



# THE VOTER

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

WEBSITE: [lwvdayton.org](http://lwvdayton.org) EMAIL: [league@lwvdayton.org](mailto:league@lwvdayton.org) PHONE: 937.228.4041  
FACEBOOK: Lwv Dayton OH

## *The Ladies*



In our office we have a photo from 1913 of Dayton suffragists who, after the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, opened the doors to the Dayton League of Women Voters. We highlight this photo at every opportunity. It serves as an inspiration for the work they began and we continue. Their focus of course was obvious: get the vote, then register women to vote and educate them on candidates and issues. Additionally, the ladies took on the task of getting children out of the sweat shops and back into the classroom: an impressive and successful start for the League. Every time I look at their photo, I smile.

As we stand on the verge of our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our Board recently decided we need a photo of our own as we continue into the next century. The plan is to display the photos together in our office as an inspiration for the women who will follow in our footsteps. This premise is daunting. What will the women of 2120 say about us?

Yes, we still register voters regardless of gender, and supply election information on candidates, issues and pending legislation; but today we have expanded voter information and registration efforts to include college and high school campuses as well and into communities that are underserved. This year we worked with Montgomery & Greene County prisons to address the voting needs of those who remain incarcerated because they cannot afford bail. At local, state and national levels we have challenged and won efforts to improve elections by defeating unfair redistricting practices. By 2021, voting districts will be redrawn across the country. Not satisfied, our Ohio Leagues together filed suit for the new lines to be drawn prior to the 2020 election: decision pending.

This year, our members have committed to taking a hard look at hunger and food insecurity in Dayton by volunteering at House of Bread and getting acquainted with the Gem City Market on Dayton's west side. We have a seat on County Commissioner Debbie Lieberman's committee to investigate local infant mortality issues in partnership with Governor DeWine's efforts throughout Ohio. We have a seat on Mayor Whaley's Census committee, and will work with Secretary of State LaRose to ensure every resident feels secure with the counting process. These are daunting projects, but we can offer assistance by shining a light on them through community programs and discussion and highlighting these issues on a new television program we are hosting on DATV.

I continue to be proud of the work we do with Judge Wiseman's woman's therapy court and our efforts to reach out to newly naturalized citizens.

Who knows what the world will look like in 2120? My hope is the women who gaze at our photo will see women who worked hard to make a difference in their community and America's democracy; that we will inspire as we have been inspired, and that they will smile and feel empowered to do the same.

Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director, LWVGDA

# DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

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

## MAJOR LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

### CABINET (\$2,500 - \$4,499)

Jo Columbro Bequest  
Talbot Tower Management\*  
Bob & Mary Winfree\*\*



### GOVERNOR (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Dr. Ronald L. Fletcher & Dona C. Fletcher  
Leppla Associates, Ltd  
Premier Health  
Miami Valley Hospital  
Atrium Medical Center  
Upper Valley Medical Center

### SENATE (\$500 - \$999)

Peggy Berry  
Lee and Pat Bradley-Falke  
Barbara Buddendeck  
Dayton Metro Library  
Kendall Printing\*  
Sandra McHugh & Jerry Sutton  
Michael & Margot Merz  
Sandra Neargarder  
David and Sharen Neuhardt  
Alan & Beth Schaeffer  
Sinclair College  
University of Dayton  
President's Office  
Fitz Center, Leadership in Community  
Juanita Wehrle-Einhorn



### HOUSE (\$250 - \$499)

Anonymous  
Peggy & Scott Coale  
Vincent & Andrea Cobb  
Debbie & Bruce Feldman  
Jack R. Fultz  
Paul Gruner, Montgomery County Engineer  
John & Susan Hesselgesser\*\*  
Paul Lamberger  
Herbert Lee  
Carolyn Rice, Montgomery County Commissioner  
Jenell R. Ross  
Lee & Ruth Snyder  
Fred Strahorn, State Rep, 39th District  
Judy & Tom Thompson  
Joyce Young



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

## CURRENT MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Nancy Adkins\*\*  
Charles D. Berry  
Peggy Berry  
David and Susan Bodary  
Pat Bradley-Falke  
Barbara Buddendeck \*\*  
DATV\*  
Dr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Fletcher  
Bill Gerhard, in memory of Judy Gerhard  
Carol Graff, in memory of Bryon L. Schatzley  
Susan Hesselgesser  
Hanauer & Spiegel Fund  
Kendall Printing\*  
Paul Lamberger  
Leppla Associates, Ltd.  
LWVO Voter Registration Grant  
Michelle M. Maciorowski Law, LLC  
Paula MacIlwaine – Women Making A Difference  
Earl McDaniel  
Pat and Jackie McGohan  
Sandy McHugh and Jerry Sutton  
Anthony McIlvaine  
Rebecca Morgann  
Marian Simmons Estate Bequest  
MVCC\*  
Network for Good  
Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur, LLP  
Macy Reynolds  
Gayle Rominger  
Sinclair College  
Dr. William Spon and Dr. Margaret Dunn  
Tour DeGem Event  
The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation  
Bob & Mary Winfree\*  
Women's History Project Greene County



**GRACIAS**

\* In-kind contribution

\*\* In-kind contribution + monetary contribution

## RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS APPRECIATED

**General Fund - a 501(c)(4) entity:** Paula Ewers; James and Barbara Gorman

**Education Fund - a 501(c)(3) entity:** Debra Berry, in honor of Peggy Ann Berry, Karin Sandra Hirschkatz, in honor of Vivienne Himmell



*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 the Leadership Circle list.*



## HANDS ON HISTORY PROJECT



A popular project of the Dayton League is called "Hands on History." This fun traveling project is an attempt to connect the current League to the women who came before us during our 99-year history.

The project consists of several large fabric banners that are displayed at events such as Dangerous Dames of Dayton. Each of these banners is festooned with colorful handprints placed by local women and League members. There's nothing quite like seeing our members dressed in their professional garb, willingly presenting the palms of their hands to be covered in tempura paint. They then press their hands against the banner and sign their name. They're also asked to fill an LWV notecard with a few words about why they joined the League, or what the fight for women's rights means to them.

The women who have participated in the Hands on History project are creating a link between our formidable predecessors and the women who will follow us. We plan to archive the banners and the stories as a way of reaching out to the League of 2120 as they celebrate another 100 years.

Leading up to our centennial celebration, we are seeking a small group of volunteers to work on this project. We need someone to gather the names of all the women who have signed the banners and solicit personal stories from the ones who haven't yet submitted one. This work can be done via email and phone, from your home or in the League office. It's a short-term, one-time assignment. Let's say it's a perfect way to leave your fingerprints on the work of our League.

**Please call the office at 228-4041 if you want to learn more about what this project entails.**

## Local. Elections. Matter.

May 7 is Primary Election Day. Polls are open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm.

*Many cities and townships have important issues on the ballot.*



May 7 is Election Day, and there are many important local, municipal, and township measures on the ballot.

As stated by former U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, "Voting is how we participate in a civic society—be it for president, be it for a municipal election. It's the way we teach our children—in school elections—how to be citizens, and the importance of their voice."

Drag your family, your friends, your grandchildren to the polls May 7. The polls are open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. You don't have to wait for a Presidential election to make a huge impact on the community you live in.

***Pass it on!***

**For links to the online Voters Guide and ballot issues for both Greene and Montgomery counties, go to the league website, [lwvdayton.org](http://lwvdayton.org), then click on the link for Election Information, under the Voter Service menu.**



## OHIO LEAGUE NEWS

LWVO<sub>Ohio</sub>

### LWVO Updates

# G!RL BE HEARD

The transportation budget and operating budget overshadow the news, but it is important that constituents continue to engage their legislators on key issues. While we face the need to fight dangerous bills, there is also a great opportunity to support positive policy proposals. Proactive bills that have been proposed include:

- ⇒ HB154 and HB127: would prohibit the creation of new academic distress commissions, and would dissolve existing academic distress commissions and instead require the creation of community learning centers for buildings in low-performing school districts.
- ⇒ SB52: would fund a number of measures that would better ensure free and fair elections.
- ⇒ HB19 and HB60: would increase economic equality by exempting feminine hygiene products and diapers from sales tax.

Join the LWVO Volunteer Lobby Corps to get further involved in state-level advocacy and advance LWV Ohio's policy priorities. Go to the Ohio League's website at [my.lwv.org/ohio/join-lwvo-volunteer-lobby-corps](http://my.lwv.org/ohio/join-lwvo-volunteer-lobby-corps). Filling out the form adds you to our list serve to stay informed of weekly advocacy updates and LWVO Lobby Calls.



## LWVGDA Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Top of the Market, 32 Webster St., Dayton, OH 45402

Annual Meetings are important! Annual meetings are a time of reflecting on where we have been and where we are going, as well as a great opportunity to get to know each other better as we go about the business of our League for the next fiscal year. The agenda covers a wide range of important annual League functions and requirements: members will vote to accept the following for the upcoming fiscal year: the new League Board, the proposed programs, the proposed League budget, and the proposed Bylaws. Members will also review the proposed Education Fund budget and then recommend it to the Education Fund Trustees for their approval. We will recognize our outgoing Board members, welcome our incoming Board members, and honor our veteran members.

Cost is \$20. Dinner is included and there will be a cash bar.

To RSVP by May 16th, simply go to the League website, [lwvdayton.org](http://lwvdayton.org), and click on **the Annual Meeting Link** under "Upcoming Events." Or you may send your check to League of Women Voters, 127 N. Ludlow St., Dayton, OH 45402, or call the office at 228-4041.

JOIN US on our "ride to 100 years." Hope to see you there!



## STILL HOT!

Lightweight, sturdy, and eco-friendly, each bag is generously sized at 19.5" wide, 13" high, and 8.5" deep. Order for \$5 each by contacting the League at 937.228.4041, or via the website at [lwvdayton.org](http://lwvdayton.org).



## Join the Fun! LWV Reading Series

In honor of the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment and women's right to vote, the Greater Dayton League of Women Voters is hosting its own reading series. The books are about the amazing accomplishments of women before, during, and after the vote that somehow never made it into the history books.

Our first book is *Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History*, by Keith O'Brien. To participate, you can order the book or check it out from the Dayton Metro Library, then join us for the discussion on **Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 pm at Wheat Penny Restaurant.**

"Between world wars no sport was more popular, or more dangerous, than airplane racing. Thousands flocked to mid-day events, and cities vied with one another to host them. The pilots themselves were hailed as dashing heroes, who cheerfully stared death in the face. Female pilots, however, were more often ridiculed than praised for what the press portrayed as silly efforts to horn in on a manly and deadly pursuit. This book recounts how a cadre of women banded together to break the original glass ceiling."

New York Time Bestseller; Amazon Best Book of the Month; Good Reads Nominated 2018 Bestseller

**RSVP by Monday, May 13, to D.J. Shade at [wendellshade@gmail.com](mailto:wendellshade@gmail.com), in order to give the restaurant a head count.**

### Upcoming dates and books in the series

- ◆ **August 13 at 6:30 pm.** *The Woman Who Smashed the Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine who Outwitted America's Enemies*, by Jason Fagone
- ◆ **November 12 at 6:30 pm.** *The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers*, by Elizabeth Cobbs
- ◆ **February 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm.** *The Girls of Atomic City: the Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win WW II*, by Denise Kierman
- ◆ **May 12, 2020 at 6:30 pm.** *Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women*, by Katie Moore
- ◆ **August 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm.** *We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of the American Women Trapped on Bataan*, by Elizabeth Norman



# Dangerous Dames of Dayton 2019

*"They wanted to change American society; that's what made them dangerous."*

~ Elaine Weiss

What a memorable night for all our "dangerous dames" and the men who support them at our annual Dangerous Dames of Dayton award ceremony, held March 22 at NCR Country Club.

Attendees were greeted by a fabulous sculpture by Emily Buddendeck, titled "The Shoulders of Giants." It was a popular spot for photographs and won the admiration of all.

Your League honored two incredible volunteers who have provided countless hours benefitting not only the League of Women Voters, but many civic and community entities throughout the greater Dayton Area: Vivienne Himmell and Joyce Young.

Our Dames were introduced by the presentation of a resolution honoring their contribution to the community by Montgomery County Commissioners Carolyn Rice, Debbie Lieberman, and Judy Dodge. It was so nice to see three elected women honoring two outstanding women volunteers.

Joyce Young is a tireless and dedicated community activist. She championed mandatory licensing of daycare centers, advocated for improved early childhood education, was a lobbyist for Junior League, and served as a very involved Washington Township trustee.

Vivienne Himmell has been an activist for voting rights and people with disabilities, beginning at an early age. She held a position at Montgomery County Board of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities, served the board of Resident Home Association, the Human Services Levy Council, Social Workers Guild, and the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area.

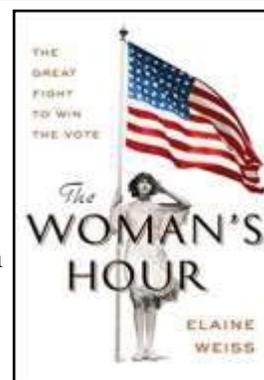
Then the evening turned to reflecting on the struggle for the women's right to vote, led by our keynote speaker, Elaine Weiss, author of the acclaimed book, *The Woman's Hour*.

Through excerpts from her book, stories collected during her research for the book, and visual slides from the early days of the Suffrage Movement, Elaine brought to life the struggles faced by suffragettes, and captivated us with the reality of just how close the 19th Amendment came to not being ratified. She challenged the League to continue to be those dangerous dames who profoundly change society for the betterment of all.

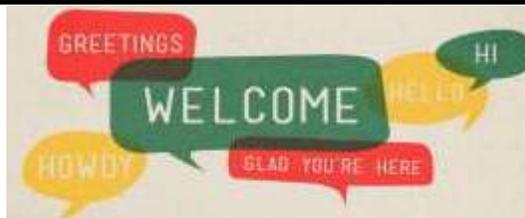
The League is grateful for our sponsors who helped make this program possible: Sandy McHugh, Lee and Pat Bradley-Falke, Dr. Ronald and Dona Fletcher, Susan Hesselgesser, Rebecca Morgann, Macy Reynolds, Gayle Rominger, Women's History Project of Greene County, Peggy Berry, Andrea and Vincent Cobb, Margaret Dunn, Carol Graff, Becky and James Kirkland, and Michelle Maciorowski Law LLC.

**Photos from the 2019 Dangerous Dames event are posted on the website at [lwvdayton.org](http://lwvdayton.org).**

Submitted by Mary Robertson



The League of Women Voters expresses its sincere sympathy for the passing of Bob Feist, a long time and dedicated member of the LWVGDA. Our condolences to the family.



**Karen L. Cisne**

March 1, 2019—April 10, 2019

**Adrienne Draper**

315 Chris Dr  
Englewood, OH 45322  
adriennedraper14@gmail.com

**Peggy Markland**

1038 Quiet Brook Trail  
Dayton, OH 45458  
pj-markland@sbcglobal.net

**Shana Novak**

128 Canal Boat Ct  
Dayton, OH 45402  
shanamnovak@gmail.com



## HELP WANTED & CURRENT VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATED!



Two dedicated volunteers affiliated with this newsletter are stepping down from their roles, and will be sorely missed. Who will step up to fill these important positions?

**Viola (Vi) Matyas** took over the role of coordinating the mailing of *The Voter* newsletter five years ago, and has made sure that each month a team of volunteers assembles to fold, sticker, and label more than 400 newsletters. Vi is quick to say that this is a fun group, with enjoyable conversation and camaraderie. She plans to continue as part of the team, but at age 84 has decided to pass along the responsibility to someone else. Regardless of the weather or other circumstances, Vi says “We always get it done!” Thank you, Vi, for your dedication to the League!

**HELP NEEDED: 1. Newsletter Mailing Coordinator** - This job involves emailing the team and choosing a day at the end of the month to complete the task. It takes about 3-4 hours, depending on the number of volunteers available to help. **2. Mailing Volunteer** - Come for the task, stay for the conversation. See above for more details.

**Gina Arnett** provides graphic design and layout of the newsletter, as well as lending her talents to the cover of the *Voters Guide*. Gina is leaving this position to focus on additional responsibilities at home and work. Like many others, Gina became involved in the League after the 2016 election, wanting to participate in a nonpartisan group. The LWV seemed like a group that could take a role in healing a divided nation, and it made sense that women would be the ones to do it. Gina has enjoyed her work on *The Voter*, and was excited about the opportunity, working first with Susan Darcy and now with Peggy Coale. Thank you, Gina, for sharing your creative talents and abilities with the League!

**HELP NEEDED: Proofreaders** - Grammar, Syntax, Punctuation! If you are now reading these words, YOU are the exact person we are looking for to help proofread our monthly newsletter, *The Voter*. Our current committee of two (Vivienne Himmell and Peg Schulz) would like to expand to a committee of three or four so that two of us are always available to proof *The Voter*. It's a fun job that can be done from home, it only happens once a month, and it is the easiest part of the important task of publishing an informative, succinct, and professional newsletter for our League members.

Interested in any of these positions? Please email me at [laurel.kerr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:laurel.kerr@sbcglobal.net).

I look forward to hearing from you!

Laurel Kerr, Volunteer Coordinator

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE GREATER DAYTON AREA  
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 Dayton, OH 45402-1703

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To support the  
 LWVGDA  
 Education Fund:

Log on to the  
 League website at  
*lwvdayton.org*. On the left side of  
 our homepage, click on  
 "Education Fund" under "Our  
 League." On the left side of that  
 page, you will see a big Kroger  
 button. Click on that and follow  
 the directions. Our name is:  
 League of Women Voters GDA  
 Education Fund.

**Our account is #XM870.**



**"Now that you have the vote, what  
 are you going to do with it?"**

**Carrie Chapman Catt**

Current Resident or:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNES- DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			MAY 1	2	3	4
5	6	7 <b>Primary Election Day</b> 6:30a-7:30p, <i>See p3</i>	8	9	10 <b>LWVO State Convention</b>	11 <b>LWVO State Convention</b>
12 <b>LWVO State Convention</b>	13	14 <b>Reading Series,</b> <i>See p5</i>	15 <b>Articles for June Voter due</b>	16	17	18
19	20	21 <b>LWVGDA Annual Meet- ing, 5:30pm,</b> <i>See p4</i>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	JUN 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15