



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

January, 2015

Welcome to a New Year of Study and Action!

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Save the Dates

January 21, Wednesday, 7:00 pm, LCNB Community Room "We are in this together": Updates on Social Services in the Oxford Area. Patricia Willeke, Vice President for Social Policy of LWVox, will moderate a panel presentation to convey current social services and policies in Oxford and the Talawanda School District

February 9, Tuesday, 7:30 pm in the Shriver Center. The Robert E. Strippel Memorial Continuing Dialogue on Justice and Human Rights. This year's lecture will be given by Greg Coleridge, the director of the Economic Justice and Empowerment Program, Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee. His lecture will be called "Our Government is Broken Because the System is Fixed: Creating a Real Democracy Movement." The board has voted to make a financial donation to show our support of this topic. More details can be found here: <http://www.cawc.miamioh.edu/>

March 18, Wednesday, 7:00 pm in the LCNB Community Room. We will be talking about local government finances during our March program. We will have a panel of speakers. More details to come soon.

April 22, Wednesday, 7:00 pm, LCNB Community Room. LWV Oxford Local Convention.



“We Are in This Together”: Update on Social Services in the Oxford Area

Patricia Willeke, Vice President for Social Policy of the League of Women Voters of Oxford, will moderate a panel presentation on January 21, to convey current social services and policies in Oxford and the Talawanda School District. Members of the panel are as follows: Brian Revalee, Director of United Way; Diane Ruther-Vierling, Oxford Family Resource Center; Marilyn Sasser, The Oxford-College Corner Free Clinic; Amy Macechko, Talawanda School District Health and Wellness Program and the Coalition for a Healthy Community, Oxford area. The public is invited to this informative program, which begins at 7:00 pm in the LCNB Community Room on Park Place.



Electric Utility Aggregation Time Line

Since Aggregation was passed in November, you might be wondering what is happening now? Here is the timeline. There is more information on the City website, www.CityofOxford.org

City of Oxford Electric Aggregation Timeline

Date	Activity
November 4, 2014	Election Day: Issue 2 passed 69 to 31 %
November 17, 2014	Publish Notice of Public Hearings
November 23 & 30, 2014	Publish Notice of Public Hearings
December 2 & 16, 2014	Public Hearings council December 2, 16 To discuss plan of operation and governance
December 8, 2014	File Certification Application with PUCO PUCO Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
January 7, 2015	PUCO Approval of Certification
January 19, 2015	Issue RFP to Alternate Suppliers RFP Request for Proposal Renewal component will be decided City Council will determine.
February 6, 2015,	RFP Responses
February 16, 2015	Supplier Evaluation and Recommendation
February 23-April 20, 2015	Opt out Process Customer List-14 days Opt-out Period -21 days Reconsider Period 7 days Enrollment Period- 12 days
May 1, 2015	Electricity Delivered

Prepared by Eagle Energy LLC, August 26, 2014
Submitted to The Voter by Prue Dana



Where to find Oxford's Community Calendar

Do you miss "the old days" when a monthly community calendar of events was published in a large inside spread in The Oxford Press? That print version was collaboration between the Oxford Visitors Bureau and our weekly newspaper. The Visitors Bureau would collect the data; The Oxford Press would publish it.

The Oxford Visitors Bureau still gathers data from various sources for a community calendar, so we can stop lamenting and embrace the change. The change is that we now access our community calendar digitally. It is easily found on the Visitors Bureau website: www.enjoyoxford.org. All we need to do is form the habit of regularly seeking event information from the Visitor Bureau's on-line calendar.

This digital calendar is good for us. It can be viewed months ahead and thus allows planners to schedule events with fewer conflicts. The more that Oxford organizations utilize the digital calendar, the better for our community.

The Director of the Visitor's Bureau, Jessica Greene and her assistant Kim Daggy, have a clear mission: "To support the economy of the City of Oxford through promotional activities and building community partnerships." The Bureau's excellent website promotes Oxford as a tourist destination, while at the same time its Community Calendar shows Oxford as a place where things are happening, all the time, for all of us. Check it out and use it: <http://www.enjoyoxford.org/oxford-community>.

Toni Saldivar/Director of Publicity/LWVox



Arianne's New Position

I have accepted the position of Head, Humanities Section and Librarian for Literature and Theater Studies at Duke University. I will be moving to Durham, North Carolina, on February 12th, and I will of course be looking to join the League in that area. I have really enjoyed working on all of the programs and projects we have undertaken in my time in the Oxford League and will miss you all.

Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Organization Vice President



Congratulations to Arianne

On behalf of the LWVox membership, the Board expresses hearty congratulations to Arianne on her new position as Head, Humanities Section and Librarian for Literature and Theater Studies at Duke University. We are happy for her; but we are sad to lose her.

We take this opportunity to express not only our congratulations but also our appreciation for Arianne's leadership. She served four years as secretary to the Board before succeeding Mary Jo Clark as Organization Vice President, the office responsible for setting agenda and leading Board meetings, the office Arianne currently holds.

Arianne gave us a young public face and led us forward in the digital age by beginning the project to digitize our archives and to utilize Drop Box, and by establishing and maintaining our Facebook site which doubled our online presence. She supported our educational initiatives for *Kids Voting* and *Now You're 18*, and ably represented us to elected officials when our voices needed to be heard. She was actively involved in the LWVOhio Membership and Leadership Development Program to help cultivate talent within our organization.

She did all this and more with consistent good humor and superb organizational and leadership skills. Thank you, Arianne. We will miss you.

Board of Directors, League of Women Voters of Oxford



Jo McQueen Selected “Citizen of the Years”

Congratulations to LWVox member Jo McQueen who has been selected as Citizen of the Years by the Oxford Kiwanis and the Oxford Press. Jo will be honored at a Kiwanis luncheon February 10, 2015, for her many contributions over several decades to our community. She was a founding member of the Miami/Oxford Chapter of NOW (National Organization of Women) and has served in numerous leadership positions in the LWVox. A fuller account of Jo's outstanding service to Oxford was published in the December 28, 2014-January 3, 2015 issue of The Oxford Press. Congratulations Jo and thank you for all you do!



Welcome Harv Roehling!

New member Harv Roehling's current career is owner and operator of Locust Run Farm specializing in certified organic lettuce. Since 1981 he has been selling his vegetables at market and is a familiar face at the Oxford Farmers Market Uptown where people stand in line to buy his certified organic lettuce.

Before becoming a full time farmer, Harv taught math and science for 30 years to public high school students at Cincinnati Woodward and at CAMAS (Cincinnati Academy of Math and Science) which was housed at Woodward School. During the last 10 years of his teaching he began growing vegetables. After retiring, he was able to devote all of his time to his farm.



During this time he had a student intern working with him on the farm who had a lot of experience in growing lettuce. She was from New York State and grew lettuce to take to the markets in New York City, sometimes as many as 500 heads. Growing organically certified lettuce became Harv's focus and his passion. He now grows 40 - 50 different varieties of lettuce each season. Growing that many different ones allows for a variety of colors, textures and growing seasons. Harv is a strong believer in the power of organics.

We met for coffee to discuss the Oxford League of Women Voters and I asked Harv some questions.

1. When did you join the league?

Fall 2014

2. Why did you join the Oxford League and what is your current role?

I was asked to serve on an agricultural study committee. I didn't realize that men could join. I approve of what the League does. It is a powerful organization that has an important role in informing the public about candidates and issues. I decided to join.

3. What issues would you like to see the League focusing on?

Agriculture is at a crossroads between the forces of corporate agriculture and the needs of family farm agriculture. There is a strong influx of women in agriculture and it seems fitting that the League take a

leadership role in supporting the relatively non corporate approach to agriculture. Many women are organic proponents of farming.

4. What do you find most rewarding about being a League member?

Supporting the League through membership. It is an organization that I have always admired, especially their role in educating the public.

5. What do you think is the biggest issue that voters face?

The Move to Amend issue, keeping money out of politics and also denying people the right to vote.

6. What interests do you have outside of the League?

-MOON Coop

-OEFFA (Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association), chapter president

-On the Board of the Oxford Farmers Market Uptown

Linda Simmons, Membership