

Ohio League Leader Update

Dear League Leaders:

Happy Summer! We hope you had a happy and safe Fourth of July holiday. At the state League, July 1 marks the beginning of a new year – fiscal year that is – and we are looking forward to continuing to partner with local Leagues to make democracy work! In this League Leader Update, we will be outlining the upcoming activities of LWV Ohio and ways your League may choose to participate. Please take a moment to read this communication and let us know if you have questions.

You are receiving this email because you have been a League officer or have requested to receive the League Leader Update. We are currently working to update our contacts so that we have the necessary information to communicate with your League. If you are the League President for 2011-2012, please [click here](#) to complete the short [Local League Profile survey](#). We are asking all League Presidents to complete the survey by July 20.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Us for Regional Meetings in August about Changes to Elections in Ohio

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

Ohio Redistricting Competition Kicks Off This Month

LWV Ohio Human Trafficking Study to Begin

LWVUS Update: Public Education Study and Privatization Study

Action Alert Update – Election Administration Bill Passes; Fate of Photo ID Unknown

ADMINISTRATION

League Profile ... Please Complete by July 20

League Liaison Information

Corrections from Spring/Summer 2011 VOTER

Calendar for 2011-2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Us for Regional Meetings in August about Changes to Elections in Ohio

LWV Ohio invites League members from across Ohio to join us at one of the four locations for Regional Meetings this August to learn more about the impact of the new election law passed this June. At the Regional Meetings, participants will learn about the recent changes to election laws, discuss the ways Leagues can engage and educate the electorate to ensure voters do not miss this opportunity to vote, and share their League's best practices for voter outreach. Please pass this invitation along to your League's members – all are welcome!

RSVP today using the link below each meeting! The deadline to RSVP is August 1, 2011.

Northwest Leagues (Bowling Green, Lima Area, Perrysburg Area, Tiffin Area and Toledo-Lucas County)

August 6 – 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Location: Wood County District Public Library; 251 North Main St.; Bowling Green, OH 43402.

Facilitator: Nancy Brown, LWVO Co-President

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

Southern/southwest Leagues (Cincinnati Area, Clermont County, Darke County, Greater Dayton Area, Marietta/Washington County, Oxford, Portsmouth/Scioto County)

August 13 – 10 a.m. – Noon

Location: Talbott Tower, 10th floor conference room; 131 North Ludlow, Suite 1000 (10th Floor) Dayton, OH 45402

Facilitator: Meg Flack, LWVO Co-President

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

Northeast Leagues (Akron Area, Ashtabula, Canton Area, Cleveland Area, Cuyahoga Area, Greater Youngstown, Geauga County, Hudson, Kent, Lake County, Northern Portage County, Oberlin Area, Shaker Heights, Tallmadge, Trumbull County, Wayne County)

August 20 – 10 a.m. – Noon

Location: Hudson Library & Historical Society, Flood Room North, 96 Library Street, Hudson Ohio 44236

Facilitator: Nancy Brown, LWVO Co-President

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

Central Ohio Leagues (Athens Area, Chillicothe/Ross County, Metro. Columbus, Delaware County, Marion)

August 20 – 10 a.m. – Noon

Location: Whetstone Library meeting room, 3909 N. High St, Columbus, OH 43214.

Facilitator: Meg Flack, LWVO Co-President

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

Ohio Redistricting Competition Kicks Off This Month

The League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund (LWVOEF) is thrilled to be part of the Ohio Campaign for Accountable Redistricting and a primary sponsor of the 2011 Redistricting Competition. As the Ohio Apportionment Board prepares to meet in August to draw the lines for state legislative districts and the Ohio legislature considers congressional redistricting this fall, now is the time to show that electoral districts reflecting public interest criteria are possible! Go to www.drawthelineohio.org to learn more about the competition and resources on redistricting.

When the competition goes “live” online this month, LWVOEF will send an email with ways that you and your League can get involved.

LWV Ohio Human Trafficking Study to Begin

At the LWV Ohio Convention in May, the delegate body approved a study on human trafficking in Ohio. The scope of the study is to review the recommendations of the [Ohio Trafficking in Persons Study Commission 2010 Year End Report to the Attorney General](#) , as well as other research materials, and develop study materials and consensus questions for the Ohio membership to use in the human-trafficking consensus process.

Karen Rainey, President of LWV Delaware County, is leading the study and can be contacted at karengr@yahoo.com. **If you are interested in being on the study committee, please contact Karen by July 29.** The study timeline is available [here](#).

LWVUS Update: Public Education Study and Privatization Study

LWVUS has undertaken two studies this year: one on the Role of the Federal Government in Public Education and the second on Privatization. The goal is to reach consensus on both studies in time for approval at the National Convention in the spring. National is asking local Leagues to reach consensus on the education study by the end of November. This is an extremely ambitious goal, particularly since it will require Leagues to study these issues and reach consensus at a time when there are many other demands on their time.

The education study focuses on the history of public education, funding and equity issues, which are addressed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the common core standards/assessments, which are required for many federal grant programs.

Resources on the LWVU website include:

[Leaders' Guide for Education Study Consensus](#)
[Background papers by the LWVUS Education Study Committee](#)
[VOTER-ready articles](#)

If you have League members with a passion for education, they may be interested in starting to read the papers, which the US study committee has prepared so that they can lead the discussion when you get to the consensus meeting.

Participation in this study is certainly not mandatory for Leagues whose schedules just won't permit it. However, the topic is both interesting and important. A speaker on issues covered by the study might attract community interest, and the study may attract new League members who would like to participate in the consensus process, which is open only to members.

Action Alert Update – Election Administration Bill Passes; Fate of Photo ID Unknown

Thank you to the many League members who have taken action on the election bills being considered by the General Assembly these past few months. Your contacts to legislators and your letters to the editor did make a difference, and the election administration bill was separated from the photo ID bill.

We are currently analyzing how the election bill that passed, House Bill 194, will impact elections. For this reason, we are holding regional meetings in August – to provide members across Ohio with an update on changes and to bring Leagues together to share best practices for voter outreach.

The Ohio Senate still needs to vote on the Photo ID bill (House Bill 159)—which it may do as early as this week--and then it will go to the Governor. There is still time to express concern to your state senator! Go to the [Action Alert](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to read LWV Ohio testimony on the bills. LWV Ohio will be at the Statehouse this week monitoring the bill.

Local Leagues whose letters to the editor on HB 159 and the election administration bill have been published include LWV Cincinnati Area, LWV Cleveland Area, LWV Cuyahoga Area, LWV Shaker Heights, LWV Delaware, LWV Hudson, LWV Northern Portage County, LWV Tallmadge, to name a few! Our thanks to all who submitted a letter to the editor and/or called your legislators.

ADMINISTRATION

League Profile ... Please Complete by July 20

If you are the President of your League, please take the [League Profile survey](#) by July 20. It is short and sweet and will give us the information we need to communicate with you. Thank you!

League Liaison Information

This July, each League will be paired with a liaison from the Board of LWVOEF. Liaisons will seek to assist you and your League by providing resources and support, as needed.

Corrections from Spring/Summer 2011 VOTER

Please note, in the Convention article on page one, the quote “It was democracy in action” referring to the human trafficking caucus should have been attributed to Jonnie Taylor of LWV Toledo-Lucas County

Please note, in the donor list on page seven, the correct spelling of donor name Nancy Sitterley.

Calendar for 2011-2012

Please follow [this link](#) for a general calendar for activities of LWVO/EF for 2011-2012. These dates are subject to change.

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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.

