



March 2013 Ohio League Leader Updates

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1. Are You Coming to Convention? Registration Is Now Open!

Join us in Cleveland on May 4-5th for LWVO's 60th State Convention! Have dinner with Alice Paul (you'll have to attend to see how we pull it off!), attend thought-provoking workshops, get to know other Leaguers from around the state, and a whole lot more.

Registration is now open. [Click here to register or for more information.](#)

Please note that discounted hotel guest room rates are only guaranteed until April 3rd, so make your reservations early. Discounted guest room rates will only be honored after that date based on availability.

2. April 2nd All-Member Call on Fracking

Please join us next week on Tuesday, April 2nd at 12 noon for our monthly All-Member Conference Call. This month our topic will be fracking.

Many Ohio local Leagues mentioned fracking in their responses to the 2013-2015 LWVO Program Planning survey. However, while many Leagues expressed interest in this topic, there was no consensus on what to do about it. Some Leagues proposed a new study, others proposed a concurrence with another state's fracking position, while other Leagues simply queried whether our current state and federal positions are adequate.

The LWVO Board thought it would be helpful to have a discussion on fracking and our current positions before our state convention in May. Please [click here](#) for some reading materials that we ask you review before next week's call to help guide our discussion.

LWV Ohio All-Member Conference Call

Topic: Fracking- What are our current positions and are they adequate?

Date: Tuesday, April 2nd, 2013

Time: 12:00 PM (noon) until 1:00 PM

Call-In Number: 866-740-1260

PIN Number: 4691505#

3. NEW! LWVO Redistricting Discussion List (follow up to March all-member call)

We had a very good discussion on our March all-member conference call about redistricting reform - what happened last year with Issue 2, the reform bill introduced in the Ohio Senate, and League advocacy going forward.

The participants asked for a way to keep this discussion going. In response, the state office set up a "Google group", which is a type of email discussion list. Ohio League members may sign up for this email discussion list by calling (614-469-1505) or emailing Carrie Davis (cdavis@lwvohio.org) at the state office.

4. MLD Tip of the Month

Advocacy as an Organizational Development Opportunity! (from the March 21st LWVUS Leaders Update)

In League, we generally think of our programmatic work as encompassing two large areas: action and education. Both offer great opportunities for visibility, outreach and leadership development. The **Membership and Leadership Development Program (MLD)** has some helpful **tips** for simple, easy add-ons that can make a big difference. Learn how advocacy can be used as a vehicle for

organizational development.

5. Statehouse Day Recap

Information overload! One has to be a true League member to be able to digest in a few short hours information about the judiciary, redistricting, election reform, education funding, the Ohio implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the tax policy embodied in the Governor's budget.

All of those topics and more were covered at Statehouse Day on March 19th from speakers as diverse as the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, the Ohio Tax Commissioner, our redistricting expert Ann Henkener, and many more. A number of the 100 plus Leaguers who attended Statehouse Day also visited their legislators. Virtually everyone left exhausted, but committed to ensuring that the League continues to be a strong voice at the Statehouse for good government.

If you were unable to attend Statehouse Day this year and want to learn more about what went on [click here](#).

6. Great Lakes Concurrence Update

Thank you to all the Leagues who participated in the Great Lakes concurrence discussions!

Eighteen Leagues responded to Michigan's request for concurrence on the Great Lakes Ecosystem. Seventeen of those Leagues supported concurrence with the Michigan position on the Great Lakes Ecosystem. The LWVO board voted at its March 2013 board meeting to adopt the concurrence, making it part of the LWVO Natural Resources position.

7. Announcement:

The Metro Columbus League invites you to an evening honoring Senator John and Mrs. Annie

Glenn at the Democracy in Action event

The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus extends an invitation to League members around the state to attend its Democracy in Action award ceremony honoring Senator John and Mrs. Annie Glenn.

The event will be held on May 14, 2013 at the Fawcett Center in Columbus -- 5:30pm celebrity reception, 6:00 main event. The Fawcett Center is located on OSU West Campus, 2400 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43210.

Honorary co-chairs of the DIA event are such notables as Leslie Wexner of the Limited Brands, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Connie Schultz, and John F. Wolfe, Chairman of The Dispatch Printing Company. It will be an exciting evening with good food and the opportunity to honor two of Ohio's leading citizens. To learn more or to register for the event, [click here](#).