



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, 2015

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2015-16 Program Calendar

Please note the following dates for our programs. The venue for general meetings will be at the new Lane Library once it is officially open for meetings. Some meetings are still TBA so watch your VOTER for updates.

Also note that we have initiated two noontime meetings to attract those members and prospective members who find this a more convenient time to participate in League. These meetings will be at Patterson Place on Miami's Western Campus, the Alumni Office for Western College.

August 2015

26- **Women's Equality Day-Voter Registration** at the Armstrong Center, MU

September 2015

29- **GENERAL MEETING-What Redistricting Means for Democracy**

7:00pm Lebanon County National Bank

Ms Ann Henkener, a Columbus lawyer, a former Assistant Attorney General of Ohio, designated by the LWV of Ohio to participate in discussions with the Ohio legislature concerning redistricting, will be our guest speaker. A redistricting proposal is on the November ballot and this lecture will provide us with a great opportunity to learn more about the proposal.

October 2015

14 **Candidates Forum-Knolls of Oxford, 7:00pm**

November 2015

3 Election Day

12 **Elizabeth Cady Stanton Celebration Event/Meeting (TBA)**

December 2015

- 2 Honoring Oxford's Women Public Officials: Past and Present; Noon Lunch at Patterson Place
- 4- League Social with Elected Officials (TBA)

January 2016

- 26 GENERAL MEETING-What Immigration Means for Democracy

February 2016

- 13 Program Planning
- 24 Town-Gown Planning Issues; Noon Lunch Meeting-Patterson Place

March 2016

- 8 What Alternative Transportation Means for Oxford, Ohio

April 2016

- 26 Annual Convention



Stay Informed; Use the City of Oxford Website

The City of Oxford website www.cityofoxford.org is an excellent source of information about our community. Checking it out on a regular basis might require developing a new habit, but the effort is worth making.

- Click on "Oxford on Demand" and see live or recorded meetings of the City Council, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Planning Commission.
- Another link gives access to agenda and minutes of those meetings.
- Click on "News" and get updates on such matters as the status of construction on US 27 South or how to sign up for the Welcome Back Walkabout 2015, the community volunteer event that welcomes MU students living off campus in our community.
- The City of Oxford website also has a link to the **Oxford Community Calendar**, maintained by the **Oxford Visitors' Bureau**. This calendar has a "drop down" box called "Select Categories" on the left side of the page. Selecting the category "Community Groups and Organizations" brings up a calendar focused on such organizations as ours, The League of Women Voters of Oxford. Look for our Logo, which will designate a LWVOx event.

Toni Saldívar, Communications/Publicity



Voter Service 2015

This is an all local candidate election with local and state issues. This is where the "grassroots" begin.

VOTER REGISTRATION: Women's Equality Day August 26, 10a.m. to 3 p.m., the Pig Roast August 27, 5-7p.m., Kroger Saturday. September 26, 9 to 3 p.m. and the UniDiversity Event uptown September 18 are all opportunities to register voters in Oxford. Please let Becky Quay and /or Rhonda Jackson know if you are interested and can help quayrh@MiamiOH.edu, jacksorj@miamioh.edu.

VOTERS GUIDE: The Voter Service Committee met to compose the questions for Candidates that will appear on **Vote 411**. Candidates have received the questions and are in the process of answering them. You may go on **Vote 411** in September and October to get an online Voters Guide! There will also be a printed Voters Guide produced.

CANDIDATE FORUM : All new format! The Candidate Forum will take place October 14, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Knolls of Oxford. Join us for an all new format that encourages those who attend to meet around tables with the various candidates for one on one exchanges. Candidates will move from table to table at the ring of a bell and will be hosted at the table by League Members, MU and High school students. Stay tuned as we organize this new venue. It has been used successfully by the Kent League. Please let Prue Dana pdana@woh.rr.com know if you might host a table. Questions will be provided to get the discussion started. The number of tables will be determined by the number of candidates participating.



Communications from LWVOhio and LWVUS

As we grow to know the importance of being a member of the League of Women Voters at this vital time in our state's and nation's history, some of us feel the importance of sharing with you newsletters and ALERTS regularly received by Oxford Board members from the League of Women Voters of Ohio (LWVO or LWVOhio) and from the League of Women Voters (LWV or LWVUS).

For that reason, our President, Steve Dana, and others have asked that you know of these opportunities and that you be sent via email the newsletter and alerts by the **LWVOhio**. Soon you will receive these communications. If you prefer not to receive this information, email me sally@southard.net that you wish to 'OPT OUT'. Further, I have been assured personally that at any time you may 'UNSUBSCRIBE' and that your request will be honored. It is our intent to evaluate in a year what you believe should be our continued practice.

Further, I have had conversation with the **LWVUS**. It is their expectation that you currently receive email ALERTS. "If any of your members do wish to receive the League Update (weekly newsletter), have them email Membership@lwv.org with that request and we will add them."

We hope that you find that these newsletters keep you abreast and proud of the vast work of the League on your behalf.

Sally Southard, Oxford League Membership Chair



New Managers for LWVOx Website and Facebook

As Director of Communications/Publicity, I am thrilled to introduce two new members of the Communications/Publicity Committee who bring a wealth of experience and expertise to our League. They are **Stacey Peterson**, our new website manager, and **Jacqueline Rioja Velarde**, our new Facebook manager.

Stacey Peterson, who grew up in Oxford, graduated from Miami University with a Bachelor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in Economics and Journalism. She then earned a Master's degree in International Studies and Economic Development from Johns Hopkins University. She has developed a distinguished career in writing and editing. Currently, she is Senior Editor for Custom Content at UBM, a London based firm that generates editorial strategies and in-depth business technology for custom service clients. Long a resident of the New York metropolitan area, Stacey now continues her work for UBM from Oxford. Stacy will be building on the website established for us by Helen Gorman.

Jacqueline Rioja Velarde, our new Facebook manager, is the Associate Director of the Center for American and World Cultures at Miami University. Originally from Peru, Jacqueline earned her Master's degree in Geography from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. She is an experienced educator and intercultural communicator, and has a passion for photography and photojournalism. A leader in local and state initiatives for community outreach and partnership building, she is a co-founder of *Latinas in Ohio*, and a board member of *Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities*. Jacqueline succeeds Arianne Hartsell- Gundy who first set up our LWVOx Facebook.

Stacey and Jacqueline bring not only their information technology skills to our League, but also their creativity and their commitment to social and environmental justice. With Stacey and Jacqueline on our communications team, our public messaging and our public image will be significantly enhanced. We thank them for accepting the website and Facebook management positions.

Toni Saldivar



Celebrating the Legacy of Elizabeth Cady Stanton in Oxford

Ginny Scott, LWVOx Treasurer, recently received a check for \$2,000.00 from The Smith Family Charitable Trust, presented by Toni Saldivar and Sallie Killian, who with Jo McQueen, applied for these funds to pay for an Ohio State Historic Marker for the Stanton Bonham House. One side of the marker will tell of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, leader in the woman suffrage movement, and of her lecture at Miami University in 1870; the other side will tell of house where she stayed, The Stanton House, home of her brother-in-law Robert L. Stanton, then president of Miami University. To learn more about the importance of the Stanton family and this house, read Toni's article in a recent *Thomas Stanton Society Newsletter* (Vol.2, Issue 17. pp. 6-7, 10-12.), included here as a PDF file.

This same issue of *The Thomas Stanton Society Newsletter* contains a related article by Coline Jenkins (p.8), great great granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who is leading an effort to place in New York's Central Park a statue of the great woman suffrage leader and her colleague of fifty years, Susan B. Anthony. At present, there is no statue of an historic woman in the park, though numerous statues of historic men have been placed there over the years.

Coline Jenkins and her associate, Marsha Weinstein, co-founders of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Trust, visited Oxford in August 2014, as guests of the League of Women Voters of Oxford. They toured the Stanton Bonham House, built by Coline's great great great uncle Robert L. Stanton, and the League exhibit "The Remarkable Stantons and the 'Magnificent Dwelling'" which was at that time installed in the McGuffey Museum. In support of our League's efforts to keep in public awareness the long struggle for women's the constitutional right to vote, The Elizabeth Cady Stanton Trust gave permission to use a number of visuals in the "Remarkable Stantons" exhibit. That exhibit is now available in digital form on the Miami University Libraries website. Here is a link to it:

<http://wiggins.lib.muohio.edu/stantonhouse/exhibits/show/the-remarkable-stantons>

The "Remarkable Stantons" exhibit committee consisted of four league members: Steve Gordon, Administrator of the McGuffey Museum, Sallie Killian, Jo McQueen, and Toni Saldivar. This group then formed an expanded committee, which researched and prepared the application to the Ohio State Historical Marker Program for a marker for the Stanton Bonham House. Those who worked on that effort were Valerie Elliott, Steve Gordon, Sallie Killian, Toni Saldivar and Michael Smith.

Mark your calendars: On November 12, 2015, the League of Women Voters of Oxford will celebrate Elizabeth Cady Stanton's 200th Birthday with a program that reflects on her vision of women's rights as human rights.



Ginny Scott, LWVOx Treasurer, recently received a check for \$2,000.00 from The Smith Family Charitable Trust, presented by Toni Saldivar and Sallie Killian.



Many thanks to two long-time members of the LWV of Oxford

This summer, the League of Women Voters of Oxford bid farewell to two long-time members, **Karen DeLue** and **Helen Gorman**, who, in retirement with their husbands, were relocating to other parts of the country. Both Karen and Helen

made significant contributions to the work of this chapter. Both are greatly missed. Both are wished every happiness with their families in their new locations.

Karen DeLue served in many capacities, including as Co-Chair for Voter Service. She oversaw the production of the Voters Information Guide for many years.

Helen Gorman skillfully created and managed the LWVOxford Website, the public website as well as the members-only website.

Karen and Helen were recognized at the League's Local Convention in April with words of praise and with many thanks. As a token of appreciation, the LWVOx Board presented each with the gift of a Stousland silver pin. Mik Stousland, former Miami University professor of architecture, originated the pin and its distinctive designs. His son Chris Stousland has carried on the tradition, creating new designs and continuing old favorites. The pins given to Karen and Helen show a woman putting a ballot in the ballot box, a design perhaps inspired by Mik's wife Betty, who was one of the founding members of the League of Women Voters of Oxford, sixty-two years ago.

Toni Saldivar, Publicity



Karen DeLue happily displays one of the Stousland pins given to her and Helen Gorman at our Local Convention in April.



Congratulations Edna and Harv



Congratulations to members Edna Southard and Harv Roehling on their marriage this summer. Among their shared values is an appreciation of the values of League of Women Voters.



Welcome, Janis Dutton!

Janis Dutton has recently rejoined the Oxford League of Women Voters. Janis is currently the Director of Oxford Citizens for Peace and Justice. She is also a freelance editor, writer, educational consultant and community activist. She was the co-author of **"Schools That Learn: A Fifth Discipline Fieldbook for Educators, Parents, and Everyone Who Cares About Education"** by Peter Senge, et al (revised 2012) and managing editor of **"The Fifth Discipline Fieldbook"** by Peter Senge, et al(1994).

Janis has served on the Oxford City Council, planning and environmental commissions, adult education committees and Chamber of Commerce community leadership initiatives. Her writing and consulting in organizational learning and her strong interest in social movements led her to earn a Master's degree in leadership from Antioch University.

Janis' writing has appeared in "Garbage Magazine", The Burbank Daily Review, The Cincinnati Enquirer and "The Superintendents Fieldbook".

She continues to passionately work for democratic social justice in the areas of education, voting rights, climate change, racial justice, and against corporate constitutional rights and privatization of schools and prisons.

Janis was kind enough to answer a few questions for the "Voter" interview.

When did you join the League?

Last year. I was originally a League member in the 90's and worked on a program concerning school funding.

Why did you join and what is your current role with the LWVOx?

I believe that the League is an important group that does important work both locally and nationally.

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

Ending corporate personhood and understanding how it affects the various issues League addresses. Joining the fight against standardized testing in schools and the privatization of public schools.

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

I joined in November and have found it very informational.

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

Politicians across the board listen to the money instead of the voters. Most people think that voting alone will insure democracy. This kind of thinking is "attention-deficit democracy".

Are you involved in any other community organizations?

Butler County Progressives, Cincinnati Progressive Action, The Over-the Rhine Peoples Movement, a variety of social justice groups in Cincinnati, and continue to work to build bridges with the Student Groups and OCPJ.

What interests do you have outside of the League?

Travel and all of the social justice work that I do. In June I attended my 3rd US Social Forum in Philadelphia, where I, once again, was exposed to how much more there is to learn about social justice work. That is what thrills and motivates me.



Linda Simmons and Janis Dutton

