

Join us for *Not for Ourselves Alone*~ a Celebration of Women and Friendship

In partnership with Stivers School for the Arts, our League will host a special viewing of the Ken Burns Documentary, *Not for Ourselves Alone*, in celebration of Women's History Month. The event will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 3:30PM, at Stivers, 1313 East Fifth Street in Dayton.



This documentary tells the dramatic and little-known story of one of the most compelling friendships in American history. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony were born into a world ruled entirely by men. Meeting by chance on a street corner, their friendship changed the future. Diverse in the way they chose to lead their lives, this personal relationship was often turbulent; but their friendship never wavered in their shared belief that equality was the birthright of every woman and for more than half a century led the fight to make that dream a reality.

The story of the American suffragist movement is both thought-provoking and inspiring, so it will be a special pleasure to view this movie with students from Stivers, Junior Council of World Affairs, Dayton Early College Academy and Chaminade Julianne High School. This is a history lesson for young and old alike.

Because Stivers is providing the venue, it would be wonderful if our League would bring the snacks for this event. If you plan to attend, and wish to bring cookies, bottled water or make a donation for pizza, please let the office know when you make your reservation. If you cannot attend, donations for snacks are also appreciated. Please call the office or email me at susan@lwvdayton.org to arrange your donation.

We are all aware the women's movement is alive and well as marches and rallies continue throughout our nation. Like the suffragists, this movement is not for ourselves alone but for the generations of women who will follow in our footsteps. Please plan to join us on March 21 and bring your friends. Call or email the office about treats and/or to reserve your space 937-228-4041.

Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director

All donations as of January 31, 2017

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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 this Leadership Circle list.**Education Fund***Current Major Contributors**

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Recent Contributions AppreciatedThank you to the following who have made a contribution to the League since our last *Voter*.**General Fund** [a 501(c)(4) entity]

Yvonne Curington, Charles Curtoys, Dianne Herman, Carlotta King, Ann Wilger

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

Phil Plummer, Montgomery County Sheriff

Welcome New Members!

See page 3 for new members.

In-kind contribution**In-kind + monetary contribution*

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.

It's nice when we have so many new members we cannot fit them all on Page 2; welcome all!

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Follow us on Facebook!

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 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.

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President: Patty Skilken
Editorial Board: Peg Schulz, Janet Hess, Viv Himmell
Editor: Mary Winfree

Veteran journalist Sid Davis has often watched history unfold during his decades -ong career. He was the featured speaker at the Dayton Council On World Affairs annual meeting event at Sinclair College. The League appreciated having an opportunity to support and network with the international community that promotes discussions about critical issues that affect our democracy.

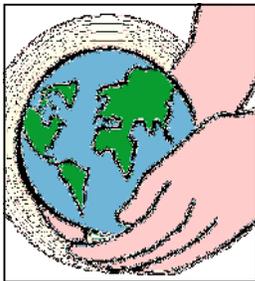
Val Lee, Action Director

Opportunities for Supporting the Work of Science

For those of you who have been asking how to support the conclusions of science which are based on hard evidence generated by the scientific method, here are some suggestions of credible conservation groups. Just Google them to get to their websites.

Local:

Beavercreek Wetlands Association
 Little Miami Conservancy
 Tecumseh Land Trust
 The Ohio Environmental Council
 Highlands Nature Sanctuary



National:

The National Wildlife Federation
 The Sierra Club
 The Nature Conservancy
 The Lung Association
 Greater Yellowstone Coalition
 Grand Canyon Trust
 National Audubon Society
 Friends of the Earth
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 League of Conservation Voters
 Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
 Wilderness Society
 Three Valley Conservation Trust
 Wildearth Guardians

BIG READ- *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic*

On Wednesday, March 22nd from 7:00-8:30, the League of Women Voters of Greater Dayton Program Committee along with the Washington-Centerville Library will host a discussion with Sam Quinones, author of *Dreamland*. Sam Quinones will join us via Skype for a conversation about *Dreamland* and the impact of heroin and opiate addiction in today's America. Much of *Dreamland* is centered in Ohio and discusses what happens when the relentless marketing of pain pills collides with drug crews from one small Mexican town selling heroin like pizza. The event will be held at the Washington-Centerville Library, 111 W. Spring Valley Pike, Centerville, OH 45458 in the Cynthia Klinck Community Room. Free parking is available in the library parking lot. The event is free and open to the public. If you are able to attend, please contact the League office at 937-228-4041. We hope you can join us.

Ana Crawford, VP of Programming

In the spring of 2016, the League moderated what can be described as a pre-election seminar featuring the state party chairs, David Pepper and Matt Borges. The party chairs were invited back to give their perspective of the 2016 election and state legislative issues. Matt Borges lost his position as party chair and his replacement was unable to attend so Representative Antani agreed to represent the Republican Party.

In the Q&A, issues were thoroughly analyzed giving our members insights that might not appear in the mainstream media. The League’s Executive Director, Sue Hesselgesser, opened with the topic of redistricting. Rep. Antani expressed his desire to run for office in a competitive district given his confidence that his work effort would lead to a successful campaign. He also indicated few of his constituents contact his office with concerns about redistricting.



Chairman David Pepper
Ohio Democratic Party

Chairman Pepper pulled from his personal history to outline his view that running for office should be viewed as a public service. He served as a Hamilton County city councilman as his baptism into political office. At that time, the district was competitive making it necessary to talk with constituents on both sides of the aisle. He also made it known that gerrymandering was a particularly damaging practice when used by either party in power. He even wrote a book with gerrymandering used in plot development. Chairman Pepper was very supportive of the idea of having League members (equally represented by political party affiliation) draw the maps.



State Representative
Niraj Antani
House District 42

Representative Antani attended the inauguration and shared his observation that there were central points from the inauguration speech that drew the most applause:

Make America Great Again

You will not be forgotten

He was able to outline a number of factors that contributed to the Republican victory primarily noting that the Democrats did not take full advantage of opportunities for direct contact with voters. When money in politics was discussed, Representative Antani pointed out how the Republican presidential candidate was outspent but still managed to win the race. Chairman Pepper made the point that a strong infusion of funds largely from outside sources negatively impacted the Senate race for the Democratic candidate.

Chairman Pepper gave an optimistic assessment for the future of the Democratic Party. Protest marches underscore the energy from the opposing side of the election victory. He has also had enthusiastic support for the Democratic Party’s recruitment of candidates to run for office.

Both parties were in agreement as to the need to buttress civics education in our school systems. Our political democracy is dependent upon an engaged citizenry. The seminar presented an environment for a civil discussion that could have continued for another two hours. The audience was representative of the pulse of the nation: activated, interested and wanting to defend their positions. Our articulate speakers were able to find commonality as well as plant the seeds to get our members to entertain another point of view.

Val Lee, Action Director

League of Women Voters Greater Dayton Area

presents

DANGEROUS DAMES OF DAYTON

March 30, 2017

6:00 PM

As we honor 2017 Dangerous Dames

Marsha Bonhart, Lynn Hulsey, and Cheryl McHenry

*Celebrating Pioneering Women in the Media:
30 Years of Challenges and Change*



NCR Country Club 4435 Dogwood Trail Kettering

Tickets \$97 for 97th anniversary

Order tickets online at lwvdayton.org or call 228-4041

Sponsorships available by calling the League office

Please make checks payable to: **Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund** and mail to the office, 131 N Ludlow St, Ste 1208, Dayton OH 45402-1703.

To pay online visit our website, www.lwvdayton.org, click on calendar and use PayPal to secure your reservation.

Your email address is required for a tax-deductible receipt and an event reminder:

Email: _____

Number of reservations at \$97 each: _____ Contact phone number: _____

Print name of each attendee:

The 2017 Dangerous Dames of Dayton is sponsored by the Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund. For further information contact the League at 937-228-4041, email us at league@lwvdayton.org or visit our website: www.lwvdayton.org.

Order Your *2017 Directory of Public Officials* Now

The *2017 Directory of Public Officials* will soon be here. You'll find the latest information on all our elected officials as well as information and assistance numbers for other government agencies, social service agencies, and political parties in Montgomery and Greene Counties. Everything you need to know about how to contact your local, state, and national representatives can be found in this handy, pocket-size booklet. The new edition is indispensable for staying in touch with your elected officials.

Members may order one copy of the directory at the special price of \$3.00, including postage and handling. Additional copies are \$6.00 each up to 10 copies, with a reduced rate of \$5.00 each for orders over 10 copies. Please use the order form below and mail it to the League office or fax it to 937-228-4104. You may also order online at www.lwvdayton.org.

Please make checks payable to: **Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund** Send order form and check to 131 N. Ludlow Street, Suite 1208, Dayton, OH 45402-1703.

Yes! Please send me the *2017 Directory of Public Officials*:

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Whether you are happy with the new US presidential administration, or are dismayed by it, one thing is clear: The change has plucked civic duty from the heap of indifference and plunked it back onto the mantel above democracy's hearth.

Since November, new League memberships have been gusting in. One new member said sending in her application was an outlet. For sure, responsible people know that incivility must be countered with courtesy, listening, and openness to different points of view.

As a voice for all, LWV imparts non-partisan values: The League defends the right to vote, ensuring that elected leaders represent the entire community; League programs show citizens how to press for effective change; League activities work for governmental accountability.

Now we ask you to help us in our membership drive: Call on friends to become members. Invite family to League's quarterly meetings. Use FB connections to tell neighbors about the latest monthly educational programs. Twitter how important League memberships are for a democracy in which every vote counts. Buy a gift membership for those who aren't sure.

True democracy depends upon commitment and engagement. Keep civic duty on the mantel: If you know others frustrated and stressed by today's political fire storms, call the League at 937-228-4041, or visit our website at league@lwvdayton.org.

Nancy Bain, Membership Director

Dublin Pub, April 18, 2017



Join us for our next League Quarterly Dinner Meeting **Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at 6:00.** We will meet at the Dublin Pub near **the Oregon District.** Dublin Pub is located at 300 Wayne Ave, just outside the Oregon District downtown. There is a parking lot entrance on Wayne Ave

and additional parking across Fifth Street.

We will have information to share about the Programs the League will be sponsoring next year as well as discussions about effective ways to contact your representatives. If you are a new member, please join us. You will meet other League members and start getting ideas for involvement in the League. Existing members, please bring your enthusiasm and experience and share it with new members.

If you plan to attend, **please, please RSVP** by calling (937-228-4041) or emailing (league@lwvdayton.org) the League office by April 11. It was standing room only at Thai 9 last month and while it was fabulous to have that kind of turnout, it would have been great if we all had a chair!! (We really need a head count to make sure we have enough space reserved).

We look forward to seeing you!

Susan Byerly, President Elect

Earth Day Activism, April 22, 2017

From 9—11 am, join a group of fellow League members, their families, and friends as volunteers at the Five Rivers MetroParks Adopt- A- Park Day. After a morning volunteering in one of parks we'll head downtown to Riverscape for the thank-you lunch that the MetroParks will provide.

At 2 PM come join the League of Women Voters on Courthouse Square for the national March for Science. Dayton will be one of dozens of satellite cities of the central march in Washington, DC. The March for Science is non-partisan and will focus on our vital environmental issues and maintaining the funding for science research. Make a sign and come on down!

Mark your calendars for any or all of these activities with the League on April 22. More information will follow in next month's *Voter* and on the LWVGDA website.

Your opinion does count! There are many ways to contact your public officials: by phone, letter, or email. Whatever method you use, please be courteous and reasonable – being rude or threatening is nonproductive. All the websites listed below include a contact link or button to send an email.

When contacting by phone give your full name, zip code, and phone number if you want a response. Give a brief message, "I urge you to support/oppose (specific issue/bill)."

Public officials are more likely to respond to an individually worded letter or card. Handwritten letters work if they are easy to read, but type-written letters are preferable. Include your address and sign your name. If you are writing about a particular bill, identify it by number and/or title. Be concise, direct and factual. Address only one issue. Be specific about the action you are urging; give one or more reasons for your position.

If there is a family, business, or political connection related to the issue, explain the connection. This may serve as identification when your point of view is being considered.

For ALL residents of the state of Ohio:

Donald J. Trump, (R) President of the United States
Mike Pence, (R) Vice President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1414 www.whitehouse.gov

United States Senate www.senate.gov

- **Senator Sherrod Brown (D)**
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
202-224-2315 Fax: 202-228-6321
www.brown.senate.gov
- **Senator Robert J. Portman (R)**
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
202-224-3353 Fax: 202-224-9075
www.portman.senate.gov/public

United States House of Representatives, 10th District

- **Congressman Mike Turner (R)**
Dayton Office: 120 W. Third, Suite 305
Dayton, OH 45402
937-225-2843 Fax: 937-225-2752

Washington Office: 2239 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-6465 Fax 202-225-6754
www.turner.house.gov

Government



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Advocating Voter Education
and Action on Issues

Current Resident or:

Our President's Corner

I'm reminded of the infamous line from Dickens, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times" when thinking of current politics. I prefer to focus on the positive. I think it is exciting to see so many Americans organizing marches, town hall meetings and protests to express their thoughts on a variety of issues.

For reasons better analyzed by others, there is a new interest in our government and respect for the message of Martin Luther King, one of America's greatest and most heroic leaders, of peaceful non-violent protest. I am, however, disheartened and angered to discover that 161,000 voters in Florida wrote in names like Mickey Mouse on their presidential ballots, thereby abdicating their most precious right and disrespecting the millions of voters who selected the two candidates in primary elections across the country.

Locally, the news for our League of Women Voters, which covers Montgomery and Greene Counties, is all good. We are gaining new members and thanks to generous bequests have additional funding to carry out our mission. We have long discussed a desire for a more visible office and are desperately in need of more space. The Board of Directors is investigating the possibility of a store-front office, visible to and welcoming to passers-by who could pick up voter registration material, membership information, *Voters Guides*, and much more. Never have we been better positioned to continue our fight against voter suppression and for an informed electorate and gender equality. The fight continues and the League army is growing!



Patty Skilken, President LWVGDA