



THE LOCAL VOTER



Volume XI Issue II

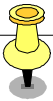
Trumbull County Edition

February 2009

**Membership Meeting
February 23, 2009
6:00 p.m.
Art Outreach Gallery
Eastwood Mall**

Topic: LWVO & LWVTC Program Planning (LWVO has tabled the “Consensus Meeting on Ohio Taxation and Finance” originally scheduled.)

Please enter the Eastwood Mall Entrance (there is an EWM logo over the door) which is next to J.C. Penney's. There will be a Subway on the left when you enter. Go to the concourse and turn left. The Art Outreach will be on the left side across from American Eagle Outfitters and next to Foot Locker.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 12
LWV Hudson meeting regional revenue sharing -7 pm Hudson Library

February 21
Board Meeting—9:30 am
Panera Community Room

March 17
Statehouse Day—Columbus

March 21
Board Meeting—9:30 am
Panera Community Room

April 18
Board Meeting—9:30 am
Panera Community Room

April 27
Town Hall Meeting w/LWVGY
Jewish Community Center

May 1-3 LWVO 2009 Convention
Columbus

May 16 LWVTC Annual Meeting



**Trumbull County Women’s History Dinner
Tuesday, March 24, 2009
5:30 p.m. Social 6:00 p.m. Dinner
Ciminero’s Banquet Center—Niles**

Tickets, which are \$20 will be available at our February 23 meeting or by calling Judie Hartley at 330-399-7063 or email her at JH7063@aol.com. Tables of 8 are available. Paid reservations are due by March 10.

NOTE: The LWV of Trumbull County will **not hold a membership meeting in March** due to the Women’s History Dinner being held the following night. Please make every effort to attend this celebration.

***Happy 89th Birthday
League of Women Voters
February 14, 2009***

President's Remarks

Terri Crabbs
tcrabbs@aol.com
330-637-3845

Dear Members,

I would like to give a big THANK YOU to Eddie Wolcott and her committee members for organizing a truly amazing Legislative Brunch. I would also like to thank our members and area women's clubs for showing your support on that cold snowy morning. It was great to see everyone and welcome to those members who attended for the first time!

The League of Women Voters celebrates its 89th birthday on February 14th! Now is the time for Americans to come together and tackle the tough challenges we all face. We should all be proud to be a part of the over 850 Leagues nationwide, as the League of Women Voters remains THE trusted place for citizens to discuss the issues, ask the difficult questions and demand accountability from their government to help keep our communities healthy, vibrant and strong.

There are a number of exciting opportunities for members to participate locally and on a state level this year. I encourage you to participate. You will be energized and learn more about the League. I plan to attend many of these events. If you are interested in attending one of these events, please call me or one of the other board members. We can arrange for carpooling and what better way to become acquainted with individuals who share common interests.

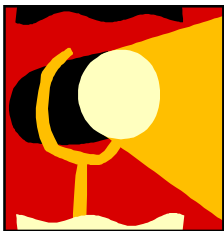
Our February member meeting will be held at the Art Outreach Gallery at the Eastwood Mall. Thank you to member Gail Stark for your suggestion to meet at the Gallery. This will give us an opportunity to view area artist's work. I look forward to seeing you there!

Terri

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MISSION STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Member Spotlight



Birthplace: Warren, Ohio
Current Residence: Cortland
Employer: Retired!
Family: Husband Robert, daughter Elise and son Kyle.
Pets: Frankie, a Snowshoe Siamese
Interests/Hobby: I love to swim but don't do

much. I also love to read. And of course I enjoy being a part of the League and TAG (Trumbull Art Gallery).

Years in League: 5

Why you joined League? I liked the women in the League and the mission was more than fundraising. I hoped to learn more about the political process.

Past/Present positions/activities in the League: 2nd Vice President, Membership Director, Director (2 years); Voter Services Committee with an emphasis on education; Worked on Town Hall committee, as a tour guide for Law Week; Worked on Candidate Forums, the Voter Guide, the Summer Sizzle, the Orientation Breakfast and Annual Meeting; co-chair for Observer Corps.

Other Organizations you hold membership in: I am the chairperson of the Board for the Trumbull Art Gallery.

Any other info to share: A lot of my time is taken up with my 92 year old mother and it is increasing, but I enjoy being with her.



Kirsten Burkey, 2nd Vice President

Take advantage of one of the main perks of being in League: direct access to legislators. So...

Statehouse Day 2009

March 17, 2009 9 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

at The Vern Riffe Center, Columbus

The Budget Shortfall: We're All Going to Feel the Pinch!

Harnessing the Power of League: What Can We Do in Ohio's Financial Crisis?

How will the projected \$7 billion deficit affect education, social services and other issues close to League members' hearts?
Where did it come from? What can we do?

MORNING SESSIONS:

- *Economist Howard Fleeter, Ph.D., of Driscoll & Fleeter*, has been invited to join us for "An Anatomy of a Budget Crisis."
- *Armond Budish, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives*, has been invited to join us for "What's Next: Legislative Priorities and Economic Realities."

LUNCH: An opportunity to network & exchange ideas with other participants and LWVO lobbyists.

AFTERNOON CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS/conversations: Meet with legislators, issue experts and League lobbyists to learn about and advocate your issue. Workshop choices: Health Care Reform & Funding -Election Reform-Education Funding Reform-Sunshine Laws and Government Transparency

CALL TO ACTION & Wrap up

Legislative Visits: We encourage participants to connect with their own legislators and make their own appointments to see them at the conclusion of Statehouse Day. Legislators' contact information can be found at www.legislature.state.oh.us. LWVO packets will be available to take to legislators' offices.

9- 9:45	Registration and Continental Breakfast
10:00-12:15	Sequential Morning Sessions
12:15-1:20	Lunch
1:30-3:00	Workshops/Conversations
3:00-3:15	Call to Action & Wrap Up

Join us for an exceptional day filled with information, advocacy and energizing networking.

A complete agenda and map to the Riffe Center will be emailed to registrants and are posted in the Statehouse Day section on LWVO's website (www.lwvohio.org). Questions? Call LWVO toll free at 1-877-LWV-OHIO.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2009 (One form per person)

Name _____ Local League _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Fee (meal & materials): \$35 adult _____ \$20 student _____ Special dietary needs _____

Make checks payable to LWVO and remit this form with payment to:

LWV Ohio 17 South High Street, Suite 650 Columbus, Ohio 43215

Bliss Institute of Applied Politics

During the 2008 election, a team of scholars at the University of Akron, Miami University, and Ohio University participated in a study of the presidential and congressional campaigns in Ohio. This effort was part of a national study coordinated by the Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy at BYU. Key to this study was the work of several hundred volunteers from around the state. League Member **Ron Tank Rotunno** was one of these volunteers.

Visit the University of Akron's website and the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at www.uakron.edu/bliss to access a copy of the report.

LWV of Trumbull County Joins Mahoning River Consortium

What is the Mahoning River Consortium? The Mahoning River Consortium (MRC) is a community-based, non-profit organization that seeks to restore the environmental integrity of the Mahoning River and the lands along the River Corridor.

The MRC also strives to enhance the social, recreational and economic development of all of the communities along the Mahoning River. The MRC advocates research, multiple use planning, education, recreation, social and economic activities that positively impact the quality of life along the river.

When and where are the meetings held? The monthly meetings are held at different locations throughout Trumbull and Mahoning Counties. Board meetings are held after the program. Visit their website at www.mahoningriver.com. Future meetings:

February Meeting

Date: Friday, February 20, 2009 @ 1:00 PM

Agenda: "*A Vision for Redeveloping Youngstown's River Corridor*"

Speaker: Jonathan Imler, architect for Olsavsky Jaminet Architects, Inc.

Location: Mahoning County Commissioners Hearing Room, Basement of the Mahoning County Courthouse, 120 Market Street, Downtown Youngstown 44503

March Meeting

Date: Friday, March 20, 2009 @ 1:00 p.m.

Agenda: *Historical Perspectives of the Mahoning River*

Speaker: H. William Lawson, Executive Director, The Mahoning Valley Historical Society

Location: Mahoning Valley History Center, 325 Federal Plaza West, Youngstown, Ohio 44503

Why did the League join the Mahoning River Consortium? Our League program on Land Use reads as follows We encourage the use by political subdivisions of planned goals and objectives for wise use of land, including the principals of smart growth, as a means of achieving a sound land use policy. We support legislation on restrictions of landfills (CDDL-Commercial Demolition Debris Landfills) and support the safety of the watershed in the Mahoning Valley. The MRC supports our program and through association with the MRC our members have access to information, interaction and working on a common goal.

Who is the League's contact & representative to the MRC? Judie Hartley (JH7063@aol.com—330-399-7063) is the League's voting representative to the MRC and will be attending meetings on a regular basis and reporting to membership. Others interested in attending these meetings, please contact Judie or feel free to attend as a League member on your own.

2009 Legislative Brunch

Submitted by Eddie Wolcott, Director & Event Chairperson

The 2009 Legislative Brunch was held at DiLucia's Banquet Center on Elm Rd. in Warren. There were 53 in attendance.

Thank you to the following elected officials for their attendance: Judge Diane Grendell, Judge Thomas Swift, Representatives Sandra Harwood and Tom Letson, Commissioner Paul Heltzel, Mayor Michael O'Brien, Mayor Michael Chaffee, Mayor Glenn Holmes, Senator Capri Cafaro and Senator Tim Grendell.

Registration was at 9 a.m. and a delicious breakfast buffet served at 9:30 a.m. Elected officials were invited to a complimentary breakfast. Pam Hallett, Janice Hardman and Gwen Logan handled the registration table and Charlotte Meloni directed people to seats trying to place at least one elected official at each table. Membership chairman, Kirsten Burkey talked with guests about our League. Hattie Hawkins gave the invocation. Mary Lou Jarrett was in charge of photos and publicity; Sue Smith and I did favors and centerpieces. Danielle Schmidt made up "goody bags" which were given as guests left.

The Chinese Auction was very successful, benefiting the League \$264. Sue Smith was chairman and assisted by Gail Stark and Charlotte Meloni. What a great response we had! Thank you to Pam Hallett, Kirsty Burkey, Shelby McElravy,

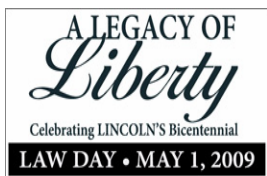
Legislative Brunch (Cont.)

Margaret Petrosky, Phyllys Savelle, Eddie Wolcott, Sue Smith, Terri Crabbs, Joanne Johnntony and Gwen Logan for your donations. They were all beautiful!

Shelby McElravy and Margaret Petrosky were in charge of the 50/50 raffle. \$56 was won by Mary Lou Jarrett and \$56 went to the League. Next year we will be sure to have more tickets—no fault of the sellers!

Women’s clubs from the area were very supportive—Carol Griffiths, president, Warren Republican Women’s Club; Juanita James, president, Warren Charter Chapter ABWA; Mary Theis, president Warren Federation of Women’s Clubs and Mary Lou Jarrett, vice president of Warren Junior Women’s League. We were also glad to have Melissa Long from LWV of Kent with us.

I hope the membership feels that Legislation Day was successful. I appreciate all those who helped in anyway!



WANTED VOLUNTEERS FOR LAW WEEK TOURS

The Trumbull County Bar Association, the League of Women Voters of Trumbull County and the Trumbull County Bar Auxiliary are again planning tours for Trumbull County high school seniors as part of Law Week celebrations. Volunteer tour guides are needed to escort the students to the Trumbull County Courthouse, Prosecutor’s Office, and Family/Juvenile Court Center. Students observe trials, tour the Juvenile Detention Center and learn about government and the law.

Each volunteer tour guide will have a group of 20 to 30 students. Tours begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 11:45 a.m. at the Courthouse. Tours are scheduled for Monday through Thursday, April 20 through 23; and Monday through Thursday, April 27 through April 30. Look for your notice to attend the Law Day Luncheon at Avalon Inn’s Grand Pavilion on Friday, May 1st.

Volunteers do not need to be an attorney, or to have knowledge of the court. To volunteer one morning, please complete and return the form below to Trumbull County Bar Association, P. O. Box 4222, Warren, OH, 44482, or you may deliver the form to the Bar Association office located in the Law Library, Lower Level. Any questions may be directed to the Bar Association at 330-675-2415, or William M. Flewares, Chair of Law Week Tours, at 330-399-8801.

RETURN THIS PORTION TO: The Trumbull County Bar Association,
P. O. Box 4222, Warren, OH 44482

LAW WEEK TOUR GUIDE

I can serve as a tour guide on the following date(s) from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ Monday, April 20 | _____ Monday, April 27 |
| _____ Tuesday, April 21 | _____ Tuesday, April 28 |
| _____ Wednesday, April 22 | _____ Wednesday, April 29 |
| _____ Thursday, April 23 | _____ Thursday, April 30 |

(Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

You will be contacted to confirm your date of availability.

Regionalism: Three Local Perspectives

On **Thursday, February 12** the Hudson Library and Historical Society will present the second in a series of three programs on the potential of regionalism to restore economic vitality to Northeast Ohio. **Co-sponsors** include the **Leagues of Women Voters** of the Akron Area, Cleveland Area, Cuyahoga Area, Greater Youngstown, Hudson, Lake County and **Trumbull County**.

The mayors of three representative communities will discuss the potential impact that regional government cooperation and tax base sharing might have on their cities. They include:

- Mayor Bruce Akers of Pepper Pike, an affluent Cleveland suburb of approximately 6000 people that is known for excellent schools and services.
- Mayor William Robertson of Rittman, the “Small Town with a Big Heart” that straddles both Wayne and Medina Counties and faces economic development problems common to rural northeast Ohio.
- Mayor Jay Williams of Youngstown a community that epitomizes the dilemma facing the areas shrinking industrial cities. Youngstown 2010, the city’s plan to redefine its role in the regional economy was featured in the Fall 2008 edition of *Next American City* (americancity.org)

Regionalism is gaining momentum among a significant group of area government and business officials as a means to address economic issues and global market competition. Proponents say we should turn away from competition among cities and counties towards a model of regional cooperation in order to maximize our common resources and create economic growth, new employers and good jobs.

Concerns have been raised about possible revenue sharing, land use and other jurisdictional questions. Some of these are being addressed in a consortium of communities in the 16 county area that comprises Northeast Ohio – an area that reaches as far west as Lorain, south to Wayne and Coshoc-ton and east to Ashtabula and Columbiana Counties.

On February 26th two other area mayors, William Currin of Hudson and Michael Lyons of Richfield will address Phase II of Advance Northeast Ohio, the regional economic planning & revenue initiative developed by more than 80 partners from the business, government and philanthropic communities.

(Regionalism: Cont.)

Programs begin at 7 p.m. They are free and open to the public. No registration is required. Each program will include an opportunity for the audience to ask questions of the panelists. For more information, contact the Reference Department at 330/653-6658 ext. 1010, www.hudsonlibrary.org or the League of Women Voters of Hudson at www.lwvhudsonohio.org.

Thank you...

All League Members—Thank you for being supportive of our League and working to help us to grow...everyone’s contribution is what makes us ... The League of Women Voters of Trumbull County. **Thank**

***Do As Much Or As Little As You Want,
But Remember...
Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport!***

LWV of Trumbull County MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual dues for the League of Women Voters of Trumbull County are:

Individual—\$50
Two at same Address—\$80
Student—\$30

Dues assistance is available. Included in your membership are subscriptions to the *National Voter*, *Ohio Voter* and *Local Voter* newsletters. Dues are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birthday/Month: _____

Return to:
Kirsten Burkey, Membership Chair
LWV of Trumbull County
P.O. Box 161
Fowler, OH 44418
(330) 367-4886

Regionalism—What Can We Do Together?

Submitted by Terri Crabbs, President

On January 29, Charlotte Meloni, Genevieve Germaniuk and I made the hour trek to the Hudson Library to attend the first session of the three part program on Regionalism. Linda Lalley, President of the LWVO attended as moderator for Regionalism 101. Two panelists made presentations and answered questions from the audience.

Dr. Jim Robey, VP of Research attended for Team NEO. Team NEO markets Northeast Ohio to attract business investment in targeted industry clusters. The organization is a joint venture of the largest chambers, representing our 16 county region and our 4 million people. Team NEO serves as a central resource, informing and serving those considering investment in Northeast Ohio and is co-founder of the Cleveland Plus Marketing Alliance, a coalition to drive strategic, long-term marketing to Northeast Ohio. Dr. Robey gave some very interesting statistics about our 16-county region. For more information, visit www.teamneo.org.

Laura Steinbrink, Director of Regional Partnerships for Advance Northeast Ohio gave an overview of the background and vision of ANEO, which was launched in March 2007 and developed through the input of 20,000 citizens who participated in Voices and Choices in 2005-06.

I have taken the following directly from Laura's blog on the ANEO website which I believe pretty much sums it up...
"Regionalism isn't about consolidation, its about collaboration and sharing. Regionalism doesn't require you to give up what you have, or to take from your neighbor, but instead encourages you to ask and answer the question, "What can we do together?"

"Folks, the time has come where we can no longer stick our heads in the sand and pretend that what happens "over there" isn't our problem. I know you know what I'm taking about. No more using "regionalism = consolidation" as an easy way out. We are all in this together, so we might as well get over whatever issues prevent us from asking and answering the question, "What can we do together?"

Laura's presentation is posted on the ANEO website at www.advancenortheastohio.org (you need to register FREE and log-in to see it). It provides an overview of Advance Northeast Ohio and the vision, strategies and goals that unite ANEO Partners. It goes into detail about government collaboration and efficiency and includes some graphs. Take some time to educate yourself by visiting the website. For those who do not "do" computers, please contact me and I will be sure you receive copies.

LWVUS News from Mary Wilson, President

The National Voter The LWVUS Board met last week and came to a hard decision. They decided to suspend publication of *The National Voter* magazine (paper and digital) until the League's finances are healthier. Publication costs for *The Voter* are prohibitive in a time of budget cutbacks. The Board, the LWVUS staff and I are all committed to making lemonade out of this lemon by finding new ways to deliver information to you, our members and supporters. We will keep you informed as we move forward.

LWVUS 2009 Legislative Priorities

The LWVUS Board announces Global Climate Change and Health Care to be the top legislative priorities for the upcoming year. Top priority issues are ones on which major congressional action is expected and on which the LWVUS will seek to be an active player. Tier two priorities are Election Reform and DC Voting Rights. Tier two issues will be acted upon if significant success is possible, though top priorities will take precedence. Tier three issues could be subject for LWVUS action only if good opportunities present themselves, and there is no pressing action on top priority and tier two issues. Tier three issues we are watching are: Campaign Finance Reform; CEDAW (the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women); Civil Liberties; Ethics; and Redistricting. The LWVUS prioritizes legislative issues for advocacy in order to focus limited resources on those issues where it is considered the League can have a meaningful impact and there is member interest and opportunity for progress.

LWV members were encouraged to submit their suggestions for LWVUS 2009 legislative priorities. Nearly 100 members and Leagues took the opportunity to register their suggestions. Of the 100, fourteen Leagues discussed the issues among themselves and submitted their suggestions based on the group's conclusions. League members overwhelmingly called for Health Care and Global Climate Change to be top priorities.

Nominating Committee Report—Looking for League Leaders!

Submitted by Pamela Hallett, Director

The Nominating Committee is asking League members to be thinking about who they feel would make a good leader for the League of Women Voters of Trumbull County. The following positions will have their terms expiring in 2009: President, 1st Vice President, Secretary and two (2) Director positions. The new terms will run for a two year period (2009—2011).

We are looking for League members who are currently active in the League and who are willing to accept responsibility and dedicate several hours a month to fulfilling our League's mission..

All membership will have the opportunity to vote on a slate of potential Board officers and directors at our annual meeting on May 16, 2009.

If you know someone you would like to recommend or if you are interested in running for a leadership position, please call Pam Hallett at 330-637-2731 or email at pamhal@aol.com or call Theresa Salcone at 330-372-5834 or email at tes-sial@aol.com.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
P.O. BOX 161
FOWLER, OHIO 44418
(330) 367-4886**

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Danielle Schmidt

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