

**LWV**<sup>®</sup>

# The VOTER

Advocating voter education  
and action since 1920**December 2015**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE GREATER DAYTON AREA  
VOLUME 92, ISSUE 12 & VOLUME 93, ISSUE 1**January 2016**

## Election 2015 - One for League History

Beginning mid-August, the office began to hum with plans for the election. "Off year" elections tend to be less sexy because the offices on the ballot are for mayors, trustees, councilmen and local Boards of Education candidates. This may seem dull to some, but there were a lot of seats up for grabs and the *Voters Guide* had to expand from 24 to a whopping 32 pages.

Though local elections are important, the excitement this year centered on the issues: Issue 1, for redistricting reform; Issue 2, an anti-monopoly amendment; and of course Issue 3, the legalization of recreational and medical marijuana. Those issues, specifically numbers 2 & 3, brought hundreds of calls into our office over the last few weeks before the election. Over 42% of the Ohio electorate cast votes in this November 2015 election.

The passage of Issue 1 was a historical milestone for the League of Women Voters. The League has been working on redistricting reform for 40 years. The following is an excerpt from Carrie Davis, Executive Director LWVO, about the passage of Issue 1: "The people of Ohio have been waiting a long time for fair districts and an end to gerrymandering. We are thrilled that a fair process for drawing state legislative districts is finally required by Ohio's constitution. Ohio voters sent a clear message that they want districts to be fair and the winners to be determined by the voters... but this win only got us halfway there. We need to take these new anti-gerrymandering rules and extend them to Congressional districts. The League will continue to work with members of both parties in the General Assembly and the Constitutional Modernization Commission to put Congressional Redistricting reform on the 2016 ballot."



Congratulations to all those at the state and local level for their work on redistricting reform and to our members who diligently placed campaign signs, passed out information on Issue 1 and promoted this legislation through our Speaker's Bureau and hotline. Issue 1 is a victory for voters and for the legitimacy of Ohio's election process. We look forward to another big win on redistricting in 2016!

Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director



All donations as of October 31, 2015

*General Fund*

**Major Leadership Circle Members**

**President (\$10,000+)**

Estate of Mickey Gogle

**Vice President (\$5,000-\$9,999)**

Talbot Tower Management\*

**Cabinet (\$2,500 - \$4,999)**

Bob and Mary Winfree\*

**Governor (\$1,000 - \$2,499)**

Roger B. Himmell, CPA\*

Premier Health

Miami Valley Hospital

Good Samaritan Hospital

Atrium Medical Center

Upper Valley Medical Center

Time Warner Cable

**Senate (\$500 - \$999)**

Anonymous (2)\*\*

Peggy and David Berry\*\*

Pat Bradley-Falke

Dayton Metro Library

Dr. and Ms. Ronald L. Fletcher

Kendall Printing\*

Paul Lamberger

McGohan Brabender, Inc.

Sinclair Community College

University of Dayton

President's Office

Fitz Center for Leadership in the Community

**House (\$250 - \$499)**

Barbara Buddendeck

Crossman & Maciorowski

Jack R. Fultz

Paul Gruner, Montgomery County Engineer

Sharon Harmer\*\*

Vivienne and Roger Himmell

Dr. Ints Kaleps & Karen Kaleps, Huber Heights Council

Herbert Lee

Ellen T. McCloskey

Michael and Margot Merz

Mildred Mooney

David and Sharen Neuhardt

Phil Plummer, Montgomery County Sheriff

Patty and Ralph Skilken\*\*

Fred Strahorn, State Rep, 39<sup>th</sup> Dist.

Martha Taylor

Judy and Tom Thompson

Pat Torvik

*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 this Leadership Circle list.*

*Education Fund*

**Current Major Contributors**

Anonymous\*

Charles D. Berry

Crossman & Maciorowski LLC

DATV\*

Dayton Bar Association Foundation

The Dayton Foundation

Dayton Power & Light Foundation

Dan Gallivan

Sharon Harmer

Hanauer and Spiegel Fund

Kendall Printing\*

Earl McDaniel

Marian Simmons Estate Bequest

McGohan Brabender, Inc.

Montgomery County Board of Elections

MVCC\*

Paula J. MacIlwaine Award: Women Making a Difference

Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur LLP

Rieck Services

Tom and Judy Thompson

The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation

Bob and Mary Winfree

**Recent Contributions Appreciated**

Thank you to the following who have made a contribution to the League since our last Voter.

**General Fund** [a 501(c)(4) entity]

W. Blackshear, Dayton Metro Library, Greater Dayton Hospital Assoc., P. Gruner, L. Lombard, Pickrel, Schaeffer Ebeling, W. Ohlmann, M. Quinn, M. Owens, Time Warner Cable

**Education Fund** [a 501(c)(3) entity]

C. Bennett, S. Harmer, S. Hesselgesser\*, E. McCloskey\*, Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur, G. Roberts

**\$95 For 95 Campaign**

Thank you to the following who have contributed \$95 or more to the Education Fund's 95th Anniversary Campaign.



Julie Burneson, Dana Kane, Val Lee, Ellen McCloskey, Louise Van Vliet, Penny Wolff

\*In-kind contribution

\*\*In-kind + monetary contribution

Our League continued its tradition of providing ad-free, nonpartisan information to Miami Valley voters with publication of the 47<sup>th</sup> annual *Voters Guide* for Montgomery and Greene Counties. Fifty thousand copies of the *Guide* for the November 2015 General Election were distributed throughout Montgomery and Greene Counties. Working with the *Times News* suburban newspapers, the *Yellow Springs News* and the *Oakwood Register*, we provided door-step delivery for a large part of the Dayton suburbs and Greene County. *Guides* were mailed to customers who had ordered them and League members also distributed them to libraries, senior centers, businesses, college campuses and other sites throughout the Dayton area.

Again this year, the *Guide* was published in Spanish as well as English, providing the same nonpartisan voter information to Spanish-speaking voters. Lillian Moskeland and Claudia Cortez-Reinhardt translated the content and coordinated the publication of *El Guía de Electores en Español* which was distributed in the Dayton area by the Spanish language newspaper *La Vanguardia Hoy*.

With 57 contested races and nearly 160 candidates, putting the *Voters Guide* together was a big job this year. Work started in early August as questionnaires were developed, candidate databases updated, and the candidate mailing prepared. Candidate packets were mailed September 1 and responses soon flooded the League office, arriving by fax, email, and snail mail. *Voters Guide* co-editors Michael Lewis and Lucy Anne McKosky and volunteers Sandie Mants, Pat Stidham and Patsy Thurin were ready for the challenge and completed the copy preparation in record time. Sue Shay prepared the cover graphics, Vivienne Himmell, Rebecca Jarvi and Ellen McCloskey submitted questions for the candidates and Vivienne Himmell and Peg Schulz coordinated the Leadership Circle page. Sue Hesselgesser oversaw the operation and made all the printing and distribution arrangements. Office manager Mary Winfree provided invaluable support at every step and gracefully handled many phone calls and emails from candidates. The distribution team included Sandie Mants, Ellen McCloskey, Mary Haller, Vivienne Himmell, Patsy Thurin, David Bodary and Valerie Lee. Several League board members also got up early and handed out *Voters Guides* to WDTN viewers on October 22. Our thanks go to everyone who participated in producing and distributing the *Guide*, and to all those whose contributions made publication possible.

With three important and controversial statewide constitutional issues on the ballot as well as dozens of local contests and issues, this year's *Voters Guide* played a vital part in the League's voter service work. Miami Valley residents rely on our *Voters Guide* for full and unbiased information about elections, as shown by the many calls coming into the office asking when the *Guides* would be ready and where they would be available. All League members can take pride in this significant contribution to the community!

Lucy Anne McKosky, *Voters Guide* Co-Editor

*The League of Women Voters recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. The LWV affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of America in its membership, leadership and programs.*

Even though our League is busy 12 months of the year, the time from mid-summer through Election Day is when we receive the most attention and credit from our community. As Executive Director, I get to experience the joy of being part of the League at its finest. Many thanks to the following for all that you did to maintain the spirit and expertise of our League:

- **Voter Registration** – Coordinated by Michael Lewis with help from Susan Darcy, Val Lee, Lillian Moskeland, Andy Cobb, and our partners, the Ohio Organizing Collaborative.
- **Voters Guide Team** – Led by Lucy Ann McKosky with assistance from Michael Lewis. I love every *Voters Guide* but this was the first in recent history to have a seemingly flawless year, needing no corrections from candidates or for typos!
- **El Guía de Electores en Español** – Once again flawlessly translated by League members Lillian Moskeland and Claudia Cortez-Reinhardt, with assistance from Claudia's cousin, Eduardo Cortes Rocha. Please see Lucy Anne McKosky's article on page three for more on the team, including those who did the heavy lifting (literally) in distributing the *Guide*.
- **Cable Television Interviews** – Led by Pat-Bradley Falke with assistance from President Patty Skilken and Treasurer Becky Kirkland as moderators and Ellen McCloskey as time keeper. In total, 31 exceptional television segments were completed for candidates in Montgomery & Greene Counties. Special thanks to our partners at Miami Valley Communications Council (MVCC) and Dayton Access Television (DATV) for their tireless efforts to make the interviews picture perfect. This year MVCC taped all interviews for Greene County and arranged for those interviews to be viewed through their Greene County affiliate stations.
- **Candidate Forums** – Moderated and officiated by teams including Pat Bradley Falke, Janet Hess, Vivienne Himmell, Becky Kirkland, Janis James and Tonya Wilson Wood, giving voters a chance to see, hear and question those asking for their support.
- **Speaker's Bureau** – Chair Dianne Herman, with assistance from Laurie Fanning, Sue Hesselgesser, Vivienne Himmell and Patty Skilken, provided knowledgeable help for all requests.
- **Our website** – Hits went from a few hundred to several thousand during the election! Many thanks to webmaster Rita Peterson who made weekly updates and to Peg Berry who announced all League events on Facebook.
- **The Hot Line** – Managed this year by our Office Manager Mary Winfree and your Executive Director who answered and assisted voters on over 200 calls.
- **Partnerships** – Our League enjoyed partnerships with WDTN for early morning distribution of *Voters Guides* and an interview on Living Dayton and with Cox Media, WHIO, Dayton Daily News and Sinclair Community College on the Marijuana Forum.

Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The Voter is published monthly by the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area (LWVGDA); Talbott Tower, Suite 1208, 131 N. Ludlow Street, Dayton, OH 45402; Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

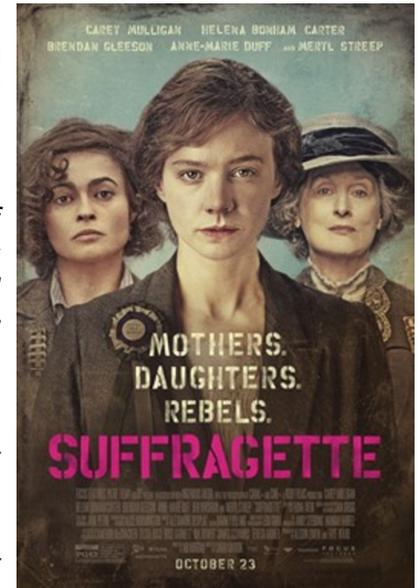
Phone (937) 228-4041 and FAX (937) 228-4104  
 Email: league@lwvdayton.org Web address: www.lwvdayton.org  
 President: Patty Skilken  
 Editorial Board: Vivienne Himmell, Sharon Harmer, Penny Wolff  
 Co-Editors: Kathleen Farmer, Sue Shay

*History and film buffs may find themselves puzzled over the late arrival of this screen story, 100 years after the events that inspired it. ~ Movie Nation*

By the time you receive this issue of the *Voter*, you may have missed our movie event at the Neon. The long awaited showing of "Suffragette" was ushered into the Miami Valley by League members who gathered at the Neon on November 17 to celebrate our legacy. I'll share with you some excerpts from reviews:

From *The Hollywood Reporter*, Telluride Review: - *The surprise of "Suffragette" is how much anger and urgency it contains and how much new material it unearths. The story mixes fictional characters with real historical personages. The shocking climactic scene, which is taken from history, reminds us that all struggles for equality involve searing sacrifices.*

From Movie Nation - *"Suffragette," a long-overdue film treatment about the early 20th century tipping point struggle to win women the right to vote, and through it, the chance to control their own bodies, their own lives and their own destiny. Women do not have the balance of mind to deal with complex and important tasks like voting, the argument went.*



Be sure to support our local theaters featuring this film. You can consider taking the whole family depending on ages and temperament of the children. MPAA Rating: PG-13 for some intense violence, thematic elements, brief strong language and partial nudity.

Valerie Lee, Action Director

## **Annual Program Planning Meeting**

### **PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING**

**January 21, 2016, 6-9 P**

**Goodwill Easter Seals Building, 660 S. Main Street, Dayton, OH 45402**

**Cost: \$25 includes dinner, registration in advance**

At the meeting, participants will discuss and vote on local program topics for 2016-2017. Participants will also be asked to review various National League of Women Voters position statements and to vote on whether they should be maintained, revised, or abandoned. Our decisions, along with other Leagues around the country, will be submitted to LWVUS for a vote at their convention in June. Dinner will be provided at the meeting for a cost of \$25. **If you are able to attend, please contact the League office at (937) 228-4041, or when available, please RSVP online via the League's website.** We welcome all League members to come and weigh in on what topics are of interest to you and help guide the future of the League.

Ana Crawford, VP of Programming



**Have a safe and wonderful  
holiday season!**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE GREATER DAYTON AREA**  
Talbot Tower, Suite 1208  
131 N. Ludlow Street  
Dayton, OHIO 45402-1703

**NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
DAYTON, OHIO  
PERMIT NO. 105**

We are on the Web.  
[www.lwvdayton.org](http://www.lwvdayton.org)

Advocating Voter Education  
and Action on Issues

Current Resident or:

---

◆

## Upcoming Event

**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 6 P**  
**The Dublin Pub, 300 Wayne Ave., Dayton**



Join us for our next League Quarterly Meeting and get a jump on St. Paddy's Day! There is a parking lot adjacent to the restaurant and as always, we will be ordering from the menu.

By February, the November election will be in our rear view mirror, marijuana will still be illegal, and we will have a start on a sensible process for redistricting. We will be ramping up for the spring primaries and the fall presidential election. We will also have had our annual planning meeting, so there will be lots of activities for us to report on and plenty of topics to discuss.

If you missed our last dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse, you missed your chance to show your knowledge of American history. We kicked off with a short quiz that came straight from the study guide for the U.S. naturalization test. It is not as easy as some people think to become a citizen! We wrapped the meeting up with the reading of a delightful story about a woman, a bike and a pair of bloomers. In between these two activities we discussed issues and learned more about League positions. Please join us for the next meeting!

Susan Byerly, President Elect