



1920-2017

THE VOTER

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area
 Talbott Tower, 127 N. Ludlow St, Dayton, Ohio 45402-1703

WEBSITE: lwvdayton.org EMAIL: league@lwvdayton.org PHONE: 937.228.4041
 FACEBOOK: Lwv Dayton OH

Join us on our ride to 100 years!

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY

- ◆ Monday-Thursday, July 17-20, **Women for Common Ground**, 6PM, LWV Talbott Tower 127 N. Ludlow 1st Floor. Choose your evening and your best Republican/Democrat Gal Pal for good nonpartisan, non-political discussion. Call the office to reserve as space is limited. *See pg. 6 for more information.* FREE
- ◆ Tuesday, July 25, 6PM **Quarterly Meeting** at Coco's Bistro at 250 Warren St. in Dayton. Easy parking, everyone pays own tab. Call the office to reserve your space 228-4041. *See pg.*

THE CHALLENGE OF THE 2017 ELECTION

When we relocated our offices a few weeks ago, crumpled in the back of one of the old file drawers was the very first copy of *The Dayton Citizen*, a weekly newspaper written by the Dayton League of Women Voters. Published on March 25, 1922, the articles are not too dissimilar from ones we might see today: Tax Money Not Enough to Meet All Demands, Property Values Need to be Readjusted, and Public Has Hard Time Getting Unbiased News.

Though we do not have a weekly paper, we do carry on the tradition of providing unbiased voter information through our annual *Voters Guide*, published since 2015 in English and Spanish. The public looks for the *Voters Guide* because they know the issues are presented in pro and con format and the answers to candidate questions are written in the candidates' own words without corrections to spelling or punctuation. Our *Voters Guide* is a great tradition, a needed community service, and our link to thousands of voters in the Greater Dayton community.

Last year with the help of our membership, the *Guide* reached over 200,000 voters throughout Montgomery & Greene Counties. It takes \$88 to put 1,000 *Guides* on the street. I am hopeful our membership will once again help to put thousands of *Guides* on doorsteps and in libraries for the 2017 election. Any donation helps and every donation, of any amount, is welcome.

To support the *Guide*, please mail your donation to LWVEF 127 N. Ludlow, Dayton 45402 or donate online at lwvdayton.org. All donors will be listed in the *Voters Guide*.

Educated voters are the cornerstone of America's democracy. Thank you for helping us strengthen and support America's democracy.

Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director



Because of them I can now live the dream.
 I am the seed of the free, and I know it.
 I intend to bear great fruit. ~ Sojourner Truth



DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

General Fund

MAJOR LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

President (\$10,000+)

Estate of Johanna Columbro

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

Talbot Tower Management*

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

Barbara Buddendeck**

Charter Communications

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Fletcher

Premier Health

Miami Valley Hospital

Good Samaritan Hospital

Atrium Medical Center

Upper Valley Medical Center

Senate (\$500-\$999)

Lee & Pat Bradley-Falke

Dayton Metro Library

Kendall Printing*

Carlotta King

Paul Lamberger

Leppla Associates, Ltd

Mildred Mooney

Sinclair Community College

University of Dayton

President's Office

Fitz Center for Leadership in the Community

House (\$250-\$499)

Anonymous

Susan Byerly

Crossman & Maciorowski, LLC

Jack R. Fultz

Paul Gruner, Montgomery County Engineer

John & Susan Hesselgesser**

Becky & James Kirkland

Herbert Lee

Michael Lewis

Ellen T. McCloskey

Michael & Margot Merz

Sandy Nearingard

David & Sharen Neuhardt

Phil Plummer, Montgomery County Sheriff

Carolyn Rice, Montgomery County Treasurer

Patty & Ralph Skilken

Kristin Sobolik

Fred Strahorn, State Rep, 39th District

Judy & 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

CURRENT MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous*

Pat Bradley-Falke

Barbara Buddendeck

Crossman & Maciorowski, LLC

DATV*

Dayton Bar Association Foundation

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Fletcher

Sharon Harmer

Houser Asphalt & Concrete

Kendall Printing*

Paul Lamberger

Earl McDaniel

Scott & Laurie McGohan

Phil Plummer, Montgomery County Sheriff

Marian Simmons Estate Bequest

MVCC*

Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur, LLP

Sinclair Community College

Tom & Judy Thompson

The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation

Bob & 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]

Barbara Buddendeck, Paula Ewers, Kathleen Farmer, Mary Sue Gmeiner, Ellen McCloskey, Sandra McHugh, Mildred Mooney, Sandy Nearingard, Katherine Stealey, Judy Thompson

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

Robyn Angel, Julia Burneson, Laurie & David Leach Fund, The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation

* In-kind contribution

** In-kind contribution + monetary contribution



LWV Dayton NEW BOARD OFFICERS



At the May 15, 2017, annual meeting the following **NEW OFFICERS** were introduced:

Susan Byerly, President
 Andrea Cobb, President Elect
 David Bodary, Program Vice President
 Mario, Voter Services Co-Vice President
 Janet Hess, Secretary, filling unexpired term through June 2018

In addition to the officers, the following **DIRECTORS** were also named:

Sandra McHugh, Greene County Representative
 Rita Peterson, Webmaster
 Peggy Berry, Public Relations, filling unexpired term through June 2018

The **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** for the new term is:

Barbara Buddendeck
 Dona Fletcher
 Lillian Moskeland

~ Unless otherwise noted, all officers and nominating committee members will serve a two-year term ending June 30, 2019. ~

NEW MEMBERS

Kim Bramlage
 24 E Dale Dr
 Dayton OH 45415-2906
 937-657-5001
 KBramlage1@aol.com

Leronda F Jackson
 4525 Northglen Ct
 Englewood OH 45322-2562
 937-222-5884 (h) 937-416-5617 (c)
 leronda@lflinsurance.com

Kate Hedeem
 301 Shroyer Rd
 Dayton OH 45419-4046
 937-516-9366
 318hedeem@gmail.com



"The road to success is always under construction."

~ Lily Tomlin



OHIO LEAGUE NEWS

LWVO_{OHIO}

Advocacy Update

Work on the Ohio budget for 2017-2019 is underway, and the legislature is moving quickly toward the June 30 deadline to pass it in both chambers. Here are just a few issues LWVO is tracking in the budget:

- **Energy and the Environment** - As written, House Bill 49 includes a provision for expanding oil and gas drilling in state and local parks, as well as a provision for eliminating the ability of local governments to address lead exposure. LWVO lobbyists urged Senate committees to remove these provisions.
- **Elections** - Due to pressure from the League and other voter advocates, House Bill 49 includes an appropriation to help county election officials begin to replace aging voting machines. LWV lobbyists are encouraging legislators to fund election administration adequately, including sending absentee ballot mailers to all Ohio voters for every election and improving online voter service functions.
- **Medicaid** - Legislators must fund the state share of costs for those covered by the expanded Medicaid program, and LWVO urges them to do so without attaching harmful stipulations or limitations. After passing the budget, the legislature will take a summer recess. The prospect of taking a break always prompts legislators to rush many bills to passage, often including contentious measures, to avoid facing intense scrutiny.

LWVO will be tracking bills dealing with the environment, guns, and reproductive rights, among other issues.

NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS

LWVUS



In the US Senate, a small group is working to design a new healthcare bill.

LWVUS has taken a position on healthcare. The League believes any bill must do the following:

- Guarantee pre-existing conditions can't be used to deny coverage or raise rates
- Ensure health insurance rates and access do not discriminate against women
- Provide coverage of preventive care, limit out of pocket costs and prohibit life-time insurance caps
- Ensure that Medicaid recipients can continue to receive full healthcare services

It's time to make your voice heard. Call or email your Senators today and let them know where you stand. We need a plan that reflects the American values of fairness, community, and concern for all.

UPDATE ON FAIR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS BALLOT ISSUE

The cover story in the June issue of *The Voter* contained information about a vital effort to end gerrymandering in Ohio. The League is happy to announce that the wording of the issue has been approved by the Secretary of State's office for inclusion on the November ballot.

Now the hard work continues. Activists across the state have until mid-July to collect over 300,000 valid signatures from registered voters residing in at least 44 of Ohio's 88 counties. To ensure that they get the requisite number of valid signatures, Fair Districts Ohio has set a monumental goal of getting 600,000 people to sign by the deadline. If the effort falls short, we'll have another chance to get the fair districts amendment on the ballot in November 2018. The good news is that any valid signatures collected for the 2017 ballot will carry over to the 2018 election cycle.

Leagues around Ohio will play a pivotal role in filling petitions with the required signatures. If you would like to help propel the issue to the ballot next November, please consider circulating a petition among your neighbors, co-workers, family, or organization.

Anyone collecting petition signatures **MUST** be trained. The easiest way is to view a video at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/6219903576249735427>. Blank petitions are available at the LWV office at 127 N. Ludlow St. in downtown Dayton. Remember, you cannot sign a petition that you are circulating, so when you come into the office to pick up your blank form, you'll want to sign the petition we've already started while you're there.

This is truly citizenship at the most grassroots level. Roll up your sleeves, pick up a petition, and help get this issue to the people of Ohio.



JULY HISTORY TRIVIA

- ♦ July 2, 1979—The Susan B. Anthony dollar is released
- ♦ July 4, 1876—Suffragists crash the Centennial Celebration in Independence Hall to present the Vice President with the “Declaration of the Rights of Women” written by Matilda Joselyn Gage
- ♦ July 6, 1957—Althea Gibson is the first African American woman player to win a Wimbledon title in women's tennis singles
- ♦ July 7, 1981—President Reagan nominates Sandra Day O'Connor as the first woman Supreme Court Justice
- ♦ July 14, 1917—16 women from the National Women's Party were arrested while picketing the White House demanding universal women's suffrage; they were charged with obstructing traffic
- ♦ July 19-20, 1848—The Seneca Falls Convention, the country's first women's rights convention, is held in Seneca Falls, New York
- ♦ July 20, 1942—The first class of Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) begins at Fort Des Moines, IA



Matilda Joselyn Gage

~ excerpted from nwhp.org/events/july/ (National Women's History Project website)

The League of Women Voters presents,

WOMEN STAND FOR COMMON GROUND

Facilitated by: Michelle Riley

Choose one date only: July 17, July 18, July 19 or July 20

Location: Talbot Tower, 131 North Ludlow Street, 10th floor conference room

Time: 6:30 to 8:30

Interested in a different kind of conversation?

Women only will gather from the community to have an evening of dialogue,

Only one rule: You must bring another woman, whose heart and voice you respect from the opposite party. If you are an independent, then you may bring another independent.



Quarterly Dinner Meeting



Join us for our next League Quarterly Dinner Meeting on Tuesday, July 25 at 6:00PM. We will meet at Coco's Bistro located at 250 Warren Street in Dayton.

If you're a new member, please join us. We'd like to share exciting ways you can be involved with the League! Meet with other League members, hear about upcoming programs and activities, and learn how you can be involved in the Fair Districts campaign this fall. Existing members, please bring your enthusiasm and experience to share with new members.

If you plan to attend, please call our office to RSVP (937-228-4041), visit our website to RSVP online, or send an email (league@lwvdayton.org) by July 17. We really need a head count to make sure we have enough space reserved.

We look forward to seeing you!

Good News about the Kroger Community Rewards Program (KCRP)

As of April 2017, if you are already enrolled in the KCRP, you will no longer have to re-enroll each year to continue to support our League's Education Fund. A big THANK YOU goes to the 16 League households who were enrolled during the last 12 months and earned approximately \$800 for our Education Fund. Think what we could earn if every member of the League participated in this incredibly easy way to authorize Kroger to send a rebate to our Education Fund!

If you shop at Kroger and are not already enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program, PLEASE consider enrolling now. It's so easy to do through either of 2 options:

- 1) The easiest way for people to sign up for the Kroger Rewards Program is: Go to our League website at lwvdayton.org and click on Education Fund (listed in the column on the left), then click on the Kroger Community Rewards symbol and follow the instructions. With your Kroger Plus card in hand, click on "create an account." When you are asked what organization you would like to receive your rewards, click on "League of Women Voters GDA Education Fund." Then enter our account #: 80841.
- 2) OR Go to krogercommunityrewards.com, click on "create an account," and follow the rest of the instructions in paragraph 1) , above.

It's as simple as that. After you have completed your on-line enrollment, you will automatically begin to earn money to help the League carry out its mission to encourage informed and active participation in government.

Thanks! Peg Schulz and all of your Funding & Development Committee Members

It is with deep regret that we mourn the loss of League member **Michael Lewis** who passed away on May 24, 2017. Michael was a member of the Voter Service Team working on the *Voters Guide* and the *Directory of Public Officials*. He was also tirelessly devoted to registering voters anywhere, anytime, especially in areas he felt voters were underserved or underrepresented. An attorney, Michael's expertise and patience deciphering legalese of legislation was an invaluable service. Our deepest sympathies go to Michael's daughters, Sara and Paige, and their families. He will be greatly missed by all of us in the League.



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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

I am very proud to be the latest President of the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area. I have worked with a number of League presidents since I joined the League 16 years ago. What a diverse group! A professor, a bee keeper, a business woman, a teacher, a social worker; activists all! But thinking about it, they are only the very last of a long line of smart, caring, proud women who have had the privilege to have this title. The Dayton League goes back nearly 100 years! Think of all of the women who came before us and worked hard so that all people could participate in this democracy. What would these woman say to us today? Would their hearts be heavy? I am afraid they might be. They fought hard and were successful with so many things. Think of our foremothers during the debates on The Voting Rights Act during the 1960s. Think of their pride on August 6, 1965 when it passed and was signed, for any small part they may have played in its passage. Think of the turmoil of their feelings during Roe V. Wade. For or against, the discussion around women controlling their destinies was front and center. Would they feel wonder, disbelief that we are here, fighting the same battles? Again? Yes, possibly they would. But I hope they'd also feel great pride that they taught us how to fight that fight. They would watch and they would hope that we will succeed again. And from knowing this, we must be mindful that the struggles don't end with a single vote. We will teach the next generation...and so on...



Susan Byerly, President LWVGDA