

# 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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## #MeToo

## AND YOU



We have all been watching the cosmic rise of the #MeToo movement. As it roared its way through Congress, toppling careers left and right, it was quickly followed by allegations in Tinsel Town, the Vegas Strip, and the Silicon Valley. Women already knew #MeToo existed in the military, on college campuses, in businesses large and small, and in every bar on a Saturday night. We just hadn't named it, until now.

As the executive director of an organization whose roots are solidly embedded in women's rights, my first instinct was to jump up and jump in! But, I am always mindful of our mission: We educate voters on issues and candidates and work to engage the public in their government. So I waited; I wanted to see where the support, the sounding board, would come for women in our community. I haven't found it yet.

In our League, it came from each other. At first I was amazed at the number of members who, regardless of age, shared their stories. After a meeting last week, the subject came up once again; it's not just about being League members, it's about women being honest, funny, sympathetic, and supportive.

We often talk about the suffragists marching and protesting for the right to vote. I was gifted with a copy of the Declaration of Sentiments from the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848 which hangs proudly in our office. The suffragists wanted nothing short of total equality because being married in the eye of the law made them "civilly dead." They wanted a 'thorough' education, the right to own property, the right to own a business, and the right to keep the wages they earned. They wanted to vote so they could choose the men who wrote and implemented the laws under which they lived. They were right. Laws that support and protect their liberty were worth fighting for. Voting is not only crucial, it's key. They wanted freedom, dignity, and respect, as does today's woman.

So what about #MeToo and You? What do you think our role should be? How can the League be supportive? How can we/should we serve our community of women and men? **Email me, [susan@lwvdayton.org](mailto:susan@lwvdayton.org).**

**Together we can do anything.**

*Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Thursday, March 22, **DANGEROUS DAMES OF DAYTON** @ 6pm, NCR Country Club, 4435 Dogwood Trail, Kettering. *See pg 5.*
- ◆ Wednesday, April 11, **STATEHOUSE DAY** ~ Save the Date!
- ◆ Monday, April 30, **QUARTERLY DINNER** from 6-8pm, Corner Kitchen, 613 E Fifth St, Dayton. *See pg. 4.*



# DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

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

## MAJOR LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

### VICE PRESIDENT (\$5,000+)

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

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The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation  
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Oh so  
**LUCKY**  
to have  
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**

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Fletcher; Sophia Fisher; Russ Joseph; Leppla Associates, Ltd; Jeffrey Mims; Lisa O'Connell; Stephanie Smith; Fred Strahorn; Julie Vann; Andrea White; Noreen Willhelm

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

Nancy Adkins; Leppla Associates, Ltd; Dr. Paul Nugent, Jr.; Rita Peterson; and two anonymous donations

*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).*

## WHEN SCHOOL SHOOTINGS BECOME A HO-HUM EVENT

*Submitted by Valerie Lee, Action Chair*



From the *Louisville Courier Journal*: January 26, 2018

BENTON, Ky. — “It was a journalist's worst nightmare.

“The editor of the *Marshall County Daily Online* raced to the county's high school Tuesday morning after reports that shots had been fired.

“She arrived to discover that the alleged shooter was her own son, said her colleague Ann Beckett, who told *Courier Journal* she went to comfort the editor and take over the story.”

The shooting in Kentucky was the 11<sup>th</sup> school shooting...in January. By the time this issue of *The Voter* is published, who can say how many shootings will have surpassed that statistic. Yet, the inevitable response from legislators continues to be predictable...a cry for guns in schools, churches, and other gun-free zones, along with active shooter training for students and staff.

Is this the best response? Do you remember the legislative initiatives calling for common sense background checks? While widely supported by American citizens on both sides of the Second Amendment debate, the legislation failed to gain traction with our representatives in Congress.

In Ohio, a grassroots movement ([Ohioansforgunsafety.com](http://Ohioansforgunsafety.com)) headed by an advisory committee, has traversed the state conducting a listening tour and distributing a survey to help develop ballot language for a ballot initiative. Those wishing to join the effort have become known as “groundbreakers,” taking a pledge to “make our state a safer place for our families, children and grandchildren through common sense background checks for gun safety.”

If interested, I invite you to visit the Ohioans for Gun Safety website for more information. The League of Women Voters supports legislation to strengthen reporting to the National Background Check database.

<https://www.lwv.org/blog/league-supports-legislation-strengthen-reporting-national-background-check-database>

## LWV Ohio Statement on Shooting in Parkland, FL

Mary Kirtz Van Nortwick and Alison Ricker, League of Women Voters of Ohio Co-Presidents, issued the following statement about mass shooting on February 14:

"The senseless murder of seventeen children and adults at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida shows once again the tragic results of lax gun regulation in our country. The League of Women Voters of Ohio believes that the proliferation of handguns and semi-automatic assault weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. For that reason, LWVO supports strong federal measures to limit accessibility and regulate ownership of these weapons by private citizens. In particular, we believe that deadly weapons like the AR-15, used in all of the most recent mass killings throughout our country, should be kept out of civilian hands. We will make every effort to fight against laws that further erode restraints on the ownership and usage of guns in Ohio."





# OHIO LEAGUE NEWS

LWVO<sub>OHIO</sub>



## Nothing Succeeds Like Success!



*On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the Ohio General Assembly passed a proposed amendment to the state constitution that works to end gerrymandering and ensure fair elections in Ohio.*

After 40+ years of advocacy by the League of Women Voters and months of gathering signatures with our partners in the Fair Districts=Fair Elections Coalition for a ballot initiative to make the drawing of Ohio’s congressional map fair and less partisan, Ohio legislators agreed to a proposal that meets the three standards our coalition required for congressional redistricting reform:

- *Both major parties must be meaningfully engaged in the process*
- *Communities should not be needlessly divided*
- *Maps cannot be drawn to favor a political party or candidate*

The amendment offers three steps to get the maps drawn, with the caveat that if one step fails, the committee must go on to the next step:

**Step One:** A successful congressional map requires a three-fifths vote of both the House and Senate and must include at least 50 percent support of minority party members.

**Step Two:** Ohio’s current seven-person bipartisan redistricting commission will draw the districts and must approve a map with at least two minority party votes.

**Step Three:** The legislature gets another chance to pass (1) a 10-year map with one-third of the minority party’s support or (2) a four-year map without minority party support.

If the process gets to the last step, not requiring minority party support, stricter rules protecting against unfair manipulation would apply.

**Congratulations all! The next step is to get voters to the polls for the May 8 primary.** Deadline to get registered to vote in the primary is April 9. Let’s finish the job and get out the vote in May to **Vote YES on Issue 1** and pass meaningful legislation ensuring fair elections in Ohio.

*Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director, LWVQDA*



## QUARTERLY DINNER



Monday, April 30, from 6-8pm  
@ Corner Kitchen, 613 East Fifth St, Dayton

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

*Presents*

THE 2018 DANGEROUS DAMES OF DAYTON

March 22, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. COD Bar, 6:30 Dinner

NCR Country Club, 4435 Dogwood Trail, Kettering, OH



*Join us as we honor:*

LUCINDA WILLIAMS ADAMS

*1960 Olympic Gold Medalist*

*Former teacher/administrator for 36 years in Dayton Public Schools*

*and*

DEBORAH FELDMAN

*President & CEO of Dayton Children's Hospital*

*Former Montgomery County Administrator*

**Tickets: \$98 for 98th anniversary of the League of Women Voters**

**Benefitting: Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund: \$40 of your ticket price is tax-deductible**

**Deadline is March 14 to order tickets online at [lwvdayton.org](http://lwvdayton.org), or call 937-228-4041**

Sponsorships available by calling the League office



## CAPITOL CHAT 2018



The annual Capitol Chat hosted by the League, always a pleasant, interactive, informative experience at the beautiful Dayton Racquet Club, took place in the evening of January 26. As always, the event was provided by the League for members and the community to enable dialogue with the elected officials who represent us in the State Assembly.

State Senator **Peggy Lehner** began by highlighting her priority of dealing with the problem of school suspensions for children under the age of eight. It is a “must address” issue because it robs children of their future. Representative **Jim Butler** highlighted his priority of addressing the problem of Public Health and the critical need for finding the cure for specific diseases through continued research. Representative **Rick Perales** stated his present focus is on modifying the State Seal to include the Wright Flyer and has introduced Bill 405 to address the problem of counterfeiting opioids. He also raised the issue of the pending BRAC (Base Realignment Commission) and how it could impact WPAFB. Representative **Niraj Antani** is pleased to be serving the community in which he was raised and wants to focus on the student completion rates as they impact the community colleges. Representative **Jeff Rezabek** is involved with the Juvenile Court in their efforts to keep children in school. He specifically gave credit to Minority Leader Fred Strahorn for assistance in the area of reducing the incidence of underage marriage. Representative **Bob Hackett** is a financial Planner and is new to the political scene. He is learning a great deal by regularly participating in his caucus.

In the Question and Answer segment, Senator Lehner stressed the need to pay doctors for keeping patients well. Representative Antani does not agree on the parameters of the redistricting proposal, but agrees that there is a need to keep competitive districts. All felt that the final decision on the redistricting initiative would be bipartisan because no one is really benefiting from the present system.

Much discussion ensued on a question concerning Move to Amend, which addresses the need to rescind the law that allows huge amounts of cash to be given to political campaigns. The final question of the evening asked, “do you vote as yourself or as your constituents request?” All replied that they listen to the will of their constituents, and suggest that a personal letter to their attention is preferable to form letters that are exactly the same.

All officials graciously remained at the end of the evening and spoke to audience members individually. They shared their mutual respect for one another, as well as for those Assembly members who could not be present at this event.

*~ Vivienne Himmell*



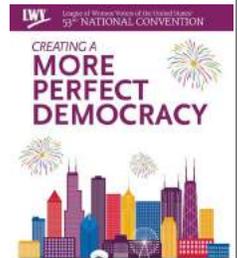
# NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS

## LWVUS

## CONVENTION 2018

We hope to see you in June in Chicago for Convention 2018!  
To help you plan, we've continued to update our website with helpful information and links.

**Registration is open! The Early Bird Registration rate is \$450. You can register online: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/register-2018-convention>**



## THE PRESIDENT'S VOICE.....

# Move Over Wyoming



In the United States House of Representatives, the District of Columbia is represented by a delegate, who is not allowed to vote on the House floor but can vote on procedural matters and in congressional committees. D.C. residents have no representation in the United States Senate.

An interesting topic was introduced at the LWV Board meeting the other night. It came from the citizens in Washington, D.C. It seems they think their district should become the 51st state of our union. There were some groans about the idea of messing with the hallowed number of 50 and I can understand that. I was aware that the folks in D.C. have been on a mission to receive representation on par with the rest of the citizens of the U.S., but it's something I tend to forget about unless it makes the news. This probably would have dropped from my mind had I not been in Virginia a few days later for work. During a break, I asked the young engineer we were working with about the D.C. conundrum. As it happens, he lives in D.C. and is none too happy about his lack of representation.

The more I think about this, the less sense it makes. But I kind of get the 50 states thing. So, I propose we keep 50 states and appease the residents of D.C. We simply need to find a current state who will step aside. So that brings us to Wyoming. The 2010 census showed D.C. clearly had a larger population than Wyoming. If we are going to disenfranchise a group, shouldn't we choose the smallest group possible?

Maybe Wyoming would want to join Canada – the Canadians were smart enough to just have one maple leaf on their flag – so 11 provinces will work just fine!

Your League has a position on representation for the citizens of Washington, D.C.

<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/league-women-voters-efforts-achieve-full-voting-rights-dc-citizens>

~ Susan Byerly, President LWVQDA



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



### Wendy & Michael Dyer

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### Jessica Hunter

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You must do things you think you cannot do.

~ Eleanor Roosevelt



## ORDER YOUR **DIRECTORY OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

The 2018 Directory of Public Officials will be here soon! You'll find the latest information on all our elected officials, as well as information and assistance numbers for other government social service agencies, and political parties in Montgomery and Greene Counties in this handy, pocket-size booklet. With all the changes in local officials after last fall's election, the new edition is indispensable.

**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](http://www.lwvdayton.org).

Please make checks payable to: **Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund.** Send your order form and check to LWVGDA, 127 N. Ludlow St., Dayton, OH 45402-1703.

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## Meet the Determined Woman Who Invented Duct Tape

*Excerpted from an article by Emma Steven, February 08, 2018, JNJ.com*

From home repairs to camping to art projects, duct tape has thousands of uses. Seventy-five years after it was first created by a Johnson & Johnson operating company, it's hard to imagine life without this product—which is still so popular to this day that it even has its own fan website and festival.

The iconic tape was invented by an Illinois mom named Vesta Stoudt who wanted to save soldiers' lives in World War II. The year was 1943 and Stoudt, who had two sons serving in the U.S. Navy, was working at the Green River Ordnance Plant near Amboy, Illinois. "She noticed that the boxes of ammunition she was packing and inspecting had a flaw," explained Margaret Gurowitz, Chief Historian, Johnson & Johnson. "They were sealed with paper tape, with a tab to open them. Workers then dipped the entire box in wax to make it waterproof. But the paper tape was very thin, and the tabs often tore off, leaving soldiers frantically trying to open the box while under fire."

Stoudt had an "aha" moment: Why not create a waterproof cloth tape to seal the boxes instead? She suggested it to her supervisors but didn't find the support she was looking for. So Stoudt did what anyone would do: On February 10, 1943, she wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt outlining the problem and her solution, complete with diagrams! President Roosevelt was so impressed that he passed her letter on to the War Production Board, which mailed a letter to Stoudt letting her know that her idea for duct tape had been approved. The board then asked the Industrial Tape Corporation to make the product because of its demonstrated expertise in producing adhesive tapes. The rest is duct tape history.

"The military called the waterproof, cloth-backed, green tape '100-mile-per-hour tape,'" said Gurowitz, "because they could use it to fix anything, from fenders on jeeps to boots."

Fact: To this day, soldiers still use duct tape to do everything from repair equipment to patch footwear.



*Abigail Adams*

## MARCH WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA

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



*Susan Butcher*

- **March 3, 1913** – Women's Suffrage Parade in Washington, D.C., where over 8,000 women gathered to demand a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to vote
- **March 4, 1917** – Jeannette Rankin (R-MT) took her seat as the first female member of Congress
- **March 4, 1933** – Frances Perkins becomes United States Secretary of Labor, the first female member of the United States Cabinet
- **March 8** – International Women's Day, whose origins trace back to protests in the U.S. and Europe to honor and fight for the political rights for working women
- **March 13, 1986** – Susan Butcher won the first of 3 straight and 4 total Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Races in Alaska
- **March 17, 1910** – Camp Fire Girls is established as the first interracial, non-sectarian American organization for girls
- **March 20, 1852** – Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, is published and becomes the best-selling book of the 19th century
- **March 21, 1986** – Debi Thomas becomes first African-American woman to win the World Figure Skating Championship
- **March 23, 1917** – Virginia Woolf establishes the Hogarth Press with her husband, Leonard Woolf
- **March 31, 1888** – The National Council of Women of the U.S. is organized by Susan B. Anthony, Clara Barton, Julia Ward Howe, and Sojourner Truth, among others, the oldest non-sectarian women's organization in the U.S.
- **March 31, 1776** – Abigail Adams writes to her husband John who is helping to frame the Declaration of Independence and cautions, "Remember the ladies..."

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127 N. Ludlow Street  
Dayton, OH 45402-1703

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Have you  
signed the

**FAIR DISTRICTS  
PETITION yet?**

If not, call the League  
office @ 937.228.4041



*Advocating Voter Education and Action on Issues*

Current Resident or:



My answer to that question is short and simple — a woman's proper place is everywhere ...You never hear the comment that 'Men are all right in their place' because their place has never been restricted ... If there is one proper role for women today it is that of alert and responsible citizens in the fullest sense of the word. Citizenship is without sex. It makes no distinction between the rights and responsibilities of men and women in America.

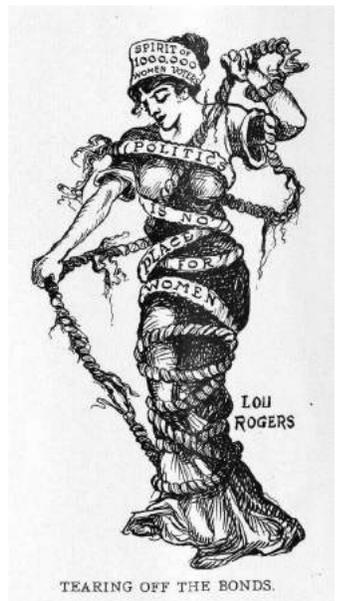
~ Margaret Chase Smith, 1949 (Republican Presidential Candidate in 1964)

We must carry forward the work of the women who came before us and ensure our daughters have no limits on their dreams, no obstacles to their achievements and no remaining ceilings to shatter.

~ Barack Obama (Former President of the United States)

Forget conventionalism; forget what the world thinks of you stepping out of your place; think your best thoughts, speak your best word, work your best works, looking to your own conscience for approval.

~ Susan B. Anthony (Social Reformer and Women's Rights Activist)



TEARING OFF THE BONDS.