



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS of the CINCINNATI AREA**

THE VOTER

103 Wm. H. Taft Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45219
513-281-8683 Fax: 513-281-8714
info@lwvcincinnati.org www.lwvcincinnati.org
Visit LWVCA on Facebook

January 2011

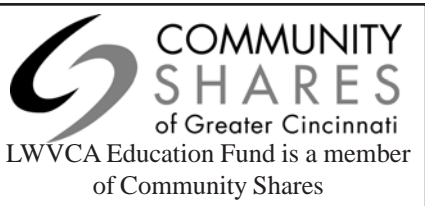
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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which encourages the informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to all men and women over 18. For information call 513-281-8683, or write to the LWVCA office at 103 Wm H Taft Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45219, or email at info@lwvcincinnati.org.

LWV DIVERSITY POLICY

The League of Women Voters recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. The LWVCA affirms its commitment to actively seek diversity in its membership, leadership and programs.



LIFT UP YOUR VOICE TO LWVOHIO!

By Nancy Dawley, Program Vice President

Program Planning is your opportunity to make your voice heard. At the January Unit meetings every member can express his/her opinion on the adequacy and relevance of Ohio League **Government, Social Policy, and Natural Resources** positions. Feedback will include unit recommendations to *retain, update, or drop* the LWVO positions. We also want to hear your ideas for new Ohio positions. If your unit members agree, a new study can be recommended.

The Buff pages published with this Voter will provide information about each position. Please read and consider them before your Unit meeting. Are the positions still important and relevant to our communities' problems? These are the issues that League members spend their time, energy, and money on. We all want to work on the right things.

Put the date of your January Unit meeting on your schedule. We want to hear what you have to say!

YEAR END GIVING

By Sherrie Heyse

Please remember the League of Women Voters as you make your end of the year donations. The LWV is not for the election cycle only! LWV staff and volunteers work year round to stay involved and keep members up to date on issues involving government, taxes and finance, environment, education, health care, housing and other vital areas where citizen involvement is critical. The League seeks grant money but these grants often fund specific programs and projects so we depend on our loyal members and supporters to "keep the lights on" and run the organization efficiently. The last few years have been challenging for all organizations and the League is no exception; we ask again to be as generous as your budget will allow. Remember that your volunteer time is a valuable asset to our organization so please let us know if you are willing to volunteer in any capacity.

You may donate by sending a check to the LWV Office or donate online at our secure Pay Pal page on the LWV Website. Click on www.lwvcincinnati.org and use the "Donate" button on the top menu (<http://www.lwvca.org/donate.shtml>). Donations to the LWV of Cincinnati Education Fund are tax-deductible, so please indicate on your check or online form if your donation will be to the LWV Education Fund.

LWVCA 2010-11 Board of Directors:

- President: *Melissa Currence*
- President Elect: *OPEN*
- Treasurer: *Kim Thompson*
- Secretary: *Glenda Bernstein*
- Vice President, Program: *Nancy Dawley*
- Vice President, Fund Development: *Marjorie Davies*
- Vice President, Administration: *Pinky Kokoshis*
- Vice President, Voter Service: *Susan Banoun*
- Director, Public Relations: *Alice Schneider*
- Director, Membership: *Mary Van Ausdall*
- Director, Unit Coordinator: *Susan Lehman*
- Director, Planned Giving: *Dee Shaffer*



Dear League Members,

With this new year comes new opportunities. As you may know, we are seeking an Executive Director for the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area. I encourage League members to apply and to spread the word about this opening. It is an exciting opportunity for our League to expand our capabilities in making democracy work for Greater Cincinnati.

I also want to send best wishes **Beth Kochheiser**, who resigned effective 11/19/10 due to family obligations. She brought much skill and many ideas to the position. We wish her well.

The board received great feedback from the October Units on our strategic planning questionnaire. We will be using that feedback to develop a strategic plan for the League during the winter and spring. Thank you for your thoughtful insights and suggestions. Feel free to continue to send in feedback as we continue through the process.

Our League has been working with the State League on the local Board of Elections audit process that came out of the 2009 Secretary of State lawsuit settlement. In October, we hosted the Clermont and Dayton Leagues for a training conducted by Peg Rosenfeld and Scott Britton from the State League. We will keep you informed as we continue the process.

Cheers to a healthy and happy 2011!

Melissa Currence

BOARD BRIEFS: Board Meeting of November 2010

FINANCE/TREASURER/FUND DEVELOPMENT

1. Biggest income category is dues; dues collection is under budget; Contributions to the League side are about \$2000 to date.
2. Assets: \$60,981/League; \$203,192/Education Fund; \$38,799/Steiner Fund. Total assets \$300,575.
3. Visions Dinner –food and beverage minimum was not met, making the dinner part of the event about break-even. Auction activity raised about \$6000. Thanks to **Sherrie Heyse** and her team for their hard work on this event.
4. Voted to reapply for Community Shares membership.

VOTER SERVICE

1. 100,000 copies of *Who and What of Elections* were printed and distributed; it went out twice in *CityBeat*. **Susan Banoun** will coordinate an analysis of the W&W process.
2. LWVCA participated in several area debates and candidates forums. There were discussions at some venues regarding moderators and nonpartisanship. LWVCA will review our processes to assure a comprehensive approach to debates and forums and will compile a repository of debate formats.
3. 78% of candidates participated (66 out of 85) in the internet SmartVoter. We will review candidate responses for any trends among those who did and did not participate.

PROGRAM

1. Letter of commendation regarding the Government Reform Task Force was sent to Hamilton County Board of Commissioners.
2. Ohio Finance and Taxation Consensus results will be submitted to LWVO in December.
3. Housing Committee is drafting a letter to the Board of Commissioners urging them to consider support of the mission statement as a criterion for board appointment. Education Committee is progressing in the study of how the new state financing model impacts local schools. Health Care Committee will be looking at the recommendation to combine the City and County Boards of Health.

MEMBERSHIP/UNITS

1. **Mary VanAusdall** and **Susan Lehman** met to discuss membership growth, developed five initiatives, including planning a spring “new member” event with panelists.
2. LWVCA has been invited by LWVO to participate in Membership Recruitment Initiative which includes trainings, conference calls and coaching.
3. As of December 4: Current membership count: 380; Members who have renewed for 2010-11: 266; Members who have not renewed as of 12/4/10: 114

DISCLOSURE BILL ON CAPITOL HILL

Source: LWVUS

LWVUS has been a strong supporter of the Disclose Act – an act which seeks to provide voters with information about the source of the money which seeks to influence electoral campaigns. The legislation has appeared stalled and on November 18th, the League and five other organizations joined in supporting a stripped down bill, which does not include some of the provisions which drew the most criticism. These provisions included partial opt out of disclosure for certain very large entities, such as the NRA and AARP and outright prohibitions for certain entities. At a press conference on November 18th, six reform groups— The League of Women Voters, Campaign Legal Center, Common Cause, Democracy 21, Public Citizen and People for the American Way— urged Congress to pass the measure during the Lame Duck session.

For Elisabeth MacNamara, national League President, the 2010 elections marked a new low. “The tens of millions of dollars in secret money spent in this election are a recipe for scandal. Voters were overwhelmed by millions of dollars in negative ads but didn’t know who paid for many of them. Pay-to-play politics won’t change until we know who the special interests are who are pouring money into our elections,” she said.

According to the Campaign Legal Center, disclosure legislation is not only constitutional, but is the expected and necessary counter-balance to the new corporate right to expend unlimited funds in U.S. elections. In a recent majority opinion, Supreme Court Justice Kennedy wrote: “With the advent of the Internet, prompt disclosure of expenditures can provide shareholders and citizens with the information needed to hold corporations and elected officials accountable for their positions and supporters. Shareholders can determine whether their corporation’s political speech advances the corporation’s interest in making profits, and citizens can see whether elected officials are ‘in the pocket’ of so-called moneyed interests.”

FROM THE LWVUS PRESIDENT

“The incivility and tone of the 2010 campaign exhibited a disturbingly new low in American politics. Not only was this evident in the expensive advertising, but we also saw it in candidate debates and forums and in the public discourse. We will continue to highlight the importance of civility in discourse and speak out against incivility when we observe it in action.

We believe that voters, not money, should be at the center of our democracy. Let’s roll up our sleeves once more and continue to help our fellow citizens debate the issues in a civil and effective way and fight for transparency, accountability and disclosure in America’s elections!”

Elisabeth McNamara, President, LWVUS

SO, WHO REALLY HAS INFLUENCE!

From Ernestine Krehbiel, President LWV Kansas

CHECKING INFLUENCE is a new tool from the Sunlight Foundation that you can use to find out how companies you do business with every day are wielding political influence through lobbying and campaign contributions. Checking Influence helps you be an informed consumer and citizen. You can find out more and try it out here - <https://checking.influenceexplorer.com/>

The Sunlight Foundation often partners with the LWV US and is helping with local, state and national government transparency. On the CHECKING INFLUENCE site, you can see which individuals, organizations and industries contributed most in the past election; you can also look up by candidate to see who contributed, or see contributions of a company, union, individual or industry. This is an excellent site in that it provides information that citizens can access with no bias or editorial comment.

CAMPAIGN FOR THE CIVIC MISSION OF SCHOOLS PETITION

Source: LWVUS

The Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, www.civicmissionofschoools.org, is sponsoring a petition to remind all policymakers of the essential and historic role schools play in providing the knowledge, skills and disposition for informed and engaged citizenship. The petition will be presented to local, state and federal education policymakers in 2011. The League is a part of the Campaign and serves on its Steering Committee.

In today’s education reform discussions we hear much about the need to prepare students for college and career. While it is vitally important to our nation’s future that every student be

(continued on page 4)

CONVENTION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

Source: LWVUS (abridged)

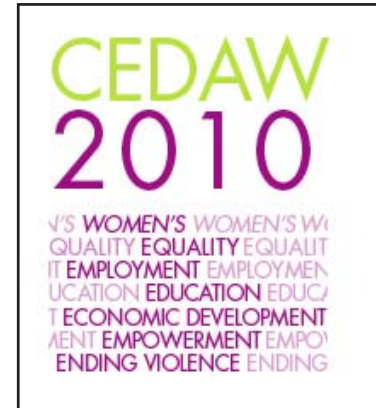
LWVUS is one of 118 organizations participating in a broad-based, diverse coalition coordinated by the Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights supporting CEDAW ratification.

CEDAW is an international agreement that affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women around the world. Recognizing that women's rights are human rights, it seeks to end sex trafficking and violence against women, prohibit forced marriage and child marriage, expand girls' access to education, ensure women's right to vote, help families by fighting maternal mortality, and end workplace discrimination against women. By providing a practical blueprint for achieving progress for women and girls, it has helped millions of women around the world.

In countries that have ratified CEDAW, laws and policies have changed to create greater opportunity and security for women and their families. For example, Mexico responded to an epidemic of violence against women by passing the Mexican General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free from Violence in 2007, which draws on CEDAW and today has been adopted by all of Mexico's 32 states. In 2009 the High Court of Bangladesh, relying in part on CEDAW, for the first time issued guidelines to prohibit sexual harassment in the workplace. Women in Kuwait won the right to vote for the first time in 2005 immediately after the CEDAW reporting process brought international attention to Kuwaiti women's disenfranchisement. And in 2009, the Philippines passed a comprehensive women's rights law that relied heavily upon CEDAW provisions.

The United States is one of only seven countries in the world that has not ratified CEDAW. The others are Iran, Sudan, Somalia, and three small Pacific Island nations. Ratification of CEDAW would not only continue the United States' proud bipartisan tradition of promoting and protecting human rights, it is in our own best interests. Empowerment of women leads to more prosperous, stable, peaceful societies the world over.

CEDAW stands for and advances values that the American public strongly supports, including equality, fairness, and access to education for all. Ratifying CEDAW would be an important affirmation of these values and an impetus for the United States to recommit itself to continuing to improve the status of women and girls not only abroad, but also at home.



Campaign (continued from page 3)

prepared to succeed in higher education and in the workforce, it vital to the health and future of our democracy that our schools also prepare students for a lifetime of knowledgeable, engaged, and active citizenship.

This civic mission of our nation's schools is as important today as when the founders of our republic first articulated it over two centuries ago. We must recognize that there are three essential "C"s at the heart of education in the United States: preparation for success in College, Career, and Citizenship.

We must ensure that all three "C"s are at the core of all education reforms. We must ensure each receives attention, consideration, action and resources in the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and in all education policy and funding decisions at the local, state and national levels. Truly, the civic and economic health of the United States is dependent on each generation of students, all citizens of our nation, being adequately prepared for success in College (or higher education); for success in a Career and for informed and engaged Citizenship!

The petition calls for local, state and national action to improve civic learning (civics, history, economics, geography, service learning linked to the classroom) policies, standards, assessments and funding and asks education policymakers to ensure effective, high quality civic learning is at the core of education reform efforts.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM YOUR STATE LEAGUE: MAY– MID-NOVEMBER, 2010

Source: LWVO (abridged)

To illustrate the breadth and depth of LWV-Ohio / EF's activities, here's a condensed version of what your state board, Lobby Corps and staff have accomplished since mid-May:

In preparation for the November election, your state League:

- Hosted LWVUS President Elisabeth MacNamara for a 2-day visit involving a candidates' forum, an appearance on an NPR call-in radio show, a meeting with Secretary of State Brunner to discuss elections in Ohio, and dinner with a dozen central Ohio League members;
- Cohosted a forum for Ohio supreme court candidates;
- Published an on-line Voters' Guide of statewide candidates and had links to local Leagues' guides.

LWVOEF activities related to our monitoring of the 2009 LWVO v. Brunner Lawsuit Settlement Agreements to ensure open, fair, accurate administration of election:

- Published "Off to a Good Start," a summary of 18 local League's interviews with 22 county boards of elections regarding the 2009 LWVO v. Brunner settlement.
- Determined that the statewide voter-registration database's accuracy has significantly improved since 2007 and that procedures are in place to continue to address inaccuracies.
- Reviewed the Secretary of State's efforts to enforce accessibility rules and regulations.
- 2010 Post-Election Audit Observation Pilot Project: LWVO held regional trainings for more than a dozen participating Leagues. Members were trained to assess county election boards' post-election audit of the November election. The pilot project is also intended to build local Leagues' relationship with their election boards and "test" the League training and observation processes in preparation for a more comprehensive audit-observation project in 2012.
- Election Administration Plans: Your state League assessed 32 county boards' election administration plans, in conjunction with the Lawyers Committee on Civil Rights Under Law, and reviewed preliminary results with Secretary of State staff. These plans outline election boards' preparations to ensure that all registered voters may exercise their right to vote and votes will be accurately counted.

Activities supporting local Leagues:

- Visits to more than two dozen local Leagues across Ohio by the LWVOEF imPACT project manager and state board members;
- LWV-Ohio coaches worked with the seven local Leagues participating in the LWVUS Membership Recruitment Initiative (MRI);
- Hosted numerous leadership / ideas-exchange webinars for League leaders; and
- Published weekly e-newsletters full of administrative and issue information for local Leagues.

Redistricting-reform activities:

- Numerous meetings by League issue specialists with legislators to advocate passage of redistricting reform and get the reform measure on the fall ballot by Aug. 4; and
- In the absence of that ballot measure, LWVOEF is developing a plan to sponsor a citizen-based 2011 Redistricting Competition using objective, public-interest criteria—a contest that will parallel redistricting processes of the Apportionment Board and General Assembly next year.

Lobbying by League issue specialists included testifying in the Ohio House and Senate:

- Senate Bill 240 and House Bill 506 for timely and complete disclosure of campaign donations / contributors;
- Sub. House Bill 377 ensuring voters have accurate information on initiative petitions they're asked to sign; and
- Sub. House Bill 7, encouraging Ohio government support for building sustainability standards.

Testimony is available at www.lwvohio.org under "Advocacy."

NOMINATING FOR LWVO BOARD

By *Chris Driver, Chair, LWVO Nominating Committee*

If you had the opportunity to—

- make lasting friendships all over Ohio
- see issues from a new perspective and
- take your League game to a new level

would you take advantage of it?

You can, if you consider serving on the LWV Ohio State Board. The LWVO Nominating Committee is now beginning the search for the members ready for a League experience at the state League level. The next Board will take office in May 2011 at the next LWVO Convention. The three Nominating Committee members are Chair Chris Driver, (Hudson), Suzanne Barbati (Greater Youngstown), and Cyndy Wright (Clermont County) with two members to be appointed by the LWVO Board.

Being an “expert” in some field is not a requirement to serve on the Board, but commitment to the League mission to serve all Ohio voters is. Talk to us about your interest or about other members of your League whom you believe could help the League fulfill the promise of serving all of Ohio’s citizens.

SCHOOL FUNDING PILOT STUDY

By *Burton Roehr, Education Committee Chair*

Our Education Committee is participating in a pilot study for the Ohio League of Women Voters. The purpose of the study is to examine the new methods of funding public education in the state, get the information out to our members, and determine whether or not our LWVO position on funding public education should be updated, rewritten, or otherwise adjusted to reflect current practices in the state. Once feedback from the membership has been gathered, the State Education Committee will determine what the next steps should be: Is a complete new study warranted? Will an update suffice? What consensus questions, if any, have evolved from the members’ examination of the way public schools are funded?

Ohio’s new funding process is known as the “Evidence-Based Model (EBM),” and it was included in the state budget (HB1) that was passed in the summer of 2009. Basically it’s a way of determining what the basic cost of educating a student in Ohio’s public schools is and how that sum will be allocated to the state’s many school districts. (That’s a **very** basic definition!)

To gather information on the EBM’s effect on

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS REPORT

By *Shirley A. Jason, LWVCA BOE Community Liaison*

Hamilton County – General Election November 2, 2010
289,791 (Voted) of 565,418 (Registered) = 51.25 % voting percentage

Count of Provisional Ballots Rejected

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Count</i>
AV Returned	22
Incomplete Envelope	9
Insufficient I.D.	67
Invalid Address	6
No Printed Name on Envelope	62
No Signature	60
No Matching Signature	12
Not Registered	440
Other	10
Wrong Precinct, Correct Location	284
Wrong Precinct, Wrong Location	565
TOTAL	1,537

History is in the making for the next Hamilton County Judge of the Court of Common Pleas (Judicial Division). On December 3rd, 2010, the Hamilton County Board of Elections (BOE) met to decide what method should be used to determine the outcome of this race. In question are 849 votes by individuals who voted at the wrong precinct, although some voted in the correct polling location. Of these 849 votes, a directive by the Secretary of State ordered that 116 votes to be reviewed for poll worker error.

In an automatic recount, all the ballots are re-scanned and five percent of the precincts are pulled out randomly by election officials to be counted by hand. Four races subject to automatic recounts are: John Williams vs. Tracie Hunter for the position of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas (Juvenile Division); a proposed replacement tax levy in the village of Cleves, defeated by three votes in the official count; a tie vote in Colerain Township Precinct V on Sunday liquor sales; and a Sunday liquor sales issue in Forest Park Precinct G that passed by one vote.

In the official count, Republican John Williams led Democrat Tracie Hunter by only 23 votes out of nearly 230,000 cast. Hunter filed suit in U.S. District Court on Nov. 22 asking that 849 rejected provisional ballots be examined to see if poll worker error led to their rejection. Judge Susan Dlott agreed and ordered provisional ballots be looked at again; and ordered that if the County board of elections finds any rejected ballots which were the result of poll worker error those ballots must be counted in the mandatory, automatic

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JOB POSTING: LWVCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The League of Women Voters seeks part-time Ex. Dir.

Position Summary:

The Executive Director is responsible for a major portion of fundraising efforts, and establishing and maintaining collaborative relationships with the Boards of Directors, volunteers, funders, staff and the community. The Executive Director works with the Boards on programs that support the organization's mission, vision, and business plan. *Principal duties & responsibilities* include: Fundraising/revenue growth; strategic program planning and execution; public relations. *Requires* demonstrated experience in the not-for-profit sector; ability to raise funds including writing grants; ability to generate organizational relationships and collaborations; lead people and value volunteer contributions; excellent written and verbal communication skills; and ability to prioritize and manage multiple projects concurrently.

Please submit cover letter and resume to applicants@lwcincinnati.org. No phone calls please.

GETTING THERE BY BICYCLE

By LWVCA Transportation Committee

The League's summer bus tour visited the Mill Creek Greenway Trail that is under construction. The trail is part of a plan to provide a bicycle route along the Mill Creek extending from Butler County to the Ohio River Trail in Downtown Cincinnati. This is one of several local bicycle trails such as Anderson Township's Five Mile Trail and the West Fork Greenway running eastward from its origin in Colerain Township that are in various stages of planning or development. These trails will contribute to the regional effort to expand transportation and recreational alternatives.

Cities across the country are turning to the bicycle as a key feature in their multi-modal transportation plans. Bicycle commuting rates are on the rise and interest in on-street bike safety and accommodations is quite high although locally, current bicycle rates are very low. The interest in healthy lifestyles and economical transportation has led Cincinnati and the region to commit to facilitating and promoting bicycle use as a safe, convenient and comfortable form of transportation and recreation.

Cincinnati's Bicycle Transportation Plan has been developed with the goal of making bicycling an integral part of daily life so that persons of all ages and abilities utilize bicycles for all sorts of trips. The Plan was developed by the City's Department of Transportation and Engineering in collaboration with local bicycle advocacy groups, community organizations, local businesses, and multiple city and regional agencies. The Plan recommends 445 miles of on-and-off street bicycle lanes and trails to be completed within 15 years.

Implementation of the plan will be important as the city redevelops and repopulates the residential communities in and near downtown. It will also serve the numerous employees and

students in the Uptown university and hospital districts, mixed use neighborhoods business districts, schools, parks, recreation centers and other local destinations. Even now significant numbers of residents do not own cars and depend on transit, walking and/or bicycling for daily transportation. The plan seeks to integrate bicycle facilities in the existing street system and to identify policies and programs supporting more and safer cycling. A low cost start was made last summer by adding bicycle lane and shared lane (sharrow) markings during street rehabilitation projects.

Much of the trail construction is being financed with grants such as the one received this summer by the Mill Creek Restoration Project from the Clean Ohio Trail Fund which requires a 25% match to be raised locally. For those wanting to help, visit the Mill Creek Restoration website at www.millcreekrestoration.org. More information on Cincinnati and regional plans is available from www.cincinnati-oh.gov/bikeplan/.



LWV MEMBERSHIP MOMENT: UM, SPEAKING

By *Marcia Merrins, LWV Membership Committee*

Here are some skills you can apply when you're communicating face-to-face, over the phone, moderating a debate or during presentations.

1. Pause

Um, what perception, like, do you create, you know, when you hear, um, someone using, uh, words that clutter, you know, their language? Knowledgeable, credible and confident probably don't come to mind. These are non-words or filler words. As I travel the country, the number one challenge League leaders need to overcome if they want to speak with influence, is the ability to replace their non-words with a pause. We use non-words to buy ourselves time to think about what we want to say. These words become distracting and your potential member or audience misses your message. Instead, give your audience time to hear, understand and absorb your message. Speak in shorter sentences to communicate a clear and concise message.

Benefits for You

- Think on your feet.
- Get to the point and avoid rambling.
- Hold their attention.
- Gain control over your message and how you communicate your message.

Benefits for Your Audience

- Hear and understand your message.
- Act on what you say.

2. Eye Connection

When you forget what to say, you will look at the ceiling, floor, PowerPoint slides or anywhere away from your audience. When you disconnect you'll say: "uh" "um" "so" "and", etc. You communicate to your members you don't know what to say.

When speaking to more than two individuals, connect with one individual for a complete sentence or thought. Take a moment to pause as you transition your eyes from one individual to another.

3. Get to the Point

- Stay focused. When you find yourself going down the path of saying too much and you begin to feel like a train about to derail, put the brakes on and get yourself back on track. PAUSE!
- Keep your objective in mind. Think in terms of what your audience needs to know rather than what you want to tell them. Focus your message on no more than three significant points that will provide your audience with value.
- Pay attention to your listener. Are they hanging on your every word or are they dazed? Are they attentive or fidgeting?

Oh yes, and remember to have fun!

School Funding Pilot Study (continued from page 6)

various local districts, members of the committee will meet with the Treasurers of several of them, including Jonathan Boyd of Cincinnati Public Schools. Committee members also plan to interview the treasurers of the Indian Hill, Madeira, Princeton, and St. Bernard school districts, as their demographics are different from those of Cincinnati Public.

All of this material will, we hope, be made available to the membership sometime in March, 2011. How that will be accomplished has yet to be determined, but the LWVO committee wants to proceed prior to the State Convention in May or June.

League members are welcome to participate in the interviews of local school officials. If you're interested, let us know by calling the office (281-8683) and leaving your name and contact number.

LWVCA THANKS OUR DONORS!**Donor List 2010 (Through November 30, 2010)****Leadership \$1,000+**

Anonymous (3)
 Doris Adams
 Marjorie & Gary Davies
 Mary Kay Gardner
 Francie Pepper
 Procter & Gamble
 Dee Shaffer
 Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley

Benefactor \$500+

Alan B. Lindner
 Doreen Quinn
 Jerry Weiper

Patron \$100+

Anonymous (6)
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 Kathleen Chandler
 Debbie Clark
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 Alphonse Gerhardstein
 Sue Grathwohl
 Judith Harmony
 Elizabeth Horwitz
 Lucia Hudson
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 Laborers International Union Local 265
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 Grace McClorey
 Jane Tucker McHugh
 Amy McMahan
 Carolyn Meyers-Hughes
 John Norwine
 Pat Passer
 William C. Price
 Helen & Don Rhoad
 Robert Richardson
 Louise Roselle
 Harvey Weitkamp

Friend

Anonymous (12)
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 Kit Berger
 Glenda & Malcolm Bernstein
 Mary Anne Berry
 Bernice Bishop
 Mr & Mrs Jon Boss
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 Melissa Currence
 Lily Demar
 Mary Davis
 Richard Dickmann
 Suzanne Dunbar
 Richard Fairbanks
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 Suzanne Pontius
 Cynthia Robertson
 Burt Roehr
 Beverly Rosiello
 Marjorie & James Ryan
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 Rina Saperstein & Jeff Davis
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 Stephanie Stoller
 Jean Swartley
 Fumiko Tanaka
 Kim Thompson
 Howard Tolley
 Frances Turner
 Mary VanAusdall
 Phyllis Vogel
 Clare Weinshenker
 Lauren Woodiwiss
 Janet Ziegler

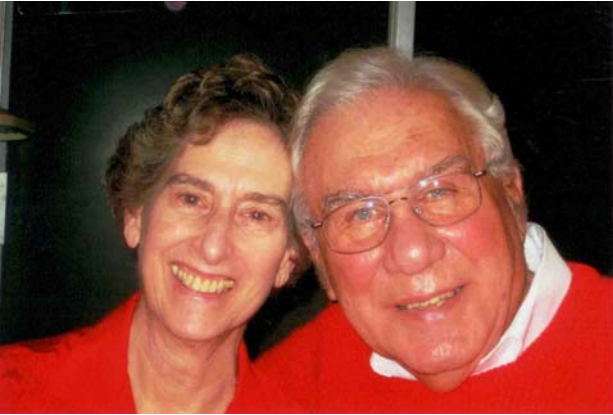
Board of Elections Report (continued from page 6)

recount. Candidate Williams appealed to the Sixth Circuit, which ordered a temporary stay while to consider arguments. The Hamilton County Board of Elections therefore canceled the scheduled recount.

On Wednesday, December 1, 2010, a three-judge panel of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with Judge Dlott and lifted the temporary stay. The BOE is determining the best way in which to uphold this order. The 849 ballots will be reviewed to determine if any of these ballots are invalid and all recounts have been put on hold until further notice. The BOE will meet again on December 9, 2010 to make further decisions regarding this election. The BOE has stated this election is the first of its kind in the State of Ohio.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Emil and Donna Dansker

Emil and Donna are retired from full time work but remain active in the community. They have 6 children, 8 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, and 3 step grandchildren.



Donna became a League member in 1962 when living in Silver Spring, MD with two children ages 3 and 2. As soon as she moved to Cincinnati in 1965, I joined the local league in order to keep aware of what's going on in the world and to meet new people in the community. Emil joined the league a few years ago.

Donna has been involved with the education committee of the League for many years and is an active member of the Hilltop unit. Emil is involved with being a moderator in the Olli programs at UC, loves history and is chair of the Cincinnati Aviation and Historical Society. This is Donna's ninth year tutoring reading with first graders at South Avondale School. They both are very involved at the Isaac M. Wise Temple.

They just moved to Hyde Park in July after living in Wyoming nearly 20 years. They both are readers of fiction and non-fiction. Donna is currently reading a novel called *Old Filth* by Jane Gardam. (Filth in this book means Failed in London Try Hong Kong.) It's a good read! Emil especially likes the novels of Alan Furst.

For fun they go to everything at The Cincinnati Playhouse and several other theaters occasionally as well as a few symphony events at Music Hall. We belong to the Mercantile Library and believe there are so many excellent cultural activities here, more than we can possibly attend.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. John Fine, a former League member and former chair of our Diversity Committee passed away on October 25th. John advised the United Way and published a book on the history of Jews in Cincinnati. He will be missed.

Make a Resolution ...

The New Year should start a new chapter in our lives. Join the League of Women Voters - where hands on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Individual membership is \$60.00; Household membership is \$80.00; and student membership is \$25.00. Join on line at www.lwvcincinnati.org or mail check to LWVCA, 103 Wm H Taft, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219. Very easy!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

By *Mary VanAusdall*, Membership Director

Total Membership - 380 includes national and honorary/life members

We're pleased to welcome six new members since August: **Dick Bozian, Felicity Hill, Jenny O'Donnell, Sarah Pounder, Alva Reid, and William Reid**. Many members have renewed their membership in the LWVCA. Doing so provides numerous benefits to the member, to our organization and to the community at large. We encourage the people who have not yet renewed their membership to do so by December 31, at which point the membership count is finalized.

To all members — we ask that you invite friends, neighbors and colleagues you know who may be interested in supporting and participating in unit discussions about State Program Planning (Jan topic); County Government (Feb topic); Transportation (March topic); and Public Health Administration (April topic). Ask them to become members for only \$60. Encourage them to join our nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

JANUARY UNIT MEETINGS

Discussion Topic: State Program Planning
Unit meetings are our grassroots discussions, located at different places and times so that there's always one convenient for YOU! This is your chance to get involved. All meetings are open. Come, and bring a friend!

2nd Monday 1/10/11

Hilltop: 2:00 pm Panera Bread Restaurant, Finneytown
 Northeast Evening: 7:00 pm Madeira Public Library,
 Euclid and Miami Ave

2nd Tuesday 1/11/11

College Hill: 11:30 am Home of Mary Kay Gardner
 North Central: 12:00 noon, Friendship United Methodist
 Church, Springfield Pike & Fleming Rd
 Warren County: 7:30 pm Mason United Methodist
 Church, 773 Mason-Montgomery Rd.

2nd Wednesday 1/12/11

Anderson: 7:00 pm Anderson Government Center, 7850
 Five Mile Road
 Central Evening: 7:15 pm League Office, 103 Wm H Taft

2nd Thursday 1/13/11

Eastern Day: 12:00 noon with brown bag lunch, Marjorie
 P. Lee Home, 3580 Shaw Ave.

3rd Wednesday, 1/19/11

Metro Day: 12:00 noon League Office, 103 Wm H Taft

*Note: Hilltop and College Hill often meet in individual member homes. Please see your membership directory or call the office or your unit chair for these addresses.

DR GREGORY WILLIAMS IS SBA KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Gregory Williams, President of the University of Cincinnati and best-selling author of *Life on the Color Line*, will be keynote speaker February 12 at League's Susan B. Anthony Luncheon downtown at The Phoenix. Meet this renowned educator and hear about the university's strategic plan *UC 2019: A Global University*. The SBA is always a fun time. Come celebrate 91 years of women's suffrage with friends and fellow members, enjoy a delicious meal in a spectacular setting, hear our fascinating speaker, and take home a treasure or two from the silent auction. Cost is \$35 per person or \$300 for a table of ten; reserve with the enclosed flyer or online at lwvcincinnati.org.

HILLTOP UNIT SWITCHES TO DAYS!

Hilltop Unit, which meets in the Northwest part of Hamilton County, has changed its meeting time from evenings to lunchtime to accommodate the group's faithful membership. According to Donna Dansker, unit members decided that lunchtime meetings will be more convenient, especially for those who don't drive at night. Meetings are the second Monday of each month. The group welcomes new members, so check out the new time!

LWVCA TACKLES FACEBOOK

On November 9, 2010 **Mary VanAusdall, Julie Zavon, Sherrie Heyse, Susan Banoun, Beth Kochheiser, Nancy Dawley, Alice Schneider** and **Nancy Forbriger** attended a workshop on Facebook. Michele McKinney, Reference Librarian at the University of Cincinnati Raymond Walters branch conducted the training. We learned about posting photos, videos, and links, using the homepage and organizing and controlling features on the newsfeed.

Why use Facebook? Facebook can generate a sense of community, can be used as a form of advertisement, and can be a forum for views and ideas. Facebook is a social networking site, and it is all about ... networking. The League would like to expand its use of Facebook to reach a wider audience to introduce people to our research on various issues such as voting, housing, environment, and so on. Eventually the League would be able to attract new members to the organization.

Facebook workshop attendees: from L - Mary VanAusdall, Sherrie Heyse, Susan Banoun, Beth Kochheiser, Michele McKinney, trainer, and Julie Zavon.





League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area
 103 Wm. H. Taft Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45219
 513-281-8683 Fax: 513-281-8714
info@lwvcincinnati.org www.lwvcincinnati.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



JANUARY MEETINGS

All meetings are open to the public and are held at the League Office, Address above unless otherwise noted. Bring a friend!

Monday	Dec 20	7:00 pm	County Government Committee
	Dec 20-Jan 3 Offices Closed		
Monday	Dec 28	7:00 pm	Health Care Committee
Monday	Jan 3	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
Monday	Jan 3	7:00 pm	Transportation Committee
Wednesday	Jan 5	7:00 pm	Discussion Leaders Briefing for January Topics
	Jan 7-8 LWV Ohio State Board Meeting, Columbus (open to members)		
Friday	Jan 7		<i>Voter</i> copy for February due to Editor
Saturday	Jan 8	1:00 pm	Discussion Leaders Briefing for January Topics
Thursday	Jan 13	7:00 pm	Natural Resources Committee
Monday	Jan 17		Martin Luther King Day- offices closed
Monday	Jan 17	7:00 pm	County Government Committee
Wednesday	Jan 19		Deadline for Reservations- Dinner with the League
Saturday	Jan 22	1:00 pm	Discussion Leaders Briefing- February Topics
Monday	Jan 24	5:30 pm	Dinner with the League. Kingsgate Marriott, \$25
Tuesday	Jan 25	7:00 pm	Health Care Committee
Wednesday	Jan 26	5:30 pm	Program Development Committee (PDC)
Wednesday	Jan 26	7:00 pm	Discussion Leaders Briefing- February Topics
Thursday	Jan 27	10:00 am	Voter Collating, Hilltop in Charge
Monday	Jan 31	7:00 pm	Transportation Committee

See our website www.lwvcincinnati.org for more information on upcoming events.

STATE PROGRAM PLANNING

The League of Women Voters of Ohio Positions

Through a process of study and consensus, members of the League of Women Voters of Ohio take positions on public policy issues. While the League never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, we do lobby the Ohio General Assembly and other elected officials to advance these positions. The summary of the League's positions printed below was taken from *The Ohio Positions* and the *Agenda for Action* found on the LWVOhio website. You can read further detail, including Background and Outlook on each position at: <http://www.lwvohio.org/assets/attachments/file/Agenda%20for%20Action%2007-09.pdf>

The Ohio positions are grouped into three categories: **Government, Social Policy, and Natural Resources**. We will be reviewing each position except State Government Finance, since this position was part of the consensus process in November. Please familiarize yourself with each one. Your informed input will help determine if the positions are or are not still pertinent to our League's work.

GOVERNMENT

Positions: Ohio Constitution

General Criteria (Adopted May 1968)

LWVO believes a constitution should be a clearly stated body of fundamental principles. It should provide for the flexible operation of government and be logically organized and internally consistent.

Taxation and Finance (Adopted March 1969)

LWVO supports constitutional revision that would:

Remove the fixed dollar debt limit and provide a flexible limit tied to some indicator of the state's economic wealth.

Specify that the power to levy state taxes and determine their uses resides in the General Assembly. This necessitates removal of constitutional provisions dealing with earmarking of taxes.

Judiciary (Adopted March 1973, amended May 2003)

LWVO believes that the selection and tenure of judges are fundamental matters and therefore should be provided for in the Constitution.

LWVO supports policies that promote the independence of the judiciary. LWVO supports constitutional revision to provide for:
Nomination of judges for Appellate and Supreme Courts by judicial nominating commissions that are carefully balanced and broadly based. Commissions must be nonpartisan or bipartisan and must include both legal and lay members and not be dominated by the former.

Appointment of judges by the Governor from lists provided by a nominating commission.

The inclusion of constitutional provisions to require appointive judges to run against their own records in noncompetitive elections.

Term Limits (Adopted May 1992)

The LWVO opposes term limits for members of the Ohio General Assembly.

Positions: Apportionment/Districting (Adopted January 1980, amended May 2005)

LWVO supports an impartial districting process that may include, but is not limited to:

1. Districting for Congress and state legislature based substantially on population equality with a variance of no more than plus or minus 5 percent among districts.
2. Use of a bipartisan commission comprised of an odd number of members to determine congressional and state legislative district lines.
3. Congressional and state legislative districts that are compact, contiguous, bounded by a non-intersecting line and follow local political boundaries as much as possible.
4. Opportunity for citizen participation.
5. No more than 99 House districts and 33 Senate districts within the Ohio legislature.

Local application: Local Leagues may apply this position to local situations to support or oppose changes in existing districting procedures. (The first four points can apply, substituting the name of the local governing body in 1 and 3.) Boards that contemplate doing this should supply advance information to members in *Voters* or in meetings.

Caution: The position refers to the districting process and may not be used in communities that do not presently have a governing body elected by districts. It may not be used to establish a local position on the validity of districting at that level. That requires the adoption of a local study and consensus.

Positions: State Finance

This position is currently undergoing the consensus process, so will not be discussed.

SOCIAL POLICY:

Positions: Primary and Secondary Education State Board and Department of Education
(Adopted January 1983)

The League of Women Voters of Ohio supports the continuation of a State Board of Education which should be elected rather than appointed.

The primary responsibility of the State Board of Education should be policy making/planning.

The primary responsibilities of the State Department of Education should be administrative and regulatory.

The LWVO identifies two main areas of State Board of Education operations that need improvement: communications and management of responsibilities.

Improved direct communication is needed between the State Board of Education and the public, educators, and the legislature to increase public awareness and State Board of Education visibility.

State Board of Education responsibilities should be reduced and priorities set so that the Board can function effectively and efficiently as a policy making/planning body.

State Education Standards (Adopted January 1984; updated May 1995)

LWVO supports:

1. The use of state education standards as a method of "requiring a general education of high quality."
2. Compliance with the same state standards by all chartered schools.
3. The establishment of guidelines for granting any exceptions to the state education standards by the State Board of Education for "good and sufficient reason."
4. The development of a timely, open process for the evaluation and improvement of the state education standards. Standards should include appropriate multiple forms of assessment.

Education Finance

LWVO supports the following principles as the role of the state in funding elementary and secondary education in Ohio:

LWVO supports a funding system for public elementary and secondary education that is accountable and responsive to the taxpayers. LWVO believes that public funds should be used only for public schools. (Adopted May 1994)

LWVO supports a guarantee by the state of a realistic level of per pupil expenditure in all school districts, including compensatory education programs where needed. (Adopted March 1969)

The equalizing function of the distribution formula for Foundation Basic Aid should be enhanced by decreasing the use of Basic Aid Guarantees. (Adopted January 1985)

Additional state education funding to school districts should be allocated primarily through Foundation Basic Aid, as these moneys are unrestricted in use. (Adopted January 1985)

State aid should be distributed to compensate for variations among school districts in their ability to raise local revenue to fund education. (Adopted May 1991)

The state aid formula should be calculated to reflect the effects of the tax reduction factor on the amount of revenue school districts can raise through property taxes. (Adopted May 1991)

The state aid formula should be calculated to reflect income wealth of school districts. (Adopted May 1991)

The state aid formula should be calculated to reflect:

- the actual costs to school districts for state-mandated programs;

- meeting the educational needs of the children within the district;

- consideration of the economic/geographic characteristics of school districts statewide. (Adopted May 1991)

The state should be able to assist school districts in capital improvements and building construction to comply with appropriate codes in order to ensure health and safety. (Adopted May 1991)

Tax revenue from commercial/ industrial/ mining/ public utility property should be distributed to compensate for variations in taxable wealth among school districts. (Adopted May 1991)

The General Assembly should establish a method to minimize fluctuations in state funding for elementary and secondary education programs. (Adopted May 1991)

The state share of the cost of pupil transportation should be separated into two budget line items: public and nonpublic. (Adopted January 1985)

The functions and operations of the county school system should be evaluated for possible action by the State Board of Education and/or the legislature. (Adopted January 1985)

LWVO supports the following principles for the role of the local community in financing elementary and secondary education in Ohio: Individual school districts should be required to assume a reasonable share of the financial burden and should retain the option of increasing per pupil expenditure beyond this level through local taxes. (Adopted March 1969)

School districts should be participants in the decision-making process when tax abatements are being considered. (Adopted May 1991)

Positions: Higher Education

LWVO believes that: (adopted May 1997)

The Board of Regents should be a planning and coordinating Board with broad policy-making powers.

The Board of Regents should be appointed by the Governor with confirmation by the Senate. The legislature should establish appropriate criteria for board members to ensure that the Board can function effectively and efficiently as a policy-making/planning body.

The state should provide funding to ensure that all Ohio citizens (meeting given institutional academic standards) have access to higher education that provides general education and job preparation. Ability to pay should not determine admission. (Amended May 2005)

In order of priority a state funding system for public higher education should be to: (Amended May 2005)

- provide a basic level of support to all public institutions of higher education,
- provide partial funding for capital improvements and maintenance, and
- provide scholarships.

Positions: Juvenile Justice

The LWVO supports the following principles and policies: (Adopted May 2003)

The LWV of Ohio supports the principle that children under the age of 18 are not adults and that their treatment within the juvenile justice system should relate to their stage of development. (Amended May 2005)

- Children should not be held in adult prisons or detention facilities.

- Unruly children should not be placed in secure facilities (defined as those with architectural barriers).

The LWV of Ohio supports rehabilitation as the purpose of the juvenile justice system.

- Development and use of local diagnostic and treatment/resources are desirable alternatives to large centralized institutions.

- Development and use of local social service programs to provide appropriate treatment for unruly and delinquent children and their families are preferred.

Development and use of a variety of alternatives to secure facilities within a child's own community are preferred. Alternatives could include group homes, foster homes, drop-in shelters, and other non-secure programs.

County Juvenile Courts and the Ohio Department of Youth Services are responsible for providing positive, individualized, humane treatment for children.

Each case should receive individual evaluation before the court. Judges should use their discretion to find the best resolution of each case.

The "least restrictive" option should determine placement of children awaiting court action as well as after adjudication. A child should not be detained in, or committed to, any facility or program that would physically restrict him/her beyond the degree of restriction needed to assure the child's safety, the safety of others, or the child's appearance at a scheduled court hearing.

The LWV of Ohio supports the protection of children's legal rights.

If adjudicated not guilty, children have the right of expungement of all juvenile records pertaining to that case and the right of state-mandated written notification of eligibility for expungement review.

There should be statewide uniform standards for maintaining, disseminating, and/or inspecting juvenile records. These standards should be designed to protect the offender, as child and as adult, from unnecessary consequences of criminal behavior and the taint of criminality. Expungement procedures should be easy for a youth and his/her family to access.

Children have the right to bodily safety and integrity; freedom from physical and mental abuse; mental and physical care; drug and alcohol treatment; an education appropriate to the child's intellectual, emotional, and physical capacities; access to the courts for enforcement of rights; and periodic review of placement and treatment.

The LWV of Ohio supports the development, establishment, and enforcement of state standards for detention and treatment facilities. These stan-

dards should be continually reviewed for improvement. Standards for facilities used for detention or disposition should meet the following minimum requirements:

Protection of the rights of youth to personal possessions, privacy, freedom of and from religion, personal communications, limitations and procedural requirements for discipline, grievance and appeal mechanisms, bodily safety, and periodic review of placement.

Program requirements should include: initial physical, mental, and psychological evaluation; medical and dental care; recreation and exercise; education designed to meet individual needs; vocational training; psychiatric and psychological services; and aftercare.

Facilities should be required to maintain a minimum ratio of staff to youth; staff should have appropriate qualifications for working with youth; and standards for staff supervision and accountability should be maintained.

The LWV of Ohio supports the development within each county or multi-county region of a comprehensive system of children's services for the prevention and treatment of children at risk, as well as juvenile offenders; and a system that utilizes the resources of the extended community to give each individual child a *continuum of care*. A comprehensive system would require the intentional collaboration of the court, families, schools, and community agencies and organizations to create a holistic system for the benefit of the children.

The LWV of Ohio supports the provision of public innovative *alternative educational services*, K through 12, to address the specific and individual needs of children who do not perform successfully in, or face expulsion from, the traditional public school setting.

The LWV of Ohio supports the philosophy of a *restorative system of justice* for children as a dispositional option for juvenile court judges. A restorative justice approach to delinquency requires the voluntary participation of three essential groups: the offender, the victim, and the community. Key components are restitution to the victim and the community, offender self-improvement, and possible mediation with the victim. If successful, the offender would assume responsibility and take action to repair the damage caused. If the offender recidivates, traditional rehabilitation

alternatives would be available at the discretion of the judge.

The LWV of Ohio supports the development and utilization of *gender-specific treatment* programs.

Treatment programs should meet the specific needs of each individual.

Research-based gender-specific services should be available for both boys and girls.

Research on effective services and treatment for girls is needed. It should be encouraged and funded.

The LWV of Ohio supports the right of juveniles to *unbiased treatment* regardless of race or ethnicity.

Positions: Capital Punishment

The LWVO supports the following: (Adopted 2005)

1. Abolition of the death penalty.
2. A moratorium on use of the death penalty

NATURAL RESOURCES:

Positions: Water

LWVO supports policies and procedures that provide for: (Adopted 1961)

Joint, cooperative planning and administration along watershed lines and across political boundaries. (Adopted 1967)

Stringent water quality standards accompanied by strong enforcement and means of implementation.

Adequate state financing, including incentives to local governments and industries for expediting water pollution abatement. (Adopted 1967)

Positions: Solid Waste (Adopted March 1973)

LWVO supports: The philosophy that solid waste, from generation to ultimate disposal, must be purposefully and systematically controlled by all levels of government in order to provide efficient service, protect the environment, and achieve successful resource recovery.

The strengthening, expansion, and enforcement of state solid waste laws. The state should encourage reclamation and volume reduction.

Measures to forestall depletion of our natural

resources and to recover nonrenewable resources.

Financing of solid waste facilities by a variety of methods, including user fees, or a combination of fees and/or taxes with state and federal aid; the use of private capital whenever possible.

Positions: Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste (Adopted June 1981; amended May 200; amended May 2007)

1. LWVO supports state policies and programs which emphasize the following hazardous waste management options *in order of priority*:

- a. Waste reduction, toxicity reduction, and waste elimination;
- b. Waste separation and concentration;
- c. Energy / material recovery;
- d. Waste exchange;
- e. Chemical, biological, physical, and thermal treatment.

2. Roles: LWVO supports private-sector ownership and operation of hazardous waste management facilities. Federal, state, and local government should all be involved in monitoring and surveillance. (Amended May 2005)

3. Siting: Decisions on siting of hazardous waste management facilities should be made by the state, with local government representation in the decision-making process. Eminent domain should be exercised by the state as a means of acquiring land for hazardous waste management facilities only after all other methods of acquisition fail. LWVO does not support use of eminent domain by the private sector, which includes public utilities, for hazardous waste siting. (See Land Use for other eminent domain positions.)

4. In Ohio, siting of nuclear waste disposal or storage facilities should not take place in areas:

- a. where natural resources exist that are passed on to consumers with minimal processing or change; and
- b. where oil and gas exploration and/or development has occurred.

(See also LWVUS *Impact on Issues* for additional siting criteria.)

5. Responsibility: Generators should bear primary responsibility and liability for hazardous waste. Transporters and waste facility owners and op-

erators should also handle wastes in a responsible manner and be held liable if negligent. The League supports measures to assure financial responsibility (such as insurance and performance bonds) by all parties involved, from generation to final disposition of wastes. Hazardous waste management is a responsibility to be shared by generators, transporters, waste facility owners, operators, and the public.

6. Costs: Generators should bear the major share of direct costs for hazardous waste management. Adjacent property owners, residents, and users of surface and ground water should not bear the burden of improperly managed hazardous materials. (Adopted September 1988)

7. For hazardous materials transportation, LWVO supports, in order of priority:
- a. Strict enforcement of container regulation;
 - b. Mandatory reporting to state and local authorities of spills of reportable quantities, including those involving intra-state carriers;
 - c. Strict enforcement of placarding, labeling, and documenting requirements;
 - d. Permits for trucking companies carrying hazardous materials with ability to suspend or revoke such permits;
 - e. Routing requirements for certain selected extremely hazardous materials, including:
 - 1.) the specification and/or the disapproval of some routes for some shipments;
 - 2.) requirements for an escort for some shipments; and
 - 3.) prenotification for some shipments.
 - f. State-regulated training for drivers and loaders and
 - g. Collection, coordination, and analysis of data.

8. For right-to-know/emergency response, LWVO supports:
- a. Strong enforcement of laws and regulations; and
 - b. More concentration on prevention of accidents involving hazardous materials.

Position: Land Use

(Adopted May 1999; amended May 2003)

1. LWVO supports both urban revitalization and farmland preservation and the curbing of suburban sprawl.

2. The State of Ohio should provide authority and incentives for local governments to plan together regionally as well as to exercise innovative additional land use planning and regulatory techniques such as land banking, planned unit developments, purchase and transfer of development rights, limited development ordinances, scenic easements, agricultural districts, cluster development, conservation reserves and land trusts, urban enterprise zones, environmental impact assessments, impact fees, tax abatement, and zoning efforts.

3. There should be an enforcement system that includes a method of appeal or arbitration where conflicting land use needs exist. (Adopted March 1977)

4. Eminent domain shall be used by the appropriate governmental or "quasi" governmental body as a means of acquiring land for the following purposes, providing that good land use planning and decision-making procedures have been instituted and provided that such application is used only after all other methods of acquisition fail:

- a. highways and railroads;
- b. parks and open spaces;
- c. utility corridors;
- d. power siting;
- e. public developments (i.e., schools and hospitals);
- f. urban renewal;
- g. transportation terminals; and
- h. areas of critical concern such as fragile or historical lands.

Positions: Interbasin Transfer of Water

(Adopted May 1987)

Interstate and interbasin transfers of water have been made in the past to serve municipalities, industries, energy development, and agriculture. However, approval of those transfers was based on less complete information about their effects on aquatic ecosystems than is now available. It is inevitable that requests for such transfers will be made in the future and will require carefully considered responses. However,

- a. Construction costs of large-scale water transfers are high, and economic losses in the basin of origin may also be high.
- b. Environmental costs of water transfers may include quantitative and qualitative changes in lake levels, wetlands, and related fisheries

and wildlife, diminished aquifer recharge, and reduced stream flows;

- c. Lowered water tables may affect ground water quality and cause land subsidence.

Therefore, any diversion plan:

- a. Must include an understanding of the fragility and the incomplete knowledge of the ecological, economic, and social nature of the area of origin, the area through which the water must pass, and the receiving area; and
- b. Must contain methods for reviewing and adapting the plan to protect the affected areas during all stages of development, operation, termination, and post-termination of the interbasin transfer.

As we look to the future, water transfer decisions will need to incorporate the high costs of moving water, the limited availability of unallocated water, and impacts on the affected ecosystems.

LWVO believes that the criteria for evaluating both the decision-making process and the suitability of a proposed interbasin transfer of water should include:

1. Ample and effective opportunities for informed public participation in the formulation and analysis of proposed projects;
2. Evaluation of all economic, social, and environmental impacts in the basin of origin, the receiving area, and any area through which the diversion must pass, so that decision makers and the public have adequate information on which to base their conclusions;
3. Examination of all short- and long-term economic costs including, but not limited to, construction, delivery, operation, maintenance, and market interest rate;
4. Examination of alternatives including, but not limited to, supply options, water conservation, water pricing, and reclamation;
5. Participation and review by all affected governments;
6. Accord with international treaties;
7. Procedures for resolution of intergovernmental conflicts;

8. Responsibility for funding to be borne primarily by the user with no federal subsidy, loan guarantees, or use of the borrowing authority of the federal government unless the proposal is determined by all levels of League to be in the national interest; and

9. An enforceable intergovernmental agreement with supervision separate from implementation and with assurances that any mitigation offered to alleviate any adverse impacts be financed.

As the waters of the Great Lakes basin are interconnected, the present and future condition of the Great Lakes' ecosystem should be a primary consideration when weighing the water needs of other areas. LWVO recommends that:

1. Water conservation should be a goal of all concerned governments in the Great Lakes Region,
2. All concerned governments in the Great Lakes Region should have water accounting systems and should adopt water use plans as a basis for prudent management of the Great lakes;
3. The Great Lakes Compact bans diversions of Great Lakes water to points outside the Great lakes basin, with limited exceptions, and requires the use of conservation programs within the basin. The Great Lakes basin is defined by the five lakes and land that drains into them. Eight states and two Canadian provinces have land in the basin.
4. Canadian interests must be considered in Great Lakes resource decision making. At a minimum, existing mechanisms for these international discussions, such as the International Joint Commission, and ad hoc technical task forces should be strengthened;
5. Because the Great Lakes are international, future investment and development in the region should include cooperative United States-Canadian management of the water resource; and
6. Since the Great Lakes' waters are currently used for multiple and competing purposes, any proposals for additional diversion decisions must take into account the potential impact on ecological, economic, aesthetic, navigational, energy generation, national security, and general welfare values.



Please Join the League of Women Voters
 Celebrating 91 Years of Women's Suffrage!

Susan B Anthony Luncheon

Saturday, February 12, 2011
 The Phoenix, 812 Race St, Downtown



“UC 2019: A Global University”

Dr Gregory H Williams

President, University of Cincinnati
 Author, *Life on the Color Line*

11 am - Noon: Social Hour & Silent Auction
 Noon - 2 pm: Luncheon & Keynote Speech

Tickets \$35 per person or \$300 for a table of ten or \$1000 for a sponsorship table of ten
 Luncheon includes chicken or vegan entree, salad, rolls, dessert, and coffee/tea

Event benefits the League's tax-deductible 501(c)(3) Education Fund. Fair Market Value received is \$23.50 per person

Reserve by February 3 with coupon below or online by February 7 at lwvcincinnati.org
 All-day Saturday parking is \$2 at the adjacent Garfield Garage, 13 W Ninth St

Guest Name	Chicken or Vegan?	Guest Name	Chicken or Vegan?
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Your email or phone _____

_____ No of single tickets @ \$35	\$ _____
_____ Table of ten @ \$300	\$ _____
_____ Sponsorship table @ \$1000	\$ _____

I can't attend but enclose a tax-deductible contribution to support LWVCA nonpartisan services \$ _____

Mail with check payable to "LWVCA EF" by February 3 to: LWVCA, 103 Wm H Taft Rd, Cincinnati OH 45219
 For more information, call the League office at (513) 281-8683
 Thank you for supporting the League of Women Voters!



Join Us for
DINNER WITH THE LEAGUE

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area

Monday, January 24, 2011

Speaker: Neil F. Tilow
President / CEO , Talbert House

Topic: "Alternatives to Jail Facilities: A Better Way"

5:30 Social Time; 6:00 Dinner 6:45 Speaker

At the Marriott Kingsgate Conference Hotel at UC
151 Goodman Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45219

(Complimentary Garage Parking or Valet Parking Available)

Directions to Kingsgate: West on Wm. H. Taft to slight rt. on Jefferson; slight left on Vine St. to rt. on Goodman Dr. Signs direct you to Conference Center and valet parking or parking garage.

For additional information, call 513-281-8683

Make your reservation by Jan. 21st by sending the following form and check or registering and paying online at www.lwvcincinnati.org.

Please reserve ___ seat(s) for *Dinner with the League* at The Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center on Monday, Jan. 24, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

Name(s) _____ Telephone # _____

Address _____

Dinner preference is (Check one for each person attending. *You will be responsible for the \$25 charge.*):

- Grilled Chicken with Tomatoes, Fresh Basil, and Fontina Cheese
- Lemon Peppered Tilapia with Cilantro Cream
- Roasted Vegetarian Cannelloni

All above entrees include salad, vegetable, rolls, coffee or tea, and dessert.

_____ Amount enclosed (\$25.00 per meal, gratuities included)

_____ I will be coming only for the presentation following the dinner at no cost.

Send reservation, meal choice, and check for \$25.00 per person (payable to "LWVCA") by Jan. 21st deadline to: LWVCA, 103 Wm. H. Taft Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45219.