

LWVO League Leaders Update
May 27 2010

Today's Topics:

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

****NEW** Drop-in article for Local Leagues' Voters: Highlights from Your State League: Mid-March - Mid-May, 2010**

****NEW** Nominations Being Sought for Ohio Women's Hall of Fame**

****Reminder** Taxation and Finance Consensus Process**

MEMBERSHIP

****NEW** Accessing Information on the League Website Made Easier**

****NEW** Join Us at an Ohio Reception at the LWVUS Convention in Atlanta!**

****NEW** LWVUS Convention Deadline Extended to May 28, 2010**

****NEW** Local League Contact Form**

****NEW** Training Opportunities**

ADMINISTRATION

****NEW** IRS Encourages Continued filing 990 E Postcard for LLEFs and Tax- Exempt Non-Profits if May Deadline Was Missed**

****NEW** PMP Payment Schedule**

****NEW** Phonathon Update**

****NEW** Position Announcement**

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

****NEW** Drop-in article for Local Leagues' Voters: Highlights from Your State League: Mid-March - Mid-May, 2010**

Your state League is keeping busy – celebrating its 90th birthday, testifying as your voice at the Statehouse -- and much, much more! A ready-to-go article for your League's VOTER gives your membership a snapshot of what your state League was involved in from mid-March through mid-May. You can download the article from the League website by [clicking here](#) and selecting [April through Mid May 2010 Highlights](#). This information is also attached to this email.

****NEW** Nominations Being Sought for Ohio Women's Hall of Fame**

The Governor's Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach hosts the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame each year.

The deadline for nominations for the 2010 Ohio Women's Hall of Fame is June 1st. The nomination forms and background on the Hall of Fame can be found at <http://ifs.ohio.gov/women/>

****Reminder** Taxation and Finance Consensus Process**

During State Convention 2007, the membership decided that we needed to update on Taxation and Finance. (Criteria, Corporate Franchise Tax, Income Tax, Property Tax, Sales Tax and Tax Mix).

The Members Only Section of the Website contains the information you need to complete the Consensus Process by **November 30, 2010**, including the Study Committee materials, consensus guidelines, consensus questions and the report form.

The consensus questions were provided to all members in the latest *Ohio Voter* Newsletter. If you need any further information about this process, please feel free to contact the state office.

MEMBERSHIP

****NEW** Accessing Information on the League Website Made Easier**

League Leaders, we heard you. No longer do you have to keep up with a username and password to access the members' section of the League website. You need only go to the [member's](#) tab and you will be directly connected to forms and other information. Please encourage your local League members to use the tools on the website including League policies, voter information, advocacy information, League studies and current events.

The State League wants the website to be a useful tool and we appreciate the feedback that should make accessing information on the website easier. We encourage your continued feedback.

****NEW** Join Us at an Ohio Reception at the LWVUS Convention In Atlanta!**

LWV-Ohio invites all League delegates and visitors from Ohio to a reception on Saturday, June 12, at the LWVUS Convention in Atlanta.* Join LWV-Ohio President Meg Flack, Membership Chair Jean Koznarek and League members from across Ohio for socializing, snacks and a cash bar from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. in room A708 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel. Please feel free to contact Jean Koznarek (jkozlwv@aol.com) if you have any questions. (Note: The timing of the reception will not preclude anyone from attending LWV-Atlanta's fundraising event.)

*No LWV-Ohio funds are being used to pay for the reception.

****NEW** LWVUS Convention Registration Deadline Extended to May 28, 2010**

LWVUS has extended the deadline for registering for Convention **without penalty** until **May 28!** After that date, all registrations will be taken on site only and will include the fee of \$50 for late processing. [Register today using the online form.](#) If you are planning to go to Convention as an

observer, you must also register to attend. Rates are the same for observers as they are for voting delegates.

****NEW** Local League Contact Form**

Thank you to those Local Leagues that have submitted their Local League Contact Forms. The submission of this information allows the state office to communicate with Local Leagues so it is important that we have the most up to date and correct information including contact information for local League officers.

You will find the Local League Board Contact Information form under the member log-in tab of our website at www.lwvohio.org. **You no longer need to use a password to access the information in this section.** Please take a few minutes to fill out the form and return it so the LWVO office will have the most current list of your leaders and their most accurate contact information. You can complete the form online or submit it via:

Email to lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org

Fax to 614-469-7918, or

Mail it by U.S. mail to 17 South High Street, Suite 650 Columbus, Ohio 43215

****NEW** Training Opportunities**

The Membership Development and Engagement Committee (MEDC) will be providing several training opportunities as listed below. The webinar is for all leaders and potential leaders and contains a lot of helpful information. We strongly urge all officers and board members to sign up for one.

The training dates scheduled are:

July 13th at 7:00 p.m.

July 24th at 10:00 a.m.

August 12th at 7:00 p.m.

August 25th at 7:00 p.m.

September 7th at 7:00 p.m.

September 18th at 10:00 a.m.

Please RSVP via email to the state office at lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org and provide your name, contact information, the date of the training you will join, and your local League. Once you sign up a confirmation and dial-in information will be sent to you.

We appreciate all of the hard work you and your local League does for our communities.

Contact me with any questions,

Jean Koznarek

LWVO Membership Engagement/Development Committee Chair

216-702-8430

jkozlwv@aol.com

ADMINISTRATION

****NEW** IRS Encourages Continued Filing 990 E Postcard for LLEFs and Tax-Exempt Non-Profits if May Deadline Was Missed**

Statement of IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman on the Filing Deadline for Small Charities from <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=223609,00.html>

Now that the May 17 filing deadline has passed, it appears that many small tax-exempt organizations have not filed the required information return in time. These organizations are vital to communities across the United States, and I understand their concerns about possibly losing their tax-exempt status.

The IRS has conducted an unprecedented outreach effort in the tax-exempt sector on the 2006 law's new filing requirements, but many of these smaller organizations are just now learning of the May 17 deadline. I want to reassure these small organizations that the IRS will do what it can to help them avoid losing their tax-exempt status.

The IRS will be providing additional guidance in the near future on how it will help these organizations maintain their important tax-exempt status — even if they missed the May 17 deadline. The guidance will offer relief to these small organizations and provide them with the opportunity to keep their critical tax-exempt status intact.

I urge these organizations to go ahead and file — even though the May 17 deadline has passed.

Filing a tax return for the small organizations is easier than you'd think. It just takes a few minutes to fill out the electronic notice Form 990-N (e-Postcard). This is available for small tax-exempt organizations with annual receipts of \$25,000 or less.

Related Information:

For access to the e-Postcard and further details, see [Annual Electronic Filing Requirement for Small Exempt Organizations, Form 990-N \(e-Postcard\)](#).

****NEW** Our First Priority is to Be Responsive to You !**

The LWV-Ohio's staff and Board's first priority is to be responsive to our members. If you try to reach LWV-Ohio via email at lwvinfo@lwvohio.org or leg@lwvohio.org and do not get a response in a reasonable amount of time, please call (toll free) 1-877-LWV-Ohio. We have found that emails are sometimes inadvertently diverted to the SPAM file. We want to make sure your questions and concerns are addressed as soon as possible, so that we can all help make democracy work. Thank you!

****NEW** PMP Rate Clarification**

The state office has received several calls regarding the current LWVO Per-Member-Payment Rate. That rate is \$25.00.

PMP should be paid quarterly, according to the following schedule:

Quarterly Payment Due No Later Than

October 1
January 1
April 1
July 1

Leagues paying the entire amount **by October 1 qualify for a 5 percent discount as long as it is postmarked by October 1.** According to LWVO bylaws, a local League must meet its state PMP responsibilities through the quarter immediately preceding the State Convention to be entitled to voting delegates. This means that three-quarters of your PMP must be remitted by April 1 in order for your League to send voting delegates to May 2010 State Convention.

If you have any questions regarding this clarification, please feel free to contact the state office.

****NEW** Phonathon Update**

Thank you to all of the individuals and Leagues who have already contributed so generously to Phonathon 2010. We are moving in the right direction and appreciate your commitment to our shared mission. But we still need help to meet our goal. Based upon the budget passed by Council in April, we must raise just over \$40,000 in order to clear \$35,000 after rebates are distributed to local Leagues. To date we have raised \$25,000, and therefore must raise an additional \$15,000 to make our budget. Failing that, we will be forced to make additional budget cuts. Such cuts would diminish our ability to provide quality programs to local Leagues and Ohio citizens. We know that League members are committed to Making Democracy Work, and we look forward to -- and greatly appreciate -- your support of Phonathon 2010.

******Please enclose a copy of this form with your donation and mail to******

League of Women Voters of Ohio
17 South High Street, Suite 650
Columbus, Ohio 43215

YES! I want to celebrate LWVO's 90TH and support the work of the League. Enclosed is my contribution.

\$ 450 \$ 360 \$270 \$ 90 \$ _____

• **By check:** _____ Payable to LWV-Ohio* **or** _____ Payable to LWV-Ohio Education Fund.**

Check here to split evenly between _____ LWV-Ohio and LWV-Ohio Education Fund ***

Name (please print) _____

• **By credit card:** Make a secure credit-card donation online at www.lwvohio.org or complete the following:

_____ Payable to LWV-Ohio* **or** _____ Payable to LWV-Ohio Education Fund**

Check here to split evenly between _____ LWV-Ohio and LWV-Ohio Education Fund ***

Name as it appears on Credit Card (Please Print) _____

Credit card no.: _____

MasterCard _____ Visa _____ Expiration date: _____
Signature _____

** Contributions made payable to the LWVO Education Fund, a 501 (c) 3 organization, are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

*** Contributions to the League of Women Voters of Ohio, a 501 (c) 4 organization, are not tax-deductible.*

****NEW** Position Announcement**

The LWVO Education Fund is seeking a full-time Office Administrator. If you are aware of persons who might consider sharing their talents with the League, please feel free share the [position description](#) with them and encourage them to apply. Applications will be accepted through June 11, 2010. Resumes can be sent to leg@lwvohio.org. No phone calls please.

Mark your calendars now--Dates to Remember

State LWVOEF Board Meeting

May 14-15, 2010

State Board Retreat

June 27-28, 2010, Dublin, Ohio

LWVUS Convention - Atlanta Georgia

June 11-15, 2010

**LWVO Lobby Lunches
11:30 am**

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month,

Anyone is Welcome to Attend

Columbus Metropolitan Library
96 S. Grant Ave., Columbus,

Call 877-598-6446 for more
information

If you have local League Leaders or other League members who would like to receive the Leaders Update, please send their email information to leg@lwvohio.org