



## *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*

September, 2012

### **In This Issue**

- 2012-2013 Dues are due
- Voter Service at work
- Candidates Forum
- State Issue 2
- News from LWV Ohio
- Natural Resources News
- Privatization Position adopted by LWV US



### **Save the Dates**

- **Thursday, September 27**, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at Oxford Community Arts Center: HAPC marker award event recognizing the Stanton-McFarland-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. at Hillel Foundation Center: Human Trafficking Program.
- **Wednesday, November 14**, 12:00-4:30 p.m. at MU Shriver Center Multipurpose Rooms: MU Human Rights and Social Justice Information Fair.



### **Membership Dues are Due**

If you have not already done so, please send your membership dues of \$45 for the 2012-2013 year to the League of Women Voters of Oxford, P.O. Box 504, Oxford 45056.

*Steve Dana, Membership Chair*



## Calling all League Members

It is election season! and the Voters Information Guide and plans for the Candidate Forum are underway. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Karen DeLue, Helen Gorman and all of the proofers and the distributors for all they have done in past years. This is hard work!

The **2012 Voter's Information Guide** will be published either Oct. 5 or 12, depending when we get the state issues. Sandi Woy-Hazleton, Donna Hoffman, Jo McQueen, and Becky Quay have already been hard at work.

We registered over 100 voters on Women's Equality Day, more than 50 at the Pig Roast and have one more **Voter Registration Drive** September 29 at Krogers. Please call Becky Quay, 523-5747, if you can help.

And lastly the **Candidates Forum**. Volunteers are needed for:

- Set up: 5 p.m. at the Knolls
- Host and welcomers for candidates and the public (6:30 p.m.)
- Two or more people to collect questions submitted
- Clean Up

Contact Prue Dana, 523-6579 or [pdana@bizwoh.rr.com](mailto:pdana@bizwoh.rr.com) to volunteer to help.

*Prue Dana, Voter Service*



**And now for our event! Please mark your calendar now!**

### **A CANDIDATES FORUM**

Monday, October 15, 2012

7-9 P.M.

### **THE KNOLLS OF OXFORD**

6727 Contreras Road

Oxford, OH 45056

### **CANDIDATES FOR:**

State Representatives

County Commissioners

County Offices

Judges

Recorded and rebroadcast on channel 19

### **SPONSORED BY:**

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF**

**OXFORD**

**AND THE KNOLLS OF OXFORD**



## State Issue 2

The League of Women Voters of Ohio is the lead sponsor of State Issue 2. If Issue 2 passes, an amendment to the Ohio Constitution will establish an Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The members of this Commission will draw the district lines both for Ohio's Congressional Districts and for the State Legislature.

This initiative came about because of a highly criticized process of redistricting, according to which legislators of the majority party drew districts in 2011 that over represent their party and ensure their re-election.

The members of the Commission are required to create districts that are balanced politically between the two parties and that are compact and preserve communities of interest. With such districts voters will be able to hold their elected legislators accountable.

Please vote "**Yes**" on State Issue 2 and tell your friends about it.

For more information about State Issue 2, go to [www.votersfirstohio.org](http://www.votersfirstohio.org)

*Steve Dana, Government*



## LWVO News (Working for Ohio and local Leagues)

### September Board Meeting Highlights

- **Elections:**
  - The Voters Guide on state candidates has been sent to local Leagues and is on the website at <http://www.lwvohio.org> LWVUS will have information on national candidates on their website by 9/11. Materials on **Voting 1-2-3** are on the LWO website; hard copies of up to 20 can be given to local Leagues.
  - Debates: our traditional partner has gone out of business. We are looking into other options for a judicial debate.
  - State issues: The wording for the overview and pro/cons on both Issue 1 and 2 were approved. The board voted to take a **neutral stance on Issue 1 and support Issue 2**. As of the Board meeting on September 5 and 6, the Voters First lawsuit regarding ballot wording for Issue 2 was still in the courts. All wording for the pro/con arguments is taken from the websites supporting/opposing that issue.
- **Advocacy Committee:** Materials for the Great Lakes concurrence were reviewed. The Committee will start reviewing program planning materials and legislative interview questions for decision by the board in November.

### Voter Protection campaigns

1. The LWVO Education Fund is conducting a statewide voter-education and empowerment campaign to overcome the confusion created by the General Assembly's efforts to pass and later repeal voter-suppression legislation.
2. LWVO is a leading voice in the Voters First ballot-issue campaign for sensible and fair redistricting reform.

To support these campaigns please send a tax-deductible gift to the LWVO Education Fund at <http://www.lwvohio.org>.

### Campaign to make each vote meaningful

As documented in the LWVO 2011 Transparency Report: *The Elephant in the Room*, the Ohio Legislature and Apportionment Board engaged in the most blatant backroom gerrymandering in Ohio history, solely designed to protect the power of politicians in control at the expense of the interests of Ohio voters. The Ohio League, which has advocated for fair, impartial and transparent redistricting for almost 40 years, is leading

the fight for reform.

The reform initiative, Issue 2, is now on the November ballot. Financial support is needed to promote support for this. Your non-deductible contribution to LWVO at <http://www.lwvohio.org> will help the state League continue providing leadership to the Voters First initiative and coordinate the enormous League grassroots lobbying effort required to pass redistricting reform this fall.

You can also send a donation to the campaigns by sending a check to League of Women Voters of Ohio, 17 S. High Street, Suite 650, Columbus, OH 43215. Be sure to indicate on the check if it's for the LWVO Education Fund (tax-deductible) or LWVO (non-tax deductible).

*Mary Jo Clark, Co-President*



## Natural Resources News

### Great Outdoor Weekend to be Held in Oxford on September 22

- What: A Celebration of Our Community Contributing to Conservation in Oxford, OH
- When: Saturday, September 22, times depend on the location—see below.
- Where:
  - **Three Valley Conservation Trust Office**, The Beck Farm, 5920 Morning Sun Road, Oxford, Walk & Talk Schedule, 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
  - Three locations for walks and talks—10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m.
    1. **The Edge of the Farm Conservation area**, 5398 McCoy Road
    2. **Indian Creek Nature Preserve**, 2550 Indian Creek Road
    3. **Talawanda High School Natural Area**, 5301 University Park Blvd.

### Candidates Night -- Topic: Ohio's Clean Energy Economy to be Held in Loveland on September 24

- What: Meet the local Candidates for the Ohio General Assembly who will discuss renewable energy and energy efficiency, and answer questions.
- When: Monday, September 24, 6:30 p.m.
- Where: Symmes Twp. Library Meeting Room, 11850 Enyart Road, Loveland, OH 45140.

*Sandi Woy-Hazelton*  
Natural Resources Director



## Privatization Position Adopted by LWVUS

League of Women Voters of the United States adopted the following **Privatization Position** at its June 2012 board meeting.

“The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that when governmental entities consider the transfer of governmental services, assets and/or functions to the private sector, the community impact and goals of such transfers must be identified and considered. Further, the LWV believes that transparency, accountability, and preservation of the common good must be ensured.

The League believes that some government provided services could be delivered more efficiently by private entities; however, privatization is not appropriate in all circumstances. Privatization is not appropriate when the provision of services by the government is necessary to preserve the common good, to protect national or local security or to meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of society. While the League recognizes that the

definition of core government services will vary by level of government and community values, services fundamental to the governance of a democratic society should not be privatized in their entirety. These services include the electoral process, justice system, military, public safety, public health, education, transportation, environmental protection and programs that protect and provide basic human needs.

The decision to privatize a public service should be made after an informed, transparent planning process and thorough analysis of the implications of privatizing service delivery. While specific criteria will vary by service and local conditions, the League believes that considerations—such as on-going and timely communication with stakeholders and the public, and others found at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) , apply to most decisions to transfer public services, assets and functions to the private sector.”

*Mary Jo Clark,, Co-President*