



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE GREATER DAYTON AREA
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VOLUME 85, ISSUE 5

MAY — 2008

**From the Did You Know ?
 Department**

**Voter
 Registration
 Statistics**

Montgomery County

population 542,237
 89% are registered

Greene County

population 152,218
 88.6% are registered

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
 OF THE GREATER DAYTON AREA
 ANNUAL MEETING



Saturday, May 17 9 a.m. - noon
 Bergamo Center

Join us for a lovely brunch, election of officers,
 other League business and an opportunity to see
 old friends.

Reservation form is on page 5

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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.

Take Action
League of Women Voters Ohio
 visit <http://takeaction.lwvohio.org>
 for more information

SB 57 Special Education Vouchers

LWVO position: Opposed to this bill. Public funds should be used only for schools that are accountable to the public. This bill authorizes vouchers for special education students but does not require compliance with uniform state standards, nor require compliance with federal laws relating to special education.

SB 291 Great Lakes Water Compact

LWVO position: Opposed to this bill. Threatens to derail five years of bipartisan negotiation to protect and conserve Great Lakes water.

*General Fund***2007- 2008 Leadership
Circle Members****President (\$10,000+)***Dayton Daily News *****Vice President (\$5,000+)***Dayton Daily News***Cabinet (\$2,500+)**

Dickey Fund

Governor (\$1,000+)

Roger B. Himmell, CPA*

Premier Health Partners

Good Samaritan Hospital

Miami Valley Hospital

Time Warner Cable

Senate (\$500)

Beau Townsend

Chuck Fisher*

Greater Dayton Area Hospital Assoc.

Kendall Printing*

Montgomery County Board of Elections

Sebaly Shillito + Dyer **

University of Dayton **

President's Office

Fitz Center for Leadership in the

Community

United Way of Greater Dayton Area **

House (\$250)

AAA Miami Valley

Anonymous (2)

Dayton Metro Library

Dr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Fletcher

Gary J. Leppla

Debbie Lieberman, Montgomery County

Commissioner, and Dennis Lieberman

McGohan Brabender

Rhine McLin, Mayor, City of Dayton

David A. Neuhardt

Patricia Schroeder

Sheet Metal Workers, Local 24

Sinclair Community College **

Fred Strahorn, State Representative, 40th

District

Judy & Tom Thompson

Penny Wolff

*In-kind contributions

**In kind and monetary contribution

All elected officials, political entities and candidates are invited to contribute to the LWV. Names appearing on this list do not constitute an endorsement by the

LWV which is nonpartisan.

**MEMBERSHIP
UPDATES**

Please welcome the newest League members who have joined within the past month.

* indicates a Nationally recruited member

Olivia Herring

Dean Lovelace

Paula Keil *

IN MEMORY OF

The League would like to extend an expression of sympathy to the family and friends on the recent death of a member of League, Toni Jones. Toni was a 50+ year member of League, but may have not been known by many local members as she had just moved to the Dayton Area in the summer of 2007 from her home in Fort Myers, Florida. However when she moved to the Dayton area one of the first things she did was contact the Dayton office to make sure that her membership was transferred so she could continue to keep up to date with the activities of the League. The dedication of our long-time members, like Toni, serves as a model for all members of the League. She will be missed by many, both here and in Florida.

**Recent
Contributions
Appreciated**

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

* indicates League member

Joan E. Albrecht *

Julie Burneson *

Catherine Clark *

Jeanne Eickman (in memory of
Jane Fitzgerald)

Evelyn Ferguson *

Judy Gerhard *

Viola Matyas *

Ellen McCloskey *

Lucy McKosky *

Maureen Patterson *

Patricia H. Porter *

Ruth D. Price *

Eileen & Virgil Rehg (in memory
of Jane Fitzgerald)

Lorine Reid *

Jane Schwaiger *

Katherine Stealey *

Judy & Tom Thompson *

Education Fund

Thank you to the following who have made a contribution to the League's Education Fund [a 501(c)(3) entity]:

The Virginia W. Kettering
Foundation

*Education Fund***Current Major Contributors**

Charles Berry (\$5,000)

The Dayton Bar Association
Foundation (\$2,500)

The Dayton Power & Light
Foundation (\$5,000)

The Virginia W. Kettering
Foundation (\$5,000)

Last fall, League members in the Greater Dayton Area and across the country studied many issues surrounding immigration and participated in consensus building meetings. Here is the recently issued, official League position on Immigration.

The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the U.S. on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

The League supports federal immigration law that provides an efficient, expeditious system (with minimal or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the U.S.

To complement these goals the League supports federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities, and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations.

In transition to a reformed system, the League supports provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

The League supports federal payments to impacted communities to address the financial costs borne by states and local governments with large immigrant populations.

Criteria for Legal Admission to the U.S.

The League supports the following criteria for legal admission of persons into the United States:

- Family reunification of spouses or minor children with authorized immigrants or citizens;
- Flight from persecution or response to humanitarian crises in home countries;
- Economic, business and employment needs in the U.S.;
- Education and training needs of the U.S.;
- Educational program opportunities; and
- Lack of a history of serious criminal activity.

Administration and Enforcement

The League supports due process for all persons, including the right to a fair hearing, right to counsel, right of appeal and right to humane treatment.

The League supports:

- Improved technology to facilitate employer verification of employee status;
- Verification documents, such as status cards and work permits, with secure identifiers;
- Significant fines and penalties for employers who hire unauthorized workers;
- Improved technology for sharing information among federal agencies;
- More effective tracking of individuals who enter the United States; and
- Increased personnel at borders.

The League also supports programs allowing foreign workers to enter and leave the U.S. to meet seasonal or sporadic labor needs.

Unauthorized Immigrants Already in the U.S.

In achieving overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.

Kettering School Board - March 18, 2008 - Lee Mills

Board expressed support for Youth Month with a proclamation. A report of the success of the career tech program was given. Board voted to approve the purchase of property on Delta Avenue for \$1.00 from the City of Kettering. The property will be used by the trades program to construct a home.

School Treasurer reported that district's financial status is stable at the present time, but cautioned that from 2001 and on the district will lose 1.7 million a year due to the State of Ohio taking local taxes from area businesses. It was commented that this is a state-wide problem with all public school districts.

Beavercreek Township - March 10, 2008 - Rebecca Jarvi

Trustee Carol Graff will represent the township on the Greene County Combined Health District Advisory Council. Trustees approved funding for the township to participate in the Shared Records Management System which includes other Greene County municipalities. This is a pilot program for the state and involves a Public Safety Information Sharing Network that features vehicle location, unit dispatching and E-911 cellular call mapping.

A request for construction of an enclosed grandstand at Rotary Park was denied, noting there were no funds allocated for such a project. The Sox organization, which had submitted the request, was advised to submit another plan and the Trustees offered to host a meeting of the various different groups that use the ball field to work out a coordinated plan.

Montgomery County Board of Elections - March 25, 2008 - Sharon Harmer

The Secretary of State has asked for volunteers to participate in a mock audit of recounts in order to help set standards for 2008 elections. She is asking for 11 boards of elections to participate. The Board was concerned about current exhaustion of staff so did not volunteer. The certification process of provisional ballots was reported. In general, the Board allowed ballots or "remakes" whenever law permitted. Errors reported included voting on issues as well as candidates (17 year olds), multiple sets of ballots, inadequate marking of ballot (marginal marks, pen color, etc).

Some ballots were not allowed due to the following legal requirements: Non-uniform marks (checks and 'x's, not providing proper identification within 10 days of elections, printing instead of signing the affidavit, incomplete voter information (information not all there, voter not registered in this county, giving PO Box instead of street). There are still a few provisional ballots to count/remake because information from other counties (residency change) has not been received. Certification is done 21 days after the election. The federal government is working on revisions as to what will trigger an automatic recount; the state may come up with such legislation as well as standards for "best practices."

Greene County Board of Elections - March 25, 2008 - Beatrice Delph

The primary election was certified by the Board. Compensatory time was again discussed. There is a policy in place for hourly employees but not for salaried employees. Dale Henry, regional liaison, will see what other Boards are doing. So the item was tabled. A person voting at the Dayton Avenue Baptist Church reported that people at the church were handing out brochures at the polls. The church stated that if they could not hand out the brochures, the church could not be used as a polling place. The Director will be investigating further.

The Board went over the 2008 Budget. They anticipate additional costs because of the November election. The Deputy Director is working on a policy manual and job descriptions for all employees. The state is asking for 11 counties to volunteer for a post election audit. Seven percent of voters will be counted. Only those Boards of Elections that don't have recounts will be considered. The Board voted to participate in the audit.

More OBSERVER REPORTS

Miami Township - March 25, 2008 - Thelma Schneider

Meeting opened with a reading of "Operation Iraqi Freedom" casualties. The majority of the work session dealt with personnel issues, an employee manual update and discussion of an ED/GE application. There was a presentation from a new company wishing to open a franchise youth entertainment business in the township.

City of Miamisburg - April 1, 2008 - Thelma Schneider

The majority of the meeting dealt with discussion and passage of ordinances involving various contract between the City of Miamisburg and organizations with whom the city contract for services. There was discussion and planning for Cruise the Berg events scheduled for various dates in June, July, August and September. Mayor Church commented on the League observer's presence and invited our continued participation.

City of Kettering - April 8, 2008 - Mickey Gogle

Council proclaimed April 19 as Arbor Day in Kettering and will hold a tree planting. The City of Kettering has been proclaimed a Tree City by the Arbor Day Association for the past 25 years. The city has received a grant from the Kellogg Foundation to cover 50% of the cost to make Pondview Park more accessible. The Optimist International is giving the City of Kettering an award and declaring the program as the Project of the Year.

Council granted a permit for a limited menu drive-in restaurant in the Arbor Commercial Center south of the former Groby's Garden Center. The city will hold public hearings to rezone Tannenberg Kennels (located on West Stroop Road) to consider an upgrade of the kennel, not to increase the number of animals allowed to be housed. The council authorized the city manager to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation to replace traffic signals, resurface parts of Dorothy Lane and reconstruct portions of Wilmington Pike in the area of Ansel and Smithville.

ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATION FORM		reservation DEADLINE May 12
Saturday, May 17	Bergamo Center	Make checks payable to LWVGDA
Name: _____	How many attending ? _____	
Phone #: _____	Breakfast buffet & Meeting \$15 _____	
E-mail: _____	Meeting only \$5 _____	
Return this form to the League office at:		
Talbot Tower, Suite 1208, 131 N. Ludlow Street, Dayton, OH 45402-1703		
Call 228-4041 or 372-4148 for more information and directions to Bergamo if needed.		

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, except July, August and December by the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area (LWVGDA), Talbot Tower, Suite 1208, 131 N. Ludlow Street, Dayton, OH 45401-1703. Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Phone (937) 228-4041 and (937) 372-4148; FAX: (937) 228-4104;

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We are on the web
www.lwvdayton.org

Advocating Voter
Education and
Action on Issues

President's Message

I'm truly excited about everything we've been doing in League! You've all received the brochures for the membership drive? Well, we're hitting all ages in the spectrum!

For younger ages, we are in the process of starting a chapter at Wright State University. This came out of a project by a WSU class. After working with the exec board, the students were excited about having a League at WSU. We are also working with Sinclair on a Learning Project dealing with Health Care in preparation for a program next fall

At the other end, we are

investigating the possibility of starting units, or at least memberships, in local retirement homes. We will know more about that later in the month.

We are continuing to seek ways to work in coalition with other organizations. We are already in the process of developing joint activities with Kids Voting relating to next fall's elections. We are also looking at ways to work with the Kettering Foundation, and continue activities with the Election Protection Coalition, LWVO and local theatres. There are other groups, but developments aren't

past the initial stages yet.

Other aspects of League have not been neglected. We are back to working on how to deal with the Dickey Fund, have sent out spring solicitation letters, continue to attend governmental meetings, have delegates for Statehouse Day. Additionally, the comprehensive program on Foreclosure hosted by the League at the United Way in February is currently being broadcast on cable.

You can truly brag about what League is doing to any prospective member!

Sharon