



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.

The Oxford Voter

October, 2010

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Voter Service Report 10/10

Becky Quay and her volunteers along with the NAACP held a **Voter Registration** at Krogers on October 2nd.

The Voter Information Guide (VIG) was published in the Oxford Press on October 8th. Behind the scene proofers were Edna Southard, Donna Hoffman, Helen Gorman, Sondra Engle, and LWV friends Gail Brown and Charlene York. Distributors were Rosemary Pelfrey, Judith Kolbas, Karen DeLue and Donna Hoffman. It is always available on our website, <http://oxford.oh.lwvnet.org> .

My name is on a letter to Miami students about the pros and cons of registering to vote in Oxford, but the bulk of the work was done by Sally Southard working with Bobbi Burke in student affairs. I think we were on draft number 11 when we finally got it!

And coming down the home stretch... **The Candidate Forum is going to be held Monday, October 18, at the Knolls Community Room 7 pm – 9pm.** Please e-mail pdana@bizwoh.rr.com or call Prue, 523-6579, to offer your help. This will be broadcast on the local access channel MWF @10am and TRSat @4pm until Election Day.

We are going to try to have some clips replayed on UTube via our Facebook page. We have a MU volunteer doing this as a service project. And so we go into the electronic age....not without some trepidation.

Karen DeLue,
Voter Service Vice President

LWVOx Supports Local Ballot Issues

Based on our local and national positions the Board of Directors has voted to support the three ballots issues on November 2.

ISSUE 4: The Butler County Parks Levy: The Oxford League endorses this issue because it promotes the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest through (1) effective recreation and parks programs; and (2) high quality water by providing natural areas that encourage recharging the regional aquifer.

ISSUE 6: Butler County Senior Services Levy: The Oxford League endorses this issue because it is cost effective. Passing this levy will not increase taxes but will continue to provide innovative, coordinated quality programs through public and private funding to help elderly citizens stay in their homes with independence and dignity.

ISSUE 15: Oxford Fire and Emergency Medical Services Levy: The Oxford League endorses this issue because the City of Oxford has operated in a fiscally prudent manner. The passage of this levy would continue the City's wise management of fiscal resources by creating a separate Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund that will only be used for fire and EMS services. This fund would benefit residents by allowing the City to hire additional fire and EMS staff. Thus, response time to emergencies will be reduced and the fire station will be staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Mary Jo Clark
Co-President

**Updating League of Women Voters of Ohio's
State Government and Finance Positions
Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m. in LCNB Community Room**

The League of Women Voters of Ohio's (LWVO) state tax and finance positions were adopted in 1983 and 1989. Since that time there have been changes in Ohio's taxes.

It is time to review and update the positions.

There have been significant changes to the tax structure in the last few years, including repeal of the corporate franchise tax, which was replaced with a Commercial Activity Tax (CAT), repeal of the personal property tax on business machinery and equipment, and decrease in the sales tax.

In 2007, the LWVO appointed a study group to review and make recommendations to update its positions in light of the new CAT tax and the phasing out of the corporate franchise and personal property taxes. Ohio's Local Leagues are holding consensus meetings to review these recommendations and to render their conclusions as to the proposals.

On Wednesday, October 27 members of the Oxford League will gather at 7:00 p.m. in the LCNB Community Room to determine consensus on the recommendations. Marcia Waller and Edna Southard will lead the discussion, and Sondra Engel will be the Recorder for the meeting.

The discussion and reaching consensus on the questions will be greatly enhanced by reading the study and thinking through the pros and cons of proposals prior to our meeting.

Access to the study and consensus questions is available at:
<http://www.lwvohio.org/site.cfm/Member-Area/Taxation-and-Finance.cfm>

If you have a computer, please read the study on line; if you do not have access to a computer and want to read a hard copy of the study, please call Steve Dana at 523-6579 before October 19.

This is our opportunity to weigh in on questions that are critical to Ohio's future.

Steve Dana

What is PMP?

PMP stands for Per Member Payment. It is the amount of monetary support that we pay the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and Ohio (LWVO). This helps them provide support and services to local Leagues.

What does LWVUS do for us?

- Advocacy and lobbying on national issues
- Action Alerts
- Leaders' Update published twice a month
- Web site maintenance
- Webinars
- Program, membership, advocacy materials
- Listserves on several subjects and action topics
- National convention every two years that determines program, action, PMP payments and debates other issues important to League

What does LWVO do for us?

- Advocacy and lobbying on Ohio issues
- Leaders' Update published twice a month
- Web site maintenance
- Webinars
- Program, membership, advocacy materials
- Administrative support
- Action Alerts, Legislative Updates, Education Updates
- Publications and the Ohio Voter
- Statewide meetings: Statehouse Day, Convention, Council (in alternate years)
- Liaison system of LWVO board members available to advise local Leagues
- Regional meetings

How much PMP does LWVOx pay?

For each League member on our books at the end of January we pay \$54.70 (\$29.70 LWVUS; 25.00 LWVO). These amounts are slightly reduced by the early payment discount and discounts for household memberships. Keeping this in mind, we still need to be aware that our annual dues of \$45.00 are less than the amount we send to the national and state organizations. Fortunately, up until now, we have been able to make up the difference with generous donations from Leaguers and members of the community. We have to reconsider this situation when we develop the budget for 2011-2012.

Mary Jo Clark

We Celebrated "The Vote" on September 29!

The LWVOx celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment at its membership meeting on September 29, 2010, with a readers' theater production, "Failure is Impossible," featuring League member Sallie Killian (far right) as narrator and guest actors (from left to right) Matthew Saldivar, Dixie Utter, and Drena Williams Bowerman.



Have You Renewed Your Membership for 2010-2011?

In August, a membership renewal form was mailed to all 2009-2010 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. A copy of the form is provided here if you need it.

Membership Form for League of Women Voters of Oxford, 2010 – 2011

Name(s) _____ Date _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Home Phone _____

Check type of membership you wish:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 Individual - Contributing | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Household - Contributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$65 Individual - Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$85 Household - Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ Additional Contribution - please circle one: <i>General Account</i> or <i>Education Fund</i> | |

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

For Your Calendar

- October 18**, Monday, 7-9 p.m. Knolls Community Room
 Candidate Forum
- October 27**, Wednesday, 7 p.m. Lebanon Citizens National Bank Community Room
 Local Program Meeting LWVOhio Consensus on State Finance
- November 2**, Tuesday, 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. -- Election Day