

THE VOTER

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area
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Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director, LWVGDA



I am a morning person, so inspirations and problem solving come to me in the wee hours of the morning or the shower; this morning it was both.

The *Dayton Daily News* “This Day in History” column noted that on July 19, 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York, over 200 women gathered for America’s first women’s conference. No easy feat in those days, as the ladies arrived on foot, horseback, and in wagons—most attended without children or husbands! By the end of the convention, the women had signed the *Declaration of Sentiments*, a first salvo to what would eventually be the 19th Amendment, and the precursor to the as-yet-unadopted Equal Rights Amendment. Suddenly Sonny and Cher’s tune, “And the Beat Goes On,” flowed through my memory.

Because we are nearing our 100th anniversary, members Tara Browne, Jessica Hunter, and Mary Robertson are doing a deep dive into our historical archives. I continue to be amazed by the accomplishments of the Dayton League. In a recent meeting, Mary shared a few new tidbits of history I was unaware of. In the late 1920s, our League won a challenge over Ohio’s Secretary of State to adopt candidate names on ballots, rather than just political offices listed by political party. In the 1940s they followed up with a petition drive to adopt the ballot format we have today, listing races first by office, then candidates alphabetically, followed by party affiliation. In another move, locally, the League challenged the Dayton School Board to drop the requirement for potential teachers and administrators to share their political party affiliation as part of the hiring practice. Our most recent win was the Issue One campaign to ensure fair redistricting/fair election practices for Ohio voters.

This week volunteers are planning voter registration drives, candidate forums, and cable interviews. I am working hard to raise the funds needed for the 98th version of the League’s *Voters Guide*. Our mission to protect the rights of voters continues now as it always has: no ticker tape parades required, no accolades given. *La de da de de, la de da de da.* **Don’t forget to donate to the *Voters Guide*. Every donation helps!**



UPCOMING EVENTS



- ◆ Sunday, September 2, **TOUR de GEM**, Downtown Dayton.
See pg. 3 for details.
- ◆ Tuesday, November 6, **ELECTION DAY**.
See pg. 5 for details on Absentee Voting.

DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

General Fund - a 501(c)(4) entity

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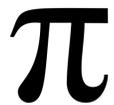
We thank these Major Leadership Circle Members. We invite everyone to contribute to the LWV, including all elected officials, political entities, and candidates. The LWV is nonpartisan; the LWV does not endorse anyone on the Leadership Circle list.

MANY THANKS for helping to support the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area and its EDUCATION of VOTERS!

Education Fund - a 501(c)(3) entity

CURRENT MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

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* In-kind contribution

** In-kind contribution + monetary contribution



2018-2019

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE CAMPAIGN IN FULL SWING



Check your mailboxes soon for a wonderful opportunity to help our own League of Women Voters keep our lights on and our doors open to continue to be the strong and respected voter information resource for our community that we have been for the last 98 years! You don't even have to wait to receive our letter. We invite you to send in your contribution now. If you can donate \$100 or more, you will be listed as a Leadership Circle member on the back page of our upcoming 2018 Voters Guide. If you cannot donate \$100, we happily welcome any amount!
Thank you in advance, Your Funding & Development Committee

Our League has served us well; help it continue to serve the next generation. Consult your attorney or your financial advisor to see how easy it can be to put the League in your will. Call the League, 228-4041, for more information on how to designate your donation to the League of Women Voters 501(c)(4), or to the Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund 501(c)(3).



NEW MEMBERS

6/20/18—7/21/18

Nancy Lowe

1070 Wiles Dr.
Kettering, OH 45419
Sunshine410@netzero.net

Nichol Simmons

7264 N. Figueroa St.
Los Angeles, CA 90041-2546
nichol@nicmfilms.com



WHO: All ages; Helmets are mandatory

WHEN: Sunday, September 2

WHERE: Don Crawford Plaza at 5/3 Field (Start & Finish)

DISTANCE: 3, 6, 10, up to 107 miles

SPONSOR: Rotary Club of Dayton

REGISTRATION: League Treasurer & Acting Team
Captain Becky Kirkland has registered the LWVGDA.

PARTICIPATION:

⇒ Donate to LWVGDA team @ tourdegem.org or donate to
Becky as your rider.

⇒ Sign up your own team or as an individual rider.



pH

Last week I received public notice by the Montgomery County Environmental Services regarding the unmet monitoring and treatment requirements related to pH measurement. The Ohio EPA requires pH sampling as part of the Lead and Copper Rule (epa.gov/dwreginfo/lead-and-copper-rule). What most people may fail to realize is the rule is meant to protect and prevent the public from lead poisoning, especially in children. There is NO SAFE level of lead in water. In Flint, Michigan, water tested to 271 family homes on 2017 contained enough lead to meet EPA's definition of "toxic waste" (washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/01/15/this-is-how-toxic-flints-water-really-is/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.d84b5d4d742f). It is not the source of water, but the pipes used to transport acidic water into homes. Safe and chemical-free water is a necessity of life.

Children should be tested for lead exposure yearly through the age of six. Not only does lead have harmful effects to adults and children, but lead can damage most human body systems. There are long-term physical and mental effects to lead poisoning. Even my own zip code (45459) might be subject to lead exposure (odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/eh/lead^ch/leadch1.aspx). As concerned citizens, we must support and strengthen Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA standards on clean water and air.

Submitted by Peggy Berry



OHIO LEAGUE NEWS

LWVO_{OHIO}

Ohio State Legislative Update



lame duck.



The state legislature is currently on summer break but will likely meet once or twice in August or September, returning in earnest after the November election for the "lame duck" session. This is a time of frantic activity and legislators often pass a number of controversial bills. The legislation below could move in November or December, so keep an eye out for action alerts.

- ⇒ **House Bill 114** which would eliminate Ohio's renewable energy standards and reduce setbacks that make wind farms unworkable, did not pass out of committee before summer break as expected. LWVO supports decreasing wind setbacks as a stand-alone measure, but not legislation that ties that measure to undermining other forms of renewable energy.
- ⇒ **House Bill 228**, a "stand-your-ground" measure, was also expected to pass in June but has been put on hold. This bill would expand the ability to use deadly force in public places.
- ⇒ **Senate Bill 145**, also known as the "method ban," which would prohibit the abortion procedure most commonly used after twelve weeks' gestation, has been quiet for a while but could move from committee to the House floor quickly. Similar provisions in other states have been ruled unconstitutional, including most recently in Texas in November 2017.
- ⇒ **House Bill 393** to provide for the sale of fracking waste as a commercial product for use in ice and dust control without sufficient controls, was voted out of House committee. This is troubling, as the makeup of this so-called "brine" is kept secret but has been shown to contain carcinogens and other dangerous chemicals.
- ⇒ **Governor Kasich's proposed gun safety reforms** could also see action in the lame duck session, though the new Speaker of the House expressed opposition to the "red flag law," also known as extreme risk protection order proposal.

In light of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision upholding **Ohio's voter purge**, Secretary of State Husted floated the idea of having the procedure written into law. No such legislation has been introduced, but such a proposal could move quickly in the lame duck session, either as a stand-alone bill or an amendment added surreptitiously to other legislation.

We are looking for lobbyists to take the lead on fair courts and water issues. If you are interested in the issues covered by LWVO positions, and looking for a way to get more engaged, join the LWVO Lobby Corps! You can start by joining our twice-monthly coordinating calls every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, from 12 to 1 pm. Contact the state office at lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org for more information and to be added to the email list for call reminders.



NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS LWVUS

NOTES ON ADVOCACY



League Memo Urges Senators to Ask SCOTUS Nominee to Protect Democracy

The League sent a memo to the U.S. Senate outlining four questions that should be asked of any U.S. Supreme Court nominee during the confirmation process:

1. Is **voting rights enforcement** a vital component of our representational democracy or can limitations be justified under our Constitution?
2. What is the **role of federal courts** in ensuring the United States conducts a full-count of every person in the country every ten years?
3. Do **procedural issues** take precedent over the spirit of legislative action in relation to the Equal Rights Amendment?
4. What is the **role of federal courts** in protecting our system of checks and balances so that no one branch of government can dominate the others?



Submit a Comment on the Census Today!

Right now the public has the ability to impact the debate on the inclusion of a citizenship question in our 2020 Census through public comments. Go to the website at www.lwv.org, click on the "Take Action" button, then navigate to the "Protect the Census," link. Use our action page to tell the Department of Commerce that the American public wants an accurate and fair Census.

ABSENTEE VOTING DEADLINES

[https://www.sos.state.oh.us/elections/voters/absentee-voting/?_t_id=1B2M2Y8AsgTpgAmY7PhCfg%3d%3d&_t_q=absentee+voting&_t_tags=language%](https://www.sos.state.oh.us/elections/voters/absentee-voting/?_t_id=1B2M2Y8AsgTpgAmY7PhCfg%3d%3d&_t_q=absentee+voting&_t_tags=language%3d%3d)



*All Ohio voters whose registration information is up-to-date have the opportunity to vote in any election from the convenience of their own homes by requesting an absentee ballot. Absentee voting has many benefits: You can vote early, it is convenient, it reduces the chance of lines at the polls on Election Day, and **absentee ballots are the first votes counted on Election Night.***

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is three days before the election in which you want to vote, but voters can submit their application any time. If mailed, absentee ballots must be postmarked by the day before the election in order to be counted. You can also return your absentee ballot in-person to your county board of elections before the close of the polls at 7:30pm on Election Day.



THE PRESIDENT'S VOICE...

I had the privilege of attending the League of Women Voters National Convention in July. It was, as you might expect, a thought-provoking experience. The following are some of the things that stuck with me from the weekend.



If I had to say there was a theme this year, it was diversity! The League will soon be 100 years old, and the nation has changed a lot in those 100 years. But has the League . . . and should it? When I was at the convention four years ago, we were focused on remaining nonpartisan. This year that seemed to be assumed and therefore didn't need so much emphasis. Instead the concern is more around opening up the League to people and faces that don't look so much like the assumed face of the League. I don't think membership has gotten there, but the panel of speakers strongly reflected the future population of the country and presumably the future face of the League. National encourages us to get moving on making this happen!

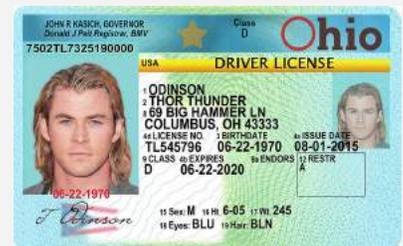
I attended a number of sessions sponsored by other local and state Leagues. One that immediately caught my attention was a session on selecting the U.S. President by popular vote. This is a movement whereby states pass legislation requiring their electoral delegates vote for the candidate that received the highest number of popular votes. Simply put, if enough states commit to this, the popular vote will determine the President. This would be a hard battle in a state like Ohio (where the bill has been filed, but is likely sitting with no action) but it is a creative way to address the current issue where our President is not elected by the citizens. There is more information at www.nationalpopularvote.com. This topic caused a lot of fiery debate—both pro and con!

My favorite presenter—and there were many terrific speakers—was former United States Treasurer Rosa Rios. She worked on a project with her former high school history teacher to launch Teachers Righting History, which brings the faces of historic American women into the classroom. (teachersrightinghistory.org) Rosa Rios is also using her influence to shame (my word, not hers) the largest parks in the largest cities in America to add statues of real women. And for most of these parks, there are zero (yes, zero) statues of real women. Central Park will be getting statues of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 2020! While you are waiting on the statues, you can steep yourself in the history of the League and these two women by reading another speaker's book. *The Woman's Hour*, by Elaine Weiss, tells the story of the battle to ratify the 19th amendment. You cannot get more League than that!

Susan Byerly, President LWVGA



Know What's Up with New Driver's Licenses



Ohio is getting a jump on federal regulations that require stricter identification policies by October 2020. A new generation of driver's licenses or state IDs will become available in our state on July 2 of this year.

To obtain the new kind of license, called "Compliant DL-ID," drivers must go to a Deputy Registrar office where they will be required to provide documentation that includes their name, date of birth, and Social Security number. These documents may include a birth certificate, passport, or Social Security card, as well as two additional documents providing residential address such as utility bills. After presenting all the required documentation, the applicant can expect the new license to be delivered by mail within 10 days.

The current standard license can still be used as legal identification for driving, buying alcohol or tobacco products, and voting. They can also be used to board a commercial flight or enter a federal facility prior to October 1, 2020. To avoid delays and inconvenience, please consider renewing or switching your license to the new version well in advance of that date.

For more information go to bmv.ohio.gov/NEWDL-ID/new-card-compare.aspx.



AUGUST WOMEN'S HISTORY TRIVIA

Lucille Desiree Ball

BORN: August 6, 1911 (d. 1989) – Lucille Ball, comedian, actress, and television executive, starred in TV series *I Love Lucy* from 1950 to 1960, first woman to own a major television studio, Desilu Productions

~ excerpted from www.nwhp.org/events/august/



“I cured myself of shyness when it finally occurred to me that people didn't think about me half as much as I gave them credit for. The truth was, nobody gave a damn. Like most teenagers, I was far too self-centered. When I stopped being prisoner to what I worried was others' opinions of me, I became more confident and free.”

“Politics should be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free people and who would preserve what is good and fruitful in our national heritage.”

“I'd rather regret the things I have done than the things that I haven't.”

Meet Your New Office Manager



Bobbie Beach has begun training for her new position as the Office Manager at the League. With her background as a highly prized virtual assistant for professional clients, Bobbie's executive skills are considerable.

Having lived in this area in the 1980s, Bobbie recently moved here to be closer to her daughter and grandchildren. When she's not in the League office or tending to the needs of her virtual clients, she paints and restores vintage furniture.

Please make sure to give her a warm League welcome when your paths cross.

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Dayton, OH 45402-1703

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Advocating Voter Education and Action on Issues



Current Resident or:

Our Thanks.....

.....go out to the Yellow Springs Brewery for hosting a fundraiser for the League on July 12. LWV members and the public enjoyed a fun evening, flavored with good conversation and great beer. Through the generosity of our hosts, we raised nearly \$200 toward the cost of the upcoming *Voters Guide*.



YES! I want to be a sponsor of the *Voters Guide*.

I've enclosed my tax deductible gift of:

- \$75/1000 copies \$150/2000 copies \$225/3000 copies \$300/4000 copies
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Name of Business, Individual, or Group for *Voters Guide* Listing:

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