



THE VOTER

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

Talbott Tower, 127 N. Ludlow St, Dayton, Ohio 45402-1703

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FACEBOOK: [Lwv Dayton OH](https://www.facebook.com/LwvDaytonOH)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Tuesday, February 20 @ 6:00pm, Quarterly Dinner. Details on page 3
- ◆ March 22, Dangerous Dames of Dayton, Stay Tuned!



Program Planning 2018

On January 16 members of our League participated in the annual Program Planning workshop. On alternating years we review LWV state or national positions.

This year national issues were up for review; however, in these challenging times when so many are frustrated, when families are divided and friendships broken, focusing on the League of Women Voters' *vision* made the most sense. LWVUS suggested we concentrate on the *Making Democracy Work* campaign adopted by Leagues at the 2016 LWV convention. This campaign incorporates the core League positions of voting rights and election reform, building citizen participation in the democratic process, and engaging communities in promoting positive solutions through education and advocacy.

To that end our programs this year will increase efforts for Voting Rights, Fair Redistricting, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, and Improving Elections. If that sounds like a huge challenge, it is. But it is also who we are. It is what we do. We just need to magnify our efforts one member at a time.

How can you help?

- ◆ Sign the redistricting petition. Get your friends to sign this nonpartisan effort to ensure that every vote has a voice.
- ◆ Attend League programs and bring your friends!
- ◆ Discuss voting; ask friends about updating voter registrations; check with your high school about registering students who turn 18; get your adult children to vote!
- ◆ Participate in upcoming *Where Have all the Voters Gone* discussions.
- ◆ Challenge your Facebook friends to fact-check information. Don't hit the SHARE button unless you are sure of its source and accuracy.

Most of all, work at chipping away at the partisanship dividing our country. For better or worse, when the chips are down, family is family—and no one loves you like family. Remember your friendship was not founded on politics, but on mutual interests, respect, shared experiences, and love.

From *Time* magazine I offer the following when discussing politics: suspend judgment, seek understanding, discover common ground, and express gratitude for the discussion. Together we will *Make Democracy Work!*

For more information on *Making Democracy Work*, go to: www.LWVUS.org or call the League office.

Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director

DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

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

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VICE PRESIDENT (\$5,000+)

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Elzie McIntyre, Jr.
Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., Dayton City Commission
David and Sharen Neuhardt
Pickrel, Schaeffer & Ebeling LPA
Preferred Planning Associates
(Becky & James Kirkland)
Margaret M. Quinn
Carolyn Rice, Mont Cnty Treasurer
Fred Strahorn, State Rep, 39th Dist
Judy and Tom Thompson



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 non-partisan; the LWV does not endorse anyone on the Leadership Circle list.

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

CURRENT MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous
Charles D. Berry
Peggy Berry
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Pat Bradley-Falke
Barbara Buddendeck
Crossman & Maciorowski, LLC
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Dayton Bar Association Foundation
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Sharon Harmer
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Paula MacIlwaine-Women Making A Difference
Earl McDaniel
Pat & Jackie McGohan
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Phil Plummer, Montgomery County Sheriff
Preferred Planning Associates,
(Becky & James Kirkland)
Marian Simmons Estate Bequest
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Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur, LLP
Sinclair Community College
Tom & Judy Thompson
The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation
Bob & Mary Winfree

thank you!



* In-kind contribution

** In-kind contribution + monetary contribution

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

Dona Fletcher, Jeanette Schultz, Linda Thomas, Patsy Thurin

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

Dayton Ohio Chapter APWU Retirees Association, Carol Graff, LWVO Grant for "Where Have All the Voters Gone"

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, 937.228-4041, 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).



WELCOME

New Members

November 20, 2017 – January 19, 2018

Jeanne Boeke

2265 Avalon Ave
Dayton, OH 45409-1926



Russ Joseph

Montgomery County Clerk of Courts
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Sandra Leckband

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Jeanette Schultz

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Diane S. Walsh

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Shirley Younkin

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937 287-6161
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Meet New Member Erin O'Brien

When Erin moved to Dayton with her husband about a year ago, she was returning to her childhood home after a 15-year absence. She was thrilled with the warm welcome she received throughout the community, and was determined to become an active citizen, helping to keep the region strong and healthy. One way she's doing that is by joining our League.

"I discovered the League about 10 years ago when I was living in Colorado," said Erin. "I was always using their online materials to learn about ballot issues and study up on candidates before an election. I always found their resources to be fair and accurate."

Engaging with the League online lead to her increased interest in politics and social issues, and a desire to be an informed voter. Because she's passionate about her job as a K-5 school counselor in Xenia Community Schools, she strives to be an advocate for her students. She trusts the League of Women Voters to give her good information on the issues important to her school families. If you see Erin at an upcoming event, be sure to extend a hearty LWV welcome!



Have you signed the

FAIR DISTRICTS PETITION yet?

If not, call the League office @ 937.228.4041



Quarterly Dinner



Tuesday, February 20, at 6pm
at The Wandering Griffin Brewery & Pub
3725 Presidential Dr. in Fairborn



OHIO LEAGUE NEWS

LWVO_{HIO}

LWV volunteers, under the umbrella of the Fair Districts/Fair Elections campaign, have been putting lots of time and energy into getting an anti-gerrymandering bill on the November ballot. Their efforts are being undermined by the Ohio legislators who decided to offer their own redistricting plan. This plan, which is likely to be on the ballot in May's primary election, is a very bad deal for Ohio. If it were to pass, it would nullify the efforts of the Fair Districts campaign while making the drawing of Congressional districts in our state even less equitable than they already are.



The League will be putting forth a tremendous effort to educate the public on the pitfalls of this proposed legislation. Please stay informed on the status of this issue that is so critical to our democracy.

Good sources of information include our Facebook page and websites lwvo.org or lwvdayton.org. You can also check out the following links to learn more about why gerrymandering is such a bad idea for democracy.

- ◆ <https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/that-other-big-partisan-gerrymander-fight>
- ◆ The history and controversy surrounding the re-drawing of political boundaries for partisan gain: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/drawing-the-lines-on-gerrymandering/>



In Memoriam

It is with deep regret we announce the death of fellow League member Elizabeth Ann (Libby) Kingseed who passed away suddenly Sunday December 24, 2017 at the age of 62. Elizabeth was a longtime supporting member of the League. She was a program manager and archivist at Kettering Foundation, directing the foundation's K-12 civic education research. She is survived by her children Laura (Patrick) Hickman and Dan Kingseed and two grandchildren Micah and Benjamin Hickman.



NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS LWVUS

Chris Carson, President of the National LWV recently sent a letter out to all local Leagues with a strong message.



She encouraged members, in this time of rising nationalism, overt racism, and increased hostility toward immigrants, to remember our American values. Our nation was built on the talents and intellect of people from across the globe. Our diversity is our strength.

She urged us to stand up against prejudice and bigotry when we witness it, and to be in touch with our legislators to voice our support for civil discourse and restrained rhetoric.

The League of Women Voters also urges our leaders to pass a clean DREAM Act to protect, not turn away, the 800,000 young people who were brought to the United States as children.



PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ELECTION INTEGRITY DISBANDED

This little-known commission was established in May 2017 by President Trump through an executive order. The President had made campaign and post-election promises to investigate fraudulent and improper voting registration and voting. Vice President was appointed to serve as chair of the commission and Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach served as vice chair. Ken Blackwell, former Ohio Secretary of State also served on the commission. This commission became mired in controversy after the vice chair wrote a letter to the top election official in every state requesting voter data, i.e. names, addresses, party affiliations, birth dates, felony conviction records, voting histories for the past decade, and the last four digits of all voters' social security numbers. Once the content of this letter was made public, there was bipartisan backlash and the majority of states quickly rejected the request. In many instances, state laws forbade them from complying. In Aug. 2017, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer called on the President to disband the commission. On Jan. 3, 2018, it was disbanded. Chris Carson, president of The League of Women Voters (opposed to the commission from its beginning) issued the following statement:

"Today voters win. We are pleased that the Trump Administration has at last dissolved their discredited 'election integrity' commission. It is now time for our leaders to focus on the very real work of securing our elections against foreign interference, while making sure all eligible voters are free to exercise their right to vote."

Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Rep. Robert Brady (D-PA) introduced the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2017 on June 14, 2017. The League is proud to support legislation that enhances access for eligible voters in our elections and works to modernize our electoral system. This bill will improve the accuracy of voter records, cut down on costs, and modernize outdated registration systems while supporting implementation in states across the country.

Valerie Lee, Action Chair

did?
YOU!
know



The earliest known personification of the United States was as a woman named Columbia, who first appeared in 1738 (pre-USA) and sometimes was associated with another female personification, Lady Liberty. With the American Revolutionary War came Brother Jonathan, a male personification, and Uncle Sam finally appeared after the War of 1812. Columbia appeared with either Brother Jonathan or Uncle Sam, but her use declined as a national personification in favor of Liberty, and she was effectively abandoned once she became the mascot of Columbia Pictures in the 1920s.

~Excerpted from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uncle_Sam

WANTED
VOLUNTEERS

Here's how you can help!

The League Needs YOU!

We need people who can take big ideas and help bring them to life. Looking ahead to our Centennial in 2020 has generated lots of ideas of how we can observe this momentous occasion. Now we need energetic and creative people to help make it happen.

Whether you're a new member looking to connect with the League or a veteran member wishing to refresh your commitment, consider joining our Centennial Committee to plan and implement our big celebration.

It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

Did you know your League is always in election mode? We're always working to provide services to voters and would-be voters through voter registration events, petition signature drives, and other activities. If you feel drawn to work on one of the League's core areas, please consider becoming a Voter Services volunteer. Many of these activities require very short time commitments of an hour or two, or on an on-call basis.

“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.” *(Unknown)*

Volunteers Needed

Funding & Development Committee



*Do you like working with a group of fun, smart people?
Are you creative or good with details?
Do you enjoy planning events?
Looking for a way to get more involved with the League?*

The F & D Committee is seeking new members to help plan events throughout the year. It's a great way to meet other League members, develop your leadership skills, and raise money for voter education.

"F & D"

For the full scoop on what this committee entails, contact F & D members Linda Fish or Peg Schulz.

Their numbers can be found in your LWV Membership Handbook or call the League office at 937.228.4041



JANUARY & FEBRUARY HISTORY TRIVIA



~ excerpted from nwhp.org/events/january/ & [/february/](http://nwhp.org/events/february/) (National Women's History Project website)

- **January 3, 1949** – Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine) starts her tenure in the Senate, where she stays in office until 1973, became the first woman to serve in both the House and Senate as she previously served in the House (1940-49)
- **January 7, 1896** – Fanny Farmer's first cookbook is published in which she standardized cooking measurements
- **January 7, 1955** – Marian Anderson is the first African American woman to sing at the Metropolitan Opera
- **January 8, 1977** – Pauli Murray is ordained as the first female African American Episcopal priest
- **January 11, 1935** – Amelia Earhart makes the first solo flight from Hawaii to North America
- **January 25, 1980** – Mary Decker became the first woman to run a mile under 4 1/2 minutes, running it at 4:17.55
- **February 1, 1978** – First postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, is issued in Washington, DC
- **February 12, 1869** – The Utah Territorial Legislature passes a bill allowing women to vote
- **February 15, 1921** – The Suffrage Monument, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, is dedicated at the U.S. Capitol
- **February 24, 1912** – Henrietta Szold founds Hadassah, the largest Jewish organization in American history. Today, it focuses on healthcare and education in Israel and the U.S.
- **February 24, 1967** – Jocelyn Bell Burnell makes the first discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star
- **February 27, 1922** – U.S. Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote

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127 N. Ludlow Street
Dayton, OH 45402-1703

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Advocating Voter Education and Action on Issues



Current Resident or:

THE PRESIDENT'S VOICE.....

Watch out ladies – you may feel a pinch...in the paycheck!

There is so much news coming at us so fast these days, that it's easy to miss some stories. Take proposed changes to laws that have the potential to be far reaching and detrimental. In this case, the people hurt are the wait staff in restaurants, a field predominated by woman. On 12/5/17, the Wage and Hour Division of the Dept. of Labor put forth a proposal to roll back laws that protect the tips of the wait staff. Some unions representing the kitchen workers think they should get a share of these tips...So do some restaurant owners.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/12/05/2017-25802/tip-regulations-under-the-fair-labor-standards-act-flsa>

You may have missed this story. It came in the lead-up to the holidays and in the middle of almost constant revelations about sexual misconduct by ever-more surprising individuals.

Of all the stories I heard in 2017, I found this the most disheartening. This is an industry where folks work hard and are paid below minimum wage because tips are supposed to bridge the gap. If kitchen staff shares in the tips, are their hourly wages going to be lowered? Seems possible. If the tips are shared by owners, will the owners now accept a wage below the national minimum wage in place of a seven-digit salary? Seems unlikely. (See CEO of Darden Restaurants if you need an example of executive salaries for large restaurant chains, a likely beneficiary of this proposal).

There is a stark contrast between this proposal and one published in 2016 to address compensation for exempt workers in this same industry (among others) who are expected to work more than 50 hours/week with no additional compensation for their time.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/05/23/2016-11754/defining-and-delimiting-the-exemptions-for-executive-administrative-professional-outside-sales-and-computer-employees/>

Your League has a position on Pay Equity.

~ Susan Byerly, President LWVGD

