

# ***THE OXFORD VOTER - September 2009***

## ***Making Democracy Work***

***The League of Women Voters of Oxford reaffirms our commitment to diversity and pluralism which means that there are and shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of League on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.***

**From Mary Jo Clark -**

**The new League year begins with this September Voter.**

We are looking forward to the public meeting on Local Health Care September 30, publication of the ***Voter Information Guide*** and Candidates Forum in October, and the League Social on December 5 to welcome newly elected officials.

**The League of Women Voters is moving toward electronic communication.**

For your information here are links to League websites.

- LWVOxford: [www.oxford.oh.lwvnet.org](http://www.oxford.oh.lwvnet.org)
- LWVOhio: [www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org)
- LWVUS: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

### **VPs Share President's Duties**

As directed by the local convention in April, the Program, Organization and Voter Service Vice Presidents are sharing the job of the President of the League of Women Voters of Oxford. In addition to their Vice President's duties, they will determine responses to action alerts from LWVO and LWVUS, and they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that clarifies how the President's duties are divided. Mary Jo Clark, Program Vice President, will represent the league to the community and preside at board meetings. She will delegate other tasks to Sallie Killian, Organization Vice President, and Karen DeLue, Voter Service Vice President, as needed.

## **Voter Service Committee Makes an Impact on Oxford**

Thanks to Becky Quay, the Voter Service Committee is off to a good start. League and the NAACP held a voter registration drive uptown, Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We had 16 registrations, gave out 7 or 8 forms to be mailed in, and talked to many students about voting, including the pros and cons of registering in Oxford. The League members that helped with registration were Sabrina Jewell, Joanne McQueen and Becky.

**Becky needs help on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> to register voters at Kroger. Can you work a one or two hour shift, 9-11, 11-1, or 2-3? Call Becky, 523-5747.**

We are planning to print the *Voter Information Guide* in the Oxford Press on October 16 and should be **proof reading from 9a.m. – 11a.m. on Friday, October 2 and Monday the 5th**. Probably we'll hold a “distribution party” on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>. That means we gather uptown at 9:30 a.m. and go out in pairs to blanket the town with *Voter Guides*. Then meet at Kona's around 11:30 to enjoy each other's company, rest feet and have lunch. Because we will have burned quite a few calories, we will even deserve a dessert! Call Karen DeLue 523-8852 or e-mail [kdelue@yahoo.com](mailto:kdelue@yahoo.com) if you can help.

Prue Dana is again heading up the Candidates' Forum, as if being mayor isn't enough work! It will be on a Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Oxford Senior Center. We need all hands on deck for this to help Prue and to make it a good Forum.

**People are needed to:**

- **Distribute flyers**
- **Set up at the Senior Citizen Center from about 4:30 – 5:30p.m.**
- **Be hostesses, greeting the candidates and making them feel welcome and at ease. 7:10 – 7:30p.m.**
- **Be a moderator or the time keeper, or “table set-up person”( ie. name signs and fresh water at each place)**
- **All able bodied people will be needed to put the chairs away.**
- **An angel who would lighten Prue's load by coordinating the personnel for this forum?**

Call Karen, 523-8852 or e-mail [kdelue@yahoo.com](mailto:kdelue@yahoo.com), if you can be that angel or to be put on the list of workers for one of the other jobs.

Then everyone please stay for the forum and ask questions. If you can't think of one, we'll have extras on hand. This is always a good time in grass roots democracy.

Thanks,  
Karen DeLue,  
Voter Service Chair

## Observer Corps Reports

Sue Jones, Observer for the Talawanda School Board, reported highlights from the August 17, 2009 meeting.

- Kelly Spivey made a presentation on the Talawanda Pride Initiative. NCLB (No Child Left Behind) mandated that the schools set up a quality learning climate dealing with physical and emotional health, diversity, school safety, and issues such as race, homophobia, and acceptance. Staff were surveyed in 2005-06 and found to be uncomfortable about teaching these issues. Talawanda has developed a plan to work on school climate with programs on bullies and harassment, Native American History, Study circles for secondary students, Character Day training at THS, and book studies to develop “courageous conversations.”
- The District Nurse presented the Pandemic Plan. This included prevention steps such as staff and students frequently washing hands and use of hand disinfectant. The web and telephone call lines will be used to notify parents as the need arises. Each school will also have a quarantine area in the health room.
- Grants to date are almost \$360,000.
- There will be an official groundbreaking for the new high school later in the fall, as part of a high school football game preliminary activity.

**Of Concern to LWV:** *Pandemic flu plans and wellness issues should be monitored by the wellness committee as a part of our September 30 meeting.*

### **Needed: Observers for**

- Oxford City Council which meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 pm, at Oxford Court House.
- Oxford Township Trustees which meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:00 pm, at Township Bldg.
- Oxford Recreation Board which meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at the Senior Center.
- Oxford Housing Advisory Commission (HAC) which meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, at 6:30 pm, conference room at Municipal Bldg.

We have experienced observers who have volunteered to train newcomers and also substitutes when regular observers have conflicts. You can share observing with another League member.

**Join our excellent Observer Corps members, see your local government in action, and share your observations with all LWVO members. Jane Fryman, 523-4932 or [jackfryman@yahoo.com](mailto:jackfryman@yahoo.com) or Rosemary Pelphrey 523-8939 or [rpelphrey@woh.rr.com](mailto:rpelphrey@woh.rr.com).**

Jane Fryman, Observer Corps Coordinator

## **Results of the Consensus Study on National Popular Vote Compact**

The League of Women Voters of Oxford participated in the LWVUS National Popular Vote Compact consensus study last February. After tabulating the results from the local Leagues the LWVUS Program Planning Committee and the National Popular Vote Committee approved the following statement of position: **“The LWVUS affirms its support of the direct election of the president and the abolition of the Electoral College, but the LWVUS has no position on the National Popular Vote Compact as studied in 2008-2009.”** There was no consensus on the national popular vote.

## **Local Healthcare Needs Topic of Public Forum September 30**

An opportunity for each of us to learn about the status of healthcare in our community will be the focus for the League Meeting on September 30. Mark your calendars and bring a friend to the LCNB Community Room at 7:30 p.m. that evening.

We will gather for a Public Forum which addresses questions and concerns of local residents. A panel of presenters will discuss health programs for children, adults (both insured and uninsured), and the elderly—with special emphasis on emergency preparedness. There will be ample time for discussion after the presentations.

The program has been developed by the League Healthcare Committee, chaired by Sondra Engel, with assistance from members Sue Jones, Toni Saldivar, and Tammy Wood. The subject of healthcare continues to have a high priority with Leagues across the U.S. and in Ohio.

A healthy community depends on an informed and engaged citizenry. Come be a part of this endeavor to expand our understanding of local healthcare needs and our finding ways to meet them.

Sondra Engel, Chair  
Healthcare Committee

## **From the Healthcare Committee**

For the Public Forum League Meeting on September 30, we will have a flyer publicizing the event. If any of our members would like a copy of this flyer, please contact Sondra Engel at [engelas@muohio.edu](mailto:engelas@muohio.edu). Members may want to share this information with their churches or other organizations. We will have flyers at commercial establishments.

Sondra Engel, Chair  
Healthcare Committee

## **Opportunities to Get Involved in LWV Oxford aka “Help Wanted”!**

**Register voters at Kroger.** September 19; Call Becky Quay to volunteer for a shift. 523-5747.

### **Voter Information Guide**

- Friday, October 2 and Monday October 5 proof reading from 9a.m. – 11a.m.
- “Distribution party” on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m.

Call Karen DeLue, 523-8852 or e-mail [kdelue@yahoo.com](mailto:kdelue@yahoo.com).

**Candidates’ Forum;** Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Oxford Senior Center.

People are needed to:

- Distribute flyers
- Set up at the Senior Citizen Center from about 4:30 – 5:30p.m.
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Jane Fryman, 523-4932 or [jackfryman@yahoo.com](mailto:jackfryman@yahoo.com) or Rosemary Pelphrey, 523-8939 or [rpelphrey@woh.rr.com](mailto:rpelphrey@woh.rr.com).

**Healthcare Public Forum Publicity;** Help publicize the Forum by sharing a flyer with your church or other organization. Sondra Engel at [engelas@muohio.edu](mailto:engelas@muohio.edu)

## Interested Creating a Cabinet Level Department of Peace?

I received an email from the LWV of Columbia/Boone County (MO) asking if any one in our League would be interested in adopting a study by the LWVUS at the national convention in 2010 to establish a Cabinet level **Department of Peace**. If you are interested, please contact me at [clarkmj1@muohio.edu](mailto:clarkmj1@muohio.edu) or 523-6515 to get more information.  
Thanks, Mary Jo Clark, Program VP.

## Invitations to Community Events

**The City of Oxford Housing Advisory Commission and the Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission** are holding a Community Open House & Historic Award Ceremony from 5 to 7 p.m on **Tuesday, September 22** at the Oxford Community Arts Center. Come learn about Historic Preservation, the Housing Trust Fund, Affordable Housing, the Uptown Historic District, Research Techniques and Oxford History. This event will give us an opportunity to reinforce our position on affordable housing. About 12 different organizations will be represented with information available.

**"Freedom Summer: Unity and Change, Then and Now"** scheduled for October 9-11. You can register by visiting <http://www.muohio.edu/cawc> Under "Special Programs", click on "Freedom Summer". You are encouraged register early.  
Kathleen Knight Abowitz

## Electronic Communication

The LWVOx Board of Directors has adopted a policy that communication with the membership will be done electronically, as much as possible. This is a cost saving measure and means that members will receive the *Voter*, Action Alerts and announcements by email. Members without email access will receive communications by regular U.S. mail.

## Keep Up to Date

Go to our website: <http://oxford.oh.lvwnet.org>

- Get updates of LWVOx events
- Check out "In the Spotlight"
- Read current and back issues of *The Oxford Voter*
- Consider LWVOx Positions and Studies
- View the online Government Services Directory and Voter Information Guide
- Get up to date election information

Helen Gorman, webmaster

## **League of Women Voters of Oxford 2009-10 Calendar**

The Board of Directors has adopted the following calendar for 2009-10. The time and place for events after December will be announced closer to the date of the event.

### July

- Fiscal Year begins
- Board meeting

### August

- Executive Committee Meeting
- Women's Equality Day (August 26)
- Membership renewal mailing

### September

- Board Meeting (Wednesday, September 9 at 4 p.m. at Lane Public Library)
- Voter #1 published electronically
- Local program meeting—Local Health Care (Wednesday, September 30 at 7:30 p.m. at LCNB)

### October

- Executive Committee Meeting (Wednesday, October 14 at 4 p.m. at Mary Jo Clark's home)
- Proof and Distribute Voter Information Guide
- Candidates Forum (Monday, October 26)

### November

- Board Meeting (Wednesday, November 11 at 4 p.m.—place TBA)
- Election Day (November 3)
- Voter #2 published electronically

### December

- Executive Committee Meeting (if needed)
- Social—meet the newly elected officials (Saturday, December 5, Time and Place TBA)

### January

- Board Meeting
- Local and National Program Planning
- Voter #3 published electronically

### February

- Board Meeting
- Local Program Meeting
- Voter #4 published electronically

### March

- Board Meeting
- LWVOx Education Fund Meeting
- Local Program Meeting
- Voter #5 published electronically—includes Annual Convention packet

### April

- Board Meeting
- Annual Convention

**LWV Oxford**  
**Board of Directors 2009-2010**

**Executive Committee**

Program V.P.	Mary Jo Clark
Voter Service V.P.	Karen DeLue
Organization V.P.	Sallie Killian
Secretary	Arianne Hartsell-Gundy
Treasurer	Jane Gaitskill

**Elected Directors**

Observer Corps	Jane Fryman
Publicity	Toni Saldivar
Natural Resources	Sandi Woy-Hazelton
Membership	Gail Williamson
Social Policy	Sue Jones

**Off-Board**

Budget	Carolyn Auble
Finance	Marcia Waller
Government	Steve Dana
<i>Voter</i> Editor	Alice Laatsch
Website Manager	Helen Gorman

Nominating Committee  
Edna Southard, Chair  
Linda Williams  
Steve Dana

**\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\***

**It's time to renew your membership for fiscal year July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010!**

In August, a membership renewal form was mailed to all 2008-2009 members of the League of Women Voters of Oxford. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to fill out your form and send it with a check to: League of Women Voters, Oxford, P.O. Box 504, Oxford, OH 45056.

If another copy of the form is needed, it may be downloaded from our website by going to: <http://oxford.oh.lwvnet.org> and selecting "FORM" from the column on the left.

**The League of Women Voters**  
**Fiscal year: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010**

**As a member you can...**

- ...stay informed about local, state and national issues through League publications.
- ...make your views heard by adding your voice to that of League members in all 50 states.
- ...act on important community issues or quietly let your membership add to LWV strength.

**What types of memberships are available?**

*Individual* @ \$45 helps toward payment of Ohio and LWVUS assessments. *Individual Sustaining* @ \$65 additionally contributes to LWVOxford by supporting local expenses. *Household* memberships are for two persons at the same address.

**When should I pay my dues?**

Membership year coincides with the fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). All memberships expire June 30. New memberships and renewals are accepted anytime. A **new** membership after January 1<sup>st</sup> is \$20 to 6/30/10.

**How would an additional contribution to the LWV of Oxford be used?**

The **General Account** supports the cost of operating expenses, the local newsletter, meetings, publicizing of LWV positions, and lobbying efforts. A contribution may be added to the membership dues or made separately. Checks are made payable to LWV Oxford. A contribution to this fund *is not* tax deductible.

Contributions to the **Education Fund** are tax deductible. The Education Fund supports educational activities such as publication of the Voter Information Guide, the Candidates Forum, and the Government Services Directory. Checks to this fund are made to LWV Oxford Education Fund. **Gail Williamson, Membership Director**



**Membership Form for League of Women Voters of Oxford, 2009 – 2010**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Street** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

Check type of membership you wish:

\_\_\_ \$45 Individual - Contributing                      \_\_\_ \$75 Household - Contributing

\_\_\_ \$65 Individual - Sustaining                      \_\_\_ \$85 Household - Sustaining

\$\_\_\_ Additional Contribution – please circle one: General Account or Education Fund

**Mail checks to: LWVOxford, Membership, P.O. Box 504, Oxford, OH 45056**