investment. Rather, finding air leaks, plugging them up and adding supplemental insulation is essentially like closing an open window in your home and adding a blanket. You can imagine how a 20-40% reduction in air leakage could help reduce your carbon footprint.

Auditors, using sophisticated diagnostic equipment, conduct a comprehensive assessment of your home's air leakage, air quality, moisture issues, insulation, gas appliance safety and energy usage. Their goal is to help you achieve a new level of comfort, health, and energy efficiency in your homes in the most cost effective way. Having an energy audit of your home can save you from making costly, ineffective mistakes and help you achieve your goals. Energy audits and repairs qualify for tax deductions and credits. For further information you can contact League member Kellye Markowski at 314-255-9922.

Next year The Environmental Quality Committee will focus on sustainable living bringing you new topics and information each month that we hope will be useful to you. We would like to hear your suggestions and questions you might have as the year progresses. Let's see what we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint!

*Mickey Croyle, Environmental Quality Chair*

# ANNUAL MEETING

## **Wrapping up 2009-10: Annual Meeting and Thoughts about Haiti**

The League of Women Voters of Saint Louis and League of Women Voters Information Service held their combined annual meetings on May 8, 2010 at the Center of Clayton. Over 50 members attended. One amendment to the Bylaws was approved. It enables the president to call special board meetings, requires the president to call a special board meeting at the written request of five members of the board, and allows all meetings to be conducted by electronic means.

Budgets for both the League and Information Service were presented by Treasurer Cindy Mitchell. It was noted that the organization must increase its income in order to support our office and activities. It was also noted that a \$300,000 gift had enabled the Information Service to pay a larger percentage of office operation expenses. The nominating committee recommended the following slate of officers:

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President      Pat Jones  
Treasurer              Cindy Mitchell,  
Directors 2 yr. terms    Marty Ott, Kathleen Kelly, Dixie Buford, Eve Golden.  
Director 1 yr term      Nancy Thompson  
Nominating Committee   Doris Buzzell, Chair, Susan Fleugel, Agnes Garino  
Serving Terms to 2011   Linda McDaniel & Becky Clausen, Kathleen Farrell, Enid Tennenbaum, Mary Beth Reynolds, Katharine Kilpatric, Mary Long and Sydell Shayer.

The slate was approved by the membership. Linda McDaniel announced that she, Kathleen Farrell, Agnes Garino, Nancy Miller, and Sydell Shayer would be representing our League at the annual convention, June 11-15, 2010 in Atlanta.

The extensive activities of the Information Service, which included the April 6, 2010 Voter's Guide project with the Post-Dispatch, candidate forums, and voter registration, Speakers' Bureau and various fundraising projects were reviewed. Kathleen Farrell received special recognition for her work on the Voters Guide Project. Linda McDaniel informed the membership of the ongoing negotiations with the Post-Dispatch for future Voter's Guides and commended the membership for the over 350 volunteer hours that League members put into the April Voter's Guide project. Directions were given to the board and the meeting adjourned to prepare for the special film presentation, Haiti Mamba Mirak.

Over 100 people came to see the Haiti Mamba Mirak, the special presentation on Haiti and the "Peanut Butter Miracle", by award-winning filmmakers Lori Dowd and Frank Popper. They shared three clips with the audience that are part of their documentary film project that will tell the story of medical innovators, social entrepreneurs and the fight against malnutrition in Haiti—an attempt to change our approach from one of rescue to one of sustainable local development. The clips were compelling and Dowd and Popper's devotion to the project was obvious. The audience was clearly moved by the clips and asked a number of questions about not just Dowd and Popper's documentary project, but also about the deteriorating conditions in Haiti.

Special thanks to Eve Golden and her crew for such a lovely reception and Pat Jones, Mary Long and their team of volunteers who made the beautiful posters, table decorations, and distributed publicity about the event. It was a great event to end the League's 2009-10 program.

*Kathleen Farrell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*

### ***Many Thanks...***

to everyone who contributed to the 2010 Annual Meeting Coffee/Tea: Julie Behrens, Rosalie Brasch, Sheri Brimer, Esther Clark, Kathleen Farrell-Long, Betty Ann Gilbert, Pat Jones, Katharine Kilpatric, Mary Long, Linda McDaniel, Anna Mennerick, Marty Ott, Carol Portman, Mary Beth Reynolds, Nancy Shayer, Sydell Shayer, Enid Tennenbaum and ... .. Kudos to All !!!

If I have not listed your name, I apologize. These LWV members' attention to baking, schlepping, moving, setups and/or breakdowns helped to make our program interesting and viable.

The afternoon's film and discussion about the 'Haitian Peanut-butter Project' is timely and important to League members for a better understanding of our planet's plight. St. Louis Filmmakers Lori Dowd and Frank Popper did an outstanding job in showing us what Mamba Mirak is accomplishing in Haitian society.

Thank you Lori and Frank!!

*Eve Golden, Event Coordinator*

### **BAYLESS TEACHERS ELECTION MONITORING**

On Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, the LWVSTL conducted an election for teachers in the Bayless School District. The teachers were deciding whether or not they wanted the Bayless Education Association to represent them in salary negotiations. Esther Clark and Mary Beth Reynolds expertly oversaw the election and presented the completed ballots to the district and education association representatives. Seventy-four percent of the eligible teachers participated in the election.

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

### **EQUALITY DAY BRUNCH**

The **Missouri Women's Network** is hosting the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Equality Day Brunch to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women getting the vote. Presentations will include election and legislative issues, political action information, awards and women's equity. The event will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Clayton, in the Crystal Ballroom. For further information call 314-831-5359.

### **EQUITY DAY CELEBRATION**

**The League and the YWCA Metro St. Louis** are co-sponsoring an event on August 26<sup>th</sup>, the actual date the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was ratified. The celebration will take place at the YWCA Phyllis Wheatley Heritage Center. Anna Eleanor Roosevelt is the featured speaker, with additional presentations with a local emphasis also planned. More information will be presented in the July In League Reporter.

# **COMMITTEES AT WORK**

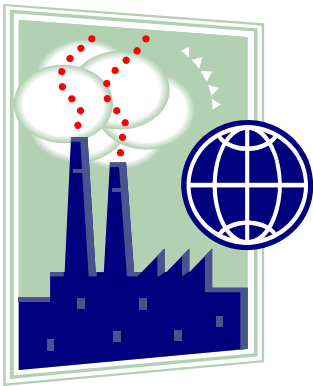
## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

The International Relations Committee will not meet during the summer months. Our next regular meeting will be on September 10.

*Judith Smart, Chair*



## **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE**



Program is the League's "Reason for Being," the basis for both education and action efforts. It includes both adopted positions, statements of where the League stands on issues of public policy that are used for action, and issues for study that will lead to a position and action.

EQ Program Committee activities focuses on Environmental Quality Issues, studying existing conditions, current issues, and opportunities for improvement, always guided by the League\*s local, state, and national positions. Committee work often involves monitoring the meetings and activities of key government individuals or organizations. Other committee work may involve study of recent reports, actions, or public statements.

Using the Transit position, the League of Women Voters of St Louis supported the Proposition A on the April 2010 Ballot. Members worked hard with many other organizations and the Proposition Passed!

The 2010 – 2011 focus of the Environmental Quality Committee will be sustainable living. The EQ Committee will be presenting information each month in the *In League Reporter*. We would like to hear your suggestions and questions you might have as the year progresses. Let's see what we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint!

What is your favorite EQ issue? Are you active with any other organizations on EQ issues? If so please keep the LWV STL EQ committee informed about your work, and serve as a resource for the Committee.

Join the EQ Committee. For additional information, contact Mickey Croyle

## **MEMBERSHIP**

New Member:  
Lori Dowd  
7247 Princeton Ave.  
St. Louis MO 63130-3028

## MEMORIALS

In memory of Julian Hall from Brenda Banjak, Julie Behrens, Lois Bliss, Emma Lee Chilton, Esther & Jim Clark, Anita Koester, Linda McDaniel, Jeanne Morrel-Franklin, and Sydell Shayer to LWV St. Louis.

In memory of Janice Dahl's father from Sydell Shayer to LWV St. Louis.

In honor of Mary Kirkpatrick's speedy recovery from Sydell Shayer to LWV St. Louis.

In honor of "Granny D" from Linda McDaniel to LWV St. Louis.



## VOLUNTEER CORNER

We want to thank our volunteers who faithfully help with our many office tasks – mailings, updating lists, filing, answering the phones, etc, etc, etc.... Leaguers who helped this past month were Mary K. Brown, Doris Buzzell, Marj Courtney, Clyde and Verna Creel, Betty Ann Gilbert, and Mickey Hall.

*Julie Behrens, Staff*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REFLECTIONS

The League of Women Voters is an organization that understands slow progress. The founders had been involved in promoting women's suffrage for decades. Members follow issues and advocate for improved policy in areas which are vital but not always headline grabbers. Being involved means careful study, measured action and persistence. Incremental victories lead to slow improvement.

Involved for the long run, League members persist. In an age of instant, quick and drive through attempts at solutions, our members model slow and steady on its way to winning the race. The optimist in me sees many opportunities available for gaining experience through persistent involvement in progress.

*Anna Mennerick*

***HISTORIC QUILT ENTRY FORM***

***\$5.00 per ticket***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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IN LEAGUE REPORTER

