



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

March, 2011

This Voter includes information about end of the year events, including our local convention on April 26. The convention packet is included with this Voter in the email you received or in the envelope sent to you through US Mail.

Mary Jo ClarkCo-President

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Save the Date

- Statehouse Day 2011: Thursday, April 7 at Verne Riffe Center, 31st floor, Columbus
- LWVOx Annual Convention: Tuesday, April 26, 7 p.m. at the LCNB Community Room
- LWVO Convention, May 13-15, “Sustaining Democracy through Sustainable Communities” at Maumee State Park



Voter Service

The Government Services Directories were slow to be distributed because our “folding felons” went away for spring break. The GSD’s are nearly all folded now and distribution continues. If you belong to an organization whose members would likely welcome the GSD, please contact Karen DeLue for a supply to share.

Thinking about the November 8th elections, we will be electing three to city council, three to the school board, and 4 township trustees and fiscal officers. If you are thinking about running, the nominating petitions for the general election must be submitted by 4pm August 10th. Meanwhile, please be thinking about what questions you would like to see the candidates answer in our voter guide.

Karen DeLue, Voter Service V.P.



“No Decision is a Decision – and It Has Consequences.” Doug Childs.

Doug Childs, CFA, Manager of Utilities Infrastructure Services, for the City of Hamilton. explained and illustrated thoughtfully the future risks to carbon (and thereby, higher costs) to the c. 30 members and guests at the March 22 meeting of the LWVOx.

Sandi Woy-Hazelton’s introduction of Doug Childs referenced his stature in Ohio and the region. “ His most prestigious award for leadership was when the American Public Gas Association singled out Hamilton as the best run municipal system in the U.S. Currently at 40%, soon to be 55%, “of its electrical energy from fully sustainable and pollution free” of carbon, the City of Hamilton residents pay \$500 less per year than Oxford and Oxford Township residents.

Childs recommended that League members individually and collectively encourage the City of Oxford and Oxford Township to use the benefits of Ohio law enacted in 2000 of “municipal aggregation” (forming a “buying group”) to lower electrical supply costs. The League appreciates that a member of city staff and of city council were present and interested.

The Board earlier formed a small committee to review the feasibility of League’s 2010 vote for a Local Study of Oxford City/Township’ carbon footprint . The committee plans to report to the Board at its April meeting. Childs’ presentation will be helpful in guiding the committee’s discussion.

Doug Child’s presentation met and exceeded the high expectations of those present.

Sally Southard and Sandi Woy-Hazelton



Public Invited to Review Conservation Development Scenarios on April 4.

Report of the Wilks Scholar Program on Conservation Development in and around the new high school on 27 South will be presented to the Public on Monday, April 4, 2011 4 to 7 p.m. at the LCNB Community Room.

Please come, view and give feedback to the 11 scenarios that were developed as a result of bringing city and township appointed and elected officials and stakeholders together with Randall Arendt, nationally known conservation development specialist in January and February.

The LWVOx contributed financially and are sponsors of this effort.

Prue Dana



Statehouse Day 2011: Secretary of State Husted to speak!

Statehouse Day is Thursday, April 7. LWVO has announced that **Secretary of State Jon Husted** will be the lunch keynote speaker and will provide an update on his just released election reform proposals. In addition, **Fred Andrie**, a retired National Public Radio host whose program was known for inspiring conversation, will kick off the day with a discussion of Civil Discourse, the theme of this year’s event. **There will also be enlightening and energizing workshops focused on the state budget, education, healthcare, redistricting and criminal justice system reform.**

The registration deadline is March 30. Please register by going to www.lwvohio.org for registration information. The registration fee of \$35 (\$20 for students, \$40 for non-members) covers a continental breakfast, lunch, and coffee/tea throughout the day.

Let Mary Jo Clark (523-6515, clarkmj1@muohio.edu) know if you are interested in going. She will coordinate transportation.



LWVO Convention: *Sustaining Democracy through Sustainable Communities*

will be held at Maumee Bay State Park May 13-15. More information, including registration and hotel information, is available in the winter LWVO VOTER and online at www.lwvohio.org. The League of Women Voters of Oxford is eligible to send two members. Please contact Mary Jo Clark, 523-6515 clarkmj1@muohio.edu if you are interested in going. The Oxford League will pay most of your expenses.



Phonathon

Phonathon 2011 is the chief internal fundraiser for the League of Women Voters of Ohio. League members received a letter from LWVO president, Meg Flack, in February asking for support of the League's commitment to transparency, education, advocacy and fair redistricting. The Oxford League board has approved sending \$100. The board asks you to give what you can afford—either to the LWVO Education Fund which is tax deductible or to the LWVO general fund that pays for daily operations and lobbying and is not tax deductible. Your donation can be sent to: League of Women Voters of Ohio, 17 S. High Street, Suite 6560, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3474.



Shhhhhh!

Best Kept Secret—Members' Page on Our Website

The members' page of our website is the best kept League secret. Within the past week I've found at least two members who can't find it. Although we expect people to access the page, it is hard to do. You can't Google it! The address is <http://oxford-members.oh.lwvnet.org/>. Please bookmark it so it's easy for you to find.

The page includes: Oxford League News and Events, Local Convention Packet/Annual Reports, Board Minutes, Reports, Facebook Information, Observer Reports, Meetings and Events for League Members, Local League History and Links to other League Websites. This is a secret to be shared!