



## *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, 2011

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## **Save the Dates**

- Wednesday, October 19, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Knolls: Candidate Forum.
- Tuesday, November 8, 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.: Election Day
- Wednesday, November 9, 3:00 p.m. at the Smith Library of Regional History, Lane Library: Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day mayor's proclamation and reception.
- Saturday, January 21, 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m. Marcum Conference center: Program Planning



### **Need A Ride to Evening Programs ?**

We are aware that there are Leaguers who do not drive at night and who need a ride to meetings. If you would appreciate a ride, send an e-mail or call Steve Dana, Membership Chair, at [sdana@woh.rr.com](mailto:sdana@woh.rr.com) or 523-6579.

If you are willing to **give a ride** to someone who needs one, e-mail or call me, Steve, and I'll tell you who needs your assistance.

Neither I nor the other members of the Membership Committee can guarantee that we'll find a ride for you, but we'll do our best.

Steve Dana Membership Chair



## Voter Service Accomplishments and a Request

**Accomplished:** Our **Voter Information Guide** was placed in the body of the Oxford Press on Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>. In the past it has been in the middle with the ads and often discarded along with the ads.

**Accomplished:** Seven volunteers came Friday morning to the Oxford Press to help distribute the 2300 extra Voter Guides. Sandy Woy-Hazelton, Jane Jackson, Judith Kolbas, Edna Southard, Donna Hoffman, Diane Tuma and Karen DeLue were present. But the Voter Guides were AWOL and no one knew why or where they were. Not wanting to waste a beautiful morning and good company we walked over to Kofenya and sat outside while we made alternate distribution plans and basked in the Indian summer sunshine.

**And a Request:** Please call Prue Dana to volunteer to be a hostess at the Candidate Forum, Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. (I was going to be more gender neutral and say greeter, but that conjures up images of WalMart.) Can you think of a better appellation for the person who welcomes a candidate, shows her/him where to sit and generally tries to make the candidate feel welcome and at ease? Whatever you choose to call the job, call Prue (523-6579) to volunteer, please.

Karen DeLue, Voter Service Co-Chair



## Ballot Issues

There are four issues on the November election ballot. **Issue 1** is a proposed constitutional amendment to change the age at which a person may *not* be elected or appointed to a judicial office and to eliminate courts of conciliation and the Supreme Court Commission. **Issue 2** is a referendum on legislation relative to government union contracts and other government employment contracts and policies (A referendum on Am. Sub. SB 5). **Issue 3** is a proposed constitutional amendment to add a section to Ohio's Bill of Rights exempting Ohioans from a federal requirement that individuals purchase a minimum amount of health insurance coverage. **Issue 11** is a Butler County mental health proposed tax levy (renewal).

The League of Women Voters has taken positions on all four issues.

- **Issue 1: NEUTRAL** because neither LWVUS nor LWV Ohio has a position that pertains to Issue 1. Accordingly, LWV Ohio is taking a neutral stance on Issue 1.
- **Issue 2: NEUTRAL** because neither LWVUS nor LWV Ohio has a position that pertains to Issue 2. Accordingly, LWV Ohio is taking a neutral stance on Issue 2.
- **Issue 3: OPPOSE because** LWVUS adopted a position on health care in 1993 which supports a basic level of affordable, accessible quality care for all U.S residents. LWV Ohio believes Issue 3 seeks to undermine efforts to provide a basic level of affordable, accessible quality health care for Ohio's residents. Accordingly, LWV Ohio is opposing Issue 3.
- **Issue 11: SUPPORT** because LWV of Oxford has a position supporting human services provided by public and private agencies that includes professional diagnosis of psychological/ psychiatric disabilities; and innovation and coordination of quality programs for protection, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

For more information on Issues 1, 2 and 3 go to the LWV Ohio website <http://www.lwvohio.org>.

Mary Jo Clark, Co-President



## **LWVOx Gets Oxford Community Foundation Grant**

The Oxford Community Foundation announced on September 28, 2011 that the League of Women Voters of Oxford received a \$500 grant to help fund our Voter Information Guide. The grant was issued from the following funds: Joe & Barbara Cox Family Fund, Tim & Sally Myers Fund, Square D Schneider Electric Company Fund.

We are grateful for their support of the League.

Mary Jo Clark  
Co-President



## **LWVOsx to Celebrate “Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day” November 9**

League members, mark your calendars not only for Election Day, but also for the day after. On that second Wednesday in November, Mayor Richard Keebler, at the request of the League of Women Voters of Oxford, will proclaim November 9 as Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day in Oxford. The proclamation will be read at 3:00 p.m. in the Smith Library of Regional History, housed in the Lane Public Library. The proclamation will open our League's exhibit commemorating Elizabeth Cady Stanton's leadership in the struggle for women's rights, especially the right to vote, and Stanton's lecture to the Miami University and Oxford communities on November 9, 1870.

The purpose of Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day is to raise awareness of this remarkable woman's role in American history and thus in our own lives. Stanton's legacy to us comes in her words. She was a clear thinker, a brilliant writer, and a mesmerizing speaker. Part of our exhibit will be a replica of the founding document of the women's rights movement, "Declaration of Sentiments," which Stanton wrote and read to the first Women's Rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848. There, she was the first to publically and formally demand woman suffrage.

Four significant material artifacts remain in Oxford to help us reflect on Stanton's 1870 visit here:

- (1) The stained glass windows of the chapel in Old Main Building, Miami University, where she delivered her lecture. Some of those windows were salvaged when Old Main was torn down in 1958. Sections hang in various locations. One can be seen near the circulation desk in our Lane Library.
- (2) The 1870 personal diary of Eliza Lyons Bishop, wife of Robert H. Bishop, Jr., Professor of Classics at Miami University, and daughter-in-law of Robert H. Bishop, Sr., first president of Miami University. Mrs. Bishop notes attending, with others, Elizabeth Cady Stanton's lecture. This diary is in the archives of Miami University.
- 3) The glowing review of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's lecture at Miami University as published in the November 23, 1870 issue of *The Miami Student*, also in the Miami University archives.
- 4) The house where Elizabeth Cady Stanton stayed in Oxford, the home built in 1868 by her brother-in-law, Robert Stanton, then president of Miami University. This beautiful structure continues to stand on the corner

of Spring and Oak. Long known as the Stanton House, it was given to Miami University by the Bonham family some years ago, and thus bears that name today.

Our League would like to see the Bonham House preserved along with its history as a home to not one, but two, Miami University presidents and as the location of gracious welcome to one of the most controversial and important thinkers of her day: Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

Please come to the reading of the mayor's proclamation on November 9 at 3:00 PM and the opening of the exhibit. A reception will follow in the Avis Cullen Meeting Room-B.

Toni Saldivar  
Publicity



## National Privatization Study

A local committee is being formed to facilitate the LWVUS Privatization Study. The scope of this study is “to identify those parameters and policy issues to be considered in connection with proposals to transfer federal, state or local government services, assets and/or functions to the private sector. It will review the stated goals and the community impact of such transfers, and identify strategies to ensure transparency, accountability, and preservation of the common good.”

I have agreed to chair a committee that currently includes three other Leaguers. I would like a committee of five or six people. Would you be interested in joining us? Materials for the study will be supplied by the national League. We would present our findings and ask for consensus at a meeting in February. Please call or email me at 523-6515 or [clarkmj1@muohio.edu](mailto:clarkmj1@muohio.edu) if you can join us. The more of us who are involved—the less for one person to do. I’m looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks.

Mary Jo Clark, Chair  
Privatization Committee



## Highlights from Your State League: Mid-May – Mid-September, 2011

Summertime...and League Land was hopping! Your state League kept busy -- as your voice at the Statehouse, with activities to support local Leagues and their leaders and much, much more! Below is a snapshot of just some of the things your state League worked on over the past few months:

- **State Budget:** Advocated with coalition partners for the Ohio legislature to adopt a balanced approach to closing the projected eight-billion dollar deficit in the state budget, including enhanced revenue as well as cuts. In the end, a budget was passed which will result in significant cuts for education and local governments. However, taxes were not raised, loopholes were not closed and the estate tax was eliminated.
- **Election Law and Referendum on House Bill 194:** Testified at numerous hearings, participated in television, radio and newspaper interviews and sent Action Alerts regarding the proposed election bills, HB 159, HB 194 and HB 224. Although the proposed photo-ID law was not enacted, HB 194 reduced early in-person absentee voting hours and days, shortened the mail-in voting period, and prohibited boards of elections from sending unsolicited absentee ballot applications to all registered voters. Therefore, LWV Ohio joined the referendum effort to repeal HB 194. See Lobbyist Testimony under Advocacy at [www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org).

- Statehouse Day and Council: Approved offering the combined events on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.
- Ballot Issues: Approved state-wide ballot-issue overviews and the League's stance on the three issues. Available at [www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org).
- 2011 Redistricting Competition: Launched "Draw the Line Ohio", cosponsored by Ohio Citizen Action, demonstrating an open, transparent redistricting process can produce congressional and legislative districts that reflect four objective, public-interest criteria. State and local League representatives testified at numerous hearings across the state and participated press conferences and media interviews. The contest has garnered significant media attention and the attention of the legislature and Apportionment Board. See [www.drawthelineohio.org](http://www.drawthelineohio.org).
- Clean Air Promise Campaign: Joined LWVUS' campaign to reduce air pollution by engaging community leaders, politicians and the general public to make the promise to support clean air. LWV Ohio Education Fund will provide pass-through funding to local Leagues that also choose to participate. To learn more about the Clean Air Promise, visit <http://peoplenotpolluters.org/>.
- Judicial Reform: Met with Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice O'Connor to identify areas in which we could jointly advocate for judicial reform and commented on a survey to go to Ohio attorneys on judicial reform.
- Regional Meetings: Sponsored four regional meetings attended by representatives from 22 local Leagues regarding their voter-education / protection best practices and potential changes in election law for the 2011 General Election.
- Board Resignation: Accepted, with regret and great appreciation for her contributions since 2007, the resignation of Mary Kirtz Van Nortwick, LWV Oberlin Area, from the LWV Ohio board.
- Executive Director: Welcomed Jennifer Williams as permanent Executive Director.

Mary Jo Clark  
Co-President