



THE VOTER

Monthly News & Updates

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Voters Guide Is Valued By Our Community

As I'm typing, we are three quarters of the way through the election marathon that began in early August, and once again, getting the Voters Guide published is the highpoint of the election season. Many thanks to everyone who made it happen again this year. It's almost magical how it all just falls into place, from inviting candidates to submit answers to members swooping in and delivering those precious papers throughout the land. Kudos to those members who made it all happen including Lucy Anne McKosky, Andy Cobb, Kim Senft-Paras, Deb Lukjanovs, Mary Lou Baker Jones, Maria Camacho, Lillian Moskeland, and Tina Wingate. These women contacted candidates, followed up with candidates, followed up AGAIN with some candidates, and spent hours looking at proofs to assure that voters in the Greater Dayton Area have the information they need to vote.

Almost all the information they need.

We've received quite a few calls this week wondering why the Guide seems lopsided this year. When told that EACH AND EVERY candidate was invited to participate, they asked, "Why didn't everyone take advantage of such a wonderful opportunity to get their name and ideas out to the public?" At the Meet and Greet at Woodbourne Library, a number of candidates wondered the same thing. And we just don't know. The folks who called told us they are reaching out to their

First Ever Sinclair Community Equity Summit



2022
COMMUNITY
EQUITY SUMMIT

The **POWER** of
SHARED VOICES:
Are **WE** Listening?

November 16
6:00 PM

Virtual (Link provided after
registration)

The Sinclair College Community Summit team is excited to invite you to participate in our first ever Sinclair Community Equity Summit. The event is titled "The Power of Shared Voices: Are We Listening?" Our goal is to invite YOU, the community, into our dialogue around Equity and Stories. We hope to bring attention to diverse and varied voices and what is revealed if

candidates to ask why they're listed as "no response." They're also calling party headquarters to complain. And then, before they hang up, they tell us how much they appreciate the League.

Voters do care and they ARE watching. Hopefully candidates will see just how important it is to get their message out to everyone.

~Chris Corba
League Executive Director

we listen to them. We are thrilled to welcome our featured keynote speaker, Dr. Bennyce Hamilton, Director of the Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Miami University's Regional Campus.

We invite you to save the date and be on the lookout for upcoming details. Please email **Tennille Love-Frost** with any questions.

VOTE...and tell the others!

Early Voting at the Montgomery and Greene County Boards of Elections:

Monday, October 31 through Friday, November 4 from 8 am to 7 pm

Saturday, November 5 from 8 am to 4pm

Sunday, November 6 from 1 pm to 5 pm

Monday, November 7 from 8 am to 2 pm (Early voting closes at 2pm)

Tuesday, November 8: Polls open at 6:30am and remain open until 7:30pm.

Confirm your polling location and view a sample ballot in **Montgomery County** or **Greene County** or go to our award-winning app **VOTE411.org**



Montgomery County to Vote on Issue 10

Sinclair Community College's Issue 10 on the November ballot is a 1-mill renewal levy that will not increase taxes but will allow Sinclair to continue to offer the local, affordable access to high-quality education for good jobs, career advancement, and college degrees to Montgomery County residents. Issue 10 provides the funding needed to ensure Sinclair can keep and expand more than 300 education and job-training programs in health care, technology, engineering, public safety, and other in-demand fields. Issue 10 helps keep Sinclair's courses, technology, and equipment up to date, and helps thousands of local students begin four-year

degrees – affordably – every year. Sinclair has been an integral player – an asset – to strengthening our local workforce, employers, and economy for more than a century. Issue 10 ensures Sinclair can keep doing its job well – with no tax increase. We endorse, and encourage voters to vote for, Issue 10. Visit **HERE** for more information or to get involved with the campaign.

This letter to the editor was written by our In-Coming League President Beth Schaeffer, and appeared in the October 22 edition of the Dayton Daily News.

Bad Officials are Elected by Good People Who Don't Vote!

If you don't vote, you have no say in the issues to be considered or the officials who will ultimately decide them. Only the voice of those who do vote will matter. Politicians only pay attention to voters. If only a small percentage of registered voters vote, then only a smaller fraction of the population will decide who will be given the power to decide issues that affect all of us. The midterm elections are important because they impact what directly affects us locally. Not only is it important to vote but to do so responsibly. That means fully understanding the issues and evaluating the candidates before casting your ballot. A good start is to go to VOTE411.ORG where you can find the issues and candidates that will be on your ballot or refer to the LWV Voter's Guide. Unfortunately, when candidates decline to participate in debates or respond to important questions the voters are deprived of valuable information that can help them make informed decisions. What is it that they don't want the voter to know? Simply relying on name recognition or the (D) or (R) by their name is not good enough.



From the President's Desk

With just days until the 2022 election season closes, your League of Women Voters has been incredibly busy with voter registrations, candidate nights, and public events like the evening with Tom Suddes. The conversation with Mr. Suddes was an incredible opportunity to hear from “an old hand” who has decades of experience in Ohio politics and a distinguished career in journalism. Put those two attributes together and... Well, needless to say, those of us in attendance came away with a deeper understanding of the political landscape in Ohio.

One thing mentioned frequently is the lack of participation in League information endeavors by certain candidates. This has not gone unnoticed by many in the community. Chris Corba speaks to that in her article. One unfortunate outcome is our inability to conduct full candidate forums because we don't have representation from both sides of the contest. This is frustrating to candidates eager to present their platforms to voters and frustrating to voters who feel they are not getting a full understanding of the differences in platforms.

We did not take this action lightly. We consulted with the State League and reviewed documents from the National League of Women Voters. As an organization we are unique in being steadfast in not endorsing candidates or parties. That even translates into not hosting a forum unless both sides are represented. Interestingly, the candidates running for judge positions have participated fully. I think we have become more aware of the importance of those persons who sit on the bench. Locally and statewide, we have a say in who renders those important decisions.

If you have not voted early, please make sure you check out the [Voters Guide](#) and [VOTE411.org](#) to get an understanding of who these candidates are. (One trick I learned on Vote 411 is not to use the back arrow, but to go back to the top of the candidate answers and click on “View My Races.”)

I can't believe the year is wrapping up so quickly. Our Holiday Soiree is in the planning stages. Keep an eye out for a “Save the Date” email.

As always, your ideas and comments are welcome. Email them to me at the [League](#). Thank you.

~Mario, LWVGDA President



The League office will be closed on November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Introducing our newest members:

Grace Bartley
Danielle Zeisloft
Gayle S. Smith



Girl Scouts Earn “Behind the Ballot” Badge

On Wednesday, October 12, 2022, fifteen Junior Girl Scouts (grades 6th, 7th, and 8th), along with ten adult chaperones, fit into the League's downtown office conference room. Needless to say, the room was packed! These young ladies were there to learn about the US election process in an effort to earn their “Behind the Ballot” badge as well as a League patch.

The two-hour event included an introduction to the League, some history about our own Dayton



League (Did you know we are the oldest League chapter in the country? Founded in 1920.), a quick test-their-knowledge discussion, and a video presentation on the election process. The evening also included a guest speaker from Ghana and a team activity to develop a cookie campaign.

Our guest speaker was a Wright State University graduate student in International and Comparative Politics, Mr. Frank Buabeng. Mr. Buabeng is a Ghanaian citizen who compared his country's democracy (parliamentary) to the United States (democratic republic).

A few facts learned were:

- Ghana's land mass is double the size of Ohio with approximately 31 million citizens.
- Ghana's democratic government was formed in 1992 with the voluntary participation of men and women ages 18 or older.
- Ghana has 29 political parties, but two parties define the majority.
- Proof of voting is shown via an ink-stained finger.



The last hour was dedicated to four teams of young ladies selecting a favorite Girl Scout cookie, developing a campaign slogan, and presenting three reasons why the adults in the room should vote for their team's cookie to win "top cookie." The winner was Team Do Si Dos! These young women demonstrated an impressive amount of creativity through team slogans as well as colorful campaign posters. They did not hesitate to develop an idea and present it to the group.



Thanks go to League members Janine Kinnison, Dianne Herman, and Jessica Hunter as well as Chris Corba, Executive Director, for participating in this special evening for future voters!

~Janine Kinnison



League Appoints New Volunteer Coordinator

LWVGDA is pleased to announce the appointment of Rebecca Morgann to the position of Volunteer Coordinator. Rebecca has been a member since 2016 and became involved in activities beginning in 2018, including Dangerous Dames and serving on the Centennial Committee to help plan the 100-year anniversary celebration. She has served on the Nominating Committee since 2020. She looks forward to connecting members with

Every Vote Counts!

Mary McDonald won re-election as Trotwood Mayor in 2019 by **FIVE** votes. Dion Sampson won his seat on the Dayton Board of Education by **ONE** vote. Yes, local elections can be nail-biters where it seems that every vote can make a difference. But that is also true for statewide elections and national elections, where the number of votes cast can seem so large that the individual vote is inconsequential. (This is simply not true--individual votes are never inconsequential!) Every Vote Counts is a nonpartisan student-led group dedicated to increasing voter participation by college students.

Some fun facts from their [WEBSITE](#):

- President Trump won the 2016 presidential election by only 77,744 votes out of 136 million votes cast – less than the capacity of the Rose Bowl.
- In 2017, control of Virginia’s House of Delegates and the swing from Republican to Democratic control came down to a single vote in one race – and was eventually resolved by picking one candidate’s name out of a ceremonial bowl.
- In the 2000 presidential race between George W. Bush and Al Gore, Bush carried Florida by 537 votes out of 6 million cast in the state, giving him an Electoral College victory.

Another non-partisan organization committed to increasing voter turnout is the Advocacy Alliance Center of Texas (AACT). They explain that **voting is more than just electing a candidate**. It’s choosing the right policies and people who have your best interests in mind when making decisions that will affect your community, state and nation. When citizens vote, they are taking an active role in deciding issues regarding health care, immigration, equal opportunity, voting rights, infrastructure, jobs, education, social security, neighborhood safety, taxes, and more. Take a closer look at their Top 10 Reasons to Vote [HERE](#).

Are you attending LWVO Statehouse Day?

LOCATION

Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 East State Street, Columbus, OH 43215

DATE AND TIME

12/07/22 8:30am - 12/07/22 5:00pm US/Eastern

Event is being held earlier than normal as we expect the outgoing General Assembly to pass legislation harmful to women and voters.

I am going and would be interested in carpooling

Maybe

Learn More
HERE

UPCOMING CALENDAR

November 7: Last day to mail absentee ballots (must be postmarked)
November 7: Early in-person voting ends at 2:00 PM

November 8: Election Day! Polls open 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM
November 8: Lobby Corps Meeting
November 8: Funding & Development Meeting
November 8: Membership Meeting

November 11: Veterans Day

November 14: LWVGDA Board Meeting, 6:00 PM

November 15: Naturalization Ceremony

November 16: **Sinclair Community Equity Summit**

November 22: Lobby Corps Meeting
November 22: Voter Service Meeting

November 24: Thanksgiving

November 25: Office Closed



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