



May 2020

VOLUME 97, ISSUE 5

# THE VOTER

A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

1920 - 2020

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## ‘New Normal’ prompts changes to Annual Meeting

It is no surprise the schedule of events we had planned for our League over the past and next few months has been drastically altered. In the interest of the health and safety of our members and in following Governor DeWine’s stay-at-home order, unfortunately, we are unable to have our Annual Meeting as previously scheduled for May 19.

Our Annual Meeting is traditionally held in May as a celebration of our previous year. It is a time where we can thank our retiring Board members and welcome new ones. It is also a time where we review the budgets prepared by our Finance Committee and get up-to-date news on the works of the various committees of our League. I am heartbroken that together we will be unable to recognize the hard work of our Voter’s Guide committee and the success of an amazing Dangerous Dames dinner thanks to the months of planning from your F&D committee. I want to thank all of our volunteers who work tirelessly to represent our League, and I appreciate the behind the scenes work of your various League committees, your Board and your staff. Honestly, I truly hoped for us all to come together to celebrate the past 100 years of the Dayton League and get excited for the next League year!

In addition to a celebration, the Annual Meeting is required by our League Bylaws. We have certain requirements that must be fulfilled. “At the Annual Meeting, the voting members shall:

- a) adopt a local Program for the ensuing year;
- b) elect the Officers, and Directors, and members of the Nominating Committee to be elected that year;
- c) adopt an annual budget for LWVGDA, and recommend an annual budget to the Trustees of DALWVEF;
- d) consider any changes to the LWVGDA Bylaws; and
- e) transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.”

Sue Hesselgesser (Executive Director), Janine Kinnison (Finance Chair) and I have met and discussed with State and National League and our ByLaws committee to decide the best path forward. We have determined we will **not** attempt a virtual meeting. Instead, we will accomplish our goals listed above via email and snail mail allowing the most membership involvement without any potential technical limitations.

**We do not plan to revise our budget at this time.** We do not have enough information to best determine the financial impact this pandemic will have on our League. You will be voting on the 2020-21 budget as approved by the Board on 3/9/2020 and mailed in the April VOTER (along with the caveat letter). Our budget is diligently planned by our Finance Committee as a guideline and was prepared with the information we had at the time we were planning. As such, our goal is to revisit/modify our budget in the second quarter of our fiscal year as this process is already built into our regular quarterly Finance meetings. Please review the enclosed ballot items:

- ◆ our 2020-21 Program as chosen at the Program meeting
- ◆ the slate of officers presented by your Nominating committee
- ◆ the annual budgets: League Fund and Education Fund
- ◆ the proposed Bylaws change

**We ask that all members return their completed ballot no later than June 1.**

I will deeply miss seeing you and hope to be able to gather together again soon. Please stay safe and healthy!  
Thank you.

~Andy Cobb, LWVGD President

## Welcome Our New Members

Beth & Steve Byington  
24 W. Schantz Ave.  
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Cathy Mong  
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Alma Sove

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### When Life Hands you a Pandemic...

What's next? All of us had a moment when suddenly the world turned upside down. Life as we knew it ended and a new life of social emptiness became the new normal. But, for our League, the emptiness did not last long. When life sends you Corona, you are going to need some masks!

Because my daughter Ellyn works at Miami Valley Hospital, the need for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE's) became immediately obvious and eminent. I do not sew but I thought I knew a few people who just might.

Within an hour after sending a simple email...Do you Sew? We had a team of volunteers ready, willing and able to jump in for the good of our community. I found myself in the uncharted territory of a fabric store but was pitiful enough for "sewing people" to guide me through what one needs to buy to make masks. With the shortage of elastic (who knew?) I was pleased to make the acquaintance of Kathleen Hotmer, of Sinclair College Theater Group, who donated a bolt of elastic to get us started.

Kathleen also introduced me to a contact at the Ohio Health Department who was desperately looking for people to help replace expired elastic on N95 masks. At my last count, our group is closing in on repurposing **840 masks** for health organizations throughout the Miami Valley **and 850 masks** for Miami Valley Hospital!

My heart is full working with our membership on this project. I want to thank our wonderful volunteers for stepping up and making a difference to hundreds of our heroes on the front line of this pandemic: Charlene Bayless, Susan & David Bodary, Bonnie Buddendeck, Peggy Coale, Joyce Fischer, Gayle Gyure, Sharon Short, Rebecca Jarvi, Barrie King, Lucy Anne McKosky, Bridget Newbury, Virginia Platt and Marigrace Ryan.

~Susan Hesselgesser, Executive Director

