



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, 2017

Dates to Note

September 20, "Gerrymandering 101: Slay the Gerrymander with Redistricting Reform" 8 p.m. Miami University Harrison Hall, Room 111

September 25, "Making Democracy Work Locally" 7:00 p.m. Undercroft of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, corner of East Walnut and South Poplar Streets.

October 5, NEW DATE: Thursday, 7-9 p.m. Candidates' Forum, The Knolls

November 7, Tuesday, Election Day, 2017 Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m



Fair Districts/Fair Elections

Gerrymandering 101: Slay the Gerrymander with Redistricting Reform20

Jenny Fisher, League of Women Voters--Oxford, will be presenting the "Gerrymandering 101: Slay the Gerrymander with Redistricting Reform" seminar on Wednesday, September 20th at 8pm in Harrison Hall (Room 111) on the Miami University Campus. This event is hosted by the Miami College Democrats. This presentation will discuss how the U.S. Congressional districts are currently drawn, how Ohio is gerrymandered, the history of reform attempts, and the details of the current Fair Districts Fair Elections Redistricting Reform. This seminar is informational. All attendees will also be trained on how to circulate a petition. This seminar is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. We will have PETITIONS available for signing.

Click here for details and to RSVP: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/gerrymandering-101-slay-the-gerrymander-with-redistricting-reform?source=email&>



Making Democracy Work Locally

Our kick-off meeting for this year will be September 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the Undercroft of Holy Trinity Church at East Walnut and South Poplar Streets. Our topic is especially timely: “Making Democracy Work Locally.” The focus will be on how we as citizens actively participate in elections to make a difference in our lives. There are very important issues and decisions to be made in the upcoming November election.

City Manager Doug Elliott will start off by explaining the City Charter amendments that are being put on the ballot for city residents. League Voter Service Co-President **Prue Dana** will provide non-partisan information about the ballot issues and the candidates’ races locally. **Jenny Fisher** will discuss the citizen initiative being coordinated statewide for the Fair Districts=Fair Elections whose purpose is to produce election districts drawn to fairly represent citizen’s views and eliminate unfair, gerrymandered districts in federal elections.

We hope you will all take this opportunity to learn more about your rights and obligations as informed citizens.



Notes from the Voter Service Committee

Get Ready for Election Day, 2017: Tuesday, November 7. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. To check your registration and/or to locate your polling place, google Butler County Board of Elections or call 513-887-3700. If you have not voted in a recent election, you may need to register to vote again.

VOTE411.org To get acquainted with the candidates and the issues that will be on the November General Election ballot, go to our LWV online Voter Information Guide at VOTE411.org. <http://onyourballot.vote411.org> You can read there each candidate's response to a series of questions posed by the LWV. There are contested races for Oxford City Council, Oxford Township Trustee, and Talawanda School Board.

Candidates Forum: To get acquainted with the candidates face to face, attend the Candidates Forum on Thursday, Oct. 5 from 7:00-9:00 at The Knolls of Oxford.



Note that the date for Candidates' Night has been changed and is now October 5, Thursday, 7 to 9 p.m. at The Knolls of Oxford



Meet Jenny Fisher

Jenny Fisher moved to Oxford in 2013 with her husband, Tom, when he accepted a faculty position in the Department of Statistics at Miami University. "We love Oxford," said Jenny, noting that it is a great place to raise their family, Jack, aged four, and Annie, age two. They plan to stay, for Tom is now a tenured associate professor.



Tom and Jenny met in graduate school at Clemson University when she, a physicist, was earning a master's degree in Environmental Radiation Safety and Tom was doing graduate work leading to his PhD in mathematical sciences with a concentration in statistics. For five years, Jenny was Atlanta-based, as she worked full time for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which oversees safety in commercial nuclear plants and in factories that make nuclear fuel. She still works for the Commission, part time from home, and reports to the D.C. office. Eventually, she plans to resume a full-time career.

For now, her family comes first, and she is deeply committed to her community. Looking for ways to become more active politically in Oxford, Jenny learned of the League of Women Voters. Through an invitation from Sibyl Harris Miller, LWV-Oxford Co-President for Organization, Jenny attended the Oxford League's program planning meeting in February. According to Jenny, becoming a delegate to the LWV Ohio state convention in Columbus this summer "solidified" her commitment to the League of Women Voters. She is leading the Oxford League's participation in a state-wide coalition seeking to end rigged voting district boundaries that favor one political party over the other.

The coalition, **Fair Districts/Fair Elections**, has mounted a petition drive for a ballot issue in the November 2018 general election which would change how Ohio voting districts for US Congressional elections are drawn. Jenny stresses that ending gerrymandering is not a partisan issue but a way to make democracy work for all, regardless of party.

Jenny does not see herself as an "activist" but as "a person engaged in my political duty as an American." She noted that many of her generation have not "seen the need for political involvement." Now, because our society faces existential threats, including climate change, she hopes that younger voters will engage in civic life, local, state and national, and that the League of Women Voters will re-energize its commitment to voter education.

Jenny is writing a series of articles for the *Oxford Press* on the problem of gerrymandering and how to solve it. She is also conducting free, open-to-the-public seminars titled "Gerrymandering 101: Slay the Gerrymander with Redistricting Reform." One is set for Wednesday, September 20, at 8:00 PM in Harrison Hall (Room 111) on the Miami University Campus. Jenny will "discuss how the U.S. Congressional Districts in Ohio are currently drawn, how Ohio is gerrymandered, the history of reform attempts, and the details of the current Fair Districts/Fair Elections Redistricting Reform." In this informational seminar, hosted by Miami College Democrats, "all attendees will be trained to circulate petitions" and "there will be petitions available for signing."

Welcome, Jenny!



If you have forgotten to pay your 2017-2018 dues, please print this page and fill out the Membership Information Form. Then mail it with your check to: League of Women Voters of Oxford P.O. Box 504 Oxford, OH 45056

Please make checks payable to LWV of Oxford and mail to P.O Box 504, Oxford, OH 45056.

Individual Member \$60.00 _____ (not tax-deductible)
Household Members (2) \$100.00 _____ (not tax-deductible)
Student (16 years & older) \$15.00/semester _____ (not tax-deductible)
Gift to LWVOx Operations Fund \$ _____ (not tax-deductible)

TOTAL \$ _____ (not tax-deductible)
Gift to LWVOx Education Fund \$ _____ and/ or

Voter Information Guide (VIG) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____ **tax deductible** (You will receive a letter required by IRS to confirm your tax deductible contribution.)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Date _____

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Name of additional member _____
Name of additional member in household _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

***Preferred Phone _____ Other _____

***Preferred Email _____

Comments (e.g. interests, how you heard about the League)
