



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

August, 2012

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Save the Dates

- **Thursday, August 23**, 5:30-8:00 at Uptown Park Pig Roast: voter registration with NAACP.
- **Saturday, August 25**, 9:00 a.m.-3:15 p.m. at Lane Library, LWVO Southwest Regional Meeting and training for those who wish to speak on behalf of the passage of the Redistricting Amendment.
- **Monday, August 27**, 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in front of Shriver Center, Miami University: Women’s Equality Day celebration and voter registration.
- **Saturday, September 8**, 4 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. at Carnegie Arts Center, 1028 Scott Blvd., Covington, KY, “Iron Jawed Angels”, sponsored by LWV of the Cincinnati Area.
- **Tuesday, September 11**, 7:30 p.m. at Oxford Community Arts Center: Membership meeting. Dr. Judith Trent will present “Televised Presidential Debates: Strategies of the Incumbents and Challengers”.
- **Thursday, September 27**, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at Oxford Community Arts Center: HAPC marker award event recognizing the Stanton-Bonham House.
- **Saturday, September 29**, 9:00 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kroger: voter registration with NAACP.
- **Friday, October 5**: Voter Information Guide will come out in the *Oxford Press*.
- **Monday, October 15**, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Knolls: Candidates Forum.
- **Tuesday, November 6**, 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.: Election Day.
- **Tuesday, November 13**, 7 p.m. place TBA: Human Trafficking Program.



Welcome to the New League Year

I hope you had an enjoyable summer and are geared up for a stimulating League year. In addition to our usual election year activities, we have some exciting programs planned beginning with Dr. Judith Trent from the University of Cincinnati who will speak about uses of language in Presidential debates. Other programs include discussion of human trafficking in collaboration with Miami University's Annual Human Rights and Social Justice Program. After the first of the year our local energy study will conclude with answering consensus questions to determine our position on municipal aggregation of energy sources.

I look forward to seeing you at League events.

Mary Jo Clark
Co-President
Organization Vice President



Restore Early Voting and Weekend Voting Hours!

We need your help to urge Secretary of State Husted and County Boards of Elections to restore evening and weekend hours for early voting!

Why the difference? When Boards of Elections reach a tie vote (there are 2 R's and 2 D's), the Secretary of State breaks the tie. In some of Ohio's most populous counties such as Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lucas and Summit, the Boards tied over early voting hours. Notably many of these same counties were the hardest hit by long lines in 2004 before early voting was widely available. Secretary Husted said that in breaking ties he will not order extended hours. This means some counties will have evening and weekend voting while others will not.

This just in: As of August 15, 2012, Sec. Husted was on the news tonight saying that he had ruled that all Boards of Elections will stay open in the evenings until 7 p.m., but not conduct voting on the weekends or the weekend before the election.

And a further update: As of August 17, 2012, Sec. Husted has "fired" the Democrat members of the Montgomery County Board of Election for defying his ruling that there will be no weekend voting.

This all may change by the time you read this, but you can write to Secretary Husted urging him to open the Boards of Election for Voting on the weekends.

So the message is **Restore the weekend voting for all Counties in Ohio.** We do not want to return to long lines that plagued the 2004 election. Early voting works.

Listen to the news and see how the court case that resulted from this change will be resolved!

Here's how you can contact Sec. Husted:

Secretary of State Husted.

180 East Broad Street, 16th floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215

(614) 466-2655

TTY: 614-466-0562

TTY Toll – free: 1-877 644 6889

Email web form: <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections/ContactUsElections.aspx>

(I have already contacted the Butler County Board of Elections and was assured by Jocelyn Buccuro the Executive Director that there was no tie in Butler County and so we are some of the fortunate ones with evening voting. Unfortunately the weekend voting has been eliminated.)

Prue Dana, Vice President, Voter Service



Redistricting in Ohio

The Secretary of State of Ohio has certified that "Voters First" has gathered enough signatures to permit placing on the November ballot an amendment that, if passed, will change the way district lines are drawn for seats in the Ohio General Assembly and for seats in the United States Congress.

Rather than place the drawing of district lines in the hands of legislators of the majority party, this amendment would institute an independent citizens redistricting commission whose members would draw the lines.

Trainers from "Voters First" will come to Oxford on Saturday, August 25 and educate persons who wish to speak on behalf of the passage of this amendment. Training will occur in Lane Public Library as part of the LWVO Southwest Regional meeting. This training is open to LWV members and to the general public. Please register at the web site of the League of Women Voters of Ohio---www.lwvohio.org.

Steve Dana, Government



Voter Service in a Presidential Election Year!

Thursday, August 23, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. we are joining with the NAACP to **register Voters** during the Oxford Pig Roast uptown. All new students are encouraged to come to this popular fall event.

August 27, 2010 10:30 to 2:30, Shriver Center, **Women's Equality Day** celebration and Voter registration. Come dressed in 1920's garb or 2012 garb. All supplies will be there.

Thank you to Jo McQueen who once again organized this celebration. Please let Jo know if you can help, 523-6653.

Saturday, September 29, 9:00 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kroger: Voter registration with NAACP.

Thank you Becky Quay for your work in coordinating Voter registration with NAACP.



Dr. Judith Trent to Speak on Political Campaign Communication

The League of Women Voters of Oxford invites the public to an open meeting, September 11, 2012, in the Oxford Community Arts Center. The League's guest speaker will be Dr. Judith Trent, Professor of Communications, University of Cincinnati. Dr. Trent is an authority on political communication, especially the uses of language in Presidential debates. Her many publications include *Political Campaign Communication: Principles and Practices*, now in its seventh edition.

According to Dr. Trent, "There are advantages for the incumbent candidate in any election, but there are equally potential persuasive positions for the challenger." In the September 11 presentation, Dr. Trent will discuss the advantages of both incumbency and challenger rhetoric.

Many voters close their eyes and ears to the distortions of paid campaign advertisements. Most voters, however, as many as 57 percent, according to a recent CNN/ORC poll, have turned to the presidential debates to be either persuaded or confirmed in their choice for head of state. In keeping with its mission to help voters be as informed as possible, The League of Women Voters offers the opportunity to learn more about campaign rhetoric in the candidates' most crucial public communication: the debates. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM in the north ballroom of the Oxford Community Arts Center. *New members are welcome.*



LWVOx Hosting LWVO Southwest Regional Meeting September 25

The League of Women Voters of Oxford will be hosting the LWVO Southwest Regional Meeting on Saturday, August 25, 2012 at Lane Library from 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. This all day meeting will have three sessions:

- **Morning Session: 10:00.a.m.-12:00.p.m., Leadership Training** (Appropriate for any League member, whether a past, present, or future League leader).
- **Afternoon Session 1: 1:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m., Being Nonpartisan in an Increasingly Partisan World** (For all interested League members. Will include tips on how to address accusations of partisanship.)
- **Afternoon Session 2: 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m., Voters First Speakers Bureau** (A special training for those interested in being a speaker to promote passage of the Voters First initiative. This session is open to all League members and the general public)

I hope that you can attend some or all of the sessions, especially since it is in Oxford. To register go to the LWVO website <http://lwvohio.org>. Please consider bringing friend to Afternoon Session 2.

Mary Jo Clark
Co-President



***“Iron Jawed Angels”* Showing**

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area

The League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area and Cincinnati World Cinema present the IRON JAWED ANGELS on Saturday, September 8 at 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Arts Center, 1028 Scott Blvd., Covington, KY 41011, followed by post-film discussions. Preceding each screening is a social hour with cash bar and food along with the opportunity to meet and talk with event sponsors.

IRON JAWED ANGELS tells the little-known story of how the Women’s Suffrage Movement overcame violence, imprisonment, divisive politics and an indifferent president to amend the U.S. Constitution giving women the right to vote.

Advance tickets are available online at <http://www.cincyworldcinema.org> or by calling 859.957.3456. Screenings are free, but a free-will donation of \$5 for students and \$10 for adults is greatly appreciated.



HAPC Historic Marker to be Placed on The Bonham House

The Historic Architectural Preservation Commission (HAPC) of the City of Oxford has approved our League's application for an historic marker to be placed on the Miami University owned structure known as The Bonham House. The marker will designate the building as The Stanton-Bonham House, for it was designed and built in 1868 on the corner of Spring and Oak as the private home of Robert L. Stanton during his tenure as president of Miami University 1866 to 1871. The mission of HAPC is to "protect and enhance structure, sites and areas that are reminders of past eras, events and persons important in local, state and national history." The importance of the Stanton-Bonham House for all these reasons formed the content of our application, prepared by Sallie Killian, Joanne McQueen, and Toni Saldivar.

They will receive the marker on behalf of the League at the annual HAPC awards event on September 27, 2012, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM in the Oxford Community Arts Center. All League members are invited to attend.

Toni Saldivar, Publicity



Human Trafficking Position Adopted by LWVO

On June 6, 2012 the League of Women Voters of Ohio adopted the following human trafficking position:

1. Human forced labor and sex trafficking should be stopped through legislation and changes in public policy.
2. Victims of human trafficking should be provided with services on an as-needed basis to facilitate integration into the community, including but not limited to counseling, drug and alcohol treatment, safe housing, physical and mental health care, legal representation, job training, ESL/GED/education and employment assistance.
3. Minors who have been commercially sexually exploited or forced into slave labor should be legally considered as victims and given special physical and mental health care.
4. Cooperation and collaboration among state and local agencies is necessary to enforce prohibitions and prosecute traffickers and other offenders (consumers).
5. There should be aggressive enforcement of laws dealing with traffickers and offenders (consumers).
6. Strategies to reduce the demand for commercial sex and forced labor trafficking should be employed by law enforcement agencies and the courts (an example would be court-ordered attendance at “john schools”).
7. Training and education of the public, law enforcement, and service providers should be widely available.
8. Funding (state and local) should be provided as necessary to treat victims, prosecute traffickers and consumers, and enhance awareness of the issue through training.



New LWVUS Position on Sentencing Policy

Convention 2012 delegates adopted a new position by concurrence with the Sentencing Policy position of the LWV District of Columbia. Sentencing Policy Position: *The LWVUS believes alternatives to imprisonment should be explored and utilized, taking into consideration the circumstances and nature of the crime. The LWVUS opposes mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses.*