



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, 2014

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- ✓ Women's Equality Day, August 26
- ✓ Coline Jenkins Visits Stanton Home and McGuffey Museum
- ✓ Opportunity to serve on Program Planning Committee
- ✓ Update on court cases in Ohio and Florida



Save the Dates

- **Tuesday August 26th**, 10:00 am—3:00 pm outside of the Armstrong Center at Miami University: Women's Equality Day celebration and voter registration
- **Tuesday August 26th**, 7:00 pm—8:30 pm at the McGuffey Museum: Private guided tour of the "The Remarkable Stantons and the 'Magnificent Dwelling'" followed by an evening party
- **Wednesday September 24th**, 7:00 pm at the Lebanon National Bank Community Room: Public program on the "Local Option for Municipal Aggregation to be on November Ballot"
- **Saturday October 4th** at Kroger: Voter Registration Drive
- **Wednesday October 8th**, 7:00 pm—9:00 pm at the Knolls: Candidates Forum
- **October 12th-14th** at Miami University: Freedom Summer Conference
- **Tuesday November 4th**: Election Day
- **Wednesday January 21st**: Program on Social Policy
- **Saturday February 7th**: Program Planning Meeting
- **Wednesday March 18th**: Program on Local Government Finance



August 26 is Women's Equality Day

Women's Equality Day celebrates the anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment on August 26, 1920, which finally gave American women the constitutional right to vote. It also celebrates the founding that same year of the League of Women Voters in the United States.

How to celebrate:

- **Volunteer** to assist Rhonda Jackson and Jo McQueen outside the Armstrong Center at Miami University to register voters beginning from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
If you have an hour to give, contact Rhonda at 513-529-1510 or Jo at 513-523-6653.
- **Come** that evening to a wine and cheese party from 7:00 to 8:30 at the McGuffey Museum and a private guided tour of our exhibit "The Remarkable Stantons and the 'Magnificent Dwelling'".

The exhibit tells the stories of four members of the Stanton family as they relate to Oxford and Miami University in the 19th Century and to struggles for freedom and equality. All four Stantons were remarkable, but the most important was Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York, launched the campaign for women's suffrage.

The Stanton exhibit is co-sponsored by the McGuffey Museum and the League of Women Voters of Oxford and is the result of a collaboration of four League members: Sallie Killian, Steve Gordon, Jo McQueen and Toni Saldivar.

Members are encouraged to bring a prospective member as a guest.

Please RSVP by August 22 to Toni Saldivar. Phone: 513 280 6327 or Email: saldivar@msmc.edu

Toni Saldivar, Director of Publicity



Elizabeth Cady Stanton's Descendant Visits Oxford Landmark House and the LWVox McGuffey Museum Exhibit.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton's great great granddaughter, Coline Jenkins, a LWV member from Greenwich, CT, recently visited the historic Oxford, Ohio, house where her famous foremother stayed when lecturing at Miami University in 1870. Built in 1868, and known today as the Stanton-Bonham House, it was the home that Jenkins' great great great uncle, Robert L. Stanton, D.D., constructed while he was president of Miami University. His sister-in-law, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, brought to the all-male university her message of equal rights for women, which included the Constitutional right to vote. The student newspaper gave her a favorable review.

That 1870 article from *The Miami Student* was one of the items Ms. Jenkins saw in the exhibit about her family currently up in the McGuffey Museum at Miami University. The exhibit, titled "The Remarkable Stantons and the 'Magnificent Dwelling,'" highlights the courage of members of the Stanton family who led efforts to end slavery and, in the case of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who promoted women's equality. This exhibit was created by four members of the League of Women Voters of Oxford: Steve Gordon, Sallie Killian, Jo McQueen, and Toni Saldivar. Gordon is the Administrator of the McGuffey Museum of Miami University.

Following the August 4 exhibit tour and a visit to the Freedom Summer Memorial on MU's Western Campus, Ms. Jenkins and her colleague Marsha Weinstein, past president of the LWV of Louisville, KY, were guests at a private luncheon in the Marcum Center. Jenkins and Weinstein, co-founders of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Trust, addressed invited guests from both Oxford and Miami University. They discussed their work promoting equality for women and linking the struggle for women's rights to the struggle for human rights, local and global.

Toni Saldivar, Director of Publicity



Coline Jenkins in the Stanton Bonham House built by her great great great uncle, Robert L. Stanton, in 1868.



The team that created the exhibit "The Remarkable Stantons," LWVox members, from left to right, Sallie Killian, Jo McQueen, Steve Gordon and Toni Saldivar, with visitors Coline Jenkins and Marsha Weinstein, co-founders of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Trust.



Jo McQueen and Rhonda Jackson at the luncheon where Jenkins and Weinstein were guests of honor.



Women's equality advocates Marsha Weinstein and Coline Jenkins address guests at the August 4 luncheon in their honor.



LWVox President Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Steve Gordon, Administrator of the McGuffey Museum, and Coline Jenkins, co-founder of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Trust.



Call for Members for the Program Planning Committee

Our program planning meeting (Reflections and Directions) will take place this year on *February 7th*. Sandi Woy-Hazleton and Sally Southard are leading the planning of this event, but we've decided that it would make sense to have a small committee to help out, so that not just one person is doing all the work. We are looking for at least two more members for this committee. You would be helping to plan the event itself and also helping with the work leading up to the event, which involves preparing the portfolios and positions that we will be examining. New and veteran members are encouraged to join this committee, so if you have been thinking about a way to get involved with your League, here's your opportunity. Please contact Arianne Hartsell-Gundy at hartsea@miamioh.edu, if you are interested in being on this committee!

Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Organization Vice President



Update on Recent Court Cases

There have been several recent court cases that state Leagues have been involved in that I think might be of interest to you. First you may have heard that the League of Women Voters of Ohio is presenting a case, along with the ACLU, the NAACP, and several African-American churches, to try to restore early voting opportunities for Ohioans in time for the November midterm election. They were in federal court on August 11th to ask for three things: restore Golden Week, restore multiple Sundays during the early voting period, and restore voting on multiple weekday evenings during the early voting period. A recent article in the Columbus Dispatch has a lot of great information about this issue:

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/08/11/early-voting-arguments.html> No decision has been reached yet, but I know we'll all be keeping a close eye on these developments.

Other state Leagues are also working hard to restore voter rights and to push back on gerrymandering efforts across the country. One case that is especially interesting in light of Ohio's redistricting issues is a ruling made at the beginning of August by a circuit court judge in Florida. This judge ruled that the Florida Legislature must immediately revise its flawed congressional map. This case was brought by the League of Women Voters of Florida and is being hailed by the national League of Women Voters for setting an important precedent against political gerrymandering. Here is an article that came out about this ruling:

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/politics/stateroundup/florida-judge-orders-special-session-for-new-congressional-district-map/2191079>

Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Organization Vice President