



THE LEAGUE

OF WOMEN VOTERS of the CINCINNATI AREA

THE VOTER

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October 2009

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MISSION STATEMENT

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.



COMMUNITY SHARES
of Greater Cincinnati
LWVCA Education Fund is a member of Community Shares

ELECTION SEASON: CANDIDATE AND ISSUE FORUMS

Join the LWVCA for a series of informational events

All events are free, non-partisan and open to the public.

Listed below and on page 3 are events sponsored or cosponsored by the League of Women Voters. There are also many more, sponsored by other organizations. For that list, see the Upcoming Events page of our website, www.lwvcincinnati.org, or call the office.

To see your customized ballot by address, use our SmartVoter website (see red box on right side of the lwvcincinnati.org page).

OVERVIEW OF STATE AND LOCAL BALLOT ISSUES

Wednesday, September 23 7:00 pm

Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 Wm. Howard Taft 45219

STATE ISSUES

1. *Proposed Constitutional Amendment - Compensation to Veterans of the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts*
2. *Proposed Constitutional Amendment - Create Livestock Care Standards Board*
3. *Proposed Constitutional Amendment - Casino Gambling*

COUNTY ISSUES

4. *Hamilton Co. - Tax Levy - Add - .34ml - 5yr - Family Services & Treatment Programs*
5. *Hamilton Co. - Tax Levy - Ren & Inc - 4.13ml - 5yr - Developmental Disabilities*
6. *Hamilton Co. - Tax Levy - Ren & Dec - .18ml - 5yr - Museum Center*
7. *Public Library - Tax Levy - Add - 1ml - 5yr - COE & Capital Improvements*

CITY ISSUES

8. *City of Cincinnati - Proposed Charter Amendment - Regional Water District*
9. *City of Cincinnati - Proposed Charter Amendment - Passenger Rail Transportation*

Cosponsors: League of Women Voters, Woman's City Club

CINCINNATI SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM

Monday, October 5, 7:00 pm

Woodward Career Technology High School, Reading & Seymour, Bond Hill.

Invited Candidates: Jason Haap, Mary Welsh Schlueter, Christopher McDowell, Catherine Ingram, Vanessa White, Lisa Schare, Melanie Bates, Ceair J. Baggett, John Banner, Eileen Cooper Reed, Joyce E. Hooks, Curtis A. Wells

Cosponsors: League of Women Voters, Woman's City Club, AIR Inc., Cincinnati Association, NAACP, American Jewish Committee, Parents for Public Education

(Continued on page 3)

What are YOUR questions for the candidates? Email your questions (specify which forum) to cincinnati2009elections@yahoo.com. Questions will be selected by the sponsoring civic organizations. You will be notified if your question is used.

Welcome to a promising and busy year for the League! We are a respected and valued organization in the area and we depend on you to keep us vibrant and meaningful. As the year begins you can become involved with devoting as little as one hour for a unit meeting/forum or as much time as your interest and talents allow. You will learn as well as provide an important community contribution by working with the League.



There are many activities to choose from:

- Join one of our program committees - City Government, County Government, Diversity, Education, Health Care, Housing, Natural Resources, or Transportation.
- Attend a unit meeting this month (and any other month) to discuss current issues. This month discusses issues on the November ballot. Unit meeting time and dates are listed on page 11.
- Join our fundraising effort that **Marjorie Davies** and **Jeanne Goings** have organized. There will be letter writing parties in which members write personal notes to friends to be mailed with the *Who and What*, reminding people that we provide a valuable community service and need financial support to continue.
- Attend one of the candidate/issue forums that we are sponsoring (see details on pages 1 and 3)
- If you are computer savvy, volunteer to help us prepare for this fall's elections.
- Volunteer to answer phones in the office for citizens seeking information. Training provided.
- Be a speaker or moderator for the League.
- Help with planning for the 90th anniversary Celebration/ Susan B. Anthony which will be held on February 27, 2010. **Mary Kay Gardner** and **Helen Rhoad** are in charge with **Marjorie Davies** and **Sherrie Heyse** assisting. Or help out with the April 2010 Visions luncheon event; right now a planning committee is forming.
- Join us for "Dinner with the League" this year. The first dinner was Sept 21 with Brewster Rhoades as speaker. Next dinners will be Oct 26 Nov 23, Jan 25, and Mar 22 at the Kingsgate Marriott Conference Hotel.
- Join the effort to oppose the charter amendment on the proposed restriction on rail transit.
- Help with the Cincinnati Public School Renewal levy.
- And remember to RENEW your membership!

You can get more information on any of the above activities by going to our website or calling the League office at 281-8683. Pick a cause and join a team! I look forward to working with you.

Respectfully, *Alice B. Schneider*

From the LWVCA Board.....

By Alice Schneider, President

The Board has voted to endorse the Cincinnati Public Schools renewal levy that will appear on the November ballot. Thanks to the Education committee for their diligent work. They are **Burt Roehr, Carl Schmidt, Donna Dansker, Kathy Hosking, Sherrie Heyse**.

The Board voted to oppose the proposed City of Cincinnati Charter Amendment which would restrict passenger rail transit (see p.3). Thanks to City Government Committee (**Carolyn Miller Chris Moran, Gretchen Langdon, Jane Anderson, Bette Evanshine, Nancy Forbriger, Corinne Gutjahr and Don Rhoad**) for their work on this issue.

The president sent a letter to the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) Board seeking expressing concern about Arnold Barnett's remarks on Section 8 housing and asking for his removal as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of CMHA. The president also sent a letter to the Mayor and City Council Members urging the City to continue operating cold shelters this winter.

The League will be co-sponsoring several issue and candidate forums this fall. More on page 3.

LWVCA 2009-10 Board of Directors:
 President: *Alice Schneider*
 President Elect: *OPEN*
 Treasurer: *Kim Thompson*
 Secretary: *Glenda Bernstein*
 VP, Program: *Don Rhoad*
 VP, Fund Development: *Marjorie Davies*
 VP, Administration: *Pinky Kokoshis*
 VP, Voter Service: *Melissa Currence*
 Director, Action: *Gretchen Langdon*
 Director, Membership: *Carolyn Meyers-Hughes*
 Director, Unit Coordinator: *Susan Lehman*
 Director, Planned Giving: *Dee Shaffer*

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE DEBATE

Thursday, October 8, 7 – 9:30 pm

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road – Trustee Meeting Room

All candidates attending: Greg Delev; Kevin O’Brien; Michael Paolucci; Peggy Reis; Albert Peter.

7-8 Debate, 8:30-9:30 coffee and chatter. Anderson Community Television will televise the debate for rebroadcast until the election.

CINCINNATI MAYORAL DEBATE

Tuesday, October 13 8:00 pm

WCPO Channel 9 TV. Broadcast live

Candidates Attending: Mark Mallory and Brad Wenstrup

Cosponsors: Cincinnati Association, League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber.

CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM

TOPIC: Strategies for Neighborhood Revitalization in the Midst of Financial Crisis

Saturday, October 10 7:30 pm

The Greenwich, 2442 Gilbert Avenue, 45206; Walnut Hills

Candidates Invited: Anitra Brockman, Cecil Thomas, Charlie Winburn, George Zamary, Chris Bortz, Bernadette Watson, Greg Harris, Laketa Cole, Tony Fischer, Amy Murray, Wendell Young, Chris Monzel, Laure Quinlivan, Roxanne Qualls, Nicholas Hollan, Kevin Flynn, LaMarque Ward, Jeff Berding, Leslie Ghiz

Cosponsors: The Greenwich, League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area.

For info: The Greenwich (513) 221-1151.

These Cincinnati and Hamilton County forums are a collaborative effort of the Cincinnati Association, Citizens for Civic Renewal, League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area, Woman’s City Club and Urban League of Greater Cincinnati; five local organizations are working together to improve citizen engagement in our city and region.

The Anderson Forum is an effort of the League of Women Voters, Anderson Unit.

ACTION:

League Opposes Issue 9 Passenger Rail Charter Amendment

By Carolyn Miller, City Government Committee

The LWVCA Board took action at its August 11, 2009, meeting and voted to oppose Issue 9, the City of Cincinnati Passenger Rail Charter Amendment, following a recommendation by the City Government Committee.

The League’s City Government Committee had studied the proposed Charter amendment over a period of several months. At separate meetings, the committee met with proponents, opponents, the City Manager and Interim Transportation Department Director as well as conducted a full discussion by the committee. In evaluating the proposal, Local and National LWV Transportation and economic development positions and LWV Land Use and Ohio Constitution positions were used to arrive at the recommendation to the Board.

To defeat this issue League members will be working in coalition with Citizens to Protect the Charter and Cincinnatians for Progress.

About Issue 9:

This proposed Ballot Issue, if approved, would amend the Charter of the City of Cincinnati by adding a new Article XIV. The new article would require the approval of City voters before the City or any of its Boards and Commissions could spend money for right-of-way acquisition or construction of improvements for any passenger rail transportation, including, but not limited to, streetcars.

This proposed Charter amendment was placed on the ballot through an initiative petition process that gathered sufficient qualified signatures requiring City Council to place the issue on the November 2009 ballot.

For more information on Issue 9 see the buff pages in this issue of the *Voter*.

LWVUS ACTION ALERT:

Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

“By accepting the Convention, States commit themselves to undertake a series of measures to end discrimination against women in all forms, including: to incorporate the principle of equality of men and women in their legal system, abolish all discriminatory laws and adopt appropriate ones prohibiting discrimination against women; to establish tribunals and other public institutions to ensure the effective protection of women against discrimination; and to ensure elimination of all acts of discrimination against women by persons, organizations or enterprises.” www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/

CEDAW is a comprehensive international treaty establishing a legal framework to which all governments must adhere. It provides a universal standard for women’s human rights and a fundamental framework for ending international violence against women, ensuring girls access to education, and promoting economic opportunity and political participation for women.

The United States should set an example in its commitment to women and expanding women’s rights by ratifying CEDAW. Yet we remain the only democracy in the world that has not ratified the CEDAW Treaty. Call the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 and ask for your Senators’ offices. Urge Senators Brown and Voinovich to support ratification of the CEDAW Treaty for the Rights of Women today!

A MESSAGE FROM MARY WILSON, President of LWVUS

A newly formed organization calling itself the “League of American Voters” is conducting an advertising campaign against health care reform that seeks to undermine public support by sowing fear and mistrust. We sent a letter calling them to task for using a name clearly designed to be confused with the League of Women Voters in order to disseminate misleading information and block health care reform. We asked them to reveal the major sources of funding for the advertising campaign.



Their response? A blast email to their followers condemning the League of Women Voters.

We have begun to get disruptive and downright rude phone calls and emails from “supporters” of the so-called League of American Voters. We are arranging for greater security due to a variety of threats that have been made. And we’ve begun exploring what legal options are available to help us protect our name in the face of those who are misusing it.

Make no mistake: The League of Women Voters believes quality, affordable health care should be available to all Americans. As a 90-year-old membership organization that is one of the most trusted nonpartisan voices in the United States, we know that health care reform must protect coverage for those who have it, provide coverage for those who desperately need it, and protect us all against skyrocketing costs.

MAKING HOME AFFORDABLE

From the US Dept of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

The White House recently announced the Making Home Affordable Program, designed to assist up to nine million American families refinance or modify their loans to a monthly mortgage payment that is more affordable. But hom-eowners are increasingly becoming the target of scammers trying to take advantage with false promises and steep fees to provide foreclosure assistance. A homeowner NEVER has to pay to participate in the program. If you wish to obtain housing assistance, HUD urges you to contact a local HUD-approved housing counseling agency to ensure you are receiving legitimate information.

Resources: Making Home Affordable at www.makinghomeaffordable.gov; HUD Approved Counselors: www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm; 1-800-569-4287.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR OHIO

From Joan Platz, LWV Ohio Lobbyist

While some experts are seeing signs of a national economic recovery, Ohio's economy continues to under perform, and the state's credit rating has recently been downgraded by Moody's Investors Service. (Bloomberg.com, June 15, 2009). One of the reasons given for the credit adjustment is Ohio's FY10-11 budget, which is based on one-time funds, federal stimulus dollars, delayed debt payments, and estimated revenue from Video Lottery Terminals. The rainy day fund was also used to balance the FY09 budget, and is no longer available to help balance future state budgets. Some critical state revenue sources are also being challenged in the courts, such as the Commercial Activity Tax paid by grocers, the use of Tobacco Settlement funds, and Video Lottery Terminals.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF:

Upcoming Legislation in the Ohio General Assembly

By LWV Ohio Lobbyist Joan Platz

Over the next few months lawmakers in the Ohio House, led by House Speaker Armond Budish, and the Ohio Senate, led by Senate President Bill Harris, are expected to continue work on a variety of topics, including the following:

- Redistricting (SJR4-Coughlin, Cates and SJR5-Husted)
- Reauthorization of the Third Frontier Program
- Election laws (HB 260-Stewart, Heard and SB8-Seitz)
- Campaign finance limits/gambling interests
- Ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation (HB 176- Stewart, McGregor)
- Limits on cell phone/text messaging while driving (Six bills have been introduced: two in the Ohio Senate, and four in the Ohio House.)
- Limiting the prevailing wage
- Revisiting payday lending (HB 209-Lundy)
- Budget corrections bill
- Pension system adjustments

Senator Husted intends to introduce legislation to make Ohio more competitive for the U.S. Department of Education's "Race to the Top" program. This includes authorizing more charter schools and adjusting to Ohio's value added component.

Depending on Ohio Supreme Court decisions, lawmakers may also need to respond to four court cases, which could have over a billion dollar impact on the state's budget. The cases involve the anti-tobacco trust fund, DIRECTV, Inc., the Commercial Activity Tax, and video lottery terminals in Ohio's race tracks.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CENSUS

From Diedra Reese, Executive Director, LWV Ohio and Ann Nelson, ImPACT Ohio

LWVO/LWVUS: As we approach the 2010 census it is very important to ensure that every Ohio resident is counted. This is particularly important for Ohio, as the state is expected to lose one or two congressional seats as a result of population decreases. The loss of any congressional seat will have a direct impact upon the way new districts will be drawn in 2011.

While representation is a key issue, communities may also experience a financial impact as support for many federal programs are based upon census data. Ohio could lose up to \$12,000 in federal support for each person that is not counted in the Census. For example if 100,000 people, which represents less than one percent of our estimated population in Ohio, are not counted we could lose **\$1,200,000,000** which could support public schools, access to health care and other critical community services.

Public awareness of the importance of the census is paramount to increasing participation and cooperation: The League is involved in that effort. First, the LWVO is a member of the statewide *Ohio Complete Count Committee* (CCC) established by Gov. Strickland to increase awareness about the 2010 census and educate / motivate Ohioans to participate. Ohio League President Meg Flack represents the League on the CCC. The committee will work collaboratively with local Complete Count Committees and the U.S. Census Bureau to 1) Ensure a complete count through education and promotion; 2) Increase counts in hard-to-count areas; and 3) Increase mail-back rates of census materials.

(Continued page 6)

IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE IN HAMILTON COUNTY

By *Elizabeth Brown* (abridged with permission from the *Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) Newsletter*)

Every five years, cities and counties that receive Federal block grant funding must prepare a planning document called an *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice*. This requirement is the Federal government's way of pushing local communities to take seriously their obligation to affirmatively further fair housing. This year, Cincinnati and Hamilton County contracted with HOME to prepare a joint fair housing analysis. HOME submitted a report to the City and County that identified seven impediments and 18 recommendations.

The impediments to fair housing choice in Hamilton County in 2009 include:

- A lack of a positive community vision of diverse, mixed-income communities. Progress is noticeable with County planning efforts and civic efforts to promote stable integrated communities. However, there are regular outcries from neighbors who fear that low-income people of color will "destroy" their neighborhood.
- The Housing Choice Voucher program (Section 8) has been successful in providing housing choice. However, families have little help in finding rental units in low poverty areas or support in making integrative moves. Too often, they are greeted by hostile neighbors and community leaders who say they are not wanted.
- Predatory lending by brokers and national mortgage companies targeted Black neighborhoods. As a result, the home foreclosure crisis has impacted African Americans at higher rates than other racial and ethnic groups.
- A lack of accessible housing for people with physical disabilities limits their housing choice and ability to live integrated in the community.
- People with disabilities, particularly people with mental disabilities and recovering alcoholics and drug users, are the target of illegal housing discrimination by individual landlords and actions by local governments to keep them out.
- The general public does not know it is illegal to discriminate against families with children.
- Sexual harassment by landlords of female tenants is sex discrimination under the Fair Housing Act, but is often not reported.

The full report is posted on HOME's website, www.cincyfairhousing.com.



TELEVISION AND COMPUTER RECYCLING

The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District computer recycling program has moved from St. Bernard to Blue Ash. The new name and location is: 2trg, 11093 Kenwood Road, Blue Ash, Ohio. This year the District has incorporated a television recycling component into the computer recycling program. Computer equipment recycling will be free. Fees for recycling televisions vary from 0-\$20 depending on size and manufacturer. Both programs are for Hamilton County Residents only.

CENSUS - (Continued from page 6)

Second, the LWVO is participating on the statewide *Ohio Census Initiative - You Can Count on Me*, a nonprofit committee working to increase participation by focusing on 300 of the most difficult census tracts for intensive efforts to get an accurate count. Karen Rainey, the LWVO lobbyist for housing issues and our representative on the Midwest Democracy Network, serves as the League representative. Many of LWVO/EF's coalition partners are also participating.

Through the *Midwest Democracy Network*, a consortium of organizations which includes LWVO, Ohio Citizen Action and more are focusing on areas in cities with the highest concentration of hard-to-count census tracts: Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati. Traditionally, hard-to-count (HTC) census tracts have low census form mail-back rates. In Ohio this accounts for 10.8% of the total population.

The LWVO's Ohio imPACT is planning several Town Hall Meetings designed to help citizens make the connection between Redistricting and the Census.

LWVUS is also a CCC partner at the national level. LWVUS is placing an emphasis on the Census and suggest tying activities to 90th anniversary celebrations. Working with national and local organizations across the country, the League has a vital role in ensuring a successful, civically responsible count takes place.

How should Cincinnati be involved?

For additional information visit www.lwv.org, and navigate to Members, projects and programs, Census 101.

You're Invited to Attend a

Letter -Writing Party

Send a *Who & What of Elections* to your friends

and

Benefit the LWVCA Annual Campaign

Participate at your October unit meeting or an
Open-House Party offering light fare

- Thursday, October 15, 4-8 pm at Marjorie Davies's or
- Monday, October 19, 4-8 pm at Sherrie Heyse's
(Arrive and depart as your schedule permits)

Share your love of League with friends and colleagues
Bring your address book or contacts file
All other materials will be provided

All mailings will include a pre-printed letter
Describing our work and inviting contributions

Write a personal note expressing your support for LWVCA's work
Hand-address the outside envelope
First-class postage will be provided

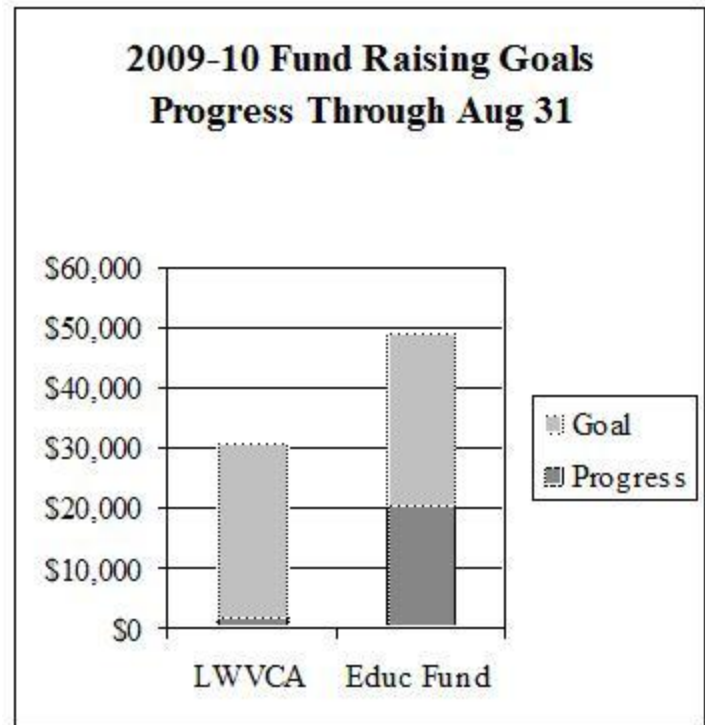
**Join your League friends in this
fun and important project!**

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

By Marjorie Davies

The 2009-10 Annual Campaign is underway! Please support the LWVCA services you value by making a generous contribution today. Goals for the Annual Campaign are \$15,000 for the LWVCA and \$30,000 for the Education Fund. Kickoff began with the membership dues-renewal mailings in August; it continues with community and corporate appeals in the *Who & What of Elections* mailings in October and concludes with the March local Phonathon.

Your contribution(s) to the LWVCA and/or the Education Fund are much needed to help us reach our fund raising goals! Send your check(s) made payable to "LWVCA" (not tax deductible) or "LWVCA Education Fund" (tax deductible) to 103 W H Taft Rd, Cincinnati OH 45219. Or make a donation by credit card or PayPal by visiting our website, lwcincinnati.org, and click on "Donate." Thank you for supporting the League of Women Voters.



LEAGUE LINGO:

VOTER GUIDE: Nonpartisan publication giving candidates' qualifications and positions on selected issues. In Cincinnati, we call our guide "*Who and What of Elections*," or *W&W*. It also has a more extended and personalized internet version: "SmartVoter".

VOTERS SERVICE: Year-round activity to help citizens be politically effective and to encourage their participation in the political process. Registering voters and presenting factual, nonpartisan information on candidates and election issues are basic voters service activities. Melissa Currence is LWVCA's Voter Service Chair

PDC: Program Development Committee: A council of the chairs of each of LWVCA's program committees (healthcare, natural resources, transportation, city government, county government, education, housing, diversity). PDC meets monthly usually on the fourth Wednesday, and is responsible for developing most of the unit discussion materials, briefings on ballot issues and levies, and advocacy activities.

HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT GREEN SPEAKERS SERIES

Tuesday, October 6: "*Composting at Home*," John Duke, Master Composter
6:30 pm, Miami Township Senior Center

Tuesday, October 20: "*Recycling 101*," Holly Christmann, Manager; Michelle Balz, Community Outreach Coordinator.
6:30 pm, Miami Township Senior Center



GETTING READY: 90TH ANNIVERSARY GALA CELEBRATION

The LWVCA's 90th Anniversary/Susan B. Anthony Celebration is going to be a gala! February 27, 2010 is the date! The Westin Hotel will be the location! An evening dinner is planned with the Galvin Brothers roasting a few of Cincinnati's finest! **Pinky Kocoshis** and **Gail Wick** are busy sewing a quilt to raffle. (It's a "log cabin" pattern with appliquéd flowers, vines, leaves—and a cabin.) This is one event you do not want to miss..... Contact **Mary Kay Gardner** if you'd like to help.



We're also getting started on another dynamic silent auction for the Feb 27 event. LWVCA Units are invited to create baskets or provide other items for the auction block. Eye catching baskets of wine, party supplies, food, personal care, and baby items are always a hit - and consider donations of books, art, small antiques and unique crafts. Baskets and other auction donations are due by February 5, 2010. We know this is pretty far in advance, so mark your calendars so you won't forget to be part of this spectacular fundraiser. Contact **Lora Jollis** for more information or to schedule pick up of your items.



LWVCA BOARD RETREAT ACTION PLAN

On August 29 2009, members of the current and prior LWVCA Board met to discuss action plans for our League. **Alice Schneider** led the effort, and **Lora Jollis** facilitated. We reviewed prior year plans and the progress that has been made, looked at the work we currently do, brainstormed items that should be added or dropped, prioritized the results, and picked a few. Lora emphasized that this does not mean other items we do are not important, only that these items might need an extra focus this year.

1) Fundraising for current activities and for additional staff/contractors

- a) Comprehensive fundraising plan
- b) Develop analysis on cost of adding staff, full or part time
- c) Develop job descriptions/duties

2) Public Relations to get our word out more effectively

- a) Recruit professional firm to do analysis and/or find a member who has same skills
- b) Board conducts a limited self evaluation
- c) Recruit PR position for Board
- d) Engage other Leagues for information/assistance

3) Membership Recruitment/Retention

- a) Member/volunteer orientation
- b) Institute ongoing member training
- c) Develop a training series, open to public, and geared to members
- d) Break down volunteer tasks into more manageable chunks; Identify manageable tasks
- e) Have Unit Leaders call members in each zip code to encourage them to participate and find out what League has to offer them, and what they have to offer League.

4) Backburner issue (requires increased capacity) Expanded services in Butler and Warren Counties



"In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins - not through strength, but through perseverance."
H. Jackson Brown.'

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Susan Lehman

Susan Lehman is a new member of the LWVCA Board, serving as Unit Coordinator

Q: Tell me a bit about you, your job and family:

A: My husband and I returned to Cincinnati after a 25 year sojourn in the mountains of western Virginia where I was a college chaplain. After years of living in the country we decided that we were ready to return to the city and now make our home on Fourth Street, near the Taft Museum and just two blocks from Sawyer Point. What a treat for us to return to the city and find those wonderful parks along the Ohio river.



Susan hosting Metro Day members for luncheon in her home last November

Q: When, how and why did you become a league member?

A: I was first a League member about 40 years ago while living in Hamilton, Ohio. Teaching U.S. Government in a local high school I often used materials prepared by the League. Upon our return to Cincinnati we were guests of a friend who took us to a Susan B. Anthony luncheon that featured the Hamilton County Coroner as speaker. I joined following that event and attend the Metro Day Unit.

Q: What do you enjoy about league membership?

A: The people I have met through Unit meetings and 'Dinner With the League' are what I enjoy the most. And what I value the most are the carefully prepared 'buff' pages that encourage reflection and conversation.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: In addition to a wide range of opportunities that are within easy walking distance downtown, I treasure the libraries. In recent weeks I have been reading novels by Chris Bohjalian and a timely book, by Forrest Church, entitled "So Help Me God: The Founding Fathers And The First Great Battle Over Church And State."

IN MEMORIAM

The League mourns the passing of Nancy Minson, a long time member of our organization and other groups working for the rights of women and minorities. She was active in League's City Government Committee. Nancy was long-time Executive Director of the Mental Health Association; she was active in Woman's City Club, Women's Political Caucus, and many other groups. She served her city on the Cincinnati Citizen Complaint Authority and Citizens Police Review Panel. Nancy was a strong supporter of gay rights and worked hard to rid the City Charter of the discriminatory Article 12. Her shoes will be hard to fill.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

To **Sue Radabaugh**, winner of the **2009 Orpha Gatch Citizenship Award**, presented by the League of Women Voters of Clermont County. The Gatch award is presented to the Clermont county resident who best exemplifies the energy and optimism of the early suffragettes by volunteering to improve her community. Other 2009 award nominees included Lisa Davis, Julie Graybill, Yvonne Haight, Regina Herbolt, Connie Hunter, Ginny Kaldmo, Charlotte Schadler, and Nancy Middleton.

LWVCA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS (August 09)

John Bruggeman - National member
Elaine Schiffer - National member

The Voter is the official monthly newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area.
The Voter Editor: **Rina Saperstein**. Office Staff:
Susan Gorman. Proofer: **Alice Schneider**.
Layout and design: **Kit Berger**.

**Calendar:
OCTOBER UNIT MEETINGS**

Ballot Issues

2nd Thursday 10/8/09

Eastern Day: 12:00 noon with brown bag lunch,
Marjorie P. Lee Home, 3550 Shaw Ave

2nd Monday of the Month 10/12/09

Hilltop: 7:00 pm tba*
Northeast Evening: 7:00 pm Madeira Public
Library, Euclid and Miami Ave

2nd Tuesday 10/13/09

College Hill: 11:30 am with snack, location TBA
North Central: 12:00 noon, Friendship United
Methodist Church, Springfield Pike & Fleming Rd
Anderson: 7:00 pm Anderson Government Center,
7850 Five Mile Road **Note changed day*
Warren County: 7:30 pm Mason United Methodist
Church, 773 Mason-Montgomery Rd.

2nd Wednesday 10/14/09

Central Evening: 7:15 pm League Office, 103 Wm
H. Taft

3rd Wednesday, 10/21/09

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

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

All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Join our public relations team and hone
your skills. We are putting together a team to
bring more visibility for the League. There are
various jobs and skills that we can use, and you
can volunteer from home for some of these jobs.
If you have a computer, you can update our list of
newspaper outlets. Other jobs would be to make
follow up calls to newspaper outlets or TV news
stations to check to see if they have gotten our
press releases. If you are interested, call Alice
Schneider.

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

*... where hands on work to safeguard democracy leads
to civic improvement.*

Any citizen of voting age, male or female, can become a
League member. Dues include Cincinnati, Ohio, and
National membership, including newsletters from each,
covering remainder of 2009 and all of 2010.

Individual Membership (\$55) _____

Household Membership (\$75) _____

Student Membership (\$25) _____

Dues pose a hardship; I can pay this amount:

Optional nondeductible contribution to LWVCA

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (h) _____ Phone (w) _____

Email _____

Mail to: LWVCA, 103 Wm H. Taft, Cincinnati OH 45219

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Each month of the program year we will try to
focus on one of the **7 Keys To Help League Membership
Grow**.

#2 Remember that recruiting new members is a critical
component of fulfilling the League's mission. Make
membership recruitment top priority for your League to
ensure that you have not only vision for change, but also
the resources to make those visions reality. Membership
recruitment should also be the work of the ENTIRE
team, not just the President or Membership Chair. Many
hands make light work!

Your assignment for October is to **include
membership recruitment in whatever work you do
for League**. How is membership included in your units?
In program committees? Voter service? Office work?



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 www.lwvcincinnati.org

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OCTOBER LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

*All meetings are open to the public and are held at the League Office, 103 Wm. Howard Taft unless otherwise noted.
Bring a friend!*

- Mon Oct 5 Voter Registration Deadline for November Election
 - Mon Oct 5 7:00 pm CPS School Board Candidates Forum, Woodward High School
 - Wed Oct 7 7:00 pm Anderson Center - Trustee Meeting Room 7850 Five Mile Road
 - Fri Oct 9 Deadline for November Voter
 - Sat Oct 10 7:00 pm City of Cincinnati Council Candidates Forum, 2440 Gilbert Ave.
 - Tues Oct 13 6:30 pm LWVCA Board Meeting
 - Tues Oct 13 8:00 pm Mayoral Debate, televised WCPO Channel 9
 - Thurs Oct 15 7:00 pm Natural Resources Committee
 - Mon Oct 19 6:30 pm County Government Committee
 - Thurs Oct 22 10 am – 12 pm Voter Collating Party NorthEast Evening Unit
 - Thurs Oct 22 Reservation Deadline for Dinner with the League
 - Sat Oct 24 1:00 pm Day Discussion Leaders Briefing (Local Program)
 - Mon Oct 26 5:30 pm Dinner with the League. Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center, 151 Goodman Ave- see flyer for details.
 - Tues Oct 27 6:30 pm Health Care Committee
 - Tues Oct 27 7:00 pm Housing Committee
 - Wed Oct 28 5:30 pm Program Development Committee (PDC)
 - Wed Oct 28 7:00 pm Discussion Leaders Briefing (Local Program)
- See our website www.lwvcincinnati.org for more information on upcoming events.*